

# Miss America 1945



In a nation-wide beauty contest, a Hunter College graduate, Bess Myerson, of New York, was recently chosen as Miss America 1945. Unlike previous winners, she has no wish to become a glamour girl but has her heart set on studying music. Thus far she has managed to dodge movie offers and personal tours, concentrating instead on her musical career.

seilles comprised of visa-anticipators —B. Wald-Garfunkel was arrested at his hotel the night before and taken into custody by the Vichy Gestapo. His seizure was no surprise; police were suspicious of our entire "colony." Wald-Garfunkel was one of the first victims.

He was transferred from prison to prison during a period of many weeks. He finally reached a concentration camp where "political suspects" were held under Gestapo surveillance. His American visa had arrived, but the Gestapo paid little attention to visas of persons in custody.

I met his wife frequently that winter in Marseilles. Efforts to bring about his release failed. Most of us were "en route," ready for departure, equipped with American visas, but still enduring the "Spanish Inquisition," as we dubbed the waiting for Spanish transit visas. Franco's visa-officials were little concerned with our impatience. The waiting for a transit visa would drag for months. Without it, one could not reach Lisbon, the harbour for departure for the United States.

We knew that Wald, if released, would have to start anew—begin bidding time whereas we were about to terminate our long period of waiting.

## Comes to the U.S.

On a winter's day in 1941, on a visit to the American consulate to dispose of final formalities connected with my departure, I saw Wald, escorted by two Vichy gendarmes. He was permitted to come, for his visa, under

guard. After he had received it, he was returned to the concentration camp to wait again until his friends obtained his Spanish transit visa.

Finally, he did get out—sometime in 1941. On his arrival in New York, he was immediately accepted as a member of Local 83 of the Jewish Typsetters Union and obtained employment at his trade. He enlisted in the American Army, and was assigned as translator to the Military Review of the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. When the War Crimes Tribunal sought a chief interpreter, the General Staff recommended Wald-Garfunkel for the job.

Now, as Chief Interpreter, he meets each day men who only several years ago, impersonally, without any special awareness of a man by that name, hounded Wald en masse—Wald, one of millions of Jews, and destroyed his family among millions of other mass - slaughtered, mass - cremated Jews.

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## 1,000 "Blue-Boxes" Hidden from Nazis

During the German occupation Zionists in-Hungary hid 1,000 Jewish National Fund "blue boxes" where the Nazis could not find them.

Now they have been taken out of their hiding place and are again on the walls of 1,000 Jewish homes.

## Serious And Otherwise

by ben dor

### "Atomist" and Zionist

M. Z. FRANK, "Zionist Record" correspondent, writes from New York: Everybody these days talks about Alexander Sachs who convinced Roosevelt about the need for atomic research. But no one has yet mentioned the fact—known to thousands of people—that Alexander Sachs was once an employee of the American Zionist Organisation.

I first met him in Montreal, Canada, in 1917, when he came there as the first Executive Director of the Canadian Zionist Federation, recommended by the New York office. He stayed in Canada for one year and went back to New York to the Zionist office. I remember him telling me that he had been Brandeis's secretary before he came to Montreal. I also remember him telling me (all that back in 1917-18) that the great Hebrew novelist, Mapu, had been his grand-uncle.

He told me a story about Clarence de Sola, the millionaire Sephardi, founder and President of the Canadian Zionist Federation, which story I later told in the New York "Hadoar." The story is that De Sola was convinced it was he and not Weizmann who had converted Bal-four to Zionism, and that De Sola therefore objected to the text of the congratulatory cable sent by the Canadian Zionist Executive to Weizmann. Sachs resigned with De Haas and others from his position in the Zionist office when Lipsky ousted the Brandeis group after the Cleveland Convention in 1921. I haven't seen Sachs since 1918, but Bernard Joseph told me he had met him last year.

### Jewish Brigade Outplays Paris Maccabi

Playing their first soccer match for six years, Paris Maccabi were no match for the Jewish Brigade team. The match was played in Paris and the home side were beaten by eight goals to two.

The Paris team included a former Vienna Hakoah and Tel Aviv Maccabi star, J. Donnenfeld.

The match took place before a capacity crowd in the stadium and was attended by high Allied officials, leaders of the Jewish community, as well as by Baron de Rothschild in whose house a reception was later given for the teams.

After the game it was decided to hold a sports festival, with the participation of the Brigade athletes, as well as the Belgian, Dutch and French Maccabi clubs.

### Less Than .1 Per Cent.

SINCE the magistrates' courts began functioning in Jerusalem as competent to hear criminal as well as civil litigation, there have been 17,506 cases. Of these 15,356 were criminal and 2,150 civil suits. Previously, only British Chief Magistrates could hear criminal charges, but last year the authority was extended to Palestinian magistrates as well.

Most of the defendants in criminal cases were Arabs. Out of the total cases—over 15,000—only 13 Jewish defendants were involved.

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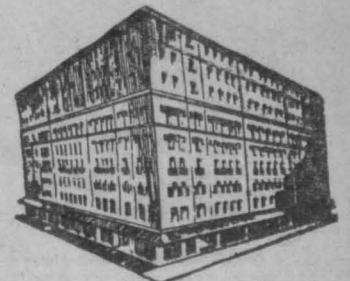
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