

# NEWS IN BRIEF.

## CELEBRATION OF HENRIETTA SZOLD'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY.

Jerusalem.

The Jewish community of Palestine paid a united tribute to Henrietta Szold on the occasion of her eightieth birthday. Members of the Jewish Agency and its affiliated bodies, local communal heads, leaders of Jewish communities from Tel-Aviv, Haifa and settlements, and social welfare workers from all parts of the country filled the Jewish Agency Hall in Jerusalem to capacity at a celebratio in her honour. When Miss Szold rose to respond to the addresses by Mr. I. Ben-Zvi (Chairman of the Vaad Leumi), Dr. J. L. Magnes (President of the Hebrew University), and Mr. M. Shertok (Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency), all assembled stood up for an ovation that died down only to swell again for some minutes on end.

The Ben Shemen children's village, in Southern Judaea, was a Mecca for youth who came from all parts of the country to felicitate Henrietta Szold. In the presence of about five hundred children and young people she lighted the first candle in a moving Chanukah celebration, during which she was presented with a blanket and pillow made by the youth from the wool of their own flocks.

## PALESTINE'S OLIVE OIL INDUSTRY.

Jerusalem.

The regulation of Palestine's olive oil industry in a manner similar to the citrus industry was suggested by Mr. A. Grasovsky, of the Government Department of Agriculture, before the Committee on Agricultural Economics and Marketing. Olive growers should be protected by special rules governing the picking, storage, percentage of acidity and purity, Mr. Grasovsky declared pointing out that over 500,000 dunams of land were under olive tree cultivation as compared with the 300,000 dunams devoted to citrus. Now that less oil was consumed by the Nablus soap industry owing to the decrease in exports, the pressing problem was to raise the standard of the surplus olive oil on hand so that it can compete on foreign markets. Recent experiments by the Department of Agriculture on the oil content of olives from various countries, namely Morocco, Italy and Spain, have proved that the Palestine fruit contains the highest proportion 47.5 per cent. of oil. Italian olives contain 42-45 per cent.

## IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Further important discoveries have been made during excavations on the remains of the Third Wall of ancient Jerusalem. The

new find includes some 150 metres of the Third Wall reputedly begun by Agrippa I, but completed only at the beginning of the war against the Romans shortly before the destruction of Jerusalem (70 A.D.). A tower, taller and wider than the two previously unearthed, was also found. Excavations, resumed recently by Prof. L. A. Mayer and Prof. E. L. Sukenik, of the Hebrew University, in co-operation with the Jewish Exploration Society, began in 1925.

## NEW MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

The High Commissioner has prescribed a maximum number of some ninety new licences for the practice of medicine for issue during 1941.

Some hundred nurses of the Hadassah and Beilinson Hospitals were awarded Diplomas in Tel-Aviv by Mrs. Esther Rokach, wife of the Mayor, after having completed special two-year courses for non-graduate nurses with at least three years' experience. The courses were sponsored by the Health Department of the General Council (Vaad Leumi) of Palestine Jews and the curriculum followed that of the regular Nurses' Training School.

## MEMORY OF ELIEZER BEN YEHUDA HONOURED.

Jerusalem.

Eliezer Ben Yehuda, "the father of spoken Hebrew," was honoured at a public meeting at the Histadruth Hall in Jerusalem on the occasion of the eighteenth anniversary of his death and the sixtieth anniversary of his arrival in Palestine. Prof. H. Torczyner, one of Ben Yehuda's corroborators, declared that it was Ben Yehuda's great faith in his people, in the Hebrew language, and the future of Palestine that instilled the few active Zionists then in the country to follow his lead and speak Hebrew. Nathan Greenblatt, the writer, and Prof. J. Klausner, of the Hebrew University, paid tribute to Ben Yehuda's combination of the classical and modern terms which gave the language the spirit of a living everyday tongue. Mrs. Hemda Ben Yehuda, the scholar's widow, recalled some of his earliest efforts on behalf of a "living" Hebrew.

## FIRST JEWISH SETTLER IN JUDEAN HILLS CELEBRATES SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY.

Jerusalem.

The first Jewish settler in the Judean Hills near Jerusalem, Shlomo Broza, was feted by members of his family and well-wishers from all over the country on the occasion of a double anniversary—his

seventieth birthday and the fiftieth year of his arrival in Palestine from Russia. Forty-six years ago Mr. Broza decided to establish a farm outside Jerusalem and there plant vineyards. He chose a site opposite the Arab village of Kulonia and there built his homestead. He had numerous difficulties with which to contend in the half-century he has spent at Motza—first under Turkish times, and later in the 1929 disturbances when he had the agony of seeing his neighbours across the road shot and their house burned over their heads. At one time Broza's homestead was a popular halt for travellers going to Jerusalem, and it was the custom for all new Chief Rabbis to take refreshment there before entering the capital. His jams and preserves, made of his own plums, peaches and grapes, were famous throughout the country. Among the many messages which reached him on his double anniversary was one from the Jerusalem District Commissioner, Mr. Edward Keith-Roach. Hundreds of friends came to his farm to proffer personal congratulations.

## ARAB-JEWISH FRIENDSHIP.

Jerusalem.

Arab villagers of Khirbet Azzoun, in the Tulkarm sub-district, paid a visit during Chanukah to the Jewish village of Raanana. Mukhtars, elders and notables of the village led a gathering of the villagers, who came to repay the call made by the farmers at Khirbet Azzoun during the Moslem feast of Id al Fitr at the end of the Ramadhan fast. Speeches testified to the long friendship of twenty years' standing between the Jews and Arabs. Later a luncheon feast was held, and in the afternoon the Arab guests were treated to a cinema performance, many seeing a motion-picture film for the first time in their lives.

