



THE MAITLAND ECHO



A
MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF THE

MAITLAND JUNIOR ZIONIST SOCIETY.

THE MATTLAND ECHO

VOL. III, No. 8.

1st April 1940.

PALESTINE LAND SALES ORDINANCE.

The British Government last month put into operation the Palestine Land Sales Ordinance. This is the portion of the White Paper of May 1939 which restricts the purchase of land in Eretz Yisrael by Jews. It represents an attempt to satisfy the groundless Arab demand for "the immediate and complete prohibition of the sale of Arab land to the Jews" - a demand closely linked up with the mythical and popular theory of Arab landlessness.

Let us now examine the relevant facts, (for it is with facts with which we are concerned) of this so called "Arab landlessness".

At the outset it must be realised that a very large section of these landless, are actually not Palestinians. From about 1929 to 1935, by reason of the Jewish created prosperity about 350,000 Arabs illegally entered Palestine from Hauran in Syria, and came to work in the towns. As a result of the 1936 riots however, many of these lost their employment; but instead of returning to Syria, or going to work on the land, they remained in Eretz Yisrael to be added to the ranks of the landless. Indeed, such is the Arab's dislike for work in the rural areas, that only a few hundred could be found, when in 1930, consequent to the Hope-Simpson commission special provision was made

to afford assistance to landless Arabs.

And now a few more figures will reveal the extent to which the Jews have "driven the poor Arab off the land". Between the census years of 1922 and 1931 the Arab rural population of Palestine rose from 374,562 to 555,834. During the same period the area under cultivation by Arabs rose from three million to five million dunams. (One dunam roughly equals a quarter of an acre).

The Jews have added five million dunams to the arable area of Eretz Yisrael by work and not by robbery. What have the Arabs lost? At most, the malarial pest which yearly cost them hundreds of lives.

Such is the thanks which we have received for our constant loyalty. Though more than 30% of the population, we own in all less than 10% of the land! Messrs. Chamberlain and Mc Donald - for the opposition vote of two-fifths in the House of Commons has shown that it is these gentlemen and not the British public whom we have to fight - have chosen the path of Expediency instead of Justice.

Let us however not despair, for, as Dr. Weizman has already stated, the land regulations will fall from the weight of their own injustice. No ordinances issued today or tomorrow from Whitehall can undo the indestructible historic rights of the Jews.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Direct reply: B. Seidle - Owing to pressure of space your letter has been withheld. If you wish we will publish it next month - Ed.

MYER KRAMER:

On April 1st Myer Kramer assumes duties in the Customs Department at Port Elizabeth. To some people this date will seem very funny but it is no joke to the Editorial Board of the Maitland Echo. Nor, for that matter, to the Maitland Junior Zionist Society and Habonim (Gedud Ir-Dan). In fact, four different positions which he held in Maitland Jewish Youth Organizations, will have to be filled.

Firstly and perhaps most important of all Myer was responsible for the small illustrations that appeared in each issue of this Journal. Illustrating is something which few people attempt with any success and it may be rather difficult to find a new artist. In addition he assisted



considerably both with the literary and administrative facts of the Echo.

Very ably too he carried out his duties as treasurer of the Society for several sessions. Only last month the committee also appointed him Sports Convenor and in view of his capabilities at ping-pong and tennis, things were looking up in the Society's sporting activities.

But Myer also directed his attention

towards the younger Maitland boys. As Segan Rosh (Deputy Leader) he took an active part in the training of future Jewish Bonim (Builders). Gedud Ir-Dan will indeed miss him

Outside the society Myer took to sport. He was a keen and enthusiastic member of the Maitland Tennis and Gardens Table-Tennis Clubs. In fact, he played for both first teams.

Myer's many friends and all those with whom he worked and played will miss him. While wishing him the very best of luck and success in his new surroundings we hope, too, that he will very soon be able to resume locally his many activities.

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STOP PRESS.

MR. DAVE DUNSKY AT PAROW.

