



THE
MAITLAND
ECHO



A
MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF THE

MAITLAND JUNIOR ZIONIST SOCIETY.

THE MAITLAND ECHO.

VOL. III No. 10.

1st JUNE 1940.

TRUE COLOURS.

When the Keren Hayesod reception was held in Maitland on May 11th, only about thirty senior persons were present at the hall to pay their respects to Rabbi Abrahams and Dr. M. Traub - the guest speakers of the evening. Out of a total of 75 married couples in Maitland no more than fifteen saw fit to attend this meeting.

Such was the shameful "reception" which, in spite of the apologies offered, drew bitter comment from both speakers. Rabbi Abrahams in the course of his speech felt compelled to ask those present whom their absent friends were so afraid of that they all conveniently had "previous appointments" - the excuse offered on their behalf by those present. Even if there had previously been any doubt, this meeting has finally shown the manner in which our local seniors like to "dodge" the making of relatively small sacrifices. As we have once before had occasion to point out, most of them are entirely apathetic to anything which does not result in immediate pecuniary or physical gain.

Youth of Maitland! - the majority of our seniors have set us a bad example. Let us not be misled by them. Let us not, close our eyes to the fate of so many others who have lost their national self respect. Rather let us cultivate the seed of faithfulness to our people, so that one day we may reap its fruit.

---ooOoo---

SYD SAACKS.

For a short while at least, the Society and especially the Maitland Echo, will be without the services of one of its leading personalities. We refer to Syd Saacks, who during last month was called up for full time military service.

It is not generally known that Syd is one of the first founders of this journal and that ever since its first issue in Nov. 1938, he has rendered it trojan service in his capacity of joint editor.

For a number of years Syd has been a member of the M.J.Z.S. committee and has also occupied the chair on several occasions.

Unfortunately we have not the space here to tell of the part which Syd played in the Chaulutz Scheme, The Austrian & Polish Jewish Relief Fund, our record - smashing 1939 Annual Dance etc. These are just a few of the spheres



in which he has been actively engaged.

In conclusion we take this opportunity of joining with all of Syd's friends in wishing him God speed and a safe return.

---ooOoo---



NEWS

OF

THE MONTH.

JUNIORIKEREN HAYESOD RECEPTION.

Mr. C.K. Friedlander opened the Keren Hayesod Youth Campaign at a gathering of Jewish Youth at the Zionist Hall on Monday 13th May 1940. The delegates, Mrs. Hadassah Samuel and Mr. Dov Hos were welcomed by Adv. J. Herbststein, who expressed the need for young Jews to join this great fight for peace and freedom.

Mr. Hos appealed to the Youth to learn and speak Hebrew. He did not want to see in Palestine a Jewish translation of another country but an original new type of Jewish life; a home built by ourselves for ourselves and our brethren with closer co-operation amongst our people and better relationships with the Arabs. "We are free men there", he said, "But freedom carries with it grave responsibilities. These we must prepare for. We must - and do - provide for our own defence and security".

The Maitland society was well represented in the audience. These promised their dona-

tions at the reception. The rest of Maitland youth will shortly be approached to make their contributions.

1940 ANNUAL DANCE POSTPONED.

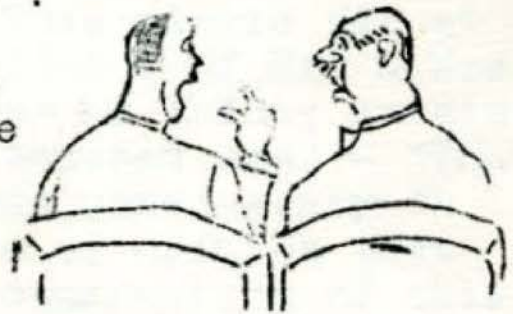
Owing to the international situation it has been decided to postpone our Annual Dance sine die. This was due to take place on August 17th of this year.

The dance committee has however not been disbanded. They have all promised to retain their present offices and to organise the Annual Dance when circumstances are considered to be more appropriate.

INTERDEBATE.

On Sunday night, May 12th, the Green & Sea Point Jewish Guild and our Society debated "That the task of leading the Jews out of exile today, was greater than that which confronted Moses".

There were forty persons present. Mr. H. Newman in moving the motion for the Pointers, stressed the unwillingness of modern Jews to migrate, because, he said, "They live too comfortably". Mr. Robinson the seconder of the motion, had obviously not prepared an argument. He spoke for only three minutes, nearly all of which was spent criticizing the opposition.



