

Israeli Campaign Activity Intensified.

Meetings of Town Workers; Comprehensive Programme for Country.

The total attained so far in the local Campaign for the Israeli United Appeal is now within sight of the Western Province figure attained during the Jewish War Appeal drive in 1946 and is similarly approaching the results of the Palestine Special Emergency Fund. Much ground remains to be covered, however, as the objective is far in excess of the combined proceeds of these two previous efforts. It must be borne in mind that the results to date are confined to the Cape Peninsula, and even here not all suburbs have been covered, while a great deal of work remains to be done in town. With the intensification of the suburban effort in the next week or two and the inauguration of several country campaigns, it is confidently anticipated that the total will be rapidly increased.

Two important meetings were held recently, reports of which appear below.

RABBI ABRAHAMS ADDRESSES HEADS OF LANDSMANSHAFTEN.

A meeting of leaders of landmanshaften in Cape Town was held at the residence of Rabbi and Mrs. Abrahams on Wednesday evening, 4th August. The following societies were represented: Ponovez, Dvinsk, Koorland-Livland, Kupishker and Wilkomir.

Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt, Vice-Chairman of the Men's Campaign, presided and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consult with the leaders of the landmanshaften with a view to co-ordinating their activities with the overriding efforts for the State of Israel, with which everyone was concerned to-day.

Rabbi Abrahams said he had always had high regard for the idea of the landmanshaften. It was this point which had kept Jews and Judaism alive and had bound together people who were separated by distance.

A new emphasis had been given to this collaboration, however, by the resuscitation of the Jewish State. Now that we were thinking along national lines the places of origin of individuals were becoming of less importance.

The Israeli Campaign was first of all designed to help the new State of Israel to pass through the present abnormal period and to absorb hundreds of thousands of immigrants. At the same time our displaced persons had to be maintained and then when their turn came to travel they would have to be housed and absorbed into Israel's economy. For these reasons he felt sure that the landmanshaften would integrate their work with that of the Campaign and he made certain practical suggestions how this could be done. Keen discussion followed, in which Messrs. Talberg, Berger, Levin, Reingold, Kolevsohn and Bitnun and Mesdames Clouts and Schapiro participated.

Finally a number of plans were adopted as a recommendation which those present undertook to place before their societies.

The Kupishker Benevolent Society (per Mesdames D. Schapiro, A. Moskowitz and F. Alterman) has subsequently announced that it has contributed a substantial sum to the fund and is devoting its energies for the next six months exclusively. It is hoped that other societies will follow this splendid example.

DR. GEORGE SACKS ON HIS IMPRESSIONS OF ISRAEL.

"People in Israel would never think of having any doubts. The State has come to stay and nothing on earth will stop it. It does not matter in the least what the Arabs do or anyone else does about it," declared Dr. George Sacks when addressing a combined meeting of men and women workers for the Campaign on Tuesday evening. There might be many internal prob-

lems to face in the future but there was no doubt that we were well on the way to establishing a healthy, independent and prosperous community in Israel, he added.

Dr. Sacks traced some of his experiences in the course of a 17-day visit which he had paid to Israel in July. He described the excellent medical services that had been set up in record time. They could be proud and confident about the work of the armed services. For instance, the British had handed over their police fortress to the Arabs at Safed in the belief that it could be held for at least a year. It was taken in three days. At first there had been little or no warning before air raids on Tel Aviv. Later warnings were received well in advance and the air force had become greatly improved and had gone over to the offensive. There was no doubt that if the truce had not come when it did, Israeli forces would have pushed on from Lydda and Ramleh and taken Latrun and the Old City of Jerusalem within a matter of days. Dr. Sacks had travelled along the Burma road, which, although 25 miles long, had been laid in three weeks.

Jerusalem, he said, did not show too many scars because of its stone buildings. Nevertheless there had been many casualties, and he referred with particular bitterness to those sustained during the few hours before the truce when heavy shelling was maintained until the very last.

The Yishuv was in a strong position but it had paid a price. "I could not help thinking when I walked into wards and saw the cheerfulness and extraordinary guts of the wounded men; how could we compare their effort with giving sums of money in Cape Town or Johannesburg. Unfortunately, that is all most of us can do." We should understand, however, that the only reason why Mishmar Haemek and Daganian could hold out so long was because of the money poured into the settlements during the last 40 to 50 years, where the settlers had learned to be self-reliant and fearless. When one remembered this one would continue collecting although it might be regarded as a tedious task. There was no doubt that what had happened in Israel had added inches to the stature of Jews everywhere. There was a new note of respect for the Jewish people because of the gallantry and valour of the Jews in the Homeland. For this reason he urged those present to exert themselves to the utmost in the work they were doing.

Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt presided and at the conclusion warmly thanked the speaker.

COUNTRY ARRANGEMENTS.

The first country Campaign will be launched on Sunday night, 15th inst., by the Strand-Somerset West communities. Rabbi I. Abrahams will be the speaker at a reception to be held at the Hotel Majestic, Strand.

Next follows Paarl, where a reception will be held in honour of Mr. Jus-

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From my Desk

... By ...
HASOFER



Dread Scourge.

Among the tragic consequences which follow upon the disruption of the essential utility services of any country which is afflicted by war is the terror of disease and plague. Lack of water and proper sanitation has always made the fear of typhoid and cholera an attendant horror of warfare throughout the ages. The cut-break of the dread disease typhoid at Ramallah follows upon the interruption of the water supply, coupled with the fact that almost all the thousands of Arabs encamped there are a primitive people who at best are not enamoured of even the most elementary principles of hygiene. I think that I might have on a previous occasion referred to Dr. Georges Fernand Widal, the noted French-Jewish physician and medical research worker, who was born in Algiers in 1862 and died 20 years ago in Paris. Widal in 1896 discovered a serum for use in the diagnosis of typhoid. The "Widal reaction" is to-day still one of the recognised tests for typhoid, as well as of many other diseases. One is led to wonder whether the Arab League in its anxiety to boycott everything of Jewish origin will issue a *ukase* banning the use of the "Widal reaction" in the case of typhoid suspects. As the Nazis did not preclude the use of the Wasserman test, I strongly suspect that the Arabs will not abandon the use of those clinical tests which originated in the fertile brains of either of these famous Jewish physicians.

Prevention.

This week I met Mr. Zvi Lipkin, who left Jerusalem just one month ago. Mr. Lipkin, who is married to Miss Rhoda Gesundheit of Cape Town, proudly boasts of the fact that his son is the fourth generation of his family to be born in Israel. Mr. Lipkin assured me that whilst there might be a shortage of water in Jerusalem there was nevertheless sufficient to ensure of an equitable distribution of this essential commodity. The Jews, early on recognising the danger of possible outbreaks of either typhoid or cholera, months ago instituted a campaign of inoculation against these dreadful plagues. By now every Jew must have been immunised by serum produced in one or other of the vast modern research laboratories of the country. Mr. Lipkin cannot speak too highly of the wonderfully organised Israeli medical services, particularly of the Magen David Adom. We in this country pride ourselves on our great generosity and ability to give. We might well look to the Yishuv for an example. When three M.D.A. ambulances were destroyed it took less than three days for the population of Jerusalem to over-subscribe the amount of money required for their replacement. Not only is the support given materially, but there is hardly an able-bodied person who is not a blood donor to the "blood bank."

Interest.

I apologised to Mr. Lipkin for my almost unseemly inquisitiveness, but he dismissed my apologies with that peculiar willingness to impart information that seems to be a trait of all who come from the Yishuv. My informant was in fact eager to assure me that he was always only too pleased to talk in detail to all and sundry about Israel. The understanding and appreciation of current events in our homeland against the background of present-day international events by the youth of South Africa shows remarkable knowledge of current events, said Mr. Lipkin, who assured me that he was prepared

to give what advice and guidance he could give to any person who sought information. Mr. Lipkin, who is a chartered accountant, is a member of the Public Auditors Licensing Committee. This committee is the official body which issues licences to those who have diplomas from the Chartered Society, or certificates of equivalent standard, to practise as auditors. Mr. Lipkin went on to tell me that he had no doubt that there would be no difficulty in having South African chartered accountants' certificates recognised by the Licensing Committee. The one-time Assistant Income Tax Commissioner, however, refused to be drawn on the subject of what income tax might or might not be in the future in Israel. The whole legal code and financial system were receiving the attention of experts, he said.

The Future.