On Wednesday 27 March at Parow, Mr. Dunskey, in an excellent address to a combined gathering of the Northern Districts and Maitland Societies, dealt with the misconceptions many Jews have of the meaning of Zionism. He said it meant "That which makes me, a Jew, speak to you, a Gentile, as an equal".

Out of over 40 people present only two were from Maitland, in spite of the fact that it was a combined meeting and everyone had been notified.

SHEKEL DAY.

Up to the time to time of going to press on Sunday 31 March, 103 Shekolim had been sold in Maitland and the adjoining districts.

NEWS OF THE MONTH.PAARL RALLY.

The Paarl Zionist Youth Society acted as hosts at a magnificently successful Rally held in that centre during the Easter week-end. Over a hundred delegates were present and our society was represented by Issy Schwabsky and Phillip Ozinsky.

The proceedings of the Rally commenced on Saturday night, 23rd March. Rev. Strelitz referred to the importance of such a gathering at Purim and Mr. E.J. Horwitz, Chairman of the Congregation, welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Paarl Jewish Community. Mr. Dave Meyerowitz, Chairman of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive, responded to the speeches of welcome.

Mr. D. Dunsky, the principal speaker and guest of honour, stirred the audience when he dealt with the difficulties of the Jews all over the world, and made a plea to strengthen the Zionist Organisation by redoubling our efforts for the upbuilding of our national Home. He exhorted delegates to support the Talmud Torahs so as to cultivate Jewish culture and to revitalize the Hebrew language.

After the meeting most of the delegates proceeded to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Levinsohn where a lively Hebrew sing song was held until the early hours of the morning.

On Sunday afternoon a Debate was held between Town versus Country. Mr. R. Rabinowitz introduced the motion "That this war will tend to alleviate the Jewish problem". He was supported by Mr. Lionel Hodes for the Country and opposed by Mr. M. Saacks (Muizenberg) supported by Miss Z. Cohen for the Town. Animated discussion followed with the result a decided "draw".

On Sunday night the Paarl Z.Y. Society was "At Home" to delegates at the Talmud Torah Hall.

On Monday, March 25th a picnic in honour of the delegates at a nearby farm. Games were played and the air was filled with the singing of Hebrew songs.

The Rally concluded on Monday evening and was voted as being one of the finest ever yet held in this province.



COUNCIL MEETING.

A Council meeting was held on Sunday morning 24th March at Paarl. The following reports were submitted:- Mr. B. Goldin, Organisation and Propaganda; Mr. R. Rabinowitz, Cultural; Miss H. Hodes, Kofer Hayishuv and J.N.F. and Menorah.

Much discussion followed each report and many constructive suggestions were put forward by delegates.

MISCELLANEOUS SHOWER.

On Sunday night, 10th March, a Miscellaneous Shower took place at the Talmud Torah Hall. The speakers were Philip Ozinsky and Wolfe Fish. Philip spoke about the Defence of Tel Chai, and Wolfe delivered an interesting lecture on the Jewish Settlements in Eretz Yisrael. He stressed the importance of supporting the J.N.F. and Keren Hayesod.

The evening concluded at about 11 p.m. with some very lively singing.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

At a meeting of the Committee held at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. E. Gootman on Wednesday, 13th March, it was decided that

our Annual Dance shall take place on Saturday night, 17th August, 1940.

FAREWELL TO MYER KRAMER.

On Thursday evening, 21st March, the Society held an official farewell to Myer Kramer. The farewell took the form of a dance.

The Chairman, Issy Schwabsky, described Myer's meritorious career at Maitland and wished Myer a happy stay and a bright future at Port Elizabeth. In token of the Society's appreciation of Myer's services he was presented with an engraved fountain pen.



TUESDAY EVENINGS.

Attendance at the Hall on Tuesday evenings has been slacking; but members are assured of a good game of table tennis if they turn up.

HEBREW CLASSES.

The Cape Zionist Youth Executive announce that those members desiring to take lessons in Hebrew, can attend on Monday (7.30 - 8.30 p.m.) and Thursdays (8 p.m. - 9 p.m.) at the Talmud Torah Hall, Hope Street. The fee is 5/- per month. Monday's classes are for beginners and the Thursdays classes are for the more advanced. If a sufficient number are prepared to take advantage of this offer other arrangements could be made if the above times and days are not suitable.

