

THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

Vol. 31

4TH MONTH (July 1985)

No. 3

Probes

judah'85

Israel SPOT News/forecast Monthly



Rainbow over Mount Zion. The building in the center is the Dormition Abbey. This part of Jerusalem was once inside the city walls, but when the walls were rebuilt by the Ottomans in 1537 A.D., a planning mistake placed them slightly westward. The engineer in charge was executed for this.

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THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER — PUBLISHED
MONTHLY IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL.

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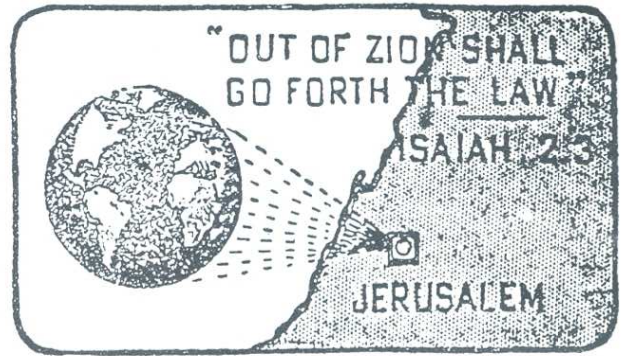
Founders — A. N. Dugger, Effie Dugger
Managing Editor — Gordon M. Fauth

The Mount Zion Reporter is published by The Mt. Zion Reporter Society, a non-profit association whose aim and purpose is to spread the gospel message throughout a darkening world, and to reach people everywhere with the glorious news of our soon-coming Saviour and King. This ministry, which reaches all parts of the world, is carried on through the prayers and support of those who share our burden for souls.

Our Creed: Revelation 12:17
The Head and Director: Christ (Yeshua)
Membership: "Lamb's Book of Life,"
in Heaven. — Revelation 20:15.

Subscription cost: \$15.00/year (or equivalent in other currencies). This includes surface mailing to any place in the world.

For subscription purposes, a year is defined as eleven months (a combined issue in the fall will correspond with the *Sukkot* holiday). If for any reason fewer issues than this are published in the year, all subscriptions will be updated accordingly.



JERUSALEM

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion: He hath desired it for His habitation" (Psalms 132:13). "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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Being Happy in a Negative World

Richard A. Wiedenheft

Discouragement, self-doubt, and unhappiness are among the most common of human problems. Millions can't cope with the insecurities of life and try to escape through entertainment, sports, drugs, alcohol, religious experiences, or through the occult.

Many seek fulfillment and meaning by acquiring more and more wealth or by seeking higher positions, or striving for success, whatever that is. Some get to the point they feel so worthless they try to commit suicide; too many succeed . . .

Why do we all suffer from feelings of inferiority and uselessness? Why should unhappiness and low self-esteem be such a problem among the ultimate of God's creation — among human beings, who have the potential of living for eternity as God's divine children?

A quick look at history reveals that even men of God, men with tremendous power and prestige, fought the problem of discouragement and self-doubt just as we do.

Shortly after participating in a brilliant display of God's power, Elijah got to feeling so rejected and worthless that he wanted to die (1 Kings 19).

David, a man after God's own heart, king over all Israel, felt at various times like a worm instead of a man, like God didn't even listen to his prayers. At one point he just wanted to get away from it all and escape to the wilderness (Psalms 22, 55, 69).

Solomon achieved the ultimate in success and wealth — or so it seemed. Yet he was no happier with himself and with life after he acquired so much than he was before (Ecclesiastes).

Add to these examples those of all the modern "successes" who have confessed that their personal lives left much to be desired. Look at the "greats" of this world who have come to feel so worthless and messed up that they have taken their own lives! It is quite obvious that the problem of self-doubt and discouragement has little if anything to do with your degree of wealth, your status, or your achievements. Rather, it has everything to do with *what you think of yourself*.

