

The Jewish Post

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 HEAD OFFICE: 213 SELKIRK AVE., WINNIPEG
 Contributing Editor
 RABBI SOLOMON FRANK, B.Sc., LL.B., M.A.,
 Frederick Lionel Fingerhut, Editor—Leo J. Lezack, Adv. Mgr.
 B. M. Cohen, Business Manager—Phone 54 400
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We Dare Not Fail Them

The United Palestine Appeal campaign for 1937 to be opened in Winnipeg May 2, includes an objective of paramount importance in its threefold purpose to Jewish people here and everywhere. It merits their complete and unstinted support. The funds to be raised in the \$15,000 drive, the quota set by the campaign committee, headed by Roy Calof, have been earmarked for historic making purposes. In addition to the two funds, the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod, a third fund has been established the Mifal Bitzaron (Emergency Fund) for the purpose of consolidating and making secure the position of the Yishuv in Palestine.

Never before in the history of the Jewish National Homeland has Palestine Jewry been so dependent upon Jewry in the Diaspora in aiding them to make more secure their position and fortify their strongholds against the machinations of opponents, who have endangered their lives and property.

A situation has arisen where it has become of paramount importance to Jews everywhere to present a united front against those who oppose the establishment of a Jewish Homeland in Palestine. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice to expect the 400,000 Jews in Palestine to carry the burden of 16,000,000 Jews in the world. We all know that without our moral and financial support, Palestinian Jewry could not hope to hold out against overwhelming odds. We here together with our fellow Jews in other parts of the Dominion are in a position to turn the tide of destiny in our favor. We dare not fail those heroic pioneers who are counting so heavily upon our support. Through our generous support of the United Palestine Appeal this year we will show the world that we refuse to be intimidated by brute force; we can defy misinformed elements and stand guard against attack upon positions won by risk of life and limb.

World Jewry must remember that an attack upon Palestine Jewry is in reality an attack upon Jewry throughout the Diaspora.

In this regard we must bear in mind that the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod undaunted, are continuing their tasks of bringing those whose only salvation is Palestine to the country and placing them upon the land. The funds of the United Palestine Appeal will continue to be directed proportionately to facilitate the immigration of and colonization of Jews who are not yet in Palestine.

The threefold purpose of the campaign this year must be carefully considered by every Jew in Winnipeg and the amount of his contribution to this most important campaign must be gauged by his willingness to preserve his own self-respect and the salvation of a nation.

Winnipeg Jewry dare not fail the Yishuv in Palestine in this, their greatest hour of need.

The WORLD'S WINDOW

By LUDWIG LEWISOHN



Forlorn Hope

WHEN Mr. Alfred Knopf, publishes his translation of M. Andre Gide's "Return de l'U.S.S.R." (Return from the Soviet) the book will doubtless cost two dollars and no one can tell how many of the young Jewish men and women who are temporarily lost to us—to our people and our cause—through their psychological involvement with the Soviets will buy the book and read it. Many, many Americans will read the book even as, according to my copy of the French original, over 200,000 people have already bought and read the little book in France. But precisely those who need the book most, those who cause us to be so very anxious concerning their future and their soul's health—the young Jewish Communists and semi-Communists—may avoid it or miss it. Hence I can think at this moment of no more useful small task than to give a brief account of the findings of Andre Gide.

First let us recall that Andre Gide is by common consent one of the three or four greatest men of letters in the world. Next let us emphasize the point that Gide has always been noted for the scrupulousness and candor of his thinking. For years I have bought each of his books and have always—whether the subject was sympathetic to me or not—been intensely illuminated by the bone-deep probity of his style which corresponds, of course, to an equal probity of thought. Agreement was not the point. The point was seeing a first-rate mind in action—a mind stripped, athletic, translucent.

Several years ago Gide announced his adhesion to the Communist doctrine and faith and hope. In a recent volume (Nouvelles Pages de Journal) he explained the process of despair of our present civilization which forced him to see a new hope for humanity in the Soviets. He has always been a believer in the practical necessity of realizing the precepts of the Gospel. He saw that Christendom has finally and definitely failed mankind. He turned his face to the East. Communists everywhere were quite justly elated over the adhesion to their philosophy and policy of a man so eminent, so scrupulous, so eloquent. He was invited to Russia to speak at the obsequies of Gorki, to address the students of Moscow and the Soviet writers at Leningrad and to see for himself the land and the civilization that was being built there.

Let it be emphasized at once that Gide is still convinced that some form of Socialism is the only tolerable hope for mankind. He is equally convinced after a thorough survey of Soviet Russia, that neither Socialism nor any other rational hope for mankind is being realized there. Not because of failures or insufficiencies

or human weaknesses. Those would characterize any political and economic experiment. Not at all. He is disillusioned with fundamentals. He is convinced that the way of Soviet Russia is not the way of progress, is not the road toward a better or a happier humanity.

