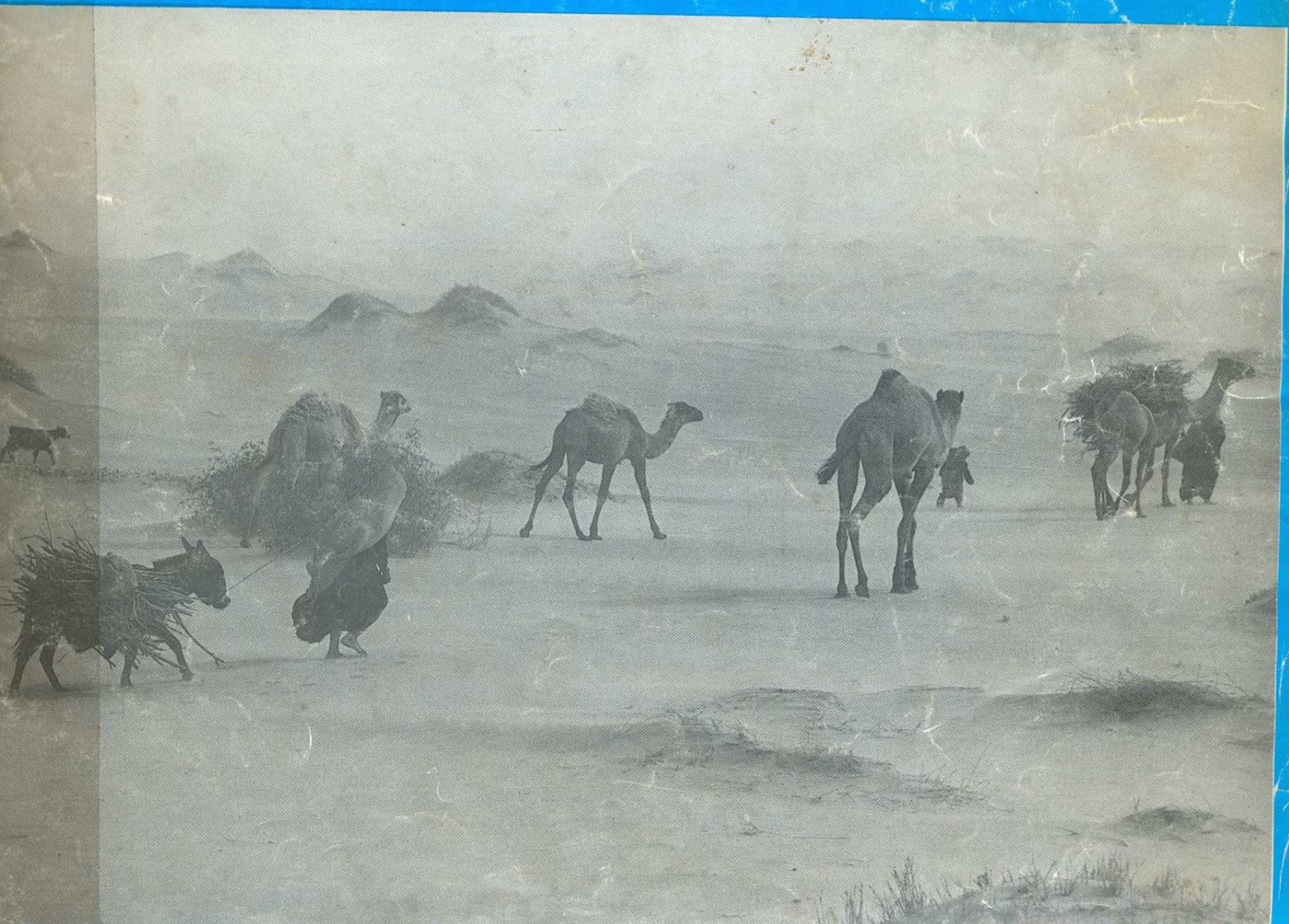


THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

August/September

Probes

Judah'96



THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER Published in Jerusalem, Israel

August/September

Founders—A.N. Dugger, Effie Dugger

President and Editor—Gordon M. Fauth

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Our Creed: Revelation 12:17

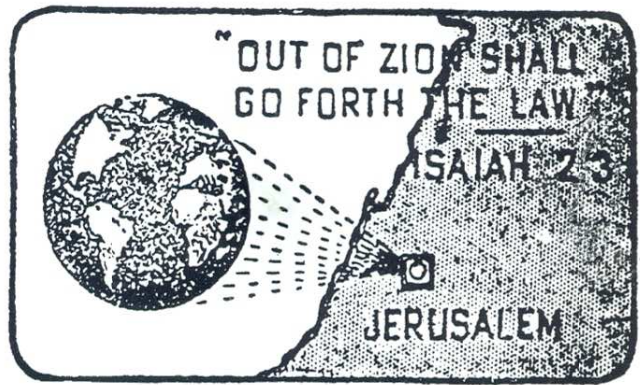
The Head and Director: Jesus (Yeshua)

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in Heaven—Revelation 20:15.

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Jerusalem—The Chosen City of God

"For the Lord hath Chosen Zion: He hath desired it for His habitation" (Psalms 132:23). "The Lord of hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem" (Isaiah 24:23). "They shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord" (Jeremiah 3:17). "But I have chosen Jerusalem, that My Name might be there" (2 Chron. 6:6). "The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem" (Joel 3:16).

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A View From Jerusalem

During the recent election for prime minister, supporters of the two candidates were out in force handing out leaflets promoting one candidate or the other. Netanyahu and Peres had the people of Israel divided almost down the middle. Netanyahu is now the Prime minister. Some hope that he can do a better job with security while others are afraid that he will muddle up chances for peace. One spokesman for the Israeli Arab citizens stated, before the outcome of the election was known, that it is a great tragedy for the Arabs of Israel that they did not vote. This was after the poles showed that many of the Arab Israelis did not cast a vote for either of the candidates. It is now widely believed that if they had voted, then Peres would have won. As Israel's youngest prime minister, Netanyahu has natural charisma like few other prime ministers before him. This gives the people of Israel someone to relate to--someone that shares their concerns. Only time will tell if the new Prime minister breaks his campaign promises, like so many politicians do. We should remember that our trust must be in God, not man. We pray that the new Prime minister keeps his trust in God and not man, showing wisdom in his leadership of the country.

"In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me," Psalms 56:11.

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Brotherly Love

— For more information on “brotherly love” read Hebrews 13; I Corinthians 13 —

“Let brotherly love continue,” Hebrews 13:1. Is our world losing its brotherly love? To answer that question one has to know what brotherly love is. Love is impossible to define completely, however, altruism and benevolence is what I call brotherly love. When it seems like the answer to the above question is ‘Yes,’ examine yourself not your brethren. Love is usually a one sided gift that spreads like smiles from face to face. Love requires no gift or obligation no matter in what form it may be.

Brotherly love comes from those that have true faith and are reborn with His glorious love. Jesus, is an example of love. His life

was spent for our sins and afterward He still loved every one of us. Would you have such devotion to love if you were put in a similar situation? I hope so! No one is perfect and we all show a little hate, however, we must remember never to dwell on hate. Trials come that will test the strongest to the limit. During these trials, remember Jesus and what He did for you. His was the ultimate sacrifice and we can only aspire to be able to love that much!

Be strong and wise, careful not to turn the other cheek prematurely. With discipline, God shows love for His children—we should do the same. Be wise in

your choice of a hug, kiss or reprimand. But, do all of these with brotherly love and a charitable nature. Never let the evil that hate is, dictate your actions!

On this earth, brotherly love sometimes seems hard to find; however, as long as there is at least one diligent person to carry on the task of brotherly love, then hope is great! If the darkness is vast a light will shine the brighter. Do not be afraid to show that light to your brethren. They might hate you for it but brotherly love will always prevail against hate and fear. Love is forever because, “... *God is Love,*” I John 4:8,16.

— By Reuben Fauth

Agricultural Innovations in the Desert

by Jessica Steinberg

Black tubing stretches for miles throughout the country, feeding water to its thriving crops and verdant orchards. This is but one innovative technique used by Israel in farming and agriculture. Now the Jewish National Fund (JNF), with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency, is using this kind of know-how to develop the Negev, one of Israel's largest land reserves, in “Action Plan Negev.”

Due to the lack of water resources and land for agriculture in central Israel, as well as the ongoing peace process, an encouraging economic environment for developing the Negev has been created. The program uses experimental and innovative techniques to create a viable agricultural base in the Negev. The program is aimed at strengthening the economy of the Negev and attracting tourism, industry and encouraging population growth in the region.

“Utilization of all water is what makes the program possible,” says JNF foreign press liaison Bunny Alexandroni. “There's good earth here but the dearth of water was always the major problem.”