Mr. Bernard Barron opposed the motion for Maitland. He laid special stress on the bad effect which slavery had had on the Jews of Egypt. Myer Manasewitz seconded the opposed. He felt so confident about the result that he maintained he could afford to be impartial and gave proof of this by criticizing his own leader.

Very keen and lengthy discussion followed

upon the speakers' speeches and Mr. Rosen even suggested that the subject was not debatable and should therefore be ruled out. This motion was however overruled by the Chairman.

When voting eventually took place after the tea interval the motion was carried by a majority of 4 votes.

Various votes of thanks were proposed before the meeting was closed.

J.N.F. BOX CLEARANCE.



As a result of this clearance held in the Maitland area on Sunday May 12th, the Jewish National Fund benefitted by the exact sum of £7.0.0.

STUDY CIRCLE.

This circle met at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. A. Saacks on Friday evening 10th May. The subject discussed was; - "That the observance of Pesach was unnecessary in modern times". All seemed of opinion that even in present times the observation of this festival did have its value, and there was therefore very little discussion. This was the shortest of the series of meetings which this group has so far held.

Instead of holding a second monthly meeting, as is usual, members of the study circle attended an Oneg Shabat at the Zionist Hall on Friday 24th May instead.

Meetings of this group during June will be held at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. A. Kaufman on the 7th and at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. E. Gootman on the 21st. All are welcome to attend.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Although most members have already paid their subscriptions up till the end of June 1940, there are still a few persons who must yet settle the accounts which they have recently received from the treasurer.



We wish to remind these members that this session ends next month and that they should fulfill their financial obligations before the Society's books are closed on June 30th.

AGE LIMITS.

The committees of the local Young Israel and Junior Zionist Societies, met on Sunday, May 5th to discuss and define the age limits of members of their respective societies. This was eventually fixed at 12 to 16 years for the Young Israelis and from 16 years upwards for the Junior Zionists.

Discussion also took place about the status of those who at present, according to the age limits, were members of the "wrong" society. As a result the following resolution was adopted by all the representatives present:-

"That members of the Maitland Young Israel Society, upon attaining the age of 16 years shall be asked to resign and to join the Maitland Junior Zionist Society. Persons of 15 years of age may belong to either of the two societies. Such members shall however receive circulars from both bodies as his or her sixteenth year shall be regarded as the transitional period".

ONEG SHABAT.

On Friday night, May 31st Mr. & Mrs. M. Singer kindly allowed the Society the use of their house for the holding of an Oneg Shabat.

In spite of inclement weather, twenty persons were present when the meeting commenced at 8.45p.m. with fifteen minutes of quiet singing. The singing was necessarily quiet not because of lack of the usual enthusiasm but in order not to disturb the sweet slumbers of children in another part of the house.

Mr. A. Kaufman then spoke about the different types of Judaism - a subject which later evoked considerable discussion from the gathering.

After tea - kindly provided by the hosts - Wolfe Fish discussed the significance and importance of the J.N.F. and Keren Hayesod.

The gathering dispersed at 10.30p.m.

---ooOoo---

OUR MONTHLY ALMANAC.

Nisan 16 to "SEPHIRAH" - THE SEVEN WEEKS.

Sivan 5. NO SOCIAL FUNCTIONS MAY BE

April 24 to HELD DURING THIS PERIOD.

June 11.

EXCEPTION TO "SEPHIRAH RULE!"

Iyar 29

June 6.

ROSH CHODESH has always been treated by Jews as a festivity.

"SHEVUOTH" - THE FEAST OF WEEKS.

Sivan 6-7

June 12-13

This day commemorates the giving of the ten commandments on Mt. Sinai and is the Harvest Festival in Eretz Yisrael.

TWIXT OURSELVES

At conference held last month our J.N.F. commissioners had the pleasant duty of receiving the J.N.F. trophy which we won jointly with Worcester. This speaks well of the work done by our commissioners.

.....

Perhaps members will remember that cup-winning is no novelty in the Society. In 1934 our tennis team captained by Myer Kaufman emerged undefeated from an Inter-Society competition to win the tennis cup. In 1937, under the efficient commissionership of Arthur Joffe, we carried off the Menorah trophy and now in 1940 it is the J.N.F. trophy.