When God created Adam and Eve, He said that what He had made was "*very good*"; yet most people feel bad about themselves! Paul wrote that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1); yet all too many Believers feel unhappy about themselves and their lot in life. Peter refers to Christians as a "*Holy Nation*," a "*Special People*," a "*Chosen Generation*"; yet their self-esteem many times ebbs close to zero (1 Peter 2:9). It seems they just don't agree with God!

Why?! Why do people, even children, get to feeling so negative about themselves and their lives?

Why Such Personal Unhappiness?

There are three overall reasons that inferiority runs rampant in our society. The major one involves the negative mind conditioning we all receive — especially during childhood. Kids grow up being told off for their

mistakes and inadequacies. They're yelled at and like as not cursed by parents and peers. "You fool." "You are a real klutz." "Ya dip." "You can't do anything right!" "I could kill you!" These expressions are typical of the self-esteem destroying comments kids hear every day — comments that attack the child as a person, not just his behavior. No wonder he grows up feeling bad about himself and wishing he were somebody else.

In addition to the personal attacks, most children hear constant complaining from the adults around them — people complain about the weather, they curse their bad luck, they rail against inflation, taxes, politicians, neighbors. They continually bemoan the struggle to make ends meet. No wonder the kids grow up with negative feelings about the world around them and about life in general.

How many parents continually remind their children of all of the good luck they've had, of the beautiful weather, of the blessings of living in a land of relative freedom? How many parents impress on each child that he is a unique miracle of God, that there are no other human beings like him, that God has given him talents, abilities, emotions, mentality — all of which can be used for tremendous good — and for the glory of God? How many parents look on their children as having tremendous potential, rather than as huge problems that just get worse with age? How about your parents? What impression did they give you of yourself and of the world? And what kind of impressions are you giving to your children?

Granted, there are indeed a lot of negative things about the world we live in; but by focusing in on the positive, by having an overall positive mind-set, we will be much better able to handle the negative, and we'll really enjoy the positive things along the way.

Sick Food, Sick Bodies, Miserable Minds

The second reason we are so prone to negative mental attitudes involves a basic principle of health. You are what you eat! and it is a well-established fact that what we eat affects us mentally and emotionally as well as physically. It stands to reason that if you don't give your brain the nourishment it needs to function properly, it won't!

There is a definite link between the consumption of sugar, refined carbohydrates, and other junk foods and mental/emotional problems. If you eat junk food, take drugs (like caffeine, nicotine, etc.), think about disease instead of health, and abuse your body in general, you'll have a junky body — and a junky mind.

Sure, the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking (Romans 14:17). But eating and drinking *is* very much a factor in having a strong, healthy, happy mind. The Christian life (and life in general) is enough of a challenge for a healthy mind. What a pity for Christians to face that challenge with minds that are operating at much less than full capacity because of poor diets!

Satan Is Alive and Well

The third factor is the spiritual one. There is a real Satan, roaming the earth seeking whom he may devour. Read 1 Peter 5:8. Satan knows that one of the best ways to destroy a person is to get him to doubt himself — to think he's worthless — to get him to feeling that the world would be better off without him. Satan just lives to put thoughts of doubt, discouragement, despondency, and inadequacy into human minds — especially into Chris-