Mr. Lipkin, who was for a time attached to the Construction Engineers of the Haifa Harbour as the financial administrator, feels assured that Haifa is to be the "premier harbour of the Mediterranean and Tel Aviv one of its principal ports. And it will not be in the distant future either. There is, as must be expected in any country which is at war, naturally at the moment a state of some slight economic disruption, but this will definitely be of a very short-lived character, because not only is there a will to bring about a rapid recovery, but also because there is a definite plan to ensure this. There is a long-range planning scheme for every aspect of activity. Not only the economic future but the cultural and scholastic future are receiving consideration. Indicative of this spirit is the attention which is being given even to such aspects as the sporting development of the future. Along the lines of the Y.M.C.A., the Beth Hamacabbi is to be erected in Jerusalem. Prime mover in this scheme is our own South African, Mr. Harry Lourie. On the organising committee are both Mr. Lipkin and his brother. It is hoped at the Beth Hamacabbi to cater for every phase of sporting activity and physical culture, and there will be in addition to the recreation rooms and swimming baths reading rooms and facilities for cultural activities. Everything is being planned in keeping with the true spirit of the Yishuv, of a youth "culturally sound and physically strong."

Scrap-Books.

Scrapbook competitions for children have always had a great propaganda as well as educational value. Many commercial firms have often traded on the eagerness displayed by youngsters for "cutting out and pasting in," whilst schools have found it a useful and pleasant means of teaching such unpleasant subjects as history and geography. The Cape Town Jewish Reform Congregation have started an "Israeli scrapbook" competition. Material for such efforts are quite easily obtained these days when Israel is front-line news in the general Press, whilst our own publications abound with articles and pictures. I think that the scheme is one which might well be emulated by the Zionist Youth Executive and extended so as to allow of entries from children throughout the whole of the Western Province. Not only will the competition foster interest in what is happening, but the books might well prove of lasting value as records of

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Campaign Activity Intensified.

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Herbstein on Wednesday evening, 24th inst., at the Talmud Torah Hall. Dr. A. T. Shrock and Mr. M. Goldschmidt will speak at Wellington Tuesday evening, 24th inst., and on the following evening (Wednesday, 25th) the Campaign will be inaugurated at Stellenbosch.

Worcester Jewry will hold a reception in honour of Rabbi Abramams on Wednesday evening, 29th August.

WOMEN'S SECTION.

A variety of functions organised by the different groups and branches took place during the past week. Outstanding among these were the Esther Salaman Recital and the Dinner at Parow. (A report on the latter will be published next week.)

REGITAL BY ESTHER SALAMAN AND PAUL HAMBURGER.

At the invitation of Mr. Simon Kler, of the Barbizon Plaza Hotel, a very large gathering enjoyed the evening of Esther Salaman and the singing of Paul Hamburger. In her section Esther Salaman included "Come la Rosa," Judeo-Spanish (15th Century), Evening Prayer from Chantim, "None but the Weary Heart," by Tchaikovsky, and "Seguidilla" from "Carmen" (Bizet). Her clear voice and vivid characterization delighted the audience. She led a group of modern Palestinian folk songs and also a number of Jewish Folk Songs, all of which were presented with charm and artistic interpretation. In her Negro Spirituals, Esther Salaman excelled herself and there are many who will be looking forward to the singer's return to Cape Town. Mr. Paul Hamburger not only accompanied the artist to great advantage but gave a number of interesting songs, amongst which he included pieces of Chopin, Debussy and Brahms. The funds raised benefited considerably and credit is due to Mrs. Rose Movsovic and Mrs. Minna Levitas, the able organisers of the concert, as well as to Mr. and Mrs. S. Sachar whose generous hospitality is much appreciated.

Tamboers Kloof: A well attended evening took place at the residence of Mrs. Sakinofsky, Burnside Road, which was addressed by Mesdames P. M. Clouts, L. Rubin and C. Shapiro. Amongst those present were representatives of the Bnoth Zion Association, the Mizrahi Women's Organisation and the Unity Group of the U.J.W., and a Joint Committee was elected with Mrs. A. V. Jacob and Mrs. Rabkin as conveners.

Evening Parties: A number of evening parties were held, amongst which was one organised by Mrs. G. Lotkin at her residence in Gordon Street, Gardens, when a substantial sum was raised.

Woodstock: A most successful Bring and Buy Sale, and Card Evening was held on Thursday, 5th August, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. M. Munitz, Warwick Avenue, Woodstock, under the auspices of the Woodstock and Salt River United Israeli Appeal — Women's Section. A substantial sum was realised.

Vredehoek.—A Housey Evening was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Chesler on Saturday. This evening proved such a success financially and socially that a second similar function was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Dickman the following week. A Bring and Buy Sale will take place on Thursday, 19th August at 8.30 p.m. at the residence of Mrs. J. Herzliah, Yeoville Road, Vredehoek.