One solution is a network of recently constructed water reservoirs that will catch water from winter flooding. They range in capacity from about half a million to two and a

half million cubic meters each, and service the kibbutzim and moshavim (communal farming) in the area. According to Asher Ron, from the Land Development Department of the Southern Region, the reservoirs siphon off water from nearby streams before they head into the sea, as well as recycled water from the Dan region recycling facility. “By the year 2000-2010, there will be no more fresh water in this region,” says Ron. “It will all be recycled or brackish water.”

“People in the cities don't know what's being done,” says Alexandroni, “but out here in the farming communities it's all too clear that there's a cooperative effort going on.”

With the newly acquired water availability, Action Plan Negev is swinging into phase two, initiating innovative agricultural efforts involving orchards, fish ponds, olive plantations and hothouses.

Israel's citrus orchards were originally situated along the coastal plain, in the country's epicentre. With the growing demand for housing in the area, land was rezoned to service urban needs and the citrus yield decreased. Revitalizing the ubiquitous Jaffa orange groves has begun in the Negev where two major orchard ingredients exist - available water and concentrated tracts of land. Kibbutzim

and moshavim in the region are cultivating these orchards, producing oranges, pomelos, grapefruits and tangerines for large export companies such as Tnuport and Mehadrin. Over the next ten years, based on water availability, 50,000 dunams of citrus orchards are to be planted.

Another 100 dunams in the central and southern Arava will be dotted with fish ponds, usually found only in the center and north of Israel. An experimental but economical venture, given the rising demand for fish worldwide and in Israel, the covered fish ponds contain geothermal water at an optimal temperature for breeding trout and flounder. "It's warm brackish water that is comfortable for the fish" says Ron. "We even grow olives with the same water. We get the sweetest vegetables with the most saline water."

The ponds are concentrated in several areas and are usually surrounded by common infrastructure. At Moshav Kadesh Barnea, for example, hothouses used for experimental farming techniques by the moshav families, surround the ponds. Plans are also under way to establish a hothouse park covering 500 dunams. Action Negev also includes several hundred dunams of olive plantations, which are thriving with saline irrigation.

Israel has been sharing these agricultural techniques with several neighbours, including Egypt and Jordan. According to Shmuel Rifman, head of the Ramat-Negev Regional Council, 30 Egyptian agricultural students recently visited Israel for three weeks to study Israeli agricultural methods for utilization in a similar area in Egypt. "If only we had such good political relations with Egypt as we do in agriculture," lamented Defense Minister Ehud Barak during

a recent visit to the Negev.

The Egyptians aren't the only ones learning from the program. A delegation of 41 agricultural scientists from 21 countries in Asia, Africa and South America, initiated by the International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC) and the JNF, recently spent three weeks in Israel to visit sites and discuss Israel's methods for dealing with desertification.

A common problem facing many of the participating countries is the fact that high-tech agricultural machinery is often too costly and too complex for the average subsistence farmer. Li Xiaoming, an associate professor at Xinjiang Institute of Desert Research in China, feels that Israel's techniques suit China, given its immense land range and the threat of the encroaching desert. "Irrigation in Israel is excellent and not too expensive for a developing country," he commented. "Israel's farmers know what they're doing and can lend less expensive technology to a developing country like China."

Nevertheless, Rifman cautions that farming has become an increasingly complicated and technical industry, requiring professional skills and abilities. "It's all on computer these days: checking the water salinity and chemical levels," says Rifman. "It's an industrial career, but this is the only way to do it if Action Negev is to succeed."

The final prong of the project includes tourism development and industry, and is banking on the Negev cities of Dimona and Beersheba, two major centers with employment opportunities for new residents in the area. A Negev spa is being planned near Golda Park, a green oasis in the midst of the rocky desert, using the restorative salt water.



Pioneering in the 90s

by Simon Griver



The breathtaking view from Har Halutz includes the burgeoning Galilean town of Karmiel.
(photo by Sammy Avnisan.)

Har Halutz, a hilltop settlement in the Western Galilee, is looking for 48 new families. But if Zionist pioneers were once in short supply, today there is no absence of volunteers wishing to populate Israel's peripheral regions. Quality of life combined with subsidized land on which to build a dream home by Israeli standards have led more than 300 families to apply for the 48 vacancies.

Har Halutz was established in 1985 on a bleak but beautiful hillside near Karmiel as part of an ambitious new Jewish Agency program to bolster the number of Jews in the Western Galilee, a region with a large Arab minority. The original *garin* (nucleus) was a group of Reform Movement Jews from America, affiliated with the US Movement for Progressive Judaism. "But," says Don Jacobson, chairman of the management committee of Har Halutz (Hebrew for Pioneer Mountain), "new members were not chosen according to religious affiliations."

"The program succeeded beyond our wildest dreams," says Ze'ev Ben Yosef of the World Zionist Organization's Rural Settlement Department. "We were able to offer residents a high standard of living and high quality of life."

Eight thousand residents presently live in some 30 settlements known as "mitzpim" (hill side look-outs), a number that is expected to increase sharply in the coming few years with most of the settlements doubling in size.

Many of the settlements were established by specific groups. Tal El, near Acre, for example, was founded in 1982 by immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Gita, also near Acre, is inhabited by the recent wave of Russian-speaking new immigrants, and Shorashim, near Misgav, was established by Reform Jewish immigrants from the United States.

Har Halutz, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, is populated partly by native born Is-

raelis and new immigrants from America, Argentina, the Czech Republic, Uruguay and Russia.

Nomi Matanowich is typical of the Israeli residents who settled in Har Halutz. Coming from the Tel Aviv suburb of Givatayim with her husband and three children, she now has her own public relations firm, Tefen Communications, which represents leading commercial companies in the north.

"I don't think we are any less Zionists than the Americans here," insists Matanowich. "It's true we came here to improve our quality of life. But we are also motivated by Zionism and the need to settle the Galilee."

Perhaps the most ideologically motivated resident of Har Halutz is Rabbi Yael Lavi Romer. A Reform rabbi from New York, she immigrated to Israel in 1989 and for the past three years has been the "Rabbi" of Har Halutz.

Since 1996 she has been forced to "freelance" because Har

Halutz no longer feels it needs its own rabbi. "But we'll be staying here," she insists, "and I've already had a lot of inquiries about performing bar and bat mitzvahs and other ceremonies. Unfortunately I'm not permitted to do marriages, but many people feel a spiritual vacuum in Israel society and I think I can help them fill it."

Richard Levine and his wife Barbara made aliyah from Philadelphia in 1985. Richard is in the unusual position of working for his wife who founded the company TechWrite, which specializes in writing proposals for winning U.S. government contracts.

"We helped Israel Aircraft Industries win several big deals, including a \$250 million maintenance contract for F 15 fighter aircraft," says Levine.

TechWrite's success is proof that a company does not have to be based in a big city to succeed. With telecommunications and computer links, complex work can be carried out from relatively remote locations. (Har Halutz is only a 45 minute drive from Haifa). In fact TechWrite's success is such that it is about to open up an American office to offer its services to American customers.

No less successful are Karen and Hadas Levin who came to Israel in 1980 from Detroit, Michigan. After a spell on Yahel, a kibbutz in the south, they came to Har Halutz in 1985. They were looking for a Reform Movement way of life within a communal framework that was less rigid than kibbutz. "I think we found what we were looking for," says Karen.

The Levins operate two companies—Tohar Tech, which imports dredges for the disposal of unwanted sludge, and Tech-El, a company for waste product purification from water. All the residents of Har Halutz wax lyrical about their environment.

"I used to run a kindergarten in Haifa," says Keren Aharoni who moved to Har Halutz with her family several years ago, "and so many of the kids were out regularly with colds and flu. Here my attendance record is so much better. The kids get plenty of fresh air."

A determination to live in harmony with the environment is perhaps a value that unites Har Halutz residents more than Reform Judaism.

Born in New York, Don Jacobson, a regional planner, immigrated to Israel in 1986 from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

along with his wife Christine, a convert to Judaism. They have five children—the eldest two are American born, the youngest three are Sabras. Jacobson, who has his own regional planning company based at Har Halutz and used to work for the Jewish Agency's northern division specializing in projects that enhance the environment, built his own spacious, two floor house with attention to environmentally friendly points.

The Jewish Agency remains one of his principal clients and he is currently working on a project to find solutions for the region's environmental problems that will serve as a catalyst for economic growth.

"The challenge for both Har Halutz and the entire region," says Jacobson, "is to absorb the maximum number of people while doing the minimum damage to the environment and maintaining the region's rural nature."

Though, perhaps, a different breed from the pioneers in the early part of the century, residents of hilltop settlements today are just as motivated by their own ideals and Zionist beliefs. Pioneering is still alive and well in the 90s.

