

TRAVEL DIARY

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means orchard, in Hebrew.) During the mandate he gave his home to help ease the hospital shortage and it has been used ever since. Several buildings have been added and now this is a good sized hospital. Primarily it serves as a diagnostic centre but surgery and therapy are available here too. In the physiotherapy building a woman of about 45 was learning to walk on artificial limbs. A diabetic, she had both legs amputated above the knees. The director joked with her in Polish, and she laughed in spite of her pain and misery.

In the occupational therapy building more than a dozen people worked at a variety of projects — one woman proudly showed us her shelf of puppets dressed to represent the heads of the government and the staff of Pardess Katz Hospital. On the grounds we passed a vigorous group of "nurses in training," women of 60 and over from a neighboring village for the aged, who had come to Pardess Katz for four weeks' training as nurses' aides.

After a two-hour long tour we left and went on to a boys' ORT school at Nathanya. We were shown a fine new building with large, sunny, well-equipped classrooms, a huge dining hall and workshops for studies in welding, electrical work, agro mechanics, and a variety of other trades. Here too boys ranging from 14 years to 19 years worked earnestly and seriously. After several years of study and practical work they will be equipped to earn a good livelihood, each in his own trade. These ORT schools are vitally needed in Israel where few can afford a

high school education and where skilled craftsmen are very much in demand. Locksmiths, tool and dye makers, auto mechanics and other skilled workers are absorbed into the economy immediately upon graduation.

Our next stop was the Nathanya Home for the Aged. It was 2 p.m.; we were hungry and dizzy with touring. The director whom we had met the day before at Pardessa, escorted us to the staff dining room where we were served a six-course meal full of cabbage, and tomato sauces and a thick potato soup. A Hungarian cook was responsible for so rich and indigestible a menu, he told us by way of an apology.

After lunch we were taken through a huge, ultra-modern shining kitchen outfitted with the finest and most functional equipment available. At one end of the kitchen a pudding was being prepared for supper.

Yosef told us that the women clean and prepare the chickens, and make the gefilte fish for Shabbat. The kitchen is of course strictly kosher, orderly, and sparkling clean.

We went on to one of the residence buildings — modern, sunny and cozy. There are several such in the village — each houses 40 to 50 people who live two in a room. Each room is furnished differently and with individuality. The activities of the residents are supervised by committees elected from among themselves. We were taken upstairs to meet Rabbi Freedman, a dignified, gentle person of 80 who had been Chief Rabbi of Budapest. A Conservative Rabbi, he is one of the leaders in the Nathanya village. He was convalescing from an eye operation and was confined to his room, but even there a delegation of the professional staff came to consult with him on the program for an important celebration to be held there within that week. He is virtually their cultural advisor.

We moved on to see the synagogue, then the cultural centre which contained the excellent beginnings of a multi-lingual library, then on to a large auditorium with a fine stage and good acoustics — this serves as movie theatre and concert hall. At the back of the auditorium we found an artist's studio, packed full with the primitive style paintings of a Russian artist-resident named Goldstein who had spent more than 50 years in Harbin, Manchuria. Though more than 75 years old, he was a vigorous, self-possessed figure of a man with a dramatic growth of white hair and a youthful stride. He detained us with stories of his life in China, told in rapid-fire clipped sentences, then pressed us to see all of his paintings, obviously glad of an audience. We finally escaped and ambled over the well-cared-for walks and across terraced gardens to our car.

The outstanding qualities of this place are contentment plus purposeful activity. One sees nothing of the demoralizing pointlessness of life that is sometimes associated with the traditional Moshav Z'kanim. Again we are impressed by the intelligence and the understanding of The Malben Staff — and by their warm regard for the people under their care. We asked Yosef to reserve a room for us in this sunny idyllic paradise for 1990 or thereabouts — he told us that there was a long waiting list of Malben personnel — we would have to wait our turn patiently.

Lakehead Responds Warmly to Histadrut

The response of Ft. William and Port Arthur Jewry to this year's Histadrut was traditionally generous. Israel's serious security plight, and the constructive role of Histadrut in the State's development is warmly appreciated by Lakehead Jewry. Histadrut committee chairman Jack Stitt and his committee members Alex Devon and A. Polonsky gave strong support to the drive. Saul Laskin was delegated to award certificates of recognition to the members of the Histadrut committee for their labors on behalf of Israel.

Tel Aviv — The Egyptian authorities have taken severe administrative measures against some Syrian nationals in Egypt for their Communist activities and have drawn the Syrian authorities' attention to the spread of Communism in Syria.

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Rabbi Chiel, Jenny Goldstein Share Honors Edmonton UJA Seeks 50% Emergency Raise

Edmonton (Special) — S. K. Belzberg has been named chairman of the Edmonton United Jewish Appeal campaign with Harry R. Cohen appointed his co-chairman. The campaign opens Sunday, Oct. 14, with Rabbi A. A. Chiel of Winnipeg as the speaker and Miss Jenny Goldstein, Jewish star of stage, screen and radio, guest artist.

At a meeting held on Sept. 4 in the home of Mr. Belzberg, more than forty canvassers turned out to help launch the 1956 United Jewish Appeal campaign. This drive will raise funds to assist in the rehabilitation and integration of Jews into the State of Israel.

Mr. Belzberg told the canvassers that in recent months the situation in French North Africa has so deteriorated that it was almost impossible to get any of the Jews out of the country. "There are half a million Jews living in

that part of the world," he said, "and most of them are desirous of emigrating to Israel."

The speaker indicated that during the entire Suez crisis in the Middle East the one country that has been most affected



RABBI CHIEL

... guest speaker — Israel — was not even mentioned nor consulted. For the past 8½ years all Israel shipping or Israel-bound ships have been refused passage through the Suez. The rise of Arab nationalism he asserted, makes the position of Jews in the Arab Middle East almost untenable. "These Jews must be taken from their present homes and resettled in Israel, where they will be given the

opportunity to develop and make a new life for themselves. Because of the arms deal between Egypt and Russia, increased pressure has been placed upon Israel so that she alone cannot stand the economic burden of increased immigration," he said.

Hy Fogelman, executive director for the campaign, and Matthew Ram, campaign advisor, outlined the duties and obligations of the canvassers.

Other members of the committee are: R. H. Samuels, canvassers' chairman; Dr. J. Bugis, assistant canvass chairman; and J. H. Shocor, publicity chairman.

Members of the campaign steering committee are: H. L. Baltzan, W. Margolus, M. Stochinsky, Dr. M. Weinlos, H. Weisler, and Dr. E. Wershof.

Cards were distributed for the campaign and close to forty canvassers went out to cover the city.

Answering the call to the Emergency Fund increase of 50% over the United Jewish Appeal, those present responded generously.

While no figures are as yet available, all indications are for a very successful campaign for 1956.

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