

"Dance Hora and Sing Hatikvah"

AS 150 AMERICAN JEWS LEAVE FOR PALESTINE

(From Our New York Correspondent.)

New York, May 10th.

THE Haggada slogan: "Next year in Jerusalem," will have to be revised. More and more the idea seems to be instead: "This year in Jerusalem."

Another group of 150 American Jews left this week on the *Vulcania*. At least, a thousand other Jews were at the pier to see them off. This marks the fifth group in several months.

But it is not only quantitatively, but qualitatively that the departures for Palestine are distinguished from those of former years.

In former years, to continue in the Haggada mood, those leaving for Palestine were the old, who went to Palestine to die. Now, they are the young, who go to Palestine to live.

There was one whole family from Connecticut indeed, which was going because of the adamant insistence of their young son of seventeen. The elders could not bear the thought of separation with the result that now the entire family will settle in Palestine.

In former years, those who went to Palestine were largely of the class heavily stocked with spiritual goods, but unfortunately very scantily supplied with material goods—aged men and women who expected to live in Palestine on the subsidies of relatives here.

But of those who went on the *Vulcania*, all were people of some means—entering with "capitalist" certificates.

In former years, remarked the steamship company's representative at the pier as the *Vulcania* was about to leave, out of fifty who went, 49 would return. Now, even of those who go as tourists, who go to look, a great proportion desire to settle and return to America to liquidate their affairs for that purpose.

If nothing great can be accomplished without enthusiasm, as Emerson thought, then the scene at the leaving of the *Vulcania* was a hopeful sign indeed.

THE *Vulcania* is a great boat—an Italian boat. On it were hundreds of Italians and Greeks returning to their native lands. They stood quiet, almost stolid. The Jews leaving, on the contrary, were in high spirits, as for a great adventure.

So moving was the spectacle that a group of three who came to see off their friends, decided there and then to book passages on an early vessel for Palestine, much to the delight of a steamship agent standing at their side.

Some passengers, already anticipating the gayer aspects of Palestine, were dancing the Hora. To a simple unverballed *la la la*. Primitive but perhaps good for that reason. They are commencing from the scratch, throwing off the load of history, to create anew. All about were laughing, young girls—the type that you find teaching in schools, working in offices. Palestine is no longer an old man's dream, it has become a young man's vision. And more so, perhaps, a young woman's vision — for the number of young girls seemed to be larger than that of the young men. Which, also, is good. For Palestine, it appears, needs young women—the male preponderance is too large.

There was laughing and singing, but here and there, there was weeping too. A mother there seemed unable to embrace her daughter enough — pressing her again and again to herself. And everybody at one time or another, turning their faces away trying to repress the tears, and look unaffected. The whistle of the big boat blew. A thousand hands went up in the air, waving hats, waving handkerchiefs. The boat sailed out.

Sons of First Jewish Settlers

START NEW COLONY IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem, May 31st.

THE B'nai Benjamin Organisation, which consists of sons of the first Jewish colonists in Palestine, is starting a fourth colony in addition to its three existing colonies, Ben Aharon, Herzlia and Nathania, which will be known as Yehudia, in commemoration of the famous Hebrew lexicographer, Eliezer Ben Yehuda, the tenth anniversary of whose death will occur next Chanukah.

A hundred sons of colonists will be settled in the new colony, which consists of about 3,000 dunams, and another 3,000 dunams may be added, in which case more settlers will be brought in. The colony is situated between Tel Mond in the south-east and Nathania in the north-west. The soil is exceptionally fertile in this region.

The means for securing the land were largely obtained through the assistance of Mr. Blum of Philadelphia, owner of the Artificial Teeth Factory in Tel Aviv, who made a very considerable contribution, and additional funds were obtained by a delegation consisting of Messrs. Ittamar Ben-Avi and Ben-Ami, who visited America for the purpose.

Another Jew Found Dead.

FOUR BEDOUINS ARRESTED ON SUSPICION.

Jerusalem, June 8th.

THE body of a Sephardic Jew named Joseph Levy, who has been missing for a fortnight, was found to-day in a cave near the village of Beth Sahar. A Bedouin family of four men belonging to the village have been arrested on suspicion of murder.

Levy had been travelling as a pedlar in this purely Arab area.