Free for the Picking

by Daniel Rogev

During the celebrations for Jerusalem's 3000th anniversary, nearly 1,000 people will partake in a great culinary adventure: 14 of the world's greatest chefs will congregate in Jerusalem and together with their Israeli colleagues prepare "King David's Feast."

Although few of the dishes actually prepared during the reign of King David would be considered palatable today, the meal will be based entirely on local foods, some of which are known to have grown in Israel since Biblical days. Artichokes, grapes, dates and figs, lamb, geese, fresh and saltwater fish, will all be present in one form or another.

Fine food has not always been taken for granted in Jerusalem. In fact, when the city was under siege—twice by the Romans, once during the Moslem invasion and once during the War of Independence—food was extremely scarce in the city.

Despite that, no one had to starve because so many wild foods grew in the city streets and surrounding hills, all free for the picking—no one ever needed to be truly hungry.

Grapes, berries and mushrooms grow wild in the Jerusalem hills. Fig and olive trees are to be found almost everywhere; however, the most popular of the "free foods" found in the city is mallow. Sometimes known as "poor man's bread", mallow is a herb with dark green leaves, showy flowers and disk-shaped fruits. Because it thrives in even the poorest and most rocky soils, it is one of the oldest inhabitants of the Middle East. Most modern-day Jerusalemites refer to mallow by its Arabic or Latin names, hubeza or malva, as opposed to the more modern Hebrew name, helmonit.

Even though no-one has ever ranked mallow with the true culinary treats of the world, no one has

ever scoffed at it. For centuries, the poor have used the leaves in salads and some homeopathic doctors and healers continue, even today, to use mallow flowers in poultices and infusions of mallow leaves to relieve chest pains.

More importantly, modern cooks have realized that the young leaves of the mallow plant can be delightful when served in salads, that the buds of the flowers can be sautéed gently in oil, seasoned with allspice and used as a garnish with meat and fish dishes, and that the mature leaves can be used in making a large variety of recipes. In each of the following recipes, if mallow is not available you can substitute either spinach or Swiss chard.

MALLOW SOUP

- 1 lb. (450 gr.) mallow leaves
- 3 Tbs. butter
- 3 eggs
- juice of 1 large lemon or more to taste
- salt and pepper to taste
- 6 cup chicken stock, hot
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 cup toasted bread croutons

Remove the heavy stems from the mallow and wash well under running water. Dry the leaves on paper towelling. In a heavy skillet melt the butter and in this sauté the mallow leaves until just tender.

In a small mixing bowl beat together the eggs, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Add 3 Tbs. of the hot stock and beat well. Add this mixture to the hot chicken stock and then add the mallow. Mix briskly, garnish with the cheese and croutons and serve hot. (Serves 6-8).

MALLOW PIE

- 2 lb. (900 gr.) mallow leaves, washed well
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 lb. (115 gr.) Gruyere cheese, grated
- 3 Tbs. Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 cup spring onions, chopped
- 3 oz. (85 gr.) philo pastry leaves (strudel-leaf pastry)
- salt and pepper to taste

Shake off as much water from the mallow as possible. In a heavy skillet heat 2 Tbs. of the butter and the olive oil and in this sauté the mallow, covered, over a high flame, until steam appears. Reduce the flame and simmer until the mallow is

tender (5 - 6 minutes). With a slotted spoon remove the mallow from the skillet and chop coarsely. Return to the skillet and season to taste with salt and pepper.

In a small mixing bowl combine the cheeses, spring onions and salt and pepper to taste. Add this mixture to the mallow and mix well.

Butter a square casserole dish or cake tin and in the bottom place 6 leaves of the philo dough. Brush the top of each leaf with butter before covering with the next leaf. Over these spread the prepared mallow and cheese mixture. Cover this with 6 more leaves of the dough, again buttering the leaves and also buttering the top. Be sure that the edges of the pastry are well buttered and bake in a medium oven for 30 - 40 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes and invert on a baking dish. Return to the oven until the top is crisp and golden-brown (about 10 minutes). Serve hot or at room temperature. (Serves 4 - 6).

EGG FRITTERS WITH MALLOW

- 8 eggs
- 1 cup fresh bread, with crusts removed, soaked in milk and squeezed dry by hand
- 3 Tbs. mallow, chopped
- 2 Tbs. basil, chopped
- 1 Tbs. thyme, chopped
- 1/3 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 4 cups oil for frying (ideally olive oil)

Hard boil 6 of the eggs. Drain, cool and shell the eggs. Mix the bread with the mallow, basil, and thyme and Parmesan cheese. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Divide the mixture into 6 equal portions and pat each portion into a circle. Place one hard boiled egg on each portion and wrap the eggs in the bread mixture.

Beat the remaining eggs in a shallow dish and into these dip the wrapped hard boiled eggs. Roll the eggs in the dried bread crumbs, coating well.

In a deep skillet heat the oil to 350 degrees Fahrenheit (180 Celsius) and in this fry the fritters until golden (about 5 minutes). Drain on paper towels, arrange on a serving plate and serve hot. (Serves 4 or 8).

SALMON STEAKS AND CAPERS

- 4 Salmon steaks, about 1/2 lb. (225 gr.) each (may also use tuna, locus or red snapper)

add olive oil and vinegar as required
 salt and pepper to taste
 2 tsp. parsley, chopped
 4 lemon slices
 capers, drained, as required

Place each fish steak on a piece of aluminium foil and then brush the fish lightly with oil. Sprinkle over a small amount of the vinegar, season each steak with salt and pepper and scatter a pinch of parsley on each steak. Add a slice of lemon and several capers.

Fold and seal the fish parcels, making sure they are tightly closed. Place them on a baking sheet and heat in an oven that has been preheated to 400° Fahrenheit (200° Celsius) until cooked through (about 15 minutes).

Transfer the parcels to a preheated serving platter and open them at the table, taking care not to let the liquids escape. (Serves 4)

CAPER SAUCE

To make a caper sauce to go with hot or cold fish, eggs or vegetables, melt 2 Tbs. of butter. Into this stir 1/4 cup of flour. Stir the mixture well with a whisk and then add 1 egg yolk that has been mixed with 1 Tbs. of cold water. Over a moderate flame

slowly add another 1/2 cup butter, stirring constantly. When the mixture is smooth, gently stir in 2-3 Tbs. of well drained capers. Add pepper to taste and serve the sauce hot.

Bread upon the Waters

We are urgently in need of funds for printing tracts, booklets, books, and other materials, both in English and in other languages. There is very great demand, and we are hard put to meet it. The cost of paper, postage, ink, etc. has been going up at a tremendous rate. We need your help, and any amount sent in for this work will be put to good use in doing the Will of the Lord. Pray about it!



Egg fritters with mallow
 (photo by John Simms)

Fighting Against Jerusalem

"When the Lord shall build up Zion He will appear in His glory," Psalms 102: 16.

"But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate."

"Again the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying, Thus saith the Lord; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain...I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; and I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

"Thus saith the Lord of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvellous in mine eyes? saith the Lord of hosts," Zech. 7:14 to 8:8.

"But now I will not be unto the residue of this people as in the former days, saith the Lord of hosts. For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things," Zech. 8:11, 12.

Zion is being rebuilt. Hundreds of tourists are now travelling over Israel every day admiring the beauty of the land so long desolate and forsaken. They marvel at the beauty of Jerusalem situated on Mt. Zion. Truly Zion has been rebuilt, and soon our Messiah is to come in glory.

Now the Jews have returned to Israel from all over the world, and are still returning.

"...He chose the tribe of Judah, the Mt. Zion which He loved," Psalms 78:68.

"For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah that they may dwell there and have it in possession," Psalms 69: 35.

This is exactly what He is doing today, and great and mighty miracles have happened during the past years, confirming this fact before the world.

Jerusalem Chosen City

"Cry yet saying thus saith the Lord of Hosts, my cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad, and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem," Zechariah 1: 17.

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation," Psalms 132:13.

Praise His great Name that He has permitted a few of His called out chosen people even from among the Gentiles to live at this time, to witness these things which are now coming to pass.

"And the Lord shall yet inherit Judah His portion in the Holy Land and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent O all flesh before the Lord for He is raised up out of His Holy Habitation," Zechariah 2:12, 13.

Fighting Against Jerusalem

Inasmuch as the Creator has built up Zion, and has chosen Jerusalem again with Judah His portion dwelling here "at the Kings gate, He has pronounced a terrible Judgment upon all who fight against Jerusalem. Their flesh is to consume away while they stand upon their feet, their eyes will consume away in their holes and their tongue will consume away in their mouth—Zech. 14: 12.

Extreme punishment is not to be visited only upon the people of the armies that fight against Jerusalem, but upon ALL WHO FIGHT in any way (see Gen. 12:3).