It seems that we get that trophy-snatching mood once every three years. Since the Lichtenstein cup is the only cup left for us to annex, how about appropriating it before 1943? This can be done by showing the best all round improvement this coming year.

Syd Saacks and Aaron Harris have left on full time service. Before leaving they informed me that they would still like to hear about the "going-ons" in the home town. Their address is c/o No. 3, Mechanical Transport, PREMIER MINE, TRANSVAAL. So please write them a few lines in your spare time every now and again.

Each month I am pleased to add yet another item to my list of happy events. This month Raie Urdañg and Hilda Katzeff have announced their engagements. To both of them go my best wishes.



The best story of the month is about Wolfe Fish the local Habonim Rosh (Chief). At the end of May he moved into a new house which has been named "Naveh" (the Hebrew for "home"). It is situated in Lawrence Rd., Maitland. But here is the great co-incidence Dr. H.W. Altschul acting Ba-Koach of the W.P. Habonim and consequently Fishy's big boss moved into a new home last year also on June 1st. What is more his home was named "Naveh" and is also situated in a Lawrence Rd., - in Athlone.

The Wandering Jew

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S WORD PUZZLE.

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1. Pesach. | 4. Spring. | 7. Elijah. |
| 2. Afikomon. | 5. Omer | 8. Red Sea. |
| 3. Seder. | 6. Vermin. | |
| | | 9. <u>PASSOVER.</u> |

CAPE ZIONIST YOUTH CONFERENCE.

The annual conference of Zionist Youth in the Cape took place in the Wolf-Harris Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town during the week-end 23rd May to 26th May.

Conference was opened by Mr. E. Kluk who welcomed delegates on Thursday evening. Rabbi Abrahams who was present also spoke. Other speakers were; Adv. Bloch, Mrs. M. Segal, Dr. H.W. Altchul, Mr. D. Meyerowitz, Chairman of the out-going executive, responded.

After tea Mr. S. Levin spoke. He remarked pointedly that "We must not only win the war, but also win the peace".

On Friday all motions put forward were discussed in a spirit which brought remarks of approval from the chair. Maitland and Worcester Zionist Societies were presented the J.N.F. trophy for best J.N.F. work done during the session.

On Saturday Evening the usual Conference Dance was held at the Talmud Torah Hall, Woodstock.

On Sunday Morning delegates got down to work again. The Menorah and Junior Societies and Young Israel reports were discussed and approved.

The following was the result of the election for the new executive: Chairman S.M. Levin; Vice-Chairman D. Meyerowitz; Hon. Sec. Miss. E. Salber; Hon. Treasurer Mrs. Weinstein; Committee J. Hanson, Mrs. Maisel, Miss. H. Odes, W. Sebba, A. Walt, Miss. Z. Cohen and Mr. L. Phillips.

---ooOoo---

ANNUAL DANCE CANCELLED - SEE PAGE 4.

LETTERS TO

THE EDITOR.

LAND!

The Editor,
The Maitland Echo.

Sir,

The recent Blue Box clearance has exposed the generally misconceived ideas of the purpose of the J.N.F. These Keren Kayemeth Boxes are cleared every three months and the money is utilised for the sole purpose of buying land in Eretz Israel.

Though there are to-day many funds to be supported the Blue Box need not be neglected. Surely it is not too much for any one family, except perhaps the very needy, to put ONE penny in the J.N.F. Box EVERY day. This tiny sum can and must be spared.

Every day while thinking of dear ones away from home, think too of the future you would like them (and yourselves) to have. Think of the land which was promised to Abraham and his seed. With hope in your hearts and thanks in your minds, drop a penny into the Box.

In pennies we have received more from the needier families than in silver from the better off. So was it even in the days of Herzl.

Let us all, rich and poor, old and young, do our bit towards saving ourselves and the Jewish People. No more is expected from any one. Ask for a Blue Box and it will be delivered. Remember a ld. a day per family means more land each quarter for the Jewish people.

B. GOOTMAN & W. FISH.
(J.N.F. Commissioners.)

STOP PRESS.

I have just received a letter from Syd Saacks who informs me that his address has been changed. If you write , please disregard the address on page 8 and use the following instead:-

No. 74854, Lance Corporal S.Saacks,
No. 3 M.T.Co., Q.S.C. - A.C.F.,
Volunteer Unit,
Concentration Area,
The Castle,
CAPETOWN.

The above also applies to Aaron Harris, whose number and rank I am unaware of.

"The Wandering Jew"