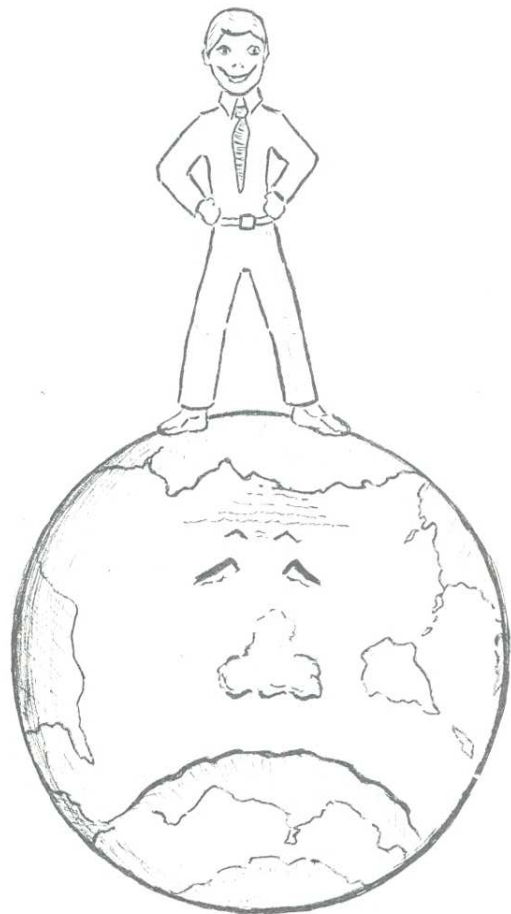
tian minds.

You add these three factors together — negative mind conditioning, poor food, and an evil adversary, and it's no wonder the world is filled with so many unhappy, negative minds!

Everybody Wants to Be Somebody

How does it happen that negative thinking and discouragement come so easily to human beings? Why does suicide rank ninth in causes of death? And why did the suicide rate among 15 to 24 year olds in the U.S. triple from 1955 to 1975? Why, in the richest land on earth, is there so much unhappiness?

The psychology behind this universal negativism begins with the fact that everybody wants to be *somebody*. All of us want to feel that we're valuable, that we're significant in our world. We need to feel that we're making worthwhile contributions that are appreciated by those who are important to us. We want identity and self-respect!



The smaller, more isolated communities of previous generations helped provide this identity. Because villages had to be self-sufficient to a greater degree than they do today, each citizen was important. One was the blacksmith, another the storekeeper, another the innkeeper. One baked the best pies, another made the best cider, etc. Each person was making a worthwhile contribution to the community — and he was appreciated for it. He had identity! He was *somebody* in his little world.

Unfortunately, in our modern industrialized and mobile society, identity doesn't come so easily. A person
(continued on page 16)

HARVEST

by Winnie Hammond

"As the cold snow in the time of harvest so is a faithful messenger to them that send him."
Proverbs 25:13.

Comparing several versions of this couplet brings out some interesting discoveries. The time of harvest in a warm climate meant hot, tiring work to the laborers, and the cold of snow would doubtless be very acceptable in the form of an iced drink. The same satisfaction, says the scripture, is felt by the senders of a faithful messenger, and the moral for us is, be faithful messengers of the Word with which we have been entrusted, and the Great Harvester will be refreshed.

We have one example of faithful service in Paul the apostle. He made innumerable converts to the Christian faith, and many of these became preachers, spreading the gospel throughout the Gentile world. His words of encouragement to them also give us comfort and light on our path to the Kingdom. In 1 Corinthians 16:18, writing of friends to his friends, Paul says: *"I am glad of their coming, for they have refreshed my spirit and yours."* And in 2 Corinthians 7:13, speaking of the visit of Titus to Corinth, he says *"His spirit was refreshed by you all."* In Acts 3:19, he speaks of a time of refreshing which is yet to come, when Jesus our Lord shall come to earth again.

Christ's Example

Christ's attitude towards the sinners of mankind was far different from ours. Instead of looking at the world around Him with condemnation and disdain, as we are so apt to do, he looked on the people with love and compassion and saw the possibilities of a great harvest. He commands us to love our enemies and do good to those who hate us. We should never turn our backs on them, for this attitude constitutes unrighteous judgement. *"Judge not, that ye be not judged."* Matthew 7:1.

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Psalms 126:5. Though Jesus was the son of God, with all the powers of the Almighty at His disposal, He was also of human stock. He was the son of man, with all its limitations, and looking out on the harvest fields and seeing the fewness of the laborers, he told his disciples to pray to the Lord of the harvest, as He doubtless did Himself, that He would send forth laborers into His vineyard. And what an overwhelming answer there was to those prayers! After His resurrection, on the day of Pentecost, the disciples, bursting to tell everyone of the miracle of Christ's resurrection, made about three thousand converts who came from all parts of the world and would go home and spread the good news to their countrymen.