Precisely why? Because that which is static is dead. And in Soviet Russia life in the deepest sense has come to a stop. At the best and most successful of collective farms he found the horror of "complete depersonalisation". A robot, in brief, is not free. He has not yet reached freedom. Gide, adhering almost unconsciously to the great ironic tradition of Voltaire, writes: "The happiness of all is bought at the price of the de-individualising of each. The happiness of all is bought at the price of each. To be happy—conform." And he illustrates over and over again from a hundred details that dreadful and mechanical conformity, that heavy, dull braggart orthodoxy bought at the price of enforced ignorance of the non-Soviet world, bought at the price of keeping these huge masses in darkness. "Their happiness is made up of hope, confidence and ignorance." There are discussions. The minds seem to work. Actually they are static. For all discussions are concerning the question whether this or that or the other is true to the "party line". "It is never the line itself that anyone discusses".

Gide was shocked at the huge wage differential, at the far too many poor. But this was not the worst. This was not the crux. The crux was this: "Generally favors go to those who deserve them, provided always that they are conformists and well within the party line. Such alone benefit by any advantages." In other words and as a necessary consequence of this state of affairs: "The spirit which is today considered 'counter-revolutionary' is none other than that very spirit of the revolution, of which the ferment first caused an explosion in the rotten swamps of the old czarist world." And so (page 67) Gide is forced to the final and dreadful conclusion: "The least protestation, the smallest criticism is subjected to the most dire punishment and is, moreover, stifled at once. I question whether in any other country today, unless it be the Germany of Hitler, the human mind is less free, more bent down, more timid by reason of terror, more deeply reduced to vassalage."

It is immensely tragic. I do not jeer. I do not rejoice. I do not say: I have told you so. I am not amazed at Gide's report of the saying of an eminent Soviet writer to him: "You see, an artist with us today has first of all to stick to the party-line. Unless he does that the greatest gifts would be considered mere 'formalism'." Any man of the most moderate experience and sagacity could have inferred all that Andre Gide reports and thousands of thinking people have indeed drawn the right inference. My point, my question, my—yes—cry is quite another: "What is it, what is it in this bleak slave-state that takes hold of the imagination of so many young Jewish men and women? What comfort or what beauty or what hope do they find there? Is it a faint pro-Russian feeling drawn from the involuntary sympathies and habits of their parents. Many would, no doubt, answer: at least our people is not bedevilled there as such. True in a sense.

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U. P. A. Quota Set At \$15,000.00

400,000 Jews In Palestine Look To Diaspora Jewry To Aid Them In Their Struggle Of Destiny

Winnipeg Jewry will be asked to contribute \$15,000 to the annual United Palestine Appeal campaign to be launched in the city, May 2.

A committee headed by Roy Calof as chairman and A. M. Shimbane, K.C., as honorary chairman will inaugurate the drive within a few days. Confidence has been expressed by both men that the quota will be reached.

The campaign this year has added significance as Zionists throughout the world hope that apart from the fact that the success of the United Palestine Appeal will serve to strengthen the national budget of Jewry, it will serve to demonstrate to the world at large that Jewry will not be intimidated and will not deviate from the straight and direct path which leads it to its national goal and destiny. It will also demonstrate to those who have the political future of Palestine before them that their movement is not merely one of 400,000 Jews in Eretz Israel and groups of Zionists in the Diaspora, but that the movement represents the redoubtable will of an entire people for whom Palestine means salvation—and salvation means a Homeland such as was returned to a harassed people by the conscience of the world.

By Supporting the U.P.A. You Aid Palestine To Acquire Soil-Settlement-Security.

resents the redoubtable will of an entire people for whom Palestine means salvation—and salvation means a Homeland such as was returned to a harassed people by the conscience of the world.

During the past year the Yishuv in Palestine has stood on guard against the attack upon its dearly won positions acted as defender, not only for the Jews of Palestine, but for Jewry throughout the Diaspora. Indeed, the onslaught, though aimed at the Yishuv, was directed against all of Israel.

Towards the confounding of these machinations, the Jews of Palestine contributed their lives and their property. The Jews of the Diaspora cannot permit the burden of the destiny of 16,000,000 Jews to fall entirely on the shoulders of 400,000 pioneers.

A triple objective is being sought by the U.P.A. drive this year. The campaign is being launched on behalf of the Keren Hayesod, the Keren Kayemeth and the Mifal Bitzaron.

The Keren Hayesod has served as a central pioneering instrument of Jewry, has brought Jews to Palestine, put workers on the land, made efficient peasants out of town dwellers, maintained schools for children, given labor and support to industry and in a thousand ways has helped towards the ever beckoning goal.