There are many ways to fight against Jerusalem, besides actually being here in person and engaging in this coming battle. All who speak slightly of Jerusalem and take their stand against His work that is going on here and try to turn people away from having any part in it are truly fighting against Jerusalem, and placing themselves in a very dangerous position. We are fearful of their future for judgments are sure to come exactly as His Word declares.

Dear reader, we are positively living in the time when the Heavenly Father has chosen Jerusalem again. Then why should not all of His people fall in line and also choose Jerusalem as a place to center their love and affections?

"If I forget thee O Jerusalem let my right hand forget her cunning; If I do not remember thee let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; If I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief Joy," Psalms 137: 5, 6.

Great things are in store for Jerusalem and as the Heavenly Father hath chosen Her for Himself, it should be the city of our chief joy.

"Out of Zion the perfection of Holiness God hath shined... He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth that he may judge his people. Gather my saints together unto Me. Those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice," Psalms 50: 5.

Here is a command for the Elders to gather his saints together. Where is a better place to gather the saints than Jerusalem, as the Creator has chosen?

They cannot be gathered as one people as He has commanded, when they are gathered into different sects, and different groups, creating variance and destroying the love they must have, one for the other, in order to be the Father's children.

"By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples if ye have love one to another," John 13: 35.

Instead of fighting against Jerusalem, and denying that the Father has now chosen this city again, gather your people together under the banner of Jerusalem. Call His people out of Babylon. This is the final and last message—Rev. 18: 4.

When the whole world is witnessing such startling and amazing events surrounding Jerusalem, there are "multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision, for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision," Joel 3: 14.

Evangelists, pastors and missionaries throughout the world must be wielding their influence to get people to make the right decision, in this time of all times a world filled with violence and false prophets. Do not fight against Jerusalem, but turn the hearts of the people Zion-ward, and not towards Rome. You will not only merit, but will receive the blessings of all who bless Israel, instead of the curses and plagues to come upon all who fight against Jerusalem.

This will unite us and destroy contention and strife that we are sorry exists in some places among His people today.

With such variance they will NOT enter the kingdom, as clearly stated in Gal. 5: 20, where variance is classed with murder.

Nonessential points of doctrine besides that mentioned in Rev. 12: 17 can lie dormant in fellowship gatherings and all worship in meetings together, and they can be studied privately in groups with the understanding that it is all to be done in a humble spirit of love, long suffering and forbearance. Let us all pray for this and ask for the Holy Spirit to lead, and the Creator to have His way with us, as set forth in the Word.

— by the late A. N. Dugger

Jerusalem to the Dead Sea

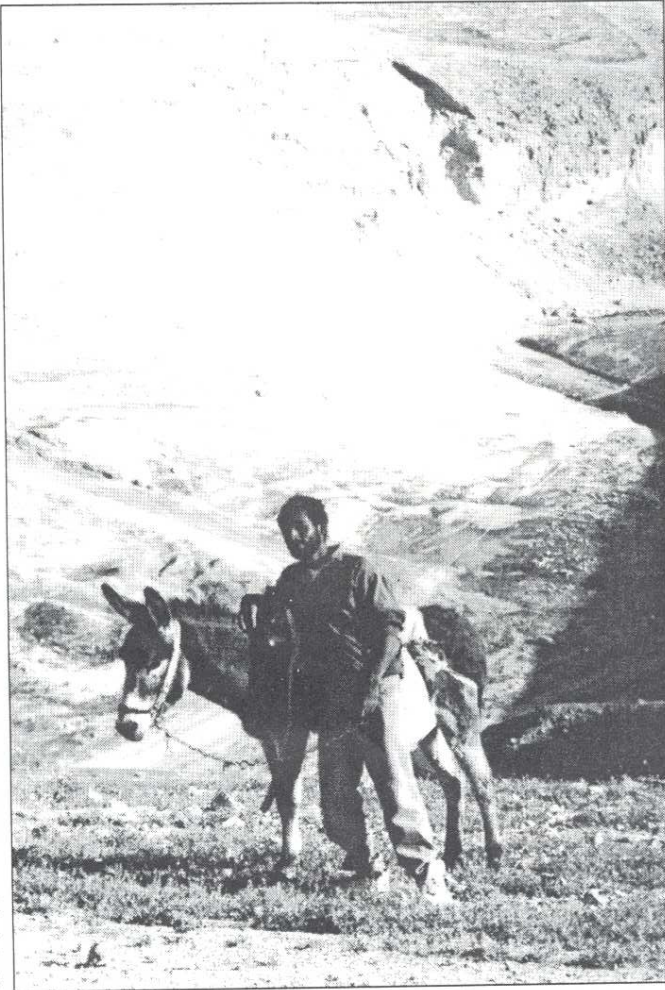
Just a short hike from Jerusalem lays the Judean desert. Ma'ale Adumim, located a few kilometres east of Jerusalem (in the desert), is the last modern establishment as you head southeast toward the Dead Sea. The Hills of Judea have a certain character that resonates from the heat drenched soil and is personified when one sees Bedouin herding sheep and goats over the barren landscape.

Ma'ale Adumim is an Israeli settlement or town. The contrast between the two ways of life is like a shrub and a tree. The Bedouin around Ma'ale Adumim spend their days, from dusk till dawn, herding sheep and goats and live in shacks or tents put together with goats hair, tin and wood. The people of Ma'ale Adumim live in high-rise apartment complexes and go to Jerusalem every day to work in the ever increasing chaos of city life. The tree (modern society) may be wondrous and big but the shrub (the Bedouin) has its own merits and benefits. The Bedouin have a peaceful and mundane life, living off the land which provides their every need.

This is in contrast to the stressful atmosphere of modern society.

The desolate Judean Hills reveal themselves east and southeast of Ma'ale Adumim and civilization.

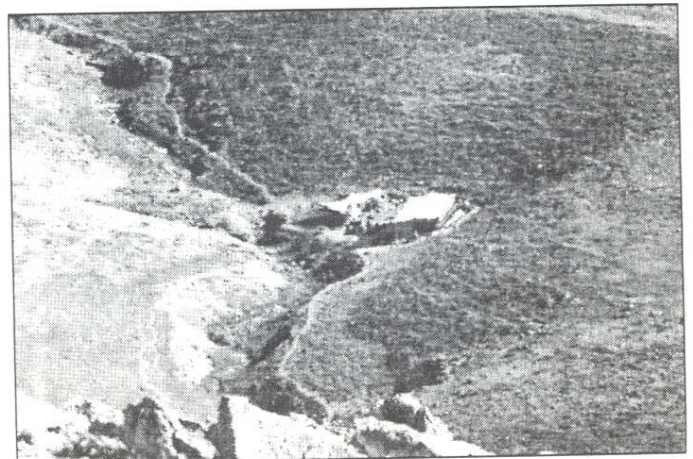
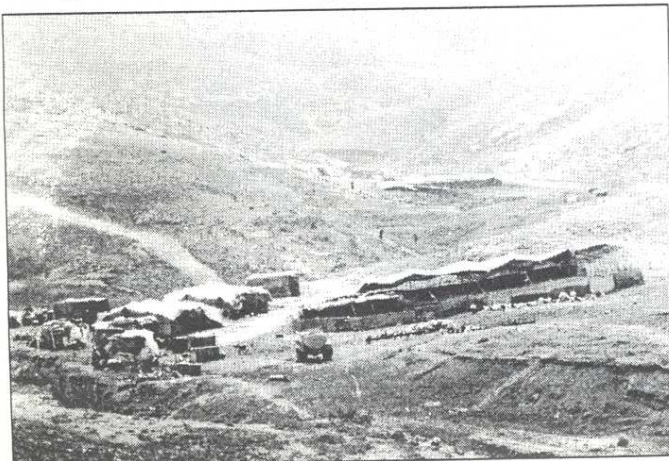
As one travels the dusty roads that lead southeast from Ma'ale Adumim, Bedouin and their way of life can be seen. Tents and camps are crammed on the sides of the steep hills which offer refuge from the biting winds. Bedouin travelling by donkey or herding sheep and goat can be seen roaming the desolate landscape during the long hot days. The simple way of life reveals itself and is felt like a peaceful breeze rustling the scraggly bushes that cover the surrounding hills. Water is of primary concern and is scarce. The Bedouin have to have enough water for drinking and maintaining their livestock. Cavities dug into the bedrock or the side of hills function as reservoirs which catch rain water during the winter. These reservoirs are used by the



A bedouin posing with his donkey.

Bedouin to sustain them during the hot summers.

Sometimes, springs gush out of the rocks and make their twisting and turning paths in the desert's



Bedouin camps like these can be seen as one heads from Jerusalem toward the Dead Sea.