LATEST PAMPHLETS.

The following pamphlets were received by the Hon. Secretary during March:-

"Karnenu" - a journal issued by the Jewish National Fund, Jerusalem. This gives an account of recent J.N.F. work.

"The Organisation of the Zionist Movement" - This title fully explains the contents of the pamphlet.

"Topical Talk". - A monthly booklet issued by the S.A.Zionist Youth Council. It has amongst its contents such items as "News from Poland", "The Story of the Shekel" and "Chaim Schmerel versus Hitler".

Any of the above pamphlets may be borrowed on application to Gladys Saacks.

STUDY CIRCLE.

Only one meeting was held during March. This was on Friday, the 8th, at the residence of Mr & Mrs. A. Kaufman. The meeting took the form of an open discussion, the subject being "Should Jewish parents send their children to Hebrew medium schools if these were erected in South Africa".

The next meeting will take place on Friday, 12th April, at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. A. Saacks.

KEREN HAYESOD CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Dov Hos, Vice-Mayor of Tel-Aviv, and Mrs. Hadassah Samuel arrived at Johannesburg last Sunday to inaugurate the forthcoming Keren Hayesod Campaign. The inaugural banquet will be held at Johannesburg on April 9th. The Hon. Mr. Justice Greenberg will preside. Mrs. Hadassah Samuel will also lead the Women's Campaign.

The Campaign will most probably commence

in Cape Town towards the end of April.

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OUR MONTHLY ALMANAC.

APRIL 1940.

ADAR - NISAN 5700.

All Jewish occasions commence at sunset on the day previous to the date mentioned below.

April 6. 15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF
Adar 27. THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY on Mount
Scopus, Jerusalem, by Lord Balfour.

April 23-24. FIRST TWO DAYS OF PESACH.
Nisan 15-16.

This festival commemorates the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage and the beginning of Israel's independence as a people.

April 29-30. LAST TWO DAYS OF PESACH.
Nisan 21-22.

April 24 to "SEPHIRA" - THE SEVEN WEEKS.
June 11. NO SOCIAL FUNCTIONS MAY BE
Nisan 16 to HELD DURING THIS PERIOD.
Sivan 5.

This is because of the sad memories of the oppressive treatment of the Jews during this period of the year during the days of the Romans, and also, in the latter middle ages. During this period a plague broke out amongst Rabbi Akiva's pupils.

April 9. ROSH CHODESH NISAN.
Nisan 1.

TWIXT OURSELVES

"What has happened to youth's revolutionary spirit?", I asked myself as I sat in Shul on the night of Purim.

It was a sad contrast to the Purim of my days. We used to carve "Kosherdike" wooden mallets for the great event and really did make a din which everyone in Shul could not help but hear. (The chipped corners of the table bears witness to this). Nor did we ever miss any "Hamans" - in fact one fellow was always appointed to give us the cue before an impending attack.

Those were the good old days; but as I sat in Shul last Purim I watched the present generation calmly receive noiseless "drayerlich". I almost wept at the end to realise that out of a total of about 35 "Hamans" they had only made use of 12.

Youth - what has happened?!!

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Two Friday nights ago I attended the first Oneg Shabbat of Gedud Ir-Dan (Maitland). In true Habonim fashion three coloured candles had been lit, the colours being that of each Kevutzah (Section).

There at the head of the table sat Wolfe Fish, the local Habonim chief with his ten proteges around him. Rosh Fishy told pleasant little bible stories and conducted singing which would put our Society to shame. When, however, I



heard the Gedud song I thought it would not be a bad idea if the M.J.Z.S. also had its own song.

What about having a shot at writing it? As a reward I will send the Echo free of charge for 12 months to any friend of the author of the best song. Just to give you an idea here is the first verse of the Ir-Dan song:-

"For all of us are in Habonim,
Members of Gedud Ir-Dan.
We are the BUILDERS of our Nation
Maccabees for the time to come."

