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ERETZ ISRAEL

GENERAL NEWS

(per J.T.A., Palcor and Private Sources)

ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST ARAB DISTURBANCES

Memorial Meetings for the Fallen

Jerusalem, April 19th.

TO-DAY marks the anniversary of the first incident in last year's disturbances — the brutal attack by Jaffa Arabs on Jews.

From the beginning of the disturbances until now, a hundred and two Jews have fallen victim to the terrorists; this number does not include the wounded.

Memorial meetings for the dead are being held to-day all over Palestine. The Hebrew Press, reviewing the tragic series of events, declares that the Yishuv has proved its mettle once again.

"All Arab attempts to destroy the Jewish National Home have failed," the papers say, "and Jewish will and determination have remained unbroken."

A WORLD CENTRE FOR JEWISH MUSIC

New Project in the Yishuv

A GROUP of people in the Yishuv, headed by Dr. Salli Levi, Jehuda Shertok, and Hans Eisenstadt, has undertaken the task of creating a "Centre for Jewish Music" in Palestine. This musical centre will afford the means of establishing contact between Eretz Israel and Jewish composers of the world.

A comprehensive collection of existing works, as well as unpublished manuscripts, will be housed in a central office. The centre will also be in useful co-operation with the Palestine Broadcasting Service and Jewish National and University Library. A Society for Jewish Music is to be inaugurated and a "Magazine of Jewish Music" is to be published and will report periodically the work and progress of the Centre. In order to facilitate the publication of the works of Jewish composers a publishing firm will be founded.

The aim of the Centre is to concentrate and influence Jewish musical effort in Eretz Israel, and to stimulate such effort in the towns and settlements, so that Jewish music will come into its own in Palestine.

ITALIAN SHIPPERS AND PALESTINE PORTS

IT is announced that, according to a decision of the Italian Steam Ship Lines, a fortnightly call by a passenger ship will be made at the Jaffa port, a fortnightly call of a cargo boat will be made at the Tel-Aviv port, and all other vessels are to go to Haifa.

NATIONAL FUND TO ESTABLISH ANOTHER EIGHT SETTLEMENTS

Jerusalem, April 22nd.

IN addition to the number of Keren Hayesod settlements that have been established since the outbreak of the disturbances a year ago, eight more Kevutzoth and Moshavim are to be established in the coming weeks on land of the Jewish National Fund in northern and southern areas of Palestine. These new settlements will include one bearing the name of Ussishkin, and two Kevutzoth organised by the youth of the General Zionists.

JEWISH COLONISATION PENETRATES PALESTINE'S DANGER ZONE

Jerusalem, April 9th.

JEWISH landworkers from all parts of the Emek assisted to-day in the erection of defence walls, water and watch towers for the two new kvutzoth "Irgunei Hatzafon" (Unions of the North) which were inaugurated to-day between Meshek Geshet and Beisan which is one of the most dangerous spots in Palestine.

A special railway station has been built for the needs of the two kvutzoth. It was named Beth Yosef, in memory of the late Joseph Aronowitz, the founder of the "Hapoel Hatzair."

The work of building the defence walls and erecting the houses was going on feverishly to-day, and the general atmosphere in the new kvutzoth is cheerful.

COL. PATTERSON FETED BY JEWISH EX-SERVICEMEN

Jerusalem, April 16th.

A RECEPTION was given to Col. Patterson, the Commander of the Jewish Legion, in Tel-Aviv yesterday by the Jewish ex-Servicemen.

The national Jewish institutions, the municipality and the Writers' Association were represented. Mr. Israel Rokach, the Mayor of Tel-Aviv, extended greetings to Col. Patterson on behalf of the Jewish Legionnaires.

"If the Jewish Legion existed to-day," he said, "the attitude towards the Jews would be different. Whatever the Royal Commission's report, the last word is with the Jewish people."

DR. WERNER SENATOR

Appointed Administrator of Hebrew University

Jerusalem, April 20th.

AN official announcement issued by the Hebrew University states that Dr. Werner Senator, member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, has been appointed Administrator of the University.

SCOUTMASTER IMPRESSED BY JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS

Jerusalem, April 22nd.

MR. SIBLY, a scoutmaster and head of an English scouting group which visited Palestine, before leaving made a statement to the press in which he said that he was profoundly impressed by the work achieved by the Jews, particularly in Tel-Aviv and Daganah, desolate places that had been converted into prosperous areas. He also paid a tribute to the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, which he regarded as one of the finest in the world.

ARAB POLICE OFFICIAL

Hebrew Press' Tribute to Halim Basta

AS briefly reported by cable last week, an Arab police official, Halim Basta, was shot dead in Haifa on April 15 as he was leaving his house on his way to the police station. Fuller information now reveals that he was shot by three Arab Arabs who fired at him and escaped.

It is reported that nine shots were fired at him and that most of the bullets wounded him. Basta's orderly, an Arab constable, was also seriously wounded and died later in hospital. An Arab boy who was near the scene was also wounded. Immediately the news reached them, the police surrounded the Arab quarters in Haifa and made a systematic search.

Halim Basta, as head of the Haifa Criminal Investigation Department, had been frequently threatened by the Arab terrorists. He was wounded last October, and only recently recovered, but he refused to be intimidated by the terrorists.

The Hebrew Press, deploring the murder of this gallant officer, points out that he will be remembered as one of the many innocent victims of lawlessness.

A later report mentions that an Arab suspected of having killed Halim Basta has been arrested in Raselain.

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