A herd of goats being prodded along by their bedouin shepherds.

arid soil. Deep crevices dug by rain fall or springs twist their way down toward the bitter waters of the Dead Sea. The overall affect is a landscape of deep gashes and rock-strewn hills.

Army training camps and outposts can be seen on the desolate hill tops. Sometimes, the fire of guns are heard as new recruits practice their marksmanship. Dusty dirt roads litter the hill-sides, paving the way deep into the desert.

Signs of Bedouin become more scarce as one travels eastward toward the

Dead Sea. The elevation drops radically and the heat rises as one approaches the valley. The blue water looks cooling but the taste of salt in the air dissolves the



The view southeast of Ma'ale Adumim.

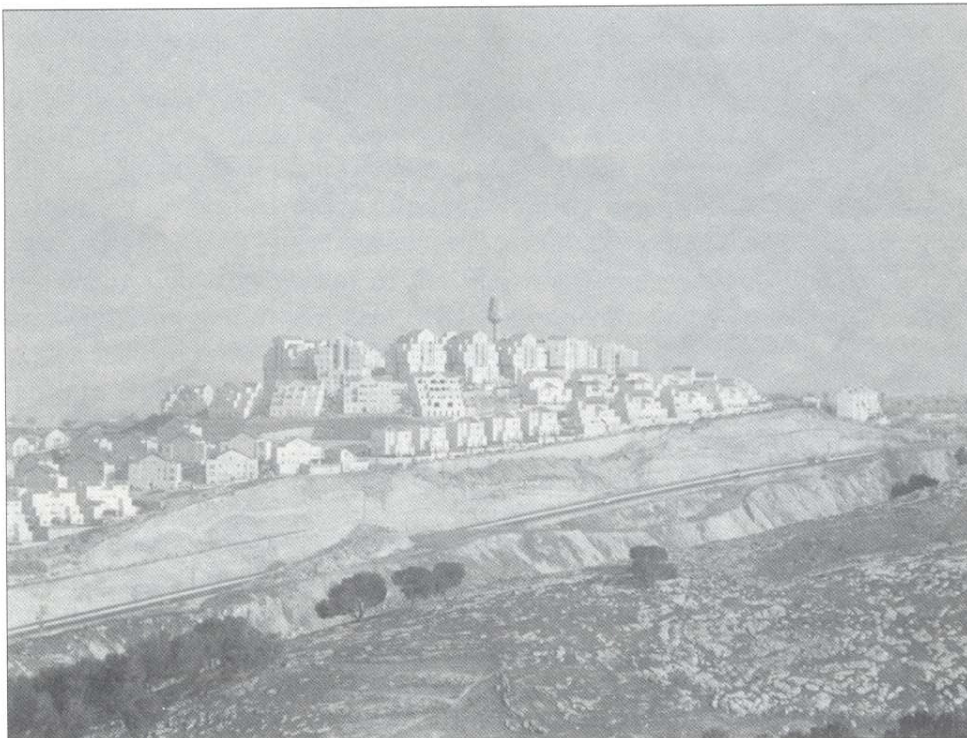
thought that the Dead Sea might be drinkable. Fresh water springs gush out of the rocks at the edge of the Dead Sea and give bathers the chance to rinse off the salty Dead Sea water. Bathers relax with a book or

news paper as they float in the salty water of the Dead Sea. The water is actually very good for the skin and it doesn't matter if you can swim or not because the water is so heavy it is literally impossible to sink.

From Jerusalem to the Dead Sea the beauty of the land of Judea is felt, seen,

heard and voiced. The senescence and ruggedness of the land make it an aesthetic wonderland of extremes in both culture and natural beauty.

— by Reuben Fauth



The Jewish neighborhood of Ma'ale Adumim.



Bathers leisurely float in the heavy waters of the Dead Sea.



One of the many fresh water springs along the shore of the Dead Sea

A Historic City Plans for the 21st Century

by Gail Lichtman



A model of Jerusalem at City Hall shows the Jerusalem skyline.
(photo by Sammy Avinsan.)

Urban planning and development arouse controversy even under ideal circumstances. All the more so when it is taking place in an historic city where the tensions between preserving the past and meeting the needs of the future can sometimes seem at almost irreconcilable odds.

Jerusalem is steeped in 3,000 years of history. It is a city holy to three religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam—a place whose very stones have been imbued with a sanctity of their own and whose streets and neighbourhoods evoke deep-

seated emotional responses.

Yet, at one and the same time, Jerusalem is the capital and largest city of the State of Israel; a modern town whose population has grown by 32% in the past decade and is now approaching 600,000.

This means that Jerusalem, whose population is expected to reach about 680,000 by the year 2000, will need more housing, more schools, more roads and more businesses in order to meet the needs of this increasing populace.

Massive development is already under way. The Jerusalem Development Authority, the

independent statutory body jointly established in 1989 by the Jerusalem municipality and the Israeli government to initiate and promote development in the city, is currently directing more than \$1 billion worth of projects in real estate, transportation and industry.

But how does one preserve the unique, historic nature of Jerusalem while providing the city with all the needs of a modern capital and an international city?

"The conservation of the many layers of heritage, culture and life which have accumulated

in the historical cities of the world, is a problem which... affects the daily lives of their populations," says Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Some historic cities, such as Florence and Venice, have opted for the museum approach, foregoing development to the point where their historic hearts are tourist meccas, not living urban centers.

At the other extreme are cities such as Cairo and Istanbul which have almost totally lost or destroyed their historic quarters. In the middle are those cities that are trying to integrate the demands of modern life with the historic, ideal vision of their past, like Paris, Rome, Amsterdam and Barcelona.

Jerusalem has chosen the middle path.

One of its most successful preservation projects is Nahalat Shiva, one of the first neighbourhoods built outside the Old City walls. Slated for demolition in the 1970s, the area was instead renovated and turned into a charming center of cafes, restaurants and shops, retaining its architectural uniqueness.

"Nahalat Shiva is beautiful, authentic, real and alive," says David Guggenheim of the Jerusalem-based Guggenheim and Bloch Architects and Urbanists, who also co-chaired the recent Third Jerusalem Conference on Heritage—Making Historic Cities Livable. "The past is the basis of the future."

Nowhere is this more apparent than the new City Hall Square. Inaugurated in June 1993, it successfully integrates 11 renovated historical buildings with two brand new structures. Similarly, the soon-to-be-completed Mamilla project combines its pedestrian mall and new commercial area with several historic buildings. The Russian Compound project, too, next to City Hall, will continue in this tradition, where several 19th century historic treasures will be in-

tegrated with a number of new hotels and office buildings.

The city is also trying to give greater definition to its role as the nation's capital. To this end, a new national precinct is being built which will concentrate all government buildings in one area. A face-lift to the main entrance of the city and an upgraded road transportation system, will also help bring Jerusalem into line with 21st century expectations of a modern, capital city.

The main conflicts over preservation concern the historic downtown area. Built in the late 19th century as Jerusalem expanded outward from the walled Old City, it is now an area of small businesses, restaurants and cafes.

"Today, the emphasis on the downtown area is on upgrading, more than preservation, with an eye towards turning it into an important tourism center," says Nira Sidi, Director of the Planning Policy Department of the Jerusalem municipality. "But there are clearly pressures to develop more."

So how does the city balance these pressures?

Traffic is one area of contention. Environmentalists have long been pushing for a near total ban on private vehicles in the narrow downtown streets and intensive upgrading of public transportation, including a light rail system. But despite this, and despite an outcry from the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, plans are going ahead for widening the historic Neviim Street (Street of the Prophets) to serve as a main traffic artery through the town center.

Environmentalists are also enraged that the city is in the process of re-examining its once sacrosanct policy with respect to multistory buildings, especially in the downtown area.

For years, a maximum of six to eight stories was the rule in order not to harm the aesthetic composition of Jerusalem's old neighbour-

hoods or to dwarf the walls of the Old City.

Today, the municipality is considering 12 to 15 story towers as a way to meet its growing needs.

"Building multistory towers is very dangerous if you don't check out the overall expression of these buildings on the skyline, the neighbourhoods and the climate," says Guggenheim. "I believe that development can go on without multistory buildings in the downtown area. They should be limited to the periphery where they won't clash with the city's historic character."

In Guggenheim's opinion, the answer lies in the creation of an international body to explore the various long-term possibilities for the city, a group which can act as a counterweight to some of the pressures local politicians are subject to from developers and entrepreneurs. In the 1970s, former Mayor Teddy Kollek created the Jerusalem Committee to advise City Hall on building and development. Guggenheim envisions something along similar lines.

"Our aim is to create an international group for an in-depth exploration of the problems of historic cities, not just Jerusalem."

Sidi has similar feelings in respect to the green areas: "A national plan would give the city the backing it needs in preserving these areas."