It is sung to the tune of Anu Nihyeh, (page 13 of our song books); but you can choose any tune which will suit a song of about three verses.

Lily Miller has gone and done it! Just in case you have not heard yet let me remind you that it is high time that you joined me in congratulating Lily on her engagement, during last month, to Morris Pernick of Paarl. My best wishes and tons of luck for the future, Lily!



Local girls turn domesticated! - It was with a mixed feeling of pleasure and disappointment that after calling on the homes of several young ladies, namely Gladys Saacks, Lily Jacobson, Fanny Gootman and Raie Kaufman on the morning of Easter Monday in the hope of being asked to tea, that I found each of these respective ladies with their sleeves rolled up either working in the kitchen or dusting the

rooms as they had had to step into their maids' places who were incidentally making the most of the Public Holiday by having a day's outing. I there and then vowed never again to go calling in Maitland on Easter Mondays.

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I have just received a letter from Syd Saacks who is at present with the Mechanical Transport Company at Premier Mine.

Unfortunately the Ed. has censored his soldiery language and I am only allowed to tell you no more than that he drills and receives lessons in musketry and transport driving.



The Wandering Jew

SOLUTION TO WORD-PUZZLE NO. 6.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| (1) Kalisher. | (7) Adar. |
| (2) Emek. | (8) Yarmuk. |
| (3) Rebecca. | (9) Esther. |
| (4) Ephraim. | (10) Solomon. |
| (5) Naomi. | (11) Ochberg. |
| (6) Hatiqvah. | (12) Daganyah. |

- (13) The fund which builds settlements on Jewish land in Eretz Yisrael is the KEREN HAYESOD.

WORD-PUZZLE NO. 7.

(The first letter in each of the answers to the following make up the answer to No. 9.)

THE BOOK OF ESTHER.

- (1) A Jew "whom the king delighted to honour" (Story of Purim).
- (2) This prophet is said to taste of the wine in a special cup at the Seder during Pesach.
- (3) Bereshith or the first of the five Books of Moses.
- (4) Torquemada's Cruel Court instituted in 1478 for the trying and execution of Jews in Spain.
- (5) The "Sabbath Bride" is hailed by this song in Shul on Friday nights.
- (6) One of the greatest Presidents the U.S.A. has ever seen.
- (7) This Jewish month or the one in which Purim falls.
- (8) The largest seaport in Eretz Yisrael.
- (9) One of the Scrolls of Esther read in Shul during Purim.

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All correspondence, etc., should be addressed to:-

The Editor,
The Maitland Echo,
Zion Villa,
5, Ferndale Road,
MAITLAND.

MAITLAND YOUNG ISRAEL SOCIETY.REPORT OF ACTIVITIES DURING MARCH.

The Society held its first meeting of this month on Saturday 16th March 1940 at the hall. Various items of importance were discussed and Phillip Ozinsky delivered a short summary concerning the position of Jews in relation to the war in Europe.

The committee arranged a holiday programme. At a picnic on Monday the 24th, held at the Glen there was an excellent turn out of members. On Tuesday night a Scavenger Hunt was held which was won by the couples J. Carlin and L. Immerman, and J. Ozinsky and S. Munitz. On Thursday night, the 28th, a lecture was delivered by a member of the Executive. A Games evening was held on Saturday night, the 30th. On Sunday, the 31st, a ping-pong match was arranged. Further details may be had in the Stop Press.

J. Mendelowitz has been appointed J.N.F. commissioner and H. Alkin has been co-opted by the committee. The Society drew with the Wynberg Habonim in a cricket match held on the 10th inst. The return match which was to have been held on Tuesday 26th was not held owing to some misunderstanding.

