

the tragedy that has befallen mankind. They think that they can remain unembarrassed and uninfluenced by the happenings in the rest of the world and find seclusion by keeping out under the immigration laws all who seek these shores. Immigrants might be kept out, but disease, pestilence, the results of starvation, do not come into a land by way of the gates of the Immigration Department. These visitations do not give details of race or nationality. These scourges sweeping across Europe to-day, brought on through man's callous disregard of the need of others come wafted across over lands, seas and oceans, and cannot be stopped by immigration laws. To keep this land healthy, free and blessed, all South Africans must accept the responsibility, the need for helping the stricken, broken-down peoples of the world, of helping to heal and tend them. Then out of the gifts of help we bring to them will come to us to this land freedom from fear, freedom from want. But these freedoms will not and cannot be brought by those leaders who have now made hatred of the Jew their creed. Let them not put their trust in anti-Semitism and bigotry. It is not suited to the soil of the people of South Africa. It erodes the soil and corrodes the soul, then the harvest is tares and tears. We are a people who have carried the history of mankind from Sinai to the atomic bomb. We can tell of mighty nations destroying themselves by the poison they generate within themselves when they seek to attain greatness through anti-Semitism and through hatred of the Jews. Therefore it is our call to that section to leave narrowness that brings strife and unhappiness, to take the road which leads to a clearer vision, and in the wider responsibilities help to build a greater South Africa.

This is a land on freedom founded. Let us Jews of this land, together with that vast majority of freedom-loving fellow-citizens, stand true and guard those principles which mean freedom for all who live here, justice for all the inhabitants of this land. Let us as Jewish citizens continue unafraid to play our part and take our place in all the endeavours South Africa must make to face the future that is before her. The needs within the land must call forth the best efforts of all citizens. Let us see that our fighting men in the battle against wrong and injustice shall have by right all that a decent free life needs. Let our effort be to find usefulness in the structure of this land for all races, giving to each those opportunities for development which adds strength to the whole of South Africa. And as South Africa, in common with the rest of the undestroyed world, must carry a responsibility for bringing help and succour to those who live between camp and camp, not knowing where their heads will rest tomorrow, we as Jews must particularly continue to bring aid in food and clothes, in medical healing, to our people who look to us in their great need.

### The War Appeal

Very rightly did the South African Jewish Board of Deputies read the wishes of the Jewish people here. Under the Board was established a body known as the South African Jewish War Appeal. This organisation has from its very inception given true expression to the anxious wish of all of us to see that aid be given wherever it can reach. Those at the head deal with a true understanding of our people, of both the givers and the unfortunates of our flesh and blood who are the receivers. The aid given is from brother to brother. In that spirit the work is carried on.

There is cordial co-operation between us and the War Appeal. There is good understanding between the Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation. This is of great value. It is very necessary that the Jews of South Africa shall be united in the work that is to be done in South Africa and united in the help that we must bring to our people and in the work that we must do in the building of the Jewish land. For we stand bound to-day with those who from foundation upwards are building that structure which belongs to all Jews in all lands. No Jew can give up ownership of Eretz Israel. That is the law of the Jew. No Jew can transgress that law. The Jews of South Africa have stood by that law.

### A Statesman Spoke

It is now over 40 years that Zionist work has been carried on in South Africa. I would have wished to speculate for a moment about the circumstances and the driving force behind those Jews who came here from ghettos of Jewish life and learning which lie waste and desolate to-day. But the hour is too dark. There is no ease in Zion. There is no peace for the Jews. The black clouds are over the heavens and the hour is loud with the cry of our tortured people. We must in urgency turn our minds, our thoughts, cleansed of all selfishness, to the paramount question: What is our task here as Jews in South Africa in this great and fateful hour? To-day the Prime Minister of England is to speak and is to declare his policy and the policy of Great Britain. The President of the United States will, as we are told, issue a statement at the same time. To-morrow, delegates, will be Balfour Day. Twenty-eight years ago another statesman of England spoke. He told the Jews

*"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."*

That Declaration was accepted and was binding both upon England and upon America. America had given its consent. Both England and America had agreed. Will the Declaration to-day by the Prime Minister of England be a confirmation of what that Declaration spoke twenty-eight years ago? Will it be an abrogation of the White Paper? Will it be a fulfilment of that promise? We most fervently hope so. The Balfour Declaration recognised the need twenty-eight years ago and granted a home for the Jewish people. The need for it has grown mountainously more for it. To-day can we be denied?

We hereby determine and promise that we shall not accept any limitations which might be imposed upon the hope of the Jewish people to rebuild Eretz Israel. We shall with all our strength support the Jews who are in Palestine. We shall bring into that land the remnants of our suffering people. We shall share with them in their fight against those decrees they will have to oppose. We shall bring them our aid and help in means, in wealth and in manpower. The old of us will stand by this pledge and promise as our age allows, the young of us will stand by this pledge and promise with the strength that is given to them.

IM ESHKACHEICH YERUSHA-  
LAIM TISHKACH YEMINI!

## WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR "OUR MARTYR'S" FOREST Balfour Day Tree Drive on 11th November

THE scheme to plant in Eretz Israel a South African forest to be known as "Our Martyrs' Forest," in humble tribute to the millions of Jews who lost their lives at the hands of the Nazis, has met with widespread approval. This forest is but one of a number of forests which are to be planted by various Jewish communities throughout the world.

These forests will not only keep forever green this most tragic chapter in the annals of our people but will be of assistance to the survivors and will prove of immense benefit to Eretz Israel.

The importance of tree-planting need hardly be stressed. Trees prevent soil erosion, conserve the soil, absorb moisture, improve the climate, provide employment, beautify the landscape and provide wood for industries.

It is only natural, therefore, that afforestation should be one of the major activities of the Jewish National Fund. Over 3,500,000 trees have already been planted in Palestine by the Jewish National Fund, but much more still remains to be done. Seventy-three thousand dunams of bare and stony J.N.F. land—space enough for 8,500,000 trees—call out to be afforested.

This year the annual Balfour Day Tree Drive has been fixed for Sunday, November 11, and is to be devoted entirely to the planting of trees in "Our Martyrs' Forest." Reports from centres throughout the country indicate that the response will be outstanding and that a record number of trees will be planted. Not only will

every family be approached to plant trees in Our Martyrs' Forest, but every individual member will be asked to do so.

"No child is too young and no adult is too old to participate in this scheme," is the slogan adopted for this year's Balfour Day Tree Drive.

### Grand Concert in Aid of Palestinian Soldiers' Comforts Fund

AT the grand concert arranged by the Palestinian Soldiers' Comforts Fund, at the 20th Century next Sunday night, the Jewish public will have the first opportunity of hearing a selection of songs as sung by the Jewish Brigade. They have been arranged by Jerry Idelson and will be played by the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra under Bram Verhoef. Pinkie Stromin will render some of the songs in English and Hebrew.

Eugene Magid will play a violin concerto, Jane Susman will sing several songs, and Faivel Zygelbaum, the well-known Jewish dramatist, will present a new dramatic monologue.

This great musical and literary treat, in aid of a deserving cause, should not be missed.

### Minister Waterson to Speak at Palestine Maritime Drive Function

Mr. S. F. Waterson, Minister of Commerce and Industry, will be the speaker at a banquet of the Palestine Maritime League at the Carlton Hotel on Wednesday, November 14, at 7 p.m.

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