Forthcoming Grand Variety Concert, organised by the C.P. Women's Mizrahi Organisation, will be held at the Major Zionist Hall on Saturday, 21st inst. The convener, Mrs. M. Katzin, is confident that this will be an outstanding function and would like the public to obtain their seats without delay. The artists will be Cantor M. Katzin, Lilli Anderson, Mignon Furman, the Eve Horwitz School of Dancing, M. Rochman, Ralph Kurland, I. Chosack, June Greenwall, Lew Faigin, Rachel Rabinowitz and the Habonim.

1949 J.N.F. Diaries: The sale of these, which will be for the Israeli United funds, will commence at the end of the year, but the public is advised to place their orders with the Bnoth Zion Association (2-6051) as there will be an increased demand for these ever popular and daily improved diaries. Mrs. Epstein, the convener, would like to know that every Jew and Jewess will be in possession of a B.Z. 1949 Diary.

Cake Sales: The Avoda and Killarney Group will have a Street Stall on 13th inst. on the stoep of the M.K. Bazaars, Main Road, Sea Point.

On 20th August, in the morning, a Bring and Buy Sale, organised by the Green Point branch of the Bnoth Zion Association, will take place at the residence of Mrs. Kinderlerer, 17, Camberwell Road, Three Anchor Bay.

The Sea Point branch is arranging a Yom Tov Market to take place at the Talmud Torah Hall on the 30th September.

Camps Bay Pavilion: Under the auspices of the Camps Bay Group, a showing of Palestinian films will be held on Monday, 16th August, at 8 p.m. Admission 3s. 6d. each.

By supporting all functions for the Israeli United Appeal, the Jewish people are expressing their solidarity with the State of Israel.

CHILDREN'S BOOK.

The Cape Town Women's Section of the Israeli United Appeal are planning to publish in due course a Souvenir

"Children's Book"

for all young supporters of the work for our people in Europe and Palestine.

CHILDREN—THIS WILL BE YOUR BOOK.

Your name will be inscribed in the Children's Book upon payment of a membership fee of 2/6.

There is no limit to the number of times YOUR name can be inscribed.

From week to week this column will announce competitions for various age groups (children up to the age of 16 will be eligible).

THE WORK OF PRIZE WINNERS WILL FINALLY BE PUBLISHED IN "THE CHILDREN'S BOOK."

Other outstanding efforts will be published in these columns.

When you send in your efforts, always quote your name, address and MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.

Your number will be sent to you upon receipt of your membership fee of 2/6. For membership cards, fill in and return the form printed below.

WATCH THIS COLUMN NEXT WEEK FOR YOUR FIRST COMPETITION.

ENROLMENT REQUEST.

Please inscribe me as a member of "The Children's Book."

Name

Address

Age

My remittance for 2/6 (stamps or Postal Order) is enclosed.

Tear out and post to:
"The Children's Book,"
P.O. Box 2357, Cape Town.

Late Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P.

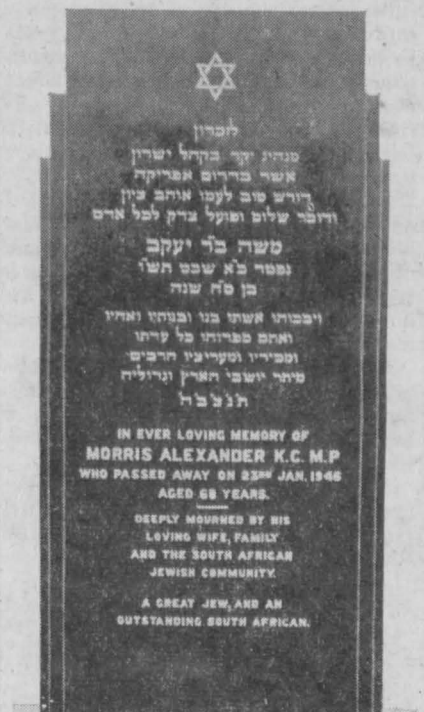
CONSECRATION OF TOMBSTONE.

The consecration of the tombstone of the late Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P., took place on Sunday morning, 8th August, at the Pinelands Road Cemetery. There was a large gathering present, including representatives of Jewish congregations and institutions. Adv. V. Rosenstein came specially from Johannesburg to represent the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies. Mr. M. H. Marshall, acting High Commissioner for Australia, represented the Australian Government, the late Mr. Alexander having done many services for Australians stranded in Cape Town during the war.