Sidi also feels that Jerusalem may eventually have to limit its growth. "There is definitely enough land for development until 2010. But beyond that, maybe we have to find an optimal size and then leave further development to the towns and cities on Jerusalem's periphery. You can't create New York here."

Despite the problems, Mayor Olmert is confident that the essence of the city will remain despite massive development. "The magic and uniqueness that is Jerusalem will still be with us," he says. "But we have to adjust to fit 21st century life."

Jerusalem's King David Hotel

— Fit for a king —

by Wendy Elliman

Sleeping under a single roof last November were an incumbent US president and two former presidents, a clutch of past and present US secretaries of state, Britain's prime minister, the heir to the British throne, the king and queen of Jordan, the president of Egypt and the foreign minister of Oman.

That roof was, of course, Jerusalem's King David Hotel and the event that brought them together was the slaying of Israel's prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"We started preparing the hotel as soon as we heard the terrible news," says Avraham Weiner, assistant to the King David's general manager. "We knew that the dignitaries who came for the funeral would stay with us. As well as the hotel facilities, what people get here is a sense of history made and being made."

Although it has been around for a mere 65 of Jerusalem's 3,000 years, the King David has not only swum in the current of the city's history, but sometimes channelled that current. In October 1991, for example, the Madrid Conference, which set the peace process in motion, was jointly announced in the hotel by US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin. In November 1977, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the first Arab head of state ever to visit the State of Israel, chose to stay at the King David. Before independence, the hotel's south wing served as British Army HQ—and in 1946 it was infamously blown up by the Irgun Zvai Leumi.

From 1931, when the hotel opened, the King David was a grand institution. It was built by an influential Egyptian Jewish family, who already controlled Cairo's renowned Shepherds and Mena House Hotels, and it was intended to be at least their equal. Cosmopolitan Egypt supplied what provincial Jerusalem could not: the food served on the hotel tables was loaded on the train in Cairo each evening and collected in Jerusalem the following morning. Its waiters were tall, black Berbers from Egypt and Sudan, dressed in white robes

and gloves, red fezzes on their heads and broad red sashes from shoulder to waist. Its pages wore dark-green jackets and gold-braided vests over white shirts and baggy Turkish pants.

These splendidly dressed servants tended a distinguished clientele. The hotel's VIP guest book opens with the signatures of British High Commissioner, General Sir Arthur Wauchope and Jerusalem's Arab mayor, Ragheb Bey Nashibi. Next come those of the dowager empress of Iran and the queen mother of Egypt, who took to spending summer vacations at the King David. King Abdullah of Transjordan regularly

stayed over, his cavalry escort of horses and camels conspicuously mounting guard outside the hotel. King Alfonso VIII of Spain, forced to abdicate in 1931, took up residence in the hotel, followed by Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia (driven out by the Italians), and George II of Greece, who set up his government-in-exile at the King David, after the Nazis seized his country in 1942.



Jerusalem's King David Hotel—viewed through the Old City walls.

The British, of course, were best represented among the guests during these Mandate years—from Lord Allenby to Winston Churchill. When the Arab Revolt broke out in 1936, the British leased the hotel's entire floor for an emergency HQ, and later rented the whole south wing, which became the administrative and military nerve-center of British rule in Palestine. After the Irgun Zvai Leumi bombing, which caused the death of 91 people, the British closed down the hotel, turning the building into a British fortress for the remaining two years of the Mandate.

On May 14, 1948, British officers gathered in the King David lobby, hauled down the Union Jack and left. The rapid changes that followed reflected the confusion of the young state, fighting for its life. The International Red Cross moved in, rapidly transforming the hotel into a sanctuary from the fighting for women and children, only to be displaced by the UN Truce Supervision. They, in turn, gave way to the

Haganah, who installed a sand bagged position on the roof and raised the blue-and-white flag of the new State of Israel over the hotel.

By the end of 1949, the building was returned to its owners. Renovated and reopened, it faced a very different world: perched on the no-man's land that divided Jerusalem, it confronted a period of minimal tourism and fierce austerity. Distinguished guests, however, continued to come—envoys from US President Eisenhower, UN Secretary Dag Hammarskjöld and, by the 1960s, leaders of emerging African and Asian countries.

The Six-Day War of 1967 changed the picture again. The reunited city regained its place at the center of the country and became a magnet for tourists and pilgrims. Danny Kaye, Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, Michael Caine, Ingrid Bergman, Marcello Mastroianni and Kirk Douglas were among a pantheon of popular personalities who visited the city in those years and stayed, of course, at the King David.

"We quickly got used to having celebrities stay at the hotel," says sous-chef Hanukah Muallem, who has worked at the King David for 25 years. "No request is unusual to us any more. The kitchens function around the clock. We can turn out a gourmet dinner or a high-class cocktail reception on next to no notice, on a level with anything similar in New York or London."

In 1958, two years after the Federmann family (the owners of the Dan Hotel chain) acquired the hotel, the King David's kitchens went kosher. "Some of our guests had a problem with this at the beginning," says Muallem. "But now, most people are familiar enough for it not to matter. It also stood us in good stead when Sadat came. His personal cook visited our kitchens and declared our kosher food suitable for a devout Moslem. Despite that, Sadat only ate one meal a day."

Food and beverage orders often tip off the hotel staff about breaking news. "When Henry Kissinger came back from Syria in June 1974, then prime minister Golda Meir ordered champagne, so we were among the first to know he'd brought good news," recalls Avraham Weiner. "It turned out to be the peace agreement between Israel, Egypt and Syria. Senior King David



The aftermath of the Irgun Zvai Leumi bombing of the King David Hotel. (photo courtesy of the King David Hotel, Jerusalem)

staff were also among the first to know that Sadat was on his way, when we were asked to clear the hotel of other guests. We were sworn to secrecy of course, because no official announcement had yet been made."

Despite the hotel's unofficial status as a home for foreign statesman and the risk of being moved to other hotels to make way for a celebrity influx, the King David is usually full—six out of 10 of its bookings made by returning guests.

"There's a sense of being at the heartbeat of the city's history," says Weiner, who joined the King David as an assistant waiter in 1953 and rose to become chief of protocol. "It means a lot to me, and clearly it means a lot to our guests and staff, most of whom stay with the hotel for years."

Avraham Weiner's clear but unspoken message is that if the hotel had been around 3,000 years ago, it's a fair bet this is where King David would have stayed!

NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

All Items from The Jerusalem Post

High school volunteers to guard buses

High school students are to guard buses and carry out body-searches of passengers, according to an agreement between Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar and Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman.

The volunteer 11th and 12th graders are to be trained by the Transport Ministry's security unit and provided with special identification cards. They will also to be used at bus stations and other public places.

Kessar said that in the campaign to prevent terror attacks every part of the population must be used. He added that by volunteering, the students would not only help the security forces, but also become more involved in the community.

A team — including the prime minister's adviser on terror and representatives of the Transport and education ministries, the police, and the Civil guard — is to draw up the plan for utilizing the students.

Meanwhile, the Transport Ministry's security officer has announced that about 100 retired Egged and Dan employees have volunteered to help guard public transport and are about to begin training.

250,000 survivors live here

There are some 250,000 Holocaust survivors living in Israel, about 164,000 of them 65 or older. This was found by a study conducted by the Association for the Planning and Development of Services for the Elderly in Israel (ESHEL) and the Joint-Israel.

Of the elderly survivors, 30 percent are 65-69; 46% are 70-79; and 24% are 80 or older.

About 50,000 survivors have arrived from the former Soviet Union since 1989.

London to get Holocaust museum

London's Imperial War Museum (IWM) is to incorporate a Holocaust museum, according to Sir Sigmund Sternberg, chairman of the International Council of Christians and Jews, who was here for the World Jewish Congress Global Assembly.

Sternberg said the staff of the IWM has agreed to the allocation of space for the museum within a museum and that funds are being solicited for the project.

"This is an important step for us. London is the only world capital with no Holocaust museum," he said.

According to the plans, the new museum is to occupy the fourth and fifth floors of the IWM's "southern infill," an area of some 1,500 square meters. The floor above will show a related exhibit on the inhumanity of war, while the floor below is to be a conference and education center.

The new museum is to be a major part of an IWM redevelopment scheme. The cost of the entire project is £12 million, of which £3.5m. is for fitting out the Holocaust exhibit.

According to the IWM, the exhibit will take an objective stance on what it calls "uncomfortable truths" concerning Britain's role during the Holocaust. This includes restrictions on immigration, blockage of emigration to Palestine, and internment of Jewish refugees as enemy aliens.

Sternberg said he hoped the new museum would be opened within three years.

Mass grave believed to hold Holocaust victims unearthed

Construction workers have unearthed what appears to be a mass grave containing the remains of Holocaust victims at the site of a controversial hydropower project.

