

NO LONGER

A LEGEND...



We have reached the end of a period. Fifty years have passed since the founder of modern Zionism recorded at Basle that "a people which had been considered dead, gave the first sign of life." To-day, half a century later, the Jewish State is about to enter the stage of realisation. Within this brief span the Jewish nation has refashioned itself by its own efforts. Many have contributed to this achievement: in the Homeland itself, by rebuilding its waste places; in all countries of the world, by unremitting support morally and materially. The story began in the world of yesterday, when many Jews were still obsessed by the facile 19th century doctrine that the

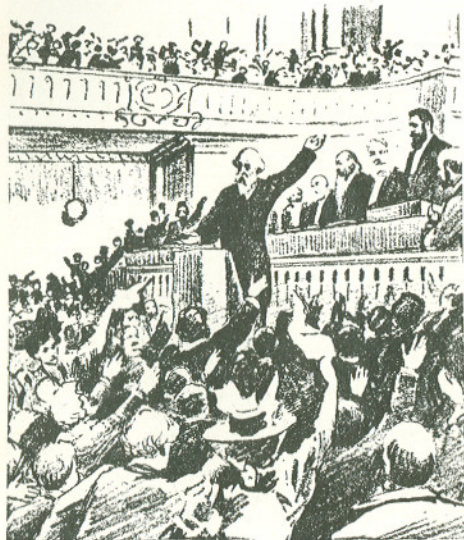
Jewish problem would automatically disappear with the onward march of humanity. Few foresaw the merciless world of this generation. But those few understood that there could be no salvation for the Jews without their homeland. Zionism started as a movement of individuals whose only assets were their deep convictions and their good intentions. It entered the highroad of advancement after the First World War. Between the wars, although encumbered by constant frustration, it struggled on with its constructive work. Slowly, the structure grew. And thus was the truth of Herzl's vision demonstrated: "If you will, it is no legend."

(Map) Area in blue — Jewish State.



1897

GENESIS AT BASLE



Zionist Congress at Basle

The first Congress opened at Basle on August 29th, 1897. Till then active Zionism had been the groping aspiration of a comparatively small number of individuals. The "Lovers of Zion" movement which had preceded it had not attracted mass support. Only a handful of enthusiasts had taken the bold course of settling in Palestine. At Basle in 1897, Zionism became a political movement. Its initial following was small. Attacked by the wealthy leaders of Jewish public life, unknown to or ignored by the masses, the World Zionist Organisation started its career.

The First Congress was a turning point in Jewish history. The Jews of Western Europe were content with their lot, while the masses of Jewry in Russia were too dejected by sustained oppression to take action. Yet Herzl dared to write: "At Basle I founded the Jewish State".

SPOKESMAN OF HIS PEOPLE

Herzl believed then that salvation would come from without. He renewed his diplomatic efforts in Constantinople and London, in Germany and Austria. This proud leader of a poor people presented himself to the rulers of the world, pressing the claims of a nation whose very existence the world did not recognize. In search of the patronage of Great Powers, he approached Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany. He asked for his intervention with his ally, the Turkish Sultan, who controlled Palestine, then part of the Ottoman Empire.

In the course of his tour of the Ottoman Empire, the Kaiser received Herzl in Jerusalem. Herzl arrived full of hope. His followers eagerly awaited the outcome. But they were doomed to disappointment. Herzl returned empty-handed.

1898



Herzl and the Zionist Delegation in Jerusalem

1899

LEVER FOR POLITICAL WORK

Failure did not deter Herzl. But he recognized the weakness of the Movement. What, after all, had he to offer the Sultan? It was clear that Zionism needed a practical instrument on which its political work could be based. Accordingly, he set about creating a strong financial instrument, whose initial purpose would be to provide the conditions for securing a Charter as the legal foundation of settlement in Palestine. The Charter in hand,

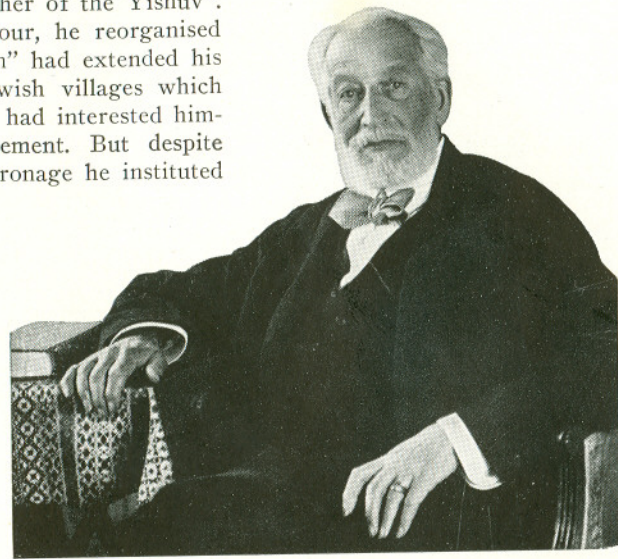
the financial body, through subsidiary organisations, would finance the work of construction itself. On March 28th, the Jewish Colonial Trust opened its subscription lists. But Jewish bankers and wealthy men stood aside. Mainly the poor responded to the call. Only £250,000 of shares were subscribed. The objective had been £2,000,000. Nevertheless, the first financial instrument of the Zionist Movement had come into being.



1900

THE GREAT WORK OF ONE JEW

Before the Zionist Movement began to operate in Palestine, the new Yishuv drew its strength from the work of one individual, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, known as "The Father of the Yishuv". After 17 years of fruitful endeavour, he reorganised his activities. In 1883, "The Baron" had extended his help to the isolated "private" Jewish villages which faced bankruptcy. Subsequently he had interested himself in all aspects of Jewish settlement. But despite good intentions, the system of patronage he instituted had led to bitterness and disappointment. Though "The Baron" did not formally join the Zionist Movement, its influence prompted him to give his activities in Palestine a public character and he transferred the administration of the villages to the Jewish Colonisation Association (founded by Baron Hirsch).



Baron Edmond de Rothschild

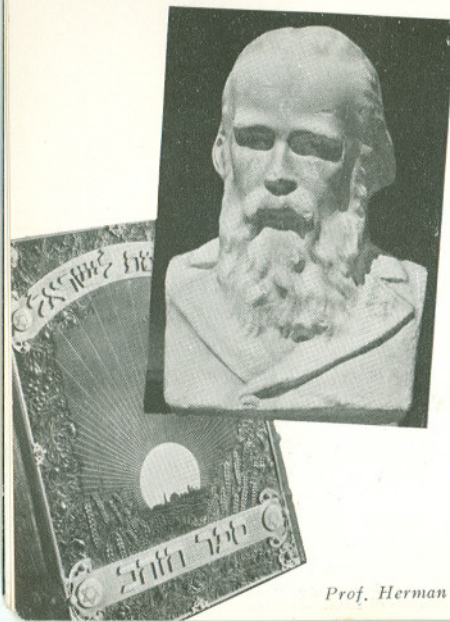
1901

THE BASIS OF NATIONAL SETTLEMENT

The Zionist Movement continued to create the instruments of practical work. The Fifth Zionist Congress in December 1901 established the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth Leisrael) as the central land-buying and settlement Fund. Herzl, this time, did not appeal for support to the wealthy. He deliberately envisaged a People's Fund.

The idea of a Land Fund had first been propounded in 1884 by Professor Hermann Schapira. The First Congress approved the idea in principle. Now, it was given practical shape. Few, at the time, grasped the full significance of this instrument to redeem the Land of Israel for the People of Israel. It was destined to become the foundation of all national settlement. Its first income was derived from the sale of stamps and Blue Box collections. In under half a century it was to build up an army of scores of thousands of voluntary workers all over the world. Its annual income was to reach millions of pounds and the land it redeemed an area of a million dunams.

Prof. Herman Schapira and the First Golden Book of the J.N.F.



1902

THE JEWISH PEASANT IS BORN

The J.N.F. had not yet begun its Palestine activities. The J.C.A., which had taken over the work of Baron de Rothschild, extended its scope. It sought now to establish real farming settlements, as distinct from the plantation villages on the coast. In 1899, it established a training farm at Sejera; in 1901, it established Yavneel and Kfar Tabor; in 1902, Menahemia and Sejera, all in Lower Galilee. These were real villages, populated by real peasants. Stubbornly and courageously, they maintained themselves throughout the years. Their villages were to become the basis for a new wave of expansion.



