



THE MAITLAND ECHO



A
MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF THE
MAITLAND JUNIOR ZIONIST SOCIETY.

THE MAYLAND ECHO

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THE LESSON OF THE THREE WEEKS.

In the summer of the year 70 A.D. Vespasian launched another attack on Jerusalem. For months the Romans had been encamped round the walls but the city held out. Titus replaced his father and renewed the siege with vigour.

At this time, too, the united resistance of the Jews gave in. Months of difficult siege had caused many to despair of victory. They had drifted away from God and had lost faith. Thousands clamoured for surrender. This gave rise to a **Peace Party** and internal strife. Fighting began within the walls of Jerusalem.

On the 17th of Tamuz of that year the first breach in the walls of Jerusalem was made by the Romans. Three weeks later on the 9th of Av, the Temple was in ruins. During these fateful days the Jews had not stood united. Treachery and despair had split the ranks of the defenders. Desolation and dispersion followed.

Today our very national existence is again threatened, because the **British Empire** stands almost alone defending vigorously the freedom to live. Today when an enemy seeks to destroy liberty and justice we must rally to the side of the defenders. 1940's **Peace Party** or **Fifth columnists** are at work again.

They dare not get any hold at all.

If the Allies are to be victorious the people must stand behind them united and determined. Internal strife will once more cause the first breach in the wall. At this time of crisis there must be no murmur, no sign of despair. Faith and courage will win the war.

The walls of Jerusalem will not fall again. The three weeks of sorrow and mourning which are today still commemorated will become three weeks of rejoicing. The fate of the Jews depends on the success of the Allies. Let the Jewish people not again suffer the same catastrophe. Despair, treachery and strife must be overcome.

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NEWS

OF

LAST MONTH.

GENERAL ELECTIONS.

The bi-annual General Elections were held at the hall on Sunday July 7th under the supervision of Mr. D. Meyerowitz. After the reading and discussion of the Chairman's and Treasurer's reports and the reading of the minutes of the previous General Election, Mr. Meyerowitz spoke briefly on the state of world affairs. A short discussion followed concerning the method of elections, but it was decided to carry on as usual.

The business of the evening was commented

upon. New members to the Society were proposed and accepted.

Nominations were called for and the following were elected to the various posts. I. Schwabsky, Chairman; S. Solomon, Vice-Chairman; R. Gootman, Treasurer; M. Manasewitz, Secretary; three committee members, S. Rochman, B. Kaufman, P. Ozinsky.

After tea had been served the meeting closed with the singing of Hatikvah.

RALLY AT STELLENBOSCH.



A Town and Country Rally has been arranged to take place at Stellenbosch during the week end August 3rd-5th, when the Stellenbosch Society will be at home to all Zionist Societies. Delegates will stay for three days and attend among other things a picnic, dance and Council meeting.

MAITLAND ECHO. - Indexes to Volume II.

The Editorial Board has pleasure in announcing that indexes of Volume II of The Maitland Echo are now on hand and are available to any registered readers. Indexes may be had free of charge on application to the Editor.



KEREN HAYESOD CAMPAIGN.

Although most of the members have already fulfilled their pledges a small percentage remains outstanding. It is hoped that these will come forward spontaneously and offer their contribution to the fund. This will greatly ease the work of the Keren Hayesod commissioner.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

The first meeting of the newly elected committee was held at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. B. Schwabsky on Sunday 11th July. All committee members were present. The possibility of holding Society meetings weekly was suggested and the matter was left for further discussion. A letter by Mr. N. Kirschner from the South African Zionist Federation headquarters was read.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUNCTIONS.

In planning their programme the committee find difficulty in choosing the most original functions. Most members have probably ideas for functions which would be suitable for our Society. They are earnestly asked to hand in their suggestions to any committee member and thus facilitate the task of compiling a suitable programme.

MISCELLANEOUS EVENING.

On Sunday Evening 21st July a Miscellaneous evening was held at the hall. The meeting was better attended than the previous meeting. Sam Solomon was in the chair.

After some singing Mr. B. Barron in an entirely original way spoke on the possibilities that would follow a peace in which England could dictate the terms. He stressed that unity was a most important factor. A lively discussion followed in which a few interesting points arose. The meeting ended at 10.50.p.m.

J. N. F.

The next J.N.F. clearance in Maitland will take place on Sunday August 11th. All those who wish to assist should please see B. Kaufman.

SHUN.

News from
friends
in khaki.