Two trenches filled with skeletons were discovered during earth-moving work for the power plant near Lambach, about 220 kilometres west of Vienna.

Ecological activists have been trying to prevent the project, claiming it would destroy wildlife and is unnecessary.

Construction work was immediately halted when the skeletons were discovered, but it was not known whether the power project would be stopped.

The remains of six men, believed aged 20-25, were exhumed. But it was not known how many more skeletons might be in the grave.

The television report said the remains, may belong to Hungarian Jews imprisoned at nearby Gunskirchen, a concentration camp that was part of the infamous Mauthausen death camp where thousands of Jews and others were killed by the Nazis during World War II.

However, there was no independent confirmation of the report. Interior Ministry officials were investigating.

The Gunskirchen camp was set up as late as March 1945. When US troops liberated it in May that year, it held about 12,000 emaciated inmates.

According to the report, the camp contained mostly Hungarian Jews brought there in so-called death marches.

Local records show that dozens died daily when a typhoid epidemic spread among inmates in the waning weeks of the war.

Peace costs Jordan TV man job

Jordan Valley Regional Council chairman Ze'ev Shore pledged to do his utmost to help the head of Jordan Television's Hebrew-language department, who has found himself virtually without employment since the signing of the peace treaty between the two countries.

Shore's promise came after he received a letter requesting his assistance from Ahmed Barahat, who was also the chief announcer on Jordan TV's Hebrew-language broadcasts.

Worry about shrinking number of Jews

Despite the growth of Israel, world Jewry is becoming an

"endangered species," according to a study by the World Jewish Congress.

Jews are "a people in a crisis of spirit and identity," losing their identity through intermarriage and cultural assimilation, the report said.

"Demographically the Jewish People have never recovered from the Holocaust," said Avi Beker, editor of the report.

Israel is the only country in the world where the Jewish population is growing independent of immigration. In just four other countries — Canada, Germany, Panama and Hong Kong — the number of Jews is increasing because of immigration. Canada's Jewish community grew some 50 percent in the last three decades. Germany's population has doubled to 60,000 in the last 20 years.

Everywhere else, the Jewish population is shrinking. The New York region, with 1.75 million Jews, has the largest Jewish population of any metropolitan area in the world, outside Israel. Miami has 535,000 Jews and Los Angeles 490,000.

The Jewish populations of the successor states to the Soviet Union appear to be higher than previously thought, the study said, with more than 550,000 Jews living in Russia and 400,000 in Ukraine.

Israel's Jewish population, which is expected to surpass that of the US within 10 years, is 4.6 million, with more than 40 percent of world Jewry's school-age children.

More than a half-million Israelis have emigrated since 1948, primarily to the US (375,000), Canada (40,000), France (40,000), the UK (30,000) and South Africa (10,000).

There are 13 million Jews in the world, according to the study, which was released in Jerusalem at the WJC's General Assembly. The report gives a country-by-country profile of the world's Jewish population, from North America's 6.6 million to Libya's five Jews, drawing on academic and other demographic studies.

In contrast to the American experience, Jewish life in Eastern Europe has undergone a revival since the collapse of the Soviet empire, although the majority of Jews there still do not engage in any religious activities.

Most of the Diaspora's (Jews outside Israel) one million Orthodox Jews are in the US, the WJC study said.

In 1948, the US Jewish population was almost 10 times that of Israel; in 1990, the ratio was 3-2, the study said. Now, the US is about to be outnumbered, a phenomenon that prompted President Ezer Weizman to quip: "Watch out, America. We are competing with you."

Shots fired at Jerusalem school

Shots were fired from the direction of the Jerusalem Arab neighborhood of Dahiyat El Barid into an elementary school in the adjacent Jewish neighborhood of Neveh Ya'acov, breaking a window in a second grade classroom, but causing no injuries. The late morning shooting sent the school, the Kaminitz Talmud Torah, into an uproar. Jerusalem police chief Arye Amit also rushed to the scene to oversee the investigation into the shooting firsthand. The initial inquiry, however, turned up little. A police spokeswoman said Palestinian terrorists may have been involved.

PA policeman confronts synagogue worshippers with gun

Palestinian policemen prevented Jewish worshippers from entering the Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho. During the confrontation, one of the policemen cocked his weapon and pointed it at the worshippers.

Israeli commanders and their Palestinian counterparts had agreed that the Friday prayer service would start an hour earlier than originally scheduled, but this information was not passed on to the policemen.

Senior commanders intervened and the worshippers were eventually allowed to pray at the site. Israel lodged a complaint with the Palestinian Authority against the policeman who cocked his weapon.

Bedouin mother trains as nurse to save son's life

An illiterate Bedouin mother of six living in a tent 40 kilometers east of Beersheba has been taught Hebrew, arithmetic and complicated medical techniques in order to give home care to her 22-month-old son, born with severe chronic diarrhea and vomiting.

Soroka Hospital will discharge the boy, Abu Bader Ismail; and doctors, nurses, and social workers will keep in contact with the family by cellular phone.

Dr. Revital Hevroni, a Soroka pediatrician, said it will be the first case in Israel of a parent performing total parenteral nutrition (TPN) on a child at home. This involves the giving of a nutritionally adequate solution of glucose, minerals, vitamins and protein hydrolysates through a catheter into the vein that drains into the right upper chamber of the heart. The baby is attached to the feeding tube 18 hours a day, as nutrition by mouth cannot give him adequate amounts of essential nutrients.

Hevroni said the cause of the baby's malabsorption of nutrients in the bowel is not known, but it may be a genetic defect or an autoimmune disease. He was first hospitalized at the age of two weeks due to the inability to hold down his mother's milk. During 11 months of hospitalization in Beersheba, he underwent stomach surgery to correct a defect, but that was not enough to halt the diarrhea and vomiting.

The Bedouin parents, who live in a tent in the Ksifa area have five other children. Another baby girl died, apparently from the same medical problem. The father, who previously worked as a driver but is now unemployed, has another wife as well.

Until a suitable nutritional formula is found that can halt the diarrhea, the boy must live indefinitely on TPN. Although this procedure requires total sterility and expertise learned in nursing school over a period of many months, the mother decided to study all that was necessary.

She was trained by the hospital staff and now can read Hebrew and calculate numbers. She gave birth to another child, a girl, since her son was hospitalized. The father built a small hut and took out a loan to buy a generator to provide electricity. Pelephone, which heard about the case, donated a cellular telephone to the family; Travenol, which manufactures the nutritional fluids, will supply the liquid food free, and the baby's uncle will transport it to the hut once a week.

El Al plane struck by lightning

An El Al plane en route to the Far East with 270 passengers was forced to turn back after it was struck by lightning over Jerusalem.

The Boeing 747-200 had taken off at 7:20 a.m. for New Delhi and Bangkok and was only 15 minutes in the air, when lightning struck the antenna on the right wing. The jolt burned a hole in the fibreglass shield on the nose of the aircraft, hampering the weather radar system, according to El Al spokesman Nachman Kleirman.

He said the passengers felt the jolt and experienced the loss of electric current for about 30 seconds, but that no one was hurt. Pilot Menachem Nehushtan told the passengers the plane would have to return to Ben-Gurion Airport because of possible damage to the radar system.

After 30 minutes in the air, during which time the plane dumped fuel, it landed without incident at Ben Gurion. At 1:30 pm it took off again, this time flying straight to Bangkok to make up for lost time. The 120 New Delhi-bound passengers were accommodated in a hotel and were due to leave on another El Al flight.

PA arrests second most-wanted Hamas bomber

The Palestinian General Security Apparatus, headed by Amin Hindi, arrested the second most wanted Izzadin Kassam bomber. His name appeared on an Israeli list given to the Palestinian Authority and his arrest is the most significant so far in the war against suicide bombers.

The IDF, which confirmed the arrest, said that Adnan Ghoul, 38, was a senior planner of bombing attacks, and is responsible for the Islamic Jihad bombing at Beit Lid in January last year which killed 20 soldiers and a civilian, the Kfar Darom bombing last April which killed six, and a double-bombing at Kissufim Junction south of Gaza.

Ghoul was involved in both Islamic Jihad and Hamas attacks and was one of the key links between the two groups. His arrest could shed light on the extent to which the armed wings of Hamas and Islamic Jihad act independently of the political wings.

His involvement in terrorism was a relatively recent discovery. He has been on the IDF wanted list only since the beginning of the year. Ghoul's arrest may help lead the Palestinian police to Mohammed Deif, considered the successor of Yehiye Ayyash.

Ghoul was born in the Shati refugee camp on the outskirts of Gaza in 1958. He left Gaza and returned two years ago when he started planning attacks

1995 record for tourism

Some 2.5 million tourists arrived in 1995, a record year for tourism that also saw a marked increase in arrivals through the country's land borders, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced recently.