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. This command was surely obeyed at the day of Pentecost and is still being obeyed today, so that at the time of the final harvest it will have reached the whole world and there will be no excuse for not having heard the salvation message.

Sometimes the seed is found growing in the most

unlikely places. We read in the Gospels, of the woman at the well of Sychar, one of the towns of Samaria, a place shunned by true born Jews because its inhabitants were of mixed origin and therefore defiled their country. Yet this woman, with many others, had a knowledge of the Scriptures, was waiting for the Messiah to appear, and believed Him when He came.

This must have brought great joy to the Saviour for He said to His disciples *"Say not, there are yet four months to harvest. Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest."* John 4:35.

Fisher's Of Men

On the shores of Galilee a few fishermen were sitting by their nets, tired and disconsolate because their night's hard work had been wasted and they had caught nothing. When Jesus appeared He was already well known to them because they had witnessed His baptism by John and had heard John's words regarding the Son of God. After borrowing the boat for a while so that He could teach the multitudes who had followed to hear Him, Jesus told Simon to let down the nets again, and when they had done so, they drew in so many fish that the nets were broken and the boats began to sink from the weight. This miracle affected Simon so much that he bade Jesus depart from him, for he realized his own sinfulness. *"Fear not"* came the answer, *"from henceforth thou shalt catch men."* (Luke 5:10).

This was indeed a living parable, for the fish were the harvest of the sea, and later the spiritual seed sown by Christ and the apostles was to bear fruit in just as great numbers on land.

The miracle of the feeding of five thousand people with five loaves and four fishes teaches the same lesson. It is noteworthy that Christ broke the bread Himself; then gave it to His disciples to give to the people. He is the Bread of life, whose body was broken for our redemption, and if we partake of this Bread He promises us life everlasting.

It is a wonderful thought that we, though sometimes discontented and frustrated at the poor response to our service, can remember that just believing in faith and love will refresh the soul of our beloved Master, and be to Him as the "snow in harvest".

There is a striking parable in Mark's gospel. The disciples had forgotten to take bread with them, and Jesus, who had just refused to give the unbelieving Pharisees a sign from Heaven, now gave His followers a most wonderful sign. They had their minds only on their earthly needs, but He, being the divine Son of His Father, always set His sights on the heavenly. He asked them — *"Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember? When I broke the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets of fragments did ye take up? They say unto him, Twelve. And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven."* Mark 8:18-20. This appears to be a remarkable prophecy, for after the death

and resurrection of their Master, the Bread of Life, the disciples gathered all the fragments of His teaching, and, helped by His Spirit, shared them among all who would listen, Jews and Gentiles — the former consisting of the Twelve tribes of Israel, and the latter the Seven churches of the Gentile believers, spoken of by Christ in Revelation 1:4, 20.

One of the gifts of the Lord to Solomon was wisdom, and, Solomon tells us in Proverbs 10:5: *"He that gathereth in summer is a wise son, but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame."* Paul also exhorts us to keep awake, for he says in Romans 13:11, *"Now it is high time to awake out of sleep, for now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed."* Jesus also tells us to keep awake and watchful, for life is short and *"the night cometh when no man can work."* John 9:4.



The Parable Of The Talents

Christ's parable of the talents is very instructive: the man, going on a long journey, called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, and the other one. The one who had five made five more, the one who had two made two more, the one who had one hid it in the ground.

Three men were involved, and three is a symbolic number in Scripture, it represents wholeness and completion, so the three who received the talents could be the whole Christian Church.

Talent is a highly significant word. It has two meanings; one is a natural gift or ability, and the other is a unit of money.