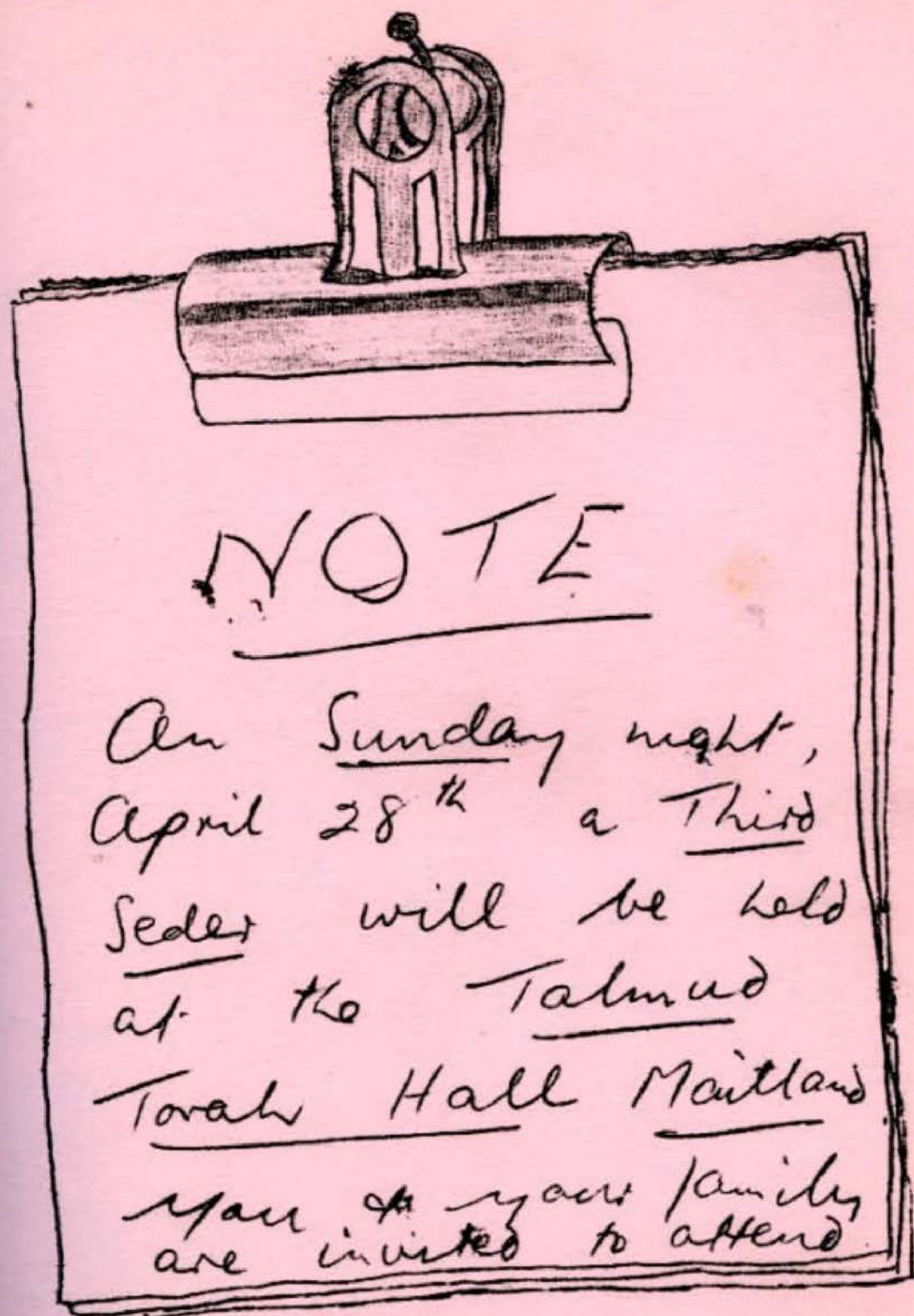
J. Frumer won the annual table tennis tournament with M. Lang as runner-up. He is to receive a Zabados bat.

At present S. Braude and J. Frumer are the only sub-committee members but another member will be appointed by the committee as soon as possible.

ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT ! ! !

COMING ! ON AUGUST 17th 1940.

{ M. J. Z. S.
ANNUAL
DANCE.



NOTE

On Sunday night,
April 28th a Third
Seder will be held
at the Talmud
Torah Hall Maitland

You ~~at~~ your family
are invited to attend.