Prof. Rabbi Israel Abrahams, Chief Rabbi of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation, assisted by Cantor B. Rome, officiated.

In a tribute to the memory of Morris Alexander, Rabbi Abrahams said:—

"Two and a half years have flown since the passing of Morris Alexander. Much has happened in the interval.



MORRIS ALEXANDER

The international scene has assumed a new aspect. The Jewish world position has *changed fundamentally—Medinat Israel has arisen. South Africa has undergone a radical political transformation. Have the flood-tides of time, that have altered so much, also tended to erase the memory of Morris Alexander from our midst? The Psalmist gave rise to an oft-quoted proverb when he declared: 'I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind.' It is a hard saying, and yet all too frequently life demonstrates the truth thereof. Is it so in the case of the one to whose memory we are unveiling a tombstone this day?

"Even as I frame the question, my heart, echoing, I feel sure, the thoughts of your hearts, answers it. Our Sages teach: The righteous—they who live not unto themselves alone but strive for the weal of the community of which they form part, of the country in which they live, of humanity as a whole—are accounted living even in death; they are not forgotten like the dead out of mind. They live in their works; they live in the love they inspired; they live in the gratitude they awakened. Time has proved that Morris Alexander belongs to those

whom the Talmud calls 'Righteous.' He lives in our hearts.

ONE OF ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS OF SOUTH AFRICAN LIFE.

"The epitaph of a renowned architect reads: 'Si monumentum requiris, circumspeice' ('If you seek his monument, look around you'). Those words could well be applied to Morris Alexander, too. He was, in a very deep sense, one of the acknowledged architects and builders of South African life. Wherever we turn we see the impress of his spirit and his handiwork. In Parliament he was a South African patriot and statesman; in matters appertaining to the Mother City—he it at the Municipal Council, at the University, or at the Hospital Board—a wise counsellor, a devoted public servant. To the Jewish community he was both a son and a father. He gave 50 years of his life to his people. His biography could almost serve as the history of South African Jewry during two generations. The structure of our communal life shows everywhere the hall-mark of his thought and work. He helped, in his own person, to integrate the community, to fashion it as a unity, embracing both the sacred and the secular. He could be, at one and the same time, the President of the local Board of Deputies, the Parnass and Lay Preacher of his Synagogue, and a leader of Zionist endeavour.

WORK FOR ERETZ ISRAEL.

"Recalling his work for Eretz Israel, we cannot but sorrow that it was not granted to him to see the establishment of the Jewish State! Yet I may say with conviction that in a final analysis it will be found that the glory of the State of Israel rests on some of the foundation stones that Morris Alexander, by his untiring labour and sacrifice, helped to lay. But his love for his people never narrowed his human sympathies. In his philanthropic undertakings, which were legion, he never distinguished as between race, creed or colour. Suffering had one hue for him; he never enquired about the genealogy of the needy. Thus he saw life whole—not as a luscious fruit to be eaten, but as a great vessel to be filled with effort and achievement, a noble opportunity for unremitting service.

"There is a Rabbinic dictum: 'There is no need to erect tombstones unto the righteous—their deeds are their true memorial.' Morris Alexander provides a beautiful illustration of this teaching. It is not a monument to his life that we consecrate to-day. Cold marble, unfeeling stone, could never serve as a memorial to his warm heart, to his ardent spirit. The gravestone marks only the site of his earthly remains, of the mortal shrine that held the undying soul. His real monument is to be found in the imperishable influence he exerted in his lifetime, in the luminous example he left after him.

"On Sabbath afternoon we read: 'These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel on the other side of the Jordan.' I would apply the sentence to Moses ben Jacob Alexander. These words, which his spirit helped to turn into the flesh of durable acts—these deeds, of which I have recounted before he reached the Jordan, marking the end of his earthly pilgrimage, will continue to form his everlasting memorial. Not only will his remembrance not die, but I believe its inspiration will grow with the years. I believe it will stir many to emulation, it will create, as it were, other 'Alexanders'—great-hearted public workers and leaders moulded in his image. It is told of the illustrious Alexander of Macedonia that the ancient Judeans paid him an unusual tribute: instead of erecting a statue to his honour, they called all the Jewish sons born in the year that he conquered Palestine by his name. This was a nobler monument than a stone effigy; it was a living memorial. 'May it be granted to us, too, to

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