In 1995, a total of 1,676,400 tourists entered the country by air, an increase of 12 percent over 1994, and there were 21,700 entries at the country's sea ports, a 17% rise. Some 516,000 tourists came into the country by land, 62% more than during 1994. However, the bureau notes, some of these were tourists who had only a short time earlier left Israel.

The number of cruise passengers who toured the country dropped last year from 329,800 to 315,000.

A sum of 445,000 of the visitors in 1995 came from the US, or 20%, while 218,000 came from the United Kingdom (10%) and 218,000 from Germany (10%). About 175,000 came from France

(8%) and there were 112,000 from the former Soviet Union (5%).

The Hotel Association also had a record 16 million bed nights, a growth of 13% compared with 1994. Income from the hotel branch amounted to NIS 3 billion, of which some 55% was foreign currency, or \$600 million.

Despite the continuing rise in the number of local people travelling abroad, Israeli tourists accounted for 6.5 million bed nights, an increase of 12% over last year.

Average room occupancy throughout the country was 68%, compared with 65% in 1994, with 78% occupancy in Eilat, 76% at the Dead Sea, 75% in Tel Aviv, 72% in Jerusalem, 65% in Tiberias, 63% in Netanya and 59% in Haifa.

The total number of hotel rooms by the end of the year was 35,000, with 7,700 in Jerusalem, 7,000 in Eilat, 4,800 in Tel Aviv, 3,900 in Tiberias, 1,900 in Netanya, 1,600 at the Dead Sea, and about 1,000 in Haifa. According to the Association, there was a considerable increase last year in the number of rooms in Eilat and by the end of this year Eilat will surpass Jerusalem as the location with the largest number of hotel rooms.

20-minute trip to school now two hours via bypass road

Residents of the Binyamin Regional Council held their children back from school to demonstrate that a trip to school, which used to take 20 minutes, now — as a result of the transfer of Ramallah to the Palestinian Authority — takes up to two hours.

"This is not a political struggle," said Binyamin Regional Council head Pinhas Wallerstein. "What we want to do is look for ways to ensure normal life in the region."

Adi Mintz, an activist in the settlement of Dolev northwest of Ramallah, said that dozens of children from Dolev and Talmon A and B must travel what amounts to nearly a full circle to get to schools in Beit El and Ofra. There are nearly 2,000 people in these three settlements.

Rather than drive through Ramallah, as they have been doing for years, the buses now go west to Kiryat Sefer, then travel on the Ben Shemen-Givat Ze'ev road, and then head northeast through Dir Nebala, a-Jeeb and onto the new bypass road to Bet El. The IDF will not allow the buses to travel through Ramallah.

Mintz said that a bypass road to Dolev and Talmon is in the works, but has not yet begun. "In order for kids to get to school at eight, they have to leave the house at six. This is ridiculous."

Heads of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza met in Psagot to discuss the situation, as well as to discuss a blackout in Beit El that lasted nearly five hours.

Jordanian who named son Rabin wants to settle here

A Jordanian farm worker who lost his job after naming his son Yitzhak Rabin said he hoped to start a new life here.

Rajaei Said Namasi, 40, said he was visiting Israel, but was thinking of looking for a job and staying for good.

Namasi said it was hard for him to find work in Jordan because of the publicity surrounding his decision to name his first-born son after Rabin.

"No one would give me a job," said Namasi who arrived in Israel 10 days ago, along with his wife Maryam and their infant son, and is staying with relatives in the Israeli Arab town of Kfar Masr.

Namasi's son was born on January 26. Namasi said his

employer at a farm in Amman told him the next day he could no longer work there.

Asked why he had decided to come here, Namasi said: "Because I like Israel. If I didn't, I wouldn't have caused all the trouble for myself and named my son Yitzhak Rabin."

Terrorist on suicide mission caught

A suicide bombing was averted when a Palestinian terrorist trained in Damascus by the Islamic Jihad was captured by the General Security Service and police in Jerusalem, police recently revealed.

A police spokesman, in a statement, said suspect Salim Bana told interrogators he planned to carry out a suicide bombing at a crowded location in Israel.

Bana said that on a recent trip to Syria he contacted the headquarters of the Fathi Shkaki division of the Islamic Jihad. The group allegedly trained Bana and ordered him to return to Israel as a tourist, using his Jordanian passport, and to carry out a suicide attack.

The police spokesman refused to give out more details, on grounds it would damage the investigation.

Archeologists uncover Herodian wall at Caesarea

Archeologists have found traces of a wall they say formed the southern border of the city of Caesarea during the Herodian period, a spokesman said recently.

Motti Neiger, spokesman for the Antiquities Authority, said the find allows archeologists for the first time to trace the boundaries and plan of the city rebuilt by Herod, king of Judea from 37 BCE until his death in 4 CE.

"We didn't imagine that the city was so thoroughly planned," said Dr. Yosef Porat, who heads the dig.

"The picture today is clear, complete, and beautiful," he told Israel Radio.

Historians say Caesarea, the capital of ancient Palestine for 600 years, was renowned for the splendour of its buildings. Porat said archeologists had also unearthed new sections of a previously discovered hippodrome, which he said is the most well-preserved in the Middle East.

No room for Jerusalem visitors in year 2000

There will be no room at the inn, no room on the buses and no room at the tourist sites by the year 2000, when millions of Christian visitors are expected to come mark the end of the second millennium of Christianity, according to Tourism Ministry Director-General Eli Gonen.

Gonen predicted that Israel would become a tourism bottleneck, perhaps even before 2000. He said that within a few years there will not be enough hotel rooms, the roads will be jammed and facilities at Ben-Gurion Airport will be inadequate to handle the crowds.

Gonen was speaking at a gathering of the Economic Forum panel on Jerusalem as a Tourist Center in Peacetime.

Moshe Hananel, director of Galilee Tours, noted that crowding has already curtailed some sites. Passengers from cruise ships visiting Jerusalem no longer enter the Tomb of Jesus in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher because they do not have the time to wait, he pointed out. Often, he added, the main consideration for where a tour bus stops is whether the site has good toilets.

Meanwhile, even if there are enough hotel rooms, not everyone who wants to visit may be able to afford them. Ministry Deputy Director-General Shabtai Shai said that the main thrust for hotel building for the future would be in four and five-star hotels, with some three-star establishments and virtually no building of one or two-star facilities.

"We are going for the money, Shai said, noting that Israel's tourism costs are far higher than other destinations such as Turkey or Spain, and therefore the country had to attract tourists who could afford to spend more.

Population hits 5.6m.

The country's population on November 4, 1995 was 5.6 million, according to preliminary data from the recent census, released recently by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The bureau reported that the greatest increase since the previous census, in June 1983 was 57 percent — logged in the South. Within that area, the population of the Ashkelon region was up 65 %, and that of the city of Ashdod almost doubled.

The Tel Aviv and Haifa region, on the other hand, were up by 16% and 30% respectively, reflecting the ongoing national goal of increasing the population of outlying areas.

The population of several communities was up 80 % or more, among them Or Akiva (89%), Ashdod (95%), Beit Shemesh (92%), Yavne (102%), Karmiel (121%), Mevasseret Zion (110%), Nesher (95%), Netivot (87%), Rahat (145%), and Sderot (87%).

There was a marked increase in the number of community settlements — small villages with restricted memberships — from 71 to 115, and their population was up more than 600%, from 8,000 to 51,000. The Jewish population of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza was also up more than 600%, from 24,000 to 134,000.

Arab towns opening to tourism

A growing number of Arab towns and villages, especially in the Galilee, are opening their gates to the public as part of a new trend toward engaging in tourism.

Scores of councils and municipalities from Hadera northward have expressed interest in developing tourism facilities in their communities, according to a recent survey carried out for the Tourism Ministry.

Ruthy Avidor, an official of the Tourism Development Authority, said the trend began as a "good neighbour" project three years ago with Kaukab village in the Misgav region of the Galilee.

"Village-life bed and breakfast places were opened in the village for the first time; and since then, it has spread to nearby places like Sakhnin, Deir Hanna and Arrabe—especially during the annual Misgav Days of Music and Nature Festival every Pessah," said Avidor, herself a resident of Yodfat in the Misgav region.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, who is keen to see the development of a tourism industry in the Arab sector which would help provide employment.

Baram visited Sakhnin recently and pledged that the ministry would assist in the development of tourism and infrastructure in the Arab sector and, this year, would be investing NIS 33 million to this end.

*"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.
If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of
my mouth; if I prefer not JERUSALEM above my chief joy."
(Psalms 137:5,6).*



A merchant leads his caravan of camels through shallow water on a Tel Aviv beach.