*A JCA Farmer
in Galilee*

1903

A REFUGE FOR THE NIGHT?



The prospects on the political front, meanwhile, were bleak. Diplomacy had yielded no results. The movement's financial instruments were still too weak to engage in practical work. When pogroms broke out in Kishinev the Jewish problem acquired new urgency. Once again, masses of Jewish fugitives fled the border cities of the Russian Empire in search of refuge. Could Zionism not find a solution for them?

Then Zionism secured its first political victory. The Government of Great Britain indicated its readiness to negotiate with the Zionist Movement for a plan of Jewish settlement in Uganda. The British Colonial Secretary, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, offered East Africa as a haven for the persecuted Jews. Herzl brought the proposal to Congress. It was not Zion — but it could offer a temporary solution, a "refuge for the night". The young movement, facing the cruel alternative of Zion or Uganda, was split. Ussishkin, leader of Russian Zionism, then in Palestine, rushed back to lead the battle: there could be no Zionism without Zion.

1904

THE LEADER FALLS — THE MOVEMENT CARRIES ON

The Uganda conflict, still burning fiercely, was a grave blow to Herzl personally. He succeeded in saving the unity of the movement at the Zionist Actions Committee that he convened in Vienna in April. But he was a dying man. On Tammuz 20th (July 4th), the great leader passed away. The movement he had created carried on. The masses were cast into black sorrow at his death. Yet at that very time, a new wave of young Jewish pioneers, young university students, from the Russian Pale of Settlement, was beating on the shores of Palestine. For them Uganda versus Zion held no problem. They were the vanguard of the Second Aliyah (Wave of Settlement).

Workers of the "Second Aliyah"



1905

YOUTH MEETS THE CHALLENGE

The 7th Congress, the first to meet without Herzl, rejected the Uganda Plan. The great issue now was whether organised practical work in Palestine could precede political recognition of Zionism. In the midst of this debate, Ussishkin published his pamphlet "Our Programme", calling on the Jewish youth to proceed to Palestine. A similar call was issued by Joseph Vitkin, a young teacher in Kfar Tabor.

The Second Aliyah continued. The disillusion engendered by the unsuccessful Russian Revolution, leading to numerous pogroms, and disappointment in the failure of the diplomatic efforts of the Zionist leadership, stimulated a new movement of pioneers. They came from the small towns of Russia, Poland and Galicia, bearing new slogans: Jewish labour, Jewish defence, Hebrew culture. These watch-words became the basis for their lives in Palestine.

At the Wailing Wall



A NEW SPIRIT

A new spirit was arising in Palestine. Although worn down by malaria, poverty and hunger, the young Jewish workers struggled for their right to work in the Jewish plantation villages. The foundations were laid of organised labour. The Hebrew language won its way forward as the language of daily use. A group of teachers established in Jaffa the first Hebrew secondary school, the "Herzlia." In Jerusalem, Prof. Boris Schatz founded the first Hebrew school for arts and crafts, "Bezalel". In Ben Shemen, the Kiriath Sefer agricultural school was established. The Zionist Organisation took the first step towards practical work in Palestine. The J.N.F. bought land in Judea and the Jordan Valley, where later Ben Shemen, Kinneret and Degania were founded.

Herzlia Secondary School, Tel-Aviv

1906



1907

ON GUARD

"If the Governments give us a Charter today, it will be a mere piece of paper. If we work in Palestine, the Charter will be written with sweat and blood, and sealed with an unbreakable seal". Thus spoke Chaim Weizmann, leader of the Democratic Fraction. That, in practice, was already the policy of the pioneers in Palestine. At Sejera farm a collective was being organised, the first such attempt. Under the motto "Jewish property must be protected by Jews", the "Hashomer" organisation was formed. That was the foundation of the Jewish military force of the future.

Horsemen of "Hashomer"



IN A SMALL ROOM IN JAFFA

1908



Dr. Arthur Ruppin

The protracted debate, whether practical work or political came first, reached its end. The growing revival in Palestine itself helped to tilt the balance. The millions of pounds for the J.N.F. were not forthcoming, but the Organisation nevertheless decided to start practical activities in Palestine. In a small room in Jaffa, a Palestine Office was established under the direction of Dr. Arthur Ruppin. The Palestine Land Development Company was founded. At Hulda, the foundations were laid of a workers' farm. At Ben Shemen, the J.N.F. Tree Fund planted the first olive groves of the Herzl Forest. On the shores of Lake Kinneret, a group of workers from Judea established a farm. Here, at Kinneret, were laid the foundations of practical Zionist settlement work.



Palestine Office, Jaffa.

1909

A CITY IS BORN

Hundreds of families of the new immigrants had settled in Jaffa, then the gateway to the land. Conditions in this Arab town, however, were unhygienic, primitive and crowded. A group of sixty Jewish residents of Jaffa, merchants, teachers and professional men, decided to leave the town and build a new suburb on the sands to the north of it. In June 1909 they formed an association which they called "Ahuzat Bayit." The J.N.F. loaned them 300,000 gold francs. Construction was started. Among the earliest buildings was that of the Herzlia Secondary School. The suburb was called Tel Aviv, Sokolow's translation of Herzl's "Altneuland". Begun as a suburb, Tel Aviv soon outstripped Jaffa. Today it is the largest city of Palestine, its population, all-Jewish, 200,000. Culturally, practically and economically, it is the hub of the Homeland.



*Founding Tel-Aviv,
and the city today*

1910

A LONELY HUT BY JORDAN'S BANKS

The few farms on J.N.F. land in Galilee and Judea were still being conducted on the old lines. Workers were paid wages but had no voice in the management. In December 1910, a group of six workers at Um Juni near Kinnereth asked to be permitted to farm on their own responsibility. Thus was founded the first collective settlement of Degania. Later it became the home of A. D. Gordon, the father of the "Religion of Labour". Henceforward the principle of making the settler responsible for his own progress was to become the basis of all Zionist settlement work. From this humble beginning developed the Kvutza, and, thereafter, the Moshav (smallholders' settlement). Then still later the Moshav Shitufi (smallholders' cooperative village).



The First Hut in Degania

1911

FIRST FOOTHOLD IN JEZREEL

In Judea and Galilee agricultural workers were organising themselves and debating their policy. The J.N.F., which now owned 15,000 dunams of land in Palestine, made its first purchases in the Valley of Jezreel. Joshua Hankin, of the Palestine Land Development Company, acquired for the J.N.F. the land of Fula in the heart of the Valley. A group of workers, including veteran members of "Hashomer", occupied it and founded the village of Merhavia. Here Professor Franz Oppenheimer's scheme for an agricultural cooperative settlement was first tried out. It sought to find a medium for settling large numbers of Jewish peasants on a basis of social justice, economic security and national interest. At that stage it did not succeed, but the idea profoundly influenced the subsequent development of the Kvutza.