Another instance of Arab-Jewish co-operation is the joint exhibition held in Jerusalem of paintings and other works by artists of the two races. At Safad, an exhibition of paintings opened under the auspices of the Cultural Commission of the General Jewish Labour Federation also had three exhibits by a young Arab artist.

## PALESTINE ORCHESTRA.

Jerusalem.

Fifteen-year-old Yahli Wagman, born in Tel-Aviv, and hailed as a pianoforte prodigy, has made his appearance in a solo recital at the series of three Palestine Orchestra concerts in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv and Haifa at the beginning of January. Young Wagman won this privilege by getting first prize in a pianoforte competition held by the Orchestra among Jewish aspirants for musical honours.

At the same concert, there was the world premiere of a work for viola and orchestra by Heinrich Yaacoby, Palestinian composer who himself appeared as soloist. In a second series of concerts, another composition, a symphony by the composer Paul Ben-Haim, was performed for the first time by the Palestine Orchestra with the composer himself conducting.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF.

(Continued from previous page.)

The death has taken place in Tel-Aviv of Mr. Aryeh Schuyer, aged fifty-nine, cello leader of the Palestine Orchestra since its inception.

### TIBERIAS HOT SPRINGS.

Jerusalem.

The sulphur springs establishment at Tiberias, of which shareholders and directors are now mainly South African Jews, is ready to receive 150,000 visitors this year, and hopes to achieve that record owing to the difficulty among invalids, who were wont to go abroad to foreign spas in the past, undertaking overseas travel in war-time.

The winter season at the bathing establishment opened early in December after considerable renovations had been effected during the summer. The establishment now covers an area of 17½ acres, together with a verdant park, on the shores of Lake Kinnereth. There are seventeen hot springs in all, and their flow aggregates over 2,000 cubic metres daily. These mineral waters gush out at a temperature of 60°C. The Tiberias Hot Spring (Hamei Tiberia) Company has obtained the Government concession for sixty-six years and has invested £P.55,000 so far. The sum of £P.20,000 has been invested in the piping of the springs alone. An innovation this season is the drinking water from one of the springs, stated to cure internal ailments. Like the famous Pumphoom at Bath, in England, this particular spring will give what is called the "Water Cure."

One of the active directors on the spot is Mr. Jack Gering, formerly of Johannesburg, and Mr. Lazar Braudo, also of Johannesburg, is a member of the Board of Directors.

### Dr. WEIZMANN SCIENTIFIC ADVISER TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

London.

It is announced that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Head of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organisation, has been appointed Scientific Adviser to the British Government. A Government laboratory has been placed at his disposal.

### DEATH OF NOTED AMERICAN JEWISH SCHOLAR.

New York.

The death has occurred in Cincinnati, U.S.A., at the age of fifty-two, of Dr. Jacob Mann, Professor of Talmud and Jewish History at the Hebrew Union College in that city.

Dr. Mann, who was born in Przemyśl, Galicia was educated at Jews' College and University College, London. He took the degree of M.A. at London University in 1915 and that of D.Litt. in 1920. Going to America in 1920, he was appointed instructor at the Baltimore Hebrew College, and two years later became Professor of

Jewish History and Literature at the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati. In 1927-8 he was visiting professor at the University of Jerusalem. Dr. Mann was the author of a large number of books and studies on Jewish subjects.

### Mr. SIDNEY HILLMAN APPOINTED TO SUPREME DIRECTORATE OF U.S.A. DEFENCE PROGRAMME.

New York.

Mr Sidney Hillman was recently appointed one of the members of the Supreme Directorate for the United States Defence Programme. He has been one of America's foremost Labour leaders for twenty-five years. Since 1915 he has been President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Aged fifty-three, he began life as rabbinical student in Lithuania but was drawn from his studies in this direction by his interest in the workers' movement.

### REFUGEES FOR U.S.A.

Tokio.

Three thousand European Jews will pass through Yokohama during the next six months bound for the United States. They will travel under a mass emigration scheme being handled jointly by the Soviet tourist travel agency and a Japanese shipping company.

They are emigrants from Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Norway. An average of 500 will pass through Japan every month. The fares are being paid by the Los Angeles Jewish Relief Committee.

### NEW POLISH CONSUL-GENERAL FOR HAVANA.

Washington.

Mr. Carol Sachs, former Warsaw Jewish leader and industrialist, has been appointed Polish Consul-General to Havana, Cuba, the Polish Embassy announces.

## A JEWISH HOME FOR SCHOOL-CHILDREN.

### S.A. JEWISH BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(CAPE COMMITTEE).

Parents from country places who wish their children to be brought up in a comfortable, homely and Jewish atmosphere, should send them to the Home for Jewish school-children established by the South African Board of Jewish Education (Cape Committee).

Applications to be addressed to:

THE SECRETARY,  
P.O. Box 2578, CAPE TOWN,  
or Telephone 3-1503.

## SHEKEL DAY.

### SHEKEL DAY IN SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN FIXED

FOR . . .

*Sunday, 16th March.*

### HEBREW CLASSES

"GOLDERS GREEN,

MARMION ROAD, ORANJEZICHT.

Re-open on Monday, 20th January,  
Under the personal supervision of  
Rev. S. H. Michelson. Phone 2-6665.

### REV. S. KIBEL

accepts pupils for Hebrew—class or private tuition—and prepares for Barmitzvah.

5, Avenue Terrace, Government Avenue,  
(Adjacent to S.A.C.S. Junior School)  
Cape Town. Phone 2-4081.

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