The Keren Kayemeth, the instrument of Jewish land policy in town and country has as its objects, the acquisition of land in Palestine with the vol-



A. M. SHIMBANE, K.C.



ROY CALOF

TO GUIDE DESTINIES OF 1937 U.P.A. CAMPAIGN

Heading the 1937 United Palestine Appeal are Mr. Shimbane, vice-president of the Zionist organization of Canada, who will hold the position of honorary chairman and Mr. Calof, honorary treasurer of the 1936 appeal who will preside as chairman of this year's drive. The campaign will be launched in Winnipeg May 2, when Dr. Ben Zion Mossinson, leading personality in world Zionism will be the guest speaker at the annual banquet. An objective of \$15,000, has been set for this year and both Mr. Shimbane and Mr. Calof are confident that the quota will be reached.

untary contributions of the Jewish people, such land to be the common property of the Jewish people; leasing the land exclusively on hereditary leasehold for cultivation and building; facilitating the settlement of working farmers; insuring the cultivation of the land by Jews and insuring the right use of the soil.

The third find, and a most important one this year is the Special Emergency Fund—Mifal Bitzaron.

Events in Eretz Israel during the past year have forced the Jewish Agency to face new demands and new duties of state. It is for the purpose of filling these demands and accomplishing these duties that the Mifal Bitzaron, seeking to reach emergency objectives has been launched. While the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod continue along the even and constructive tenor of their ways, acquiring land in Palestine and establishing new

Diaspora Jewry Must Support U.P.A. To Aid Palestine Jewry In This, Their Greatest Hour of Need.

Jewish settlements, the Mifal Bitzaron is especially intended for the purpose of consolidation and security, which consists of granting financial support for the supererogatory police—"shotrim meykhadim" and Jewish "shofrim", who serve as the vanguard of defence for the protection of Jewish

position in Palestine. Recent occurrences have revealed the urgent necessity for the construction of safety highways, connecting Jewish positions of supply and demand between the various colonies. It is for this purpose that the Mifal Bitzaron issues its rallying call to the Jews of Canada.

That Palestine now ranks as the second citrus exporting country in the world?

That during the last ten years, 107 new settlements were established, 68 of them on the land of the Jewish National Fund?

That on Jewish dairy-farms, a yield of 3500 litres of milk per cow is obtained per annum and on Arab dairy-farms, only 500 litres; that the Jewish yield of wheat per dunam is 100 kgs. as opposed to 48 kgs. on Arab farms; that the Jewish yield of table-grapes is 450 kgs. per dunam, Arab, 175 kgs. and on Jewish poultry farms, the egg output per hen is 150 per annum, on Arab farms only 40?

That in 1921, the production of Jewish factories was less than 5 million dollars; in 1935, it had risen to 43 million dollars?

That the consumption of electric current—a significant index of industrial expansion—has increased by 30 per cent in 1936?

That during the last four years, Jewish investment in building in Palestine aggregated \$85,000,000?

U. P. A. Facts and Figures

DID YOU KNOW? . . .

That the Jewish community in Palestine has increased in population since 1922 more than five-fold and today numbers 410,000?

That the Jewish National Fund has invested \$17,500,000 in land purchase, such land becoming the inalienable possession of the Jewish people?

That \$225,000,000 has been privately invested by Jews in Palestine since the war?

That within the last four years \$150,000,000 has been invested in the five staple industries of the country—agriculture, mixed farming, building, industry and transport?

That during 1936, 135 new enterprises were launched, with a capitalization of \$3,875,000?

That there is no country in the world which can boast a budgetary position as favourable as that of the Palestine Treasury, which, within four years, showed a surplus of 32 million dollars, an amount equal to the average budget for two years?

That the revenue of the Palestine government has more than doubled since the commencement of the world depression?

And that this upward movement is due to Jewish immigration as is evident from the fact that as Jewish immigration figures increased, so did those of government revenue?

That imports into Palestine have increased from twenty-six million dollars in 1920 to eighty-five million in 1935; a more than three-fold expansion?

And that in the same period of time, exports have increased five-fold?

That while from 1929 to 1934 the volume of world trade diminished from 100 to 34, Palestine's foreign trade increased, 1931—1935, from 100 to 292?

That the vegetable crop of Palestine increased from 7,742 tons in 1921 to 56,399 tons in 1935?

That taking as the index figure for import of agricultural machinery into Palestine to be 100, Iraq's was 1.2, Syria's 4.7, and Egypt's, 9.7?

That on Jan. 1, 1937, there were 203 Jewish agricultural settlements in Palestine which harboured 105,000 Jews out of a total Jewish population of 410,000?