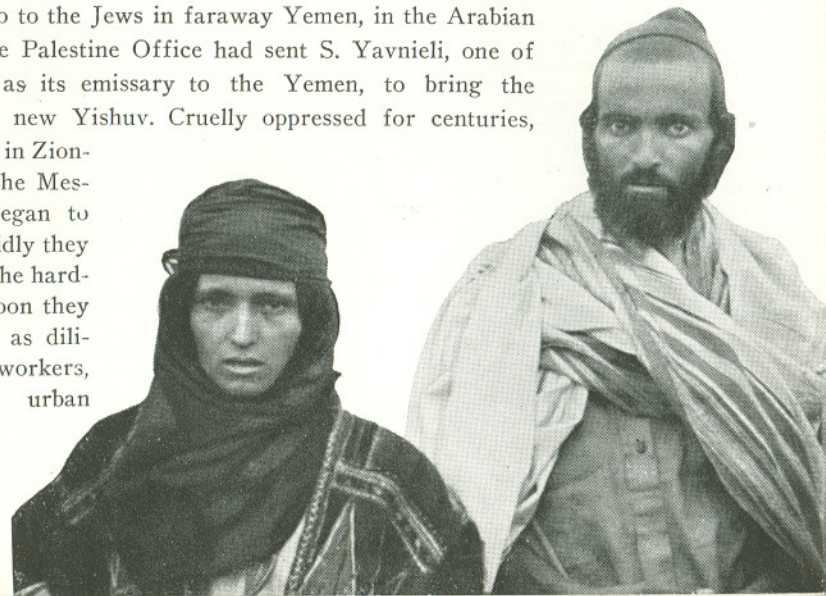


Merhavia

1912

SETTLERS FROM THE YEMEN

The news of the Jewish revival in Palestine, spreading throughout the world, reached out also to the Jews in faraway Yemen, in the Arabian Peninsula. In 1910, the Palestine Office had sent S. Yavnieli, one of the workers' leaders, as its emissary to the Yemen, to bring the message there of the new Yishuv. Cruelly oppressed for centuries, the Jews of Yemen saw in Zionism the harbinger of the Messiah. In 1912 they began to flock to Palestine. Rapidly they adapted themselves to the hardships of pioneering. Soon they became widely known as diligent and devoted workers, both in rural and urban occupations.



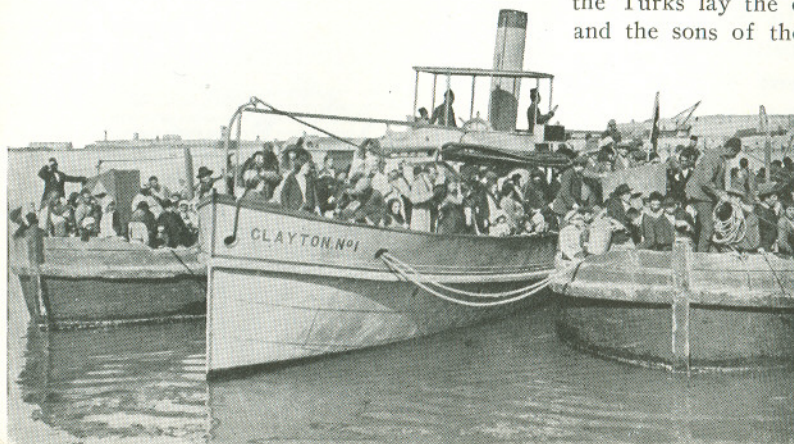
Jews from Yemen

1915

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

With the Yishuv powerless under Turkish oppression all Jewish achievement seemed doomed to destruction. Ravages of nature followed military spoliation. A plague of locusts destroyed the crops. The menace of starvation loomed nearer. Thousands of Jews were meanwhile exiled or escaped to Egypt. There, under the leadership of Joseph Trumpeldor, was formed the Zion Mule Corps which was part of the British Expeditionary Force in the Dardanelles. In the defeat of

the Turks lay the only hope of the Yishuv, and the sons of the Yishuv had now joined the fighting to this end. The sufferings of the time seemed to many but the birthpangs of a new era of liberation.



Deporting Jews from Jaffa

1916

THE JUDEANS ON THE MARCH



Ze'ev Jabotinsky

From Allied countries came the glad tidings that the Zionist leadership was preparing itself for the contingency of disruption of the Ottoman Empire. In London, Weizmann and Sokolow were negotiating about the future of Palestine, laying foundations for an alliance between Great Britain and the Jews. Jabotinsky was working for a Jewish Legion to fight with the British forces. In Palestine itself, the remnants of the Yishuv not only preserved their positions but even expanded them. In 1916, members of "Hashomer" founded Kfar Giladi, on the northern border of Palestine.



*The Zion
Mule Corps*

1917

Foreign Office.
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object. It being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Y. J. B. J.
Arthur Balfour

ZIONISM ON THE HIGH ROAD

The British Army was fighting its way through Southern Palestine. On December 9th, Jerusalem was liberated. Retreating, the Turks resolved to wipe out the Yishuv. The Jews of Jaffa and Tel Aviv were ordered from their homes. Jewish settlements were searched on the pretext of harbouring deserters and members of a Jewish intelligence organisation, working in the British interest. Members of this body were imprisoned or hanged, the leaders of the Yishuv exiled to Damascus. Suddenly came the news of the Balfour Declaration, issued on November 2nd, promising British support for the establishment of a Jewish National Home.

1917-1897

THE FOUNDATIONS ARE LAID

In 1897 these were the Jewish settlements that existed in Palestine: Mikve Israel, Petah Tikva, Rishon Lezion, Zikhron Yaacov, Rosh Pina, Nes Ziona, Ekron, Yessud Hamaala, Gedera, Bath Shlomo, Rehovot, Mishmar Hayarden, Hedera, Motza. Hartuv, Metulla. They were established between 1870—1896.

Between 1897—1917 the following settlements existed in Palestine:

On JCA Land:

1899: Mahanayim*
Sejera*
1901: Yavneel
Kfar Tavor
1902: Menahemiya
Sejera
1903: Givat Ada
Athlith
1904: Beth Gan
1908: Mitzpa
1909: Kinneret
(Moshava)

On Private Land:

1913: Sharona*
1916: Kfar Gilcadi
1903: Kfar Saba
1907: Beer Yaacov
1909: Tel-Aviv
1910: Migdal
1911: Poriya*
1912: Kfar Uriya*
1912: Ruhama*
1913: Karkur

On J. N. F. Land:

1905: Ben Shemen*
1908: Kinneret
(Kibbutz)
Ein Ganim
1909: Degania A
Hulda*
1911: Merhavia
(Kibbutz)
1912: Mahane Yehuda
1913: Gan Shmuel
1914: Nahlat Yehuda

* Temporarily abandoned and subsequently re-established.

At the end of this period, land in Jewish possession in Palestine totalled 420,000 dunams. Of this, the Jewish National Fund owned 16,400 dunams. The number of Jews in Palestine was 56,000, constituting 10% of the total population.

THE JEWISH PEOPLE MAKES HISTORY

1918

Zionism was no longer merely a romantic dream. A great world Power had recognised the Jewish claims to Palestine. Other Powers had approved this recognition. The British forces, of which Jewish battalions of volunteers from England and America were part, completed their conquest of the country. The youth of the Yishuv joined the Jewish Legion to fight for the liberation of their country. The Hadassah Medical Unit came from America. The Zionist Commission, headed by Dr. Weizmann, arrived to represent the Zionist Organisation. Dr. Weizmann and Emir Faisal, son of King Hussein of the Hejaz and later King of Iraq signed an Arab-Jewish accord.



Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Emir Feisal

1919



BEFORE THE PEACE CONFERENCE

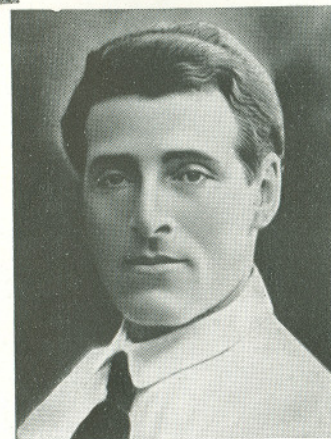
The war was over and Europe was in the grip of revolution, plague and starvation. Russia was torn by a mighty civil war. Pogroms ravaged the Ukraine. Filled with a high hope and seasoned by their bitter experiences, the first members of "Hechalutz", founded by Trumpeldor in Russia, made their way to Palestine. Thus began the Third Aliyah. At this time, Weizmann, Ussishkin and Sokolow presented the claims of the Jewish people before the Peace Conference. For the first time in 2,000 years, Jewish representatives were heard in the council of nations. The whole world recognised the fact of Jewry's regeneration. Arab representatives at the Conference also welcomed the return of the Jewish people to its land.