As the title-heading implies, this column is just another result of the war. Its purpose is to give general and other interesting news about local boys at present serving their King and Country. In this manner I hope that those "somewhere in Africa" and those at home will all be kept supplied with news of each other.

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At the end of June four Maitlanders were already on active service. They are Barney Aronson, Abe Kawalsky, Syd Saacks and Isaac Shapiro. To these you can now add Marky Levin, Sime Master and Abe Urdang who left during last month. I am not publishing their individual addresses; but if you wish to write to them I'll gladly supply the necessary stamped and addressed envelope. You can rest assured that any letters from the hometown will be welcomed.

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And now let me tell you about the boys.

A glance at their letters and one realises it is extremely cold in their part of Africa. For instance Syd Saacks (read his letter to the Ed.) tells of how the water froze in the pipes one morning, "it's the gospel truth", he adds; and Abe Urdang forgot he had fingers when taking a snow shower for his morning toilet.

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Abe Kawalsky is probably the only one who is experiencing hot weather at the moment. He has left the Union's borders for a northern destination. In a letter posted at his port of embarkation, he writes, "It is hot here and I may go for a swim at the beach".



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Serving in the clerical staff of the S.A.A.F. is Isaac Shapiro. "At first we slept in tents", he says, "but now we've a bungalow for ten of us".

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Finally to my friends in khaki. I hope you enjoy reading hometown news in the Echo which will be forwarded to you each month for the duration. Also to all of you -- my best wishes!

Sarge

THE MENORAH IS S. AFRICAN ZIONIST YOUTH'S
OFFICIAL ORGAN — READ IT!

SUGGESTIONS FOR RE-ORGANISATION OF THE
M. J. Z. S.

In a comprehensive letter a member suggests re-organisation of the Society. Below, we publish the essential points from this letter which has thus been considerably condensed.

Members are invited to write us, in about 150 words, their candid opinion of these proposals. These letters will be judged by one local and one external person and **two** free seats to any theatre for any night will be awarded to the writer of the most constructive letter.

ALL LETTERS MUST REACH THE EDITOR BEFORE THE 15TH AUGUST 1940.

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Proposals: They will mean:- (1) Members will come because (a) they will enjoy themselves (b) They wish to learn (c) They are prepared to do something.

(2) No big committee; all members equal and work for the benefit of the whole group. Not only two or three doing everything.

(3) All must realise that the start will mean a lot of work.

(4) That, being over 16, members can be relied upon to think for themselves. Their honour can be trusted. They are old enough to work by themselves for the benefit of the group.

(5) Those that come down to meetings take it upon themselves to do as these proposals suggest.

(6) The subjects of meetings will be to create a Jewish life as normal as possible, i.e. include every sphere of life not only Zionism. Organization. Committee of three:- (1) Chairman (or leader, etc.). His word is final and we obey because we know it for the good of the group and must carry on. (2) Secretary who

attends to correspondence and keeps a record of everything. (3) Treasurer who is in charge of monies etc. and also acts as second to Chairman.

Programmes for meetings to be decided and arranged by these three. Not necessarily do it themselves. Members do work; have a say and suggest re items and people for talks etc. Committee just arrange matters.

- Meetings. (1) Very regularly: every week or two; no name and at a definite time.
 (2) Members come for reasons already stated.
 (3) Consist of say six items (of which later) each say 20 minutes.
 (4) Additional functions such as inter-debates, ping-pong, etc. to be arranged but never to supercede a meeting.
 (5) Definite programme in certain subjects to be followed.
 (6) Occasional, very few long speeches.
 (7) Members come with notebook and pencil and be prepared to learn.

Programmes: To include practically every sphere of life and Jewish life.
 (a) First Aid. (b) Civilian Protection Society.
 (c) Jewish Festivals. (d) Eretz Yisrael - Geography, etc. (e) Hebrew. (f) Talmudical - Studies. (g) Jewish Traditions and Customs. (h) Songs
 (i) Poetry and Works of Jewish Authors (j) Sketches - Plays. (k) Zionist History. (l) Story of our People. (m) Our Men and Women. (n) Humorous articles and Stories. (o) Jokes - Jewish. (p) Poems or Song Parodies. (q) Puzzles, etc. (r) Games. (s) Films. (t) Debates.

Any subject in which members are specially interested. No sphere to be curtailed except perhaps politics.

