

NEWS IN BRIEF.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY.

Jerusalem.

This year's budget of the Hebrew University amounts to £P170,000, the highest in its history. The Rosenbloom Building for the Humanities is now completed, and the Morris Kootcher building of the Museum of Jewish Antiquities is well on the way to being finished. In addition, a sports gymnasium and another wing for the Jewish National and University Library have been built. The School of Agriculture has come into being and admitted its first 40 students. More will be taken on later as accommodation in the laboratories is made available. A record student body was recorded for last year when 1,200 young men and women were registered. The number dropped somewhat this year but is still over 1,000. The reason for the drop is that students who were to have come from abroad were prevented from doing so by war conditions. There are now over 200 graduates, of whom 20 have the Ph.D. from the Hebrew University and the remainder have received the M.A. Degree. Among notable features of progress at the Hebrew University is the fact that the Bible has now become a major subject which students can take for their M.A. degree.

DISCOVERY OF VACCINE FOR JERICHO BOIL.

Jerusalem.

Two members of the scientific staff at the Hebrew University, who injected themselves with the disease and were thus able to follow the course of the ailment and its cure, have succeeded in finding a vaccine for the treatment of the "Jericho boil"—a particularly painful affliction of the skin resulting from the sting of a carrier-fly in the Jericho and Dead Sea region.

PALESTINE JEWISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Jerusalem.

About 1,000 Jewish doctors from all parts of the country took part in the annual conference of the Palestine Jewish Medical Association. There were 28 papers read in Hebrew and English at six sessions, and both British military surgeons and Arab doctors were among the guests. The Association, which came into being in 1919, is the only all-Jewish medical practitioners' body in the world; it has 1,800 members. Prof. S. Zondek was President of the Conference.

POST MORTEM DISSECTION OF JEWISH BODIES.

Jerusalem.

The Religious Board of the Jewish community has instructed all Chevrot Kadisha (Jewish Burial Societies) not to perform the necessary rites in regard to the bodies of Jews which show signs of post mortem operations without previously informing the religious authorities.

The Hebrew press comments that this measure must be presumed to have been taken against the Hadassah Hospital and Medical Centre, which are alleged to have made use of the bodies of Jews for medical purposes.

RUSSIAN SENTENCED FOR BRINGING "ILLEGALS" TO PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Captain Tihon Constantin Chekhoff, master of the schooner "Libertad," has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for bringing "illegal" immigrants to Palestine. The schooner has been confiscated.

Captain Chekhoff is a Russian subject.

IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND.

Jerusalem.

A four-storey catacomb, containing seven chambers with fifty separate interments, was recently discovered near the village of Silwan, just outside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, by Prof. E. L. Sukenik, Professor of Jewish Archaeology at the Hebrew University. The examination of the caves, which show no traces of the depredations evident in other similar burial centres, has contributed substantially to the knowledge of Jewish life in the period immediately preceding the destruction of the Second Temple. Potsherds found inside the caves fix their date approximately at the time of Herod the Great. The entrance to the most elaborate of the caves was found to be decorated with a gable with acroteria and two pilasters, all hewn out of the living rock. Above some of the burial places were graffiti in black paint, one of which can still be read as "Martha." Fragments of many ossuaries (stone coffins), some decorated with rosettes and painted, were found inside the chambers.

LONDON "RING" FOR ZIONIST STUDENTS FORMED.

London.

A London branch of the "Igul," the "Ring" of old members of the Zionist Students' Association, has been formed here. The Chairman is Mr. Josef Ellenbogen, and the Hon. Secretary Mr. Josef Fraenkel.

The "Igul" is maintaining contact with its sister organisations in Tel-Aviv and America.

JEWISH SOLDIER'S LAST WISHES.

Jerusalem.

Private Joseph Breitman, who fell when fighting with the British forces in the Battle of Tobruk, asked before his death to be buried wrapped in the Zionist flag, and that under his head be placed a Bible and a copy of "The Jewish State" by Dr. Herzl.

The Commander of the Brigade gave an order that everything possible should be done to fulfil the last wishes of the soldier, which were carefully carried out.

DEATH OF FAMOUS BIBLICAL SCHOLAR.

London.

The death has occurred at Birmingham, at the age of 89, of Dr. James Rendel

Harris, the famous Biblical scholar, archaeologist and Orientalist.

Nearly twenty years after Dr. Harris had acquired it in Egypt, a section of papyrus was proved to be the oldest known fragment of the Bible—a papyrus roll of the Book of Deuteronomy.

When he acquired the papyri in 1917 from a fellah who had hidden it away, he was recuperating from the effects of spending two days in a boat in the Mediterranean after his ship had been torpedoed. On his way back to England his ship was again torpedoed, but Dr. Harris had left the papyrus behind.

SOVIET DEPORTS JEWISH LEADERS.

London.

According to information received in Polish Jewish circles here, the former President of the Cracow Kehilla, Dr. Rafael Landau, who fled from Lemberg at the outbreak of war, has been deported by the Soviet Government to a distant part of Russia.

Dr. Jacob Schechter, President of the Revisionist Zionists of Eastern Galicia, is also said to have been deported.

POLISH JEWISH JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATIONS RECOGNISED.

London.

Associations of Polish Jewish journalists have been established recently both in Palestine and the United States by refugees escaped from Nazi-occupied territory, it is learned here. The two associations have now obtained recognition as Yiddish branches of the Polish Union of Journalists.

The Palestine section is headed by Mr. M. Indelman, formerly editor of the Warsaw daily, the "Hajnt," while the American section is under the management of Messrs. Appenschlak and Jacob Pat.

BRONISLAW HUBERMAN GIVES CONCERT IN AID OF POLISH FUNDS.

Montreal.

The famous violinist, Bronislaw Huberman, has given a violin recital here, under the patronage of the Governor-General, the Earl of Athlone, and Princess Alice.

The proceeds of the concert were given by Mr. Huberman to the Polish Hospital in England and to the fund for the aid of Polish soldiers interned in Switzerland.

DEATH OF Dr. ABRAHAM SALZ.

Geneva.

The "Gazeta Zydowska" reports the death at Tarnow, at the age of 77, of Dr. Abraham Salz, known as the "Nestor" of the Zionist movement.

He was a Vice-President of the first Zionist Congress and founder of the Palestine colony Makhnaim.

YIDDISH "OFFICIAL LANGUAGE" IN IN WARSAW GHETTO.

Geneva.

Yiddish is now the "official language" in the Warsaw ghetto, according to reports reaching here, and only candidates who are

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