Ussishkin, Weizmann and Sokolow at the Peace Conference

1920

THE DEFENCE OF TEL HAI

Politically the Jewish Homeland seemed on the verge of materialisation. But the realities in Palestine were less rosy. Tel Hai in Upper Galilee was attacked by marauding Arabs, and its defenders, led by Joseph Trumpeldor, fell in battle. Arab mobs attacked the Jews of Jerusalem's Old City. But Zionist enthusiasm was not dampened. The Movement had been given its chance. At the World Zionist Conference in London, the Keren Hayesod was founded as the financial and settlement instrument of the Zionist Organisation, thus freeing the Jewish National Fund for its main task of land purchase. Meanwhile new immigrants were arriving in the country. Workers formed the General Federation of Jewish Labour. British military rule was replaced by a Civil Administration, with Sir Herbert Samuel as first High Commissioner.



Trumpeldor, Hero of Tel Hai (above)

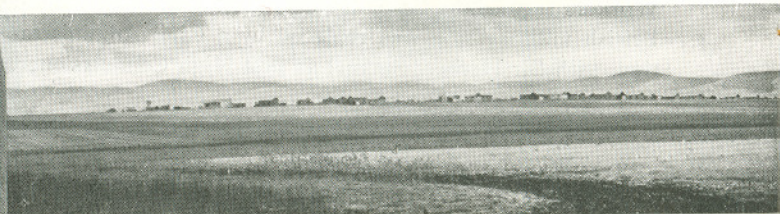
1921

REBIRTH OF JEZREEL

Arab rioting in Jaffa once again disturbed the peace. The Jewish eagerness for construction was not deterred. After vigorous debate, the Jewish National Fund acquired a large section of the Valley of Jezreel. Through the efforts of Joshua Hankin it was a fitting commencement to the new period of development. In the fever-ridden valley the pioneers pitched their first tents. By the end of the year, Nahalal was founded in the western Emek, and Ain Harod, Tel Joseph, Geva and

Kfar Yehezkel in the eastern Emek. The draining was started of the miasmic swamps covering a great part of the Emek. News of the settlement of the historic Valley, awakened from its centuries-old desolation, fired the imagination of Jews throughout the world.

Joshua Hankin

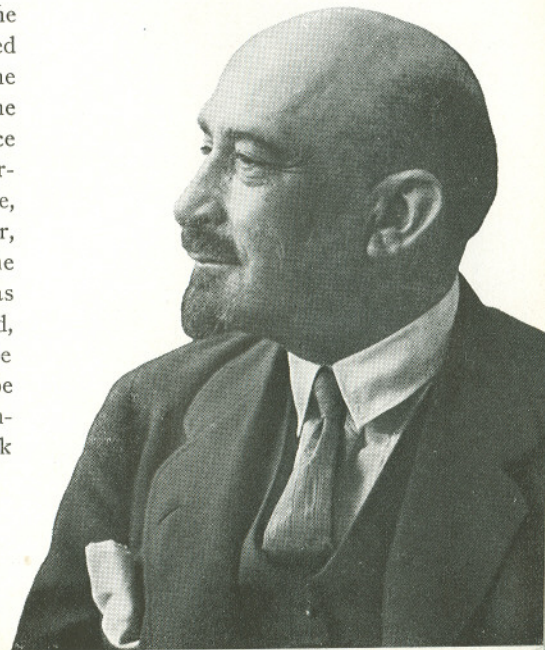


THE MANDATE

On July 24th, the Council of the League of Nations, representing 52 member-states, ratified the Palestine Mandate. Great Britain was entrusted with the task of assisting the revival of the Jewish People and its Homeland. But, from the outset, this trust was to suffer the indifference and hostility of those charged with its performance. Prior to ratification of the Mandate, the British Government issued a White Paper, the first of many, restricting the growth of the National Home. By its terms, Transjordan was severed from the area of the Jewish Homeland, and Jewish immigration was restricted by the criterion of economic absorptive capacity to be applied at the absolute discretion of the Mandatory Power. The Yishuv was still too weak to resist this blow.

Chaim Weizmann

1922



1923

SPEEDY GROWTH

Absorption of immigration called for quick modernisation of the country and large-scale exploitation of its natural resources. For this end electric power is a primary requisite. In Tel Aviv electricity was introduced in 1923. Pinhas Rutenberg continued his efforts to exploit the Jordan as a source of power for the whole country. With the help of the Keren Hayesod, he formed the Palestine Electric Corporation and launched the hydro-electric power station on the Jordan at Naharaim. A network of electric pylons began to spread through the country bringing power and light to factories, homes and streets. In his writings, Herzl had said: "...It seems to me that electricity was not invented in order to illumine the mansions of the wealthy, but in order that by its light the problems of humanity might find their solution. The problem of the Jews is one of them."

Electricity Spans the Land

1924

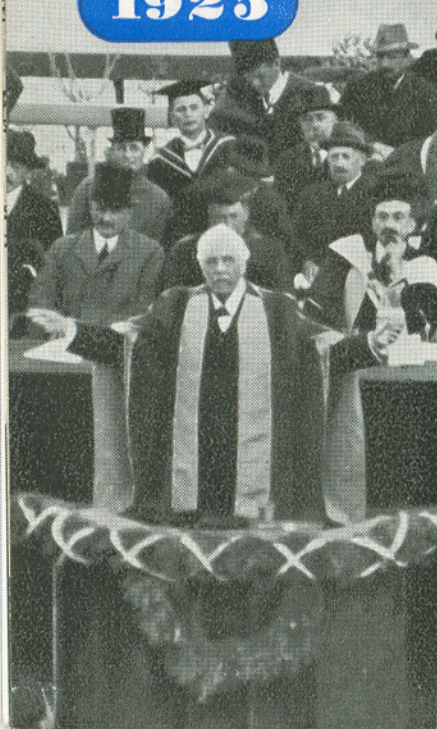
THE FOURTH ALIYAH

The Third Aliyah had brought thousands to the country, mainly young pioneers, free of family responsibilities. Now a new type of immigrant appeared, principally from Poland. The Polish Government's economic policy was having a disastrous effect on the Jews and particularly on artisans and small merchants. Tens of thousands of Jews were forced to migrate. The swift development of Palestine attracted them. The Fourth Aliyah began. The newcomers were drawn mainly to the cities. They opened up new suburbs, established businesses and small industries. Some turned to the countryside where they built new settlements. In this year were established Bnei Brak, Neveh Ya'acov, Magdiel, Kfar Hassidim, Herzlia, Kiriath Shaul, Mahneh Yisrael, Nahlat Ganim.

Settlers of the Fourth Aliyah in the Sharon



1925



THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Immigration continued on a rising scale. It was accompanied by growing urban development. The stage was set for the creation of a Hebrew University in Jerusalem, to serve as Jewry's spiritual centre. On April 1st (Nissan 7th) the University was officially opened by Lord Balfour. The impressive ceremony was attended by the High Commissioner, Sir Herbert Samuel, the leaders of the Zionist Movement, and renowned scientists and men of learning. The University started from very modest beginnings, but its growth was to be steady, continually striving towards the ideal which its founders foresaw for it: a great scientific institution, a tabernacle of Jewish culture, and a spiritual beacon for the Diaspora.

Lord Balfour Inaugurating the Hebrew University

RISE OF THE CITRUS INDUSTRY

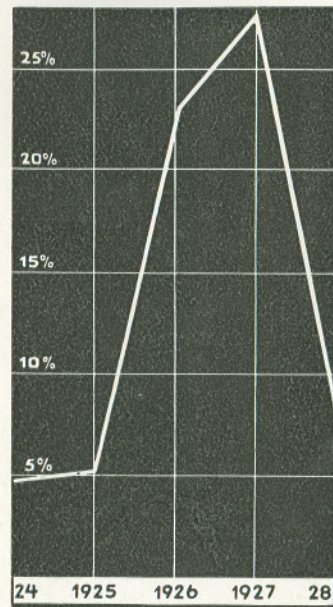
The success of Palestine citrus fruit in overseas markets had a decisive influence on the course of Jewish settlement. During the Fourth Aliyah, large sums were invested in new citrus plantations in the Sharon and Judea. Recovering from its war-time crisis and fluctuations of the world market, the citrus industry forged rapidly ahead. Under the guidance of the Zionist settlement agencies, large villages sprang into being in the citrus belt. Long neglected by the Arabs, the coastal plain was transferred into the main artery of Jewish settlement and the most fruitful part of the country.