Finance: Let members feel more responsible for existance of Society. Subs. 1/- a month to be

collected at meetings. Subs. to be divided as follows:- M.J.Z.S. 4d., Echo 4d., Governor General's Fund (for duration) 4d.

Echo: No change. It carries on as before.

J.N.F.: Every member regard it his duty as a Jew and a member of this Society to put the minimum of 6d. a week (or 1d. a day) into the Box. The need for this fund cannot be stressed enough.

Fund raising: Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth to be carried on with full vigour.

Conclusion: These are my proposals. The Society can carry on according to these lines. Members must just be prepared to do some work. Start now and see what difficulties crop up. You need'nt even have time to consider. Just undertake to work.

Though not perhaps the best instructor I undertake to tackle several of the above items.

A MEMBER.

STOP PRESS.

The Zionist Youth Rally over the long week-end will now be held in Cape Town and not Stellenbosch as originally arranged. It opens at 10 a.m. on Sunday the 4th of August with speeches and a Council meeting. This will be followed by a symposium in the afternoon and a dance in the evening. A picnic has been arranged for Monday.

TWIXT OURSELVES

Can anyone imagine that a bottle of brandy is a good detective? If not the following episode will prove it. Some person or persons unknown invaded the Shul, by breaking a window first, and although the police investigated, no finger prints could be found on any window or other furniture. However the intruders became thirsty during the proceedings and decided that a little alcohol would warm them to their work. The result was that the only prints were on the brandy bottle. Another instance that business and pleasure don't mix.



This seemed to give rise to a new game viz. breaking glass.

An examination of the Talmud Torah Hall windows reveals some very neat jobs. The perpetrators of the crime have become so audacious that one of the panes was broken while a meeting was in progress at the back of the building. When a member came out to investigate there were no players left.

Congrats to Arthur Joffe on his marriage to Rose Sieradzki.

Good luck and mazel tov!

The war has certainly done much to advance knitting. All the ladies of the Society are

wielding the needles for some soldier or another. When I questioned one of them about a garment which looked too small for any man in the field she replied "Oh this is for my teeny weeny soldier". There seems to be a warm spot even for the "little ones".



From reports which I have received it appears that some members have a bone to pick with our Sports Convenor. Whereas many large sporting bodies find it difficult to decide whether sport should or should not be continued our Convenor has no such doubts and has consequently closed the hall on Tuesday evenings without consulting anyone. It is hoped that he will reconsider his decision and will keep the hall open for the members who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of a little recreation.



The Wandering Jew

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

The Editor,
The Maitland Echo,
"Zion Villa"
5, Ferndale Rd., MAITLAND.

OUR MONTHLY ALMANAC.AUGUST 1940.AV 5700.

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

Tamuz 17 THE THREE WEEKS.
to Av 9.

July 23 During this period, the Romans under Titus besieged Jerusalem in
to August 13. 70 C.E.

Av 1 & 2 ROSH CHODESH AV.
August 5
& 6.

Av 9 TISHA B'AV. - THE FAST OF THE 9TH
August 13. OF AV. (end of the three weeks of mourning).
This day commemorates the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonians in 586 B.C. and of the Second Temple by Titus in the year 70 C.E. It also marks the failure of Bar Cochba's revolt in 135 C.E. and the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492.

Av 27 ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST ZIONIST.
August 31 CONGRESS IN BASLE (5658-1897).

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HELP IN THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM.

SUPPORT

GOVERNOR

THE GENERAL'S FUND.

LETTERS TO

THE EDITOR.

A SOLDIER!

The Editor,
The Maitland Echo.

Sir,

Really it is hardly possible to express in black and white just how pleasant it is to receive the Maitland Echo every month. You can rest

assured that the amount of time and energy you and your staff expend on the production of each issue is well worth your while, even if it is only to send it to the Maitland boys who have enlisted and are away from home.

Here in one compact booklet I am able to see for myself exactly what progress the Society is making. Indeed the M.J.Z.S. seems to be going great guns these days more particularly with regard to J.N.F. activities.

In addition "The Wandering Jew" is kind enough to let me know what is happening to my pals. For instance, how else would I have known, but for the Echo, that Myer Kramer had carried off the Table Tennis Championship of the Eastern Province?

And now, although I'd like to tell you more about the Echo and myself, I must say cheerio for the present because duty will call in a few moments' time.

SYD SAACKS.
(corporal).

SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA.

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STRENGTHEN
PALESTINE

and you strengthen
the Allies —

SUPPORT the
KEREN-HAYESOD