Palestine Citrus Fruit Goes Abroad

1926



1927



The wave of prosperity collapsed. Lacking an orderly plan, the Fourth Aliyah, which had doubled the Yishuv's population in the space of a few years, petered out in a severe crisis. Economically not yet consolidated, the Yishuv failed to absorb all the newcomers who had over-concentrated in urban occupations. Building came to a standstill; trade and industry were in the doldrums. In the train of unemployment came disillusion and misery. Some persons even left the country. But there was a bright side, too. The agricultural settlements continued to flourish; and new ones were created on J.N.F. land in the Emek Jezreel, in the Jordan Valley and the coastal plain.

Jewish Unemployment Rears its Head (1924/28)

CRISIS

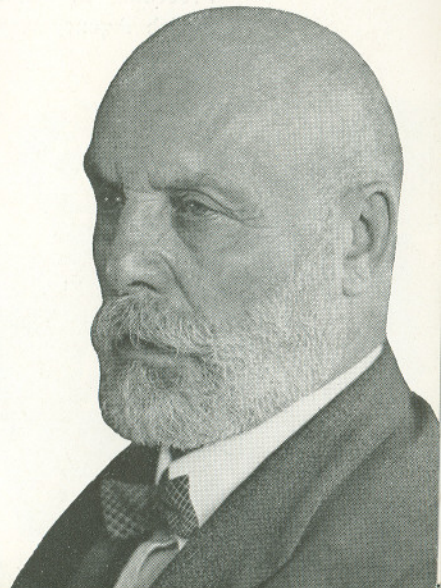
NEW CENTRES OF SETTLEMENT



Gradually, the unemployed were absorbed in public works. Building was revived. Immigrants arrived once more. The crisis had proved that absorbing immigration called for large-scale settlement. The J.N.F., under the Presidency of Menahem Ussishkin, acquired large stretches of land in what came to be known as Emek Zebulun, along Haifa—Acre Bay. Emek Zebulun was destined to develop as a notable industrial and residential region and hinterland of the increasingly important town and harbour of Haifa. The J.N.F. also acquired the lands of Wadi Hawareth, later called Emek Hephher. Tribute to the foresight of Ussishkin and the generosity of Canadian Jewry, which provided the funds, Emek Hephher today supports a population of 10,000.

Menahem Ussishkin

1928

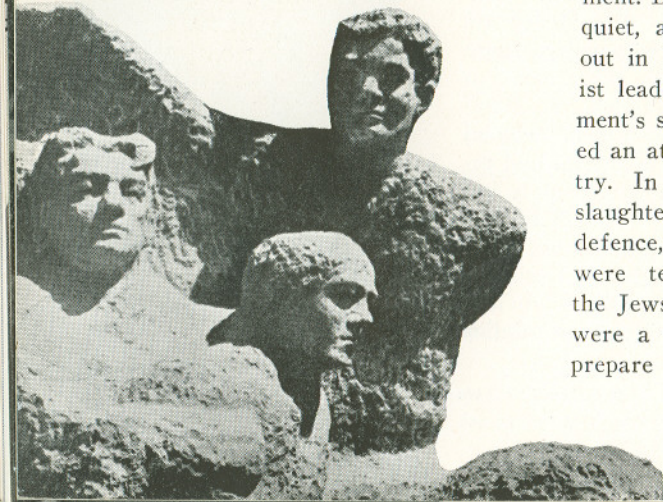


DISTURBANCES

A spirit of optimism marked the 16th Zionist Congress at Zurich. Preceding it, negotiations for the entry of non-Zionist Jews into the Jewish Agency were successfully completed. The way now seemed wide

open to a vigorous new phase of development. But, after eight years of comparative quiet, a new wave of disturbances broke out in Palestine. Incited by their extremist leadership and encouraged by Government's seeming indifference, Arabs launched an attack on Jews throughout the country. In Hebron and Safad, Jews were slaughtered in cold blood. After heroic defence, Hulda, Motza and Beer Tuvia were temporarily abandoned. Elsewhere the Jews held their own. The disturbances were a warning signal. The Yishuv must prepare itself for increased opposition.

Memorial to the Defenders of Hulda



THE FOUNDATIONS ARE FIRMLY LAID

In this period, the following settlements were established:

On J. N. F. Land

1920: Kiryat Anavim
Degania B

1921: Nahalal

Ein Harod

Tel Yosef

Kfar Yehezkel

Geva

Ben Shemen

(Moshav)

Heftziba

Ginegar

Beth Alpha

Yagur

(Moshav)

Kfar Malal

Merhavia

Ataroth

1923: Tel Adashim

Mizra

Kfar Gideon

1924: Kfar Hassidim

Kfar Hittim*

1925: Givat Hashlosa

1926: Sarid

Ramath Rahel

Gath Rimon

Mishmar Haemek

Kfar Barukh

1926: Gvath

Hasharon —

Ramath David

Ayanoth —

Ramath David

Beth Shearim*

1927: Ein Shemer

Kfar Yehoshua

Sde Yaacov

Kfar Nathan

(Laski)

Gan Shlomo

(Shiller)

Ben Shemen

(Children's Village)

1928: Givat Brenner

Kfar Brandeis

* Temporarily abandoned and subsequently re-established.

On JCA (PICA) Land

1918: Ayeleth Hashahar
 1922: Binyamina
 Gesher*
 1923: Kfar Gideon
 1929: Pardess Hanna

On Private Land

1921: Raanana
 1922: Balfouriya
 Givatayim
 1923: Shfeya (Child-
 ren's Village)

Ramath Hasharon
 Nahlat Yitzhak

1924: Bnei Brak
 Neve Yaacov
 Magdiel
 Herzliya
 Kiryat Shaul
 Mahane Yisrael*
 Nahlat Ganim*
 1925: Afule
 Ramatayim
 Ramath Yishai

Kfar Ata
 Nesher

Ramath Yitzhak*
 1926: Kfar Aharon
 Kfar Ganim
 Bath Yam
 1927: Kalmaniya*
 1928: Naharayim
 1929: Nathanya
 Hadar
 Tel Mond

At the end of this period, land in Jewish ownership in Palestine totalled 950,000 dunams. Of this the Jewish National Fund owned 262,000 dunams. The number of Jews in Palestine was 160,000, constituting 16% of the total population.

ENQUIRY AND BETRAYAL

Jews throughout the world rallied round the Yishuv in its hour of crisis. Relief funds poured in, and, with the help of the National Funds, the damage caused in the riots was soon made good. Abandoned settlements were revived, new settlements founded. The political attack on Zionism was more serious, however. The Shaw Commission of Enquiry called a temporary halt to immigration. Sir John Hope Simpson, sent to investigate economic conditions, reported that no room existed for further Jewish settlement. On October 21st, Lord Passfield, the then Colonial Secretary, published as a White Paper a statement of policy which prohibited the sale of land to Jews and restricted Jewish immigration. Thus was the Government fulfilling the solemn obligation it had undertaken to facilitate the creation of a Jewish National Home!

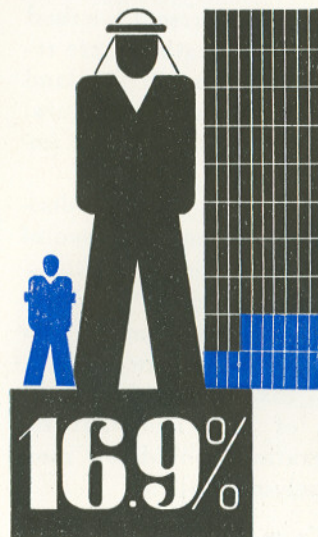
1930

...With the present method of Arab cultivation there remains no margin of land available for agricultural settlement by new immigrants...

...In arriving at their decision to suspend the issue of the certificates, H. M. Government had in mind the opinions expressed in the report of the Shaw Commission that there was a shortage of land and that immigration should be more closely controlled...

From the British Government's White Paper, 1930.

1931



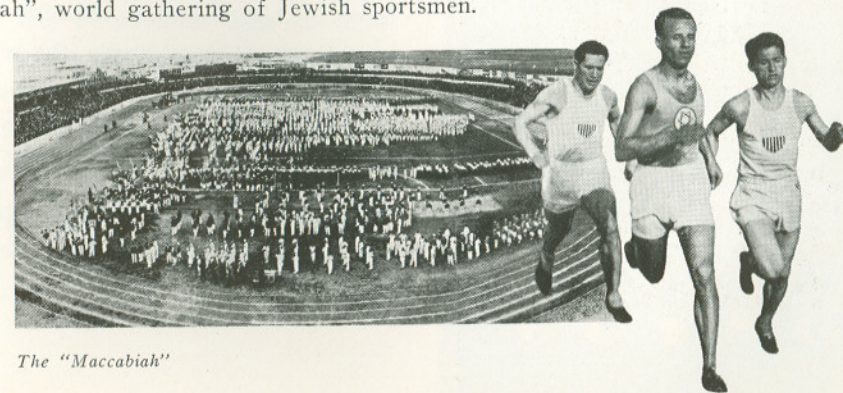
THRESHOLD OF A NEW ERA

A storm of protest swept the Jewish world. Dr. Weizmann, President of the Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency, resigned. Submitting to criticism, the British Government retreated from its hostile attitude. On February 14th, the Prime Minister, Mr Ramsay MacDonald, sent a letter to Dr. Weizmann placing an interpretation on the White Paper which radically changed its provision. Zionism successfully weathered this political crisis. Hopefully it entered a new period. Though the hopes reposed in the extension of the Jewish Agency were materially defeated by the effects of the American economic crisis, confidence in the Homeland increased. Immigration revived. Census figures showed there were 175,000 Jews in Palestine, 16.9% of the total population.

1932

RIISING IMMIGRATION

The foundations of European Jewry's existence started to crack. Jewish economic life, already weakened by the world crisis, was menaced further by the growth of officially-sponsored anti-Semitism. Palestine was no longer a hope; it was becoming a haven of refuge. During the year, 15,000 Jews entered the country. With urban expansion came unprecedented growth in rural settlement. Sixteen new villages were founded, 13 on J.N.F. land. The Palestine Potash Company exported its first products from the Dead Sea. The citrus industry was consolidated. Tel Aviv was the locale of the first Near East Fair and the first "Maccabiah", world gathering of Jewish sportsmen.



The "Maccabiah"

**1933****STORM CLOUDS OVER EUROPEAN JEWRY**

The rise of the Nazis to power in Germany on January 31st was a lightning flash of warning to all Jews. Hitler dared not yet apply his policy of extermination. But he made no secret of his intentions. German Jewry was terribly menaced, and with them, the Jews of all European countries. Jews started to flee from Germany in their thousands. Zionism, which foresaw the tragedy, could now supply the answer. Over 38,700 Jews entered Palestine. German-Jewish youth sought balm for its wounds in a life of pioneering in Palestine. Middle-class immigrants soon found their place in the country's economy, making a signal contribution to the progress and consolidation of the Yishuv.

38 700
IMMIGRANTS ARRIVE**1934****THE GATES OF ZION ARE OPENED**

The Fifth Aliyah, unlike its predecessor, did not endanger the economic life of the country. The 50,000 immigrants of 1934 found a well-established Yishuv of more than a quarter of a million souls, geared for absorbing newcomers. Agriculture had successfully withstood the difficulties confronting it and could respond to the needs of the growing urban market. The towns, too, consolidated their position. New industrial enterprises were launched. The new immigrants brought with them considerable capital, organising ability and business experience. These advantages not only facilitated their absorption, but paved the way for others. With the immigrants from Germany, came a growing number from Poland and other European countries. Palestine was ceasing to be a backward corner of the East.

49 400
IMMIGRANTS ARRIVE

1935

BOOM YEAR

Unprecedented expansion in all spheres marked this year. Immigrants reached a figure of 65,000, including thousands of young people brought by Youth Aliyah, under the supervision of Henrietta Szold. Seven million pounds were invested in building. The towns experienced a boom. New suburbs sprang up. The older agricultural settlements were consolidated, leaving the settlement institutions free to consolidate those founded since 1928. The stimulus to agricultural development yielded new methods as well as new expansion. The Palestine Land Development Company acquired a concession to drain the Huleh swamps in Upper Galilee. Optimism ran high. Several more such years of intensive undisturbed upbuilding, and the Yishuv — it seemed — would reach that decisive stage that would enable it to ensure its own future. But the storm was approaching.

65 600

IMMIGRANTS ARRIVE

1930-1935

THE STRUCTURE GROWS

In this period, the following settlements were established:

On J. N. F. Land:

1930: Beer Tuvia
Ayanoth (School)
Ein Vered
Na'an
Beth Hanan
Hulda
Heruth
1931: Kfar Marmorek
Ein Hahoresht
1932: Kfar Avraham
Kfar Yavetz
Tirath Shalom
Givat Hayim
Netaim
Avihayil
Afikim
Kfar Bilu

Ramath Yohanan
Tel Zur —
Basharon
Kfar Azar
Yarkona
Ramath Hakovesh
1933: Kiryath Hayim
Kfar Hess
Ramath Tiomkin
Kfar Pines
Kfar Vitkin
Kfar Hahoresht
Kfar Hayim
Mishmar Hasharon
Gibton
Maabaroth
Beth Oved
Tzofit

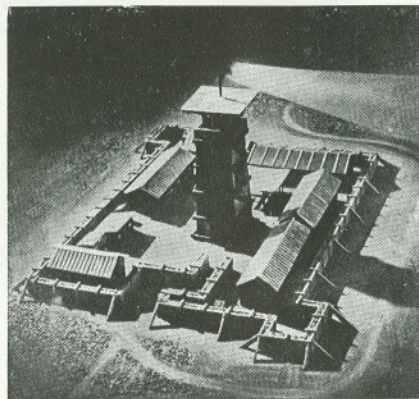
Beth Yanai
Elyashiv
Hogla
Givat Hen
Motza Ilith
Mishmarot
Ein Haoved*
1934: Kfar Haroe
Gane Am
Hibat Zion
Kfar Bialik
Kfar Yehud
Ein Iron
Kiryath Motzkin
Kiryath Bialik
1935: Behadraga
Shfayim
Yedidya

* Temporarily abandoned and subsequently re-established.

1937

TOWER AND STOCKADE

A Royal Commission was sent by the British Government to investigate the Palestine problem. The solution it proposed was to partition the country into Arab and Jewish States. The Government hesitated, allowing the disturbances meanwhile to assume the proportions of a real rebellion. Then it converted the Palestine problem into an all-Arab issue by calling in the rulers of neighbouring Arab countries for negotiations. The security situation steadily deteriorated. The Yishuv fortified its position, continuing meanwhile its constructive work. New settlements were established in isolated regions on J.N.F. land. The "Tower and Stockade" period opened with the creation of 17 new settlements in the Beisan Valley and among the Hills of Ephraim.



Settlement Stronghold

1938

EXPANDING FRONTIERS

The partition proposal was shelved. But Zionism had learned its lesson. The Jewish claim to every part of Palestine must be buttressed by the actual fact of settlement. Henceforward, settlement work was to be guided also by political and strategic considerations. Eighteen new settlements were established, notably on the borders. Hanita, on the Lebanese frontier, symbolised the new settlement policy. The Arab disturbances continued. Captain Orde Wingate's Jewish "Night Patrols" went over from static to aggressive defence. In spite of restricted immigration, Jews continued to arrive in their thousands, some with certificates, some without.

The Barbed Wire Perimeter



1939



PALESTINE Statement of Policy

*Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in Parliament
by Command of His Majesty
May, 1939*

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
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25 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
30 Old Bailey, London E.C.4;
1939
Price 2d. net

WORLD WAR II

In Palestine, the disturbances continued. In Europe, one Jewish community after another was engulfed by the Nazis. While Hitler conquered Austria and Czechoslovakia, Fascist or semi-Fascist regimes sprang up in Eastern Europe. Jewish fugitives streamed out of Europe by all routes, and large numbers found their way to Palestine. The movement of "illegal ships", over-packed, cockle-shell vessels that braved the route to Palestine, grew. Nearly 40,000 Jews reached the country. On May 17th, the Government published its notorious White Paper with its disastrous restrictions on immigration and land purchase. Its object was to crystallise the Jewish National Home. Hitler in Europe, the White Paper in Palestine, — never had Zionism seemed so desperately besieged by enemies. A few months later, the war clouds burst.

The Infamous White Paper of 1939

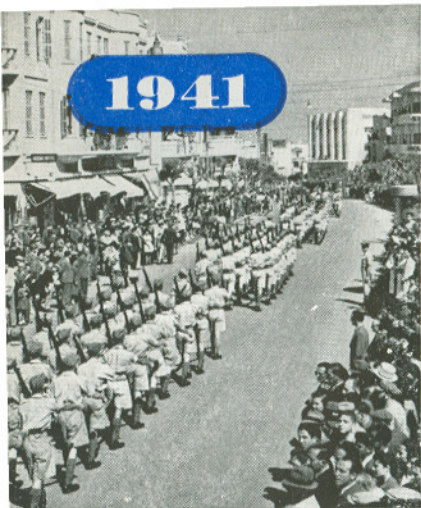
1940

STRAIT-JACKETING THE YISHUV

With a ferocious onslaught, Germany conquered the bulk of Europe. In its gigantic sweep it engulfed millions of Jews. The Nazi policy of extermination was about to begin. America and Palestine were the sole hopes. American Jewry would provide relief, while Palestine could serve as haven of refuge. Daring mine-strewn seas, Jews made their perilous way to Palestine. But the way was blocked by the British fleet. And a few months before Dunkirk, the British Government found the time to introduce a new Land Ordinance in Palestine, prohibiting or restricting Jewish land purchase in 95 per cent of the area of the country. The slogan of the Yishuv was: "To fight Hitler as though there were no White Paper, and to fight the White Paper as though there were no Hitler." Despite the Land Laws, land purchase and settlement continued.

*Tel Aviv Demonstrates against the
White Paper*

1941



THE YISHUV ENLISTS

The flames of war spread through the world, reaching also the Middle East. The frontiers of Palestine were menaced. The enemy was in Egypt, Syria and Iraq. In Europe, the large Jewish population of Western Russia and the Ukraine became engulfed. For the Jews, more than for any other people, it was a war for sheer physical survival. Within the Army, the Palestinian Jewish soldier struggled for his right of national recognition. But the British Government continued to reject the demand for a Jewish Fighting Force. Apparently it feared possible political repercussions from distinctive Jewish participation in the fighting. Nevertheless, many thousands of Palestinian Jews volunteered in the British Army to fight Hitler.

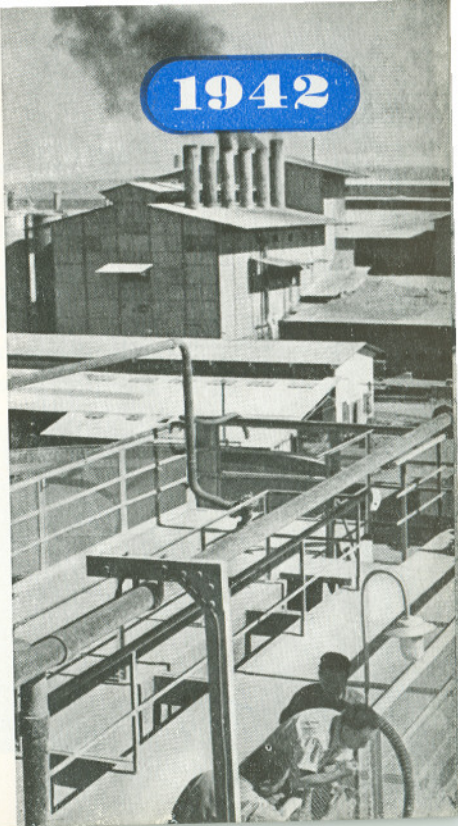
Palestine Jews Volunteer

WAR EFFORT AND RESCUE

The enemy penetrated the Western Desert, reaching within 200 kilometres of Alexandria. At the historic battle of El Alamein, they were flung back. Enlistment in the Yishuv continued. More than 20,000 Palestinian Jews were in the Army. Jewish commando units were trained to fight behind the enemy lines. Meanwhile, the Yishuv's economy was geared to an all-out war effort. From Europe, refugees continued to find their way to Palestine. The refugee ship, "Struma", refused permission by the British Government to disembark in Palestine, sank with its passengers in the Black Sea — and the world was silent. In this atmosphere, charged by the holocaust in Europe and by the White Paper policy in Palestine, the Zionist Movement formulated its post-war policy: the immediate establishment of a Jewish State.

Palestine Industry Gears for War

1942



1943

EXTERMINATION

Rommel's Army was driven out of Africa. The danger to Palestine was removed. But from Europe came ghastly news. The Nazis and their satellites were exterminating the Jews, systematically, and by methods of cruelty unparalleled in history. Scores of thousands of Jews were herded in diabolically contrived death camps. The Jews in the ghetto of Warsaw and other cities revolted. For weeks on end the ghetto fighters heroically maintained their struggle against insuperable odds. Unable themselves to stem the execution of Hitler's fiendish plans, the Jews of

the Yishuv pledged themselves that when the time came, they at least would do all that was humanly possible to help the survivors. Meanwhile Palestine Jewish units of the British Army won their claim to be allowed to enter the field as fighting soldiers. They entered combat in Europe.



Ruins of the Warsaw Synagogue

THE JEWISH BRIGADE

Victory was in sight. Political activity was directed towards establishing contact with the Jewish remnants from Europe and prizing open the gates of Palestine for their immigration. Palestinian Jewish parachutists, a number of whom never returned, were dropped behind the enemy lines in Europe, to bring hope and encouragement, and to help the Jews to organise their self-defence. A million Jews were fighting in the Allied armies. Behind the enemy lines Jewish partisans were active in Poland and France. But the Jewish soldier was still fighting anonymously. This year, however, the Yishuv's insistence on the recognition of their soldiers as a distinctive unit could no longer be resisted. The British Government agreed to establish a Jewish Brigade Group in the British Army, consisting of Palestinian infantry and artillery units. The Brigade Group fought in Italy and made its way through Europe.

Somewhere in the Middle East

1944

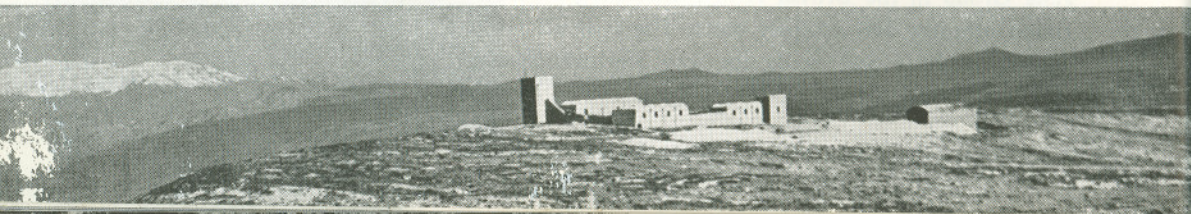


1945

VICTORY

The enemy was vanquished. But six million Jews had been wiped out. The unhappy survivors in Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt had little part in the joy of victory. If not overlooked, they were given scant consideration. The world did not yet recognise their right to independence. They had one prayer: to join their brethren in Palestine. Though the war was over, the Jewish struggle continued. The Jewish Brigade units in Germany and Italy brought aid and relief to the Jewish refugees, but the road to Palestine remained closed, the British Government persisting in its White Paper policy. In Britain, the Labour Government came to power. But it betrayed its own former pledges. The British Navy now started still more stringently to hunt down refugee ships en route to Palestine. In the Yishuv, troops searched for arms and refugees in settlements and towns.

Biriya Rises Again



1946

THE NEGEV

The Yishuv continued to resist the White Paper policy. Refugee ships continued to make for Palestine. The J.N.F. continued to buy land, and particularly in the Prohibited and Restricted Zones. The Government tightened the screw. Leaders of the Yishuv were imprisoned and many settlements searched. The Anglo-American Enquiry Committee, appointed on the initiative of the British Government, recommended the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews from Europe and repeal of the Land Laws. But Britain ignored these recommendations. The White Paper policy could be applied now only by oppression. Bitterness in the Yishuv reached new heights. But construction was still the keynote; 25 new settlements were established, most in the wastes of the Negev. Thus the Jewish struggle for liberation and redemption continued.

On to the Negev



1936-1947

CONTINUED GROWTH IN A WORLD OF CHAOS

In this period, the following settlements were established:

On J. N. F. Land:

1936: Rishpon
Beth Shearim
Kfar Sirkin
Hazorea
Bithan Aharon
Hulata
Kfar Hamacabbi
Kfar Hittim
Nir David
1937: Sde Nahum
Massada
Shaar Hagolan
Beth Yosef
Tirath Zvi
Bnei Brith
(Moledeth)
Ein Hashofet

Maoz Hayim
Ein Gev
Kfar Menahem
Shaar Hanegev
(Kfar Szold)*
Tzur Moshe
Kiryath Amal
Usha
1938: Hanita
Shavei Zion
Sde Warburg
Alonim (Tivon)
Maale Hahamisha
Tel Yitzhak
Beth Yehoshua
Ein Hamifratz
Sharona
Bnei Geulim*

Eilon
Kfar Ruppim
Neve Eitan
Kfar Masaryk
Mesiloth
Shehunat
Beilinson
1939: Daliya
Dafne
Dan
Sde Eliahu
Ma'apilim
Mishmar Hayam
Shehunat Ono
Negba
Kfar Netter
Beth Oren
Amir

* Temporarily abandoned and subsequently re-established.

Kfar Warburg
Beth Hillel
Gan Hephher
Shaar Yashuv
Matzuva
Beth Yitzhak
Sde Nehemia

1941: Nira
Avuka
Yavne
Ramath Hashofet
Doroth

1942: Tamra
(Irgun Hagalil)
Gath
Gvar Am
Hermonim
Narbata
Kfar Szold

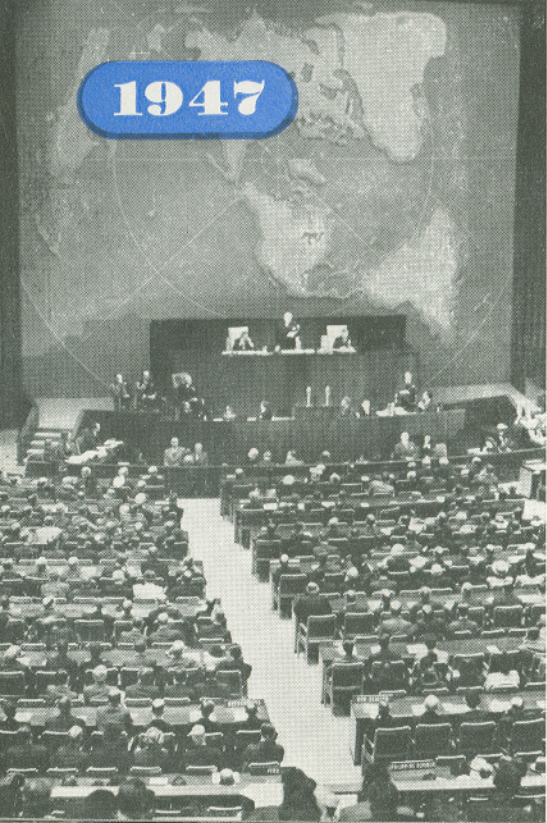
1943: Glil Yam
Ramim (Manara)
Nir Am
Beerot Yitzhak
Kfar Etzyon
Gvuloth
Givoth Zeid
Revivim
Beth Eshel
Nehalim
Kfar Blum
Yad Mordechai
Nitzanim
Tira
(Irgun Borukhov)
Ruhama
Hafetz Hayim
Kfar Uriya
Shamir
Ein Haemek
Tkuma

1945: Biryah
Even Yitzhak
Ochberg
Gezer
Shepher
Beth Yehuda
Halevi
Hukok
Massuoth Yitzhak
Evron
Hama'apil
Misgav Am
Bnei Geulim
(Talmon)
Maale Habashan
Mihmoret
1946: Ein Hanatziv
Ein Zeitim
Ami Ad
Bnei Dror

Kfar Monash	1947: Mivtaim	1939: Gesher
Kfar Kisch	Shorashim	Shadmoth Devora
Bazra	Alumim	Hazore'im
Regba	Revadim	Mahanayim
Kedma	Maayan Barukh	Tel Tzur*
Gal On	Yakum	Kfar Glikson
Shoval	Bnei Zion	1940: SdOTH Yam
Mishmar Hanegev	1947: Sa'ad	Shorashim*
Nevatim	Eyal	1941: Bithaniya
Hatzerim	Herev Le'et	Poriya*
Beerot	Haogen	1942: Zraim*
Kfar Darom	Sde Akiva	1944: Beth Keshet
Nirim	Halutza	
Urim	Ofakim	On Private Land:
Ein Tsurim	Eitanim	1936: Evron*
Neve Ilan		Kiryath Avoda*
Bnaya	On PICA Land:	1937: Kiryath Binyamin
Dovrath	1937: Ginesar	Kfar Shmaryahu
Neoth Mordechai	Mishmar	Shehunut Am*
Yehiam	Hashlosa	1938: Ramath Hadar
	1938: Maayan Zvi	1939: Beth Ha'arava
		1946: Kiryath Yam

At the end of this period, land in Jewish possession in Palestine totalled 1,850,000 dunams. Of this the Jewish National Fund owned 928,000 dunams. The number of Jews in Palestine was 660,000, constituting 33% of the total population.

1947



THE END OF AN EPOCH

The world had forgotten the frightful destruction of European Jewry, and the few hundred thousand Jews still in the camps of Europe. The forcible return to Germany of the refugee ship "Exodus 1947" reflected the prevailing callousness. But in the Yishuv, the struggle continued; its main weapons, peaceful construction. New settlements were founded. Across the Negev desert, the J.N.F. laid a water pipeline. But the Government clung unchangingly to its White Paper course. Tension reached its climax. Finally, the Palestine problem was referred to the United Nations whose Committee of Enquiry recommended the creation of independent Jewish and Arab States. It was bitter for Jews to agree to this further partition of the country, but all recognised the need for political independence. The Jewish case again came before the world, this time

Right: The Palestine Problem Before the U. N.
Left: Moshe Shertok and U.N. Members Discuss
Jewish State Boundaries

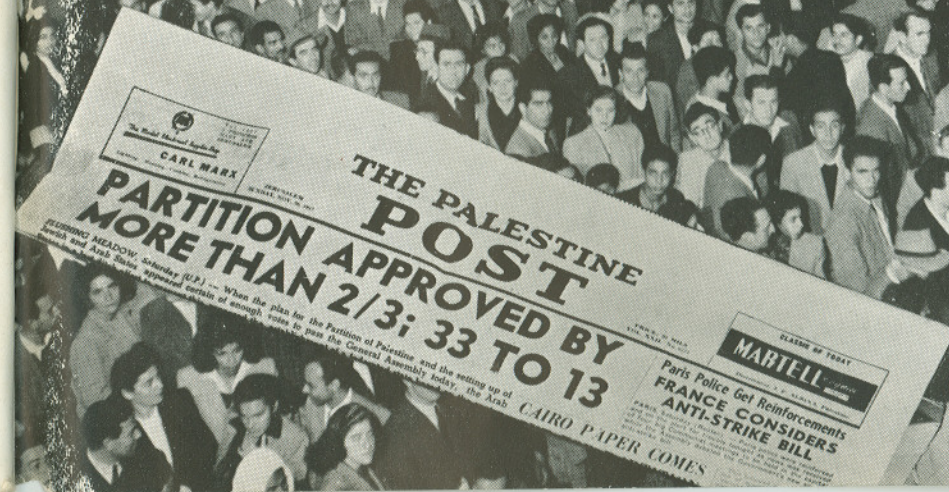




backed by practical achievements in Palestine.

On November 29th, 1947, the Assembly of the United Nations approved the establishment of a Jewish State. After fifty years of Zionist endeavour, the world acknowledged the truth of Herzl's statement: "The Jewish State is a world need and therefore it will surely arise."

עם ישראל חי!



JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, JERUSALEM

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