The first two servants gained the praise and reward of their master when he at length returned, but it was the day of reckoning for the one who had hidden his talent in the ground. He had probably forgotten it in the business of daily life, and no doubt thought he had done well in keeping it safe and intact for his master. A Hebrew talent was worth three thousand shekels of gold or silver, in either case a considerable sum of money; but instead of seeking ways to multiply it he had stultified its usefulness.

So it may be with us, if we spend our time in idleness while others are working hard in the harvest fields. We all have some talent, and if we think we have none we are wrong. There is always one way of serving, and that is by praying that God may prosper the work that is being done.

Paul also has some words on this in 1 Corinthians 12:4, 5. *"Now there are varieties of gifts and there are varieties of service, and there are varieties of working, but it is the same*

God who inspires them all in everyone." And he goes on to say in verses 21 and 27, *"The eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. . . . Now ye are the body of Christ, and severally members thereof."*

The Final Harvest

In Revelation 14:14, the apostle John is given a vision of the final harvest of the earth. He sees the Son of man crowned as Lord of all things, with a sharp sickle in His hand with which to reap the harvest of the earth. Another angel appears and deals by fire with a different harvest, which is the vine of evil and which is cast into the winepress of the wrath of God. This foretells the utter destruction of all who are found unworthy of everlasting life.

Joel 3:13 tells the same story. It depicts a picture of Armageddon on Judgement Day. *"Ply the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread the grapes for the press is full and the vats overflow. Great is the wickedness of the nations."* And in Hosea 8:7; 10:13, it says — *"They have sown the wind and they shall reap the whirlwind. . . . Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity."*

"The great, the mighty God, the Lord of Hosts is His name, whose eyes are open on all the ways of men, to give to every one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings." Jeremiah 32:18, 19.

So let us wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, remembering the words of the Psalm, *"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, will doubtless come again with joy, bringing his sheaves with him."* Psalms 126:6. □



SHARE YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS IN ISRAEL

We are sending a steady flow of Bibles, Testaments, gospel tracts and literature of all kinds to almost every part of the world. This ministry is important for these last days we are living in, and it is bearing good fruit for the Lord. Many precious people are being shown the way to salvation and life eternal. *"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."* — Matthew 24:14.

Not everyone can go to the far corners of the world as a missionary for Christ, but everyone can have a part in this same work by supporting with their prayers, tithes and offerings the ministry being carried on from Jerusalem. Your help is needed, and whether your donations are large or small they will be gratefully received, and will be put to good use in the work of the Heavenly Father, here, in your place. Please pray about it. You can help us save souls! Take this opportunity to share in His work; the Lord will bless you for it!



LIFT UP YOUR HANDS!

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. The Lord that made heaven and earth BLESS THEE OUT OF ZION." — Psalms 134:2, 3.

The Lord's Work Around The World ...

The Lord's work is growing. Praise His Name! We are continually encouraged by the wonderful reports we receive from dedicated workers around the world. In this issue we are featuring some photos and reports from congregations in different areas of Nigeria, West Africa.

May each one of us ever shine forth the glorious light of God's love!

— Gordon Fauth



Church of God in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria



Church of God in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria



Church of God in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria.



Children of God in Ikot Ekpene, Cross River State, Nigeria



Congregation in Itu, Cross River State, Nigeria

Report From Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

Dear Elder Fauth and Reporter Staff,

Christian greetings to you all in Jesus' saving name to whom be blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving and honor, and power and might, forever and ever. Amen (Revelation 7:12).

I rest assured this report will find you well. The Master's work is progressing here according to His divine leading and direction. The spiritual war of Armageddon (war between good and evil) is daily raging on here. Just as it is with the literal Israelites and the persecuting alien nations. Come what may we will not relent in our efforts seeing the battle will soon come to an end and the faithful saints will be victorious just as little Israel will be victorious when the alien nations will come up against her in the latter days (Ezekiel 38:14-16).

The departments in the church are expanding rapidly. A new department has been inaugurated in the church. This is known as the "The Theatre Group". The aim of this organ is to dramatize in practical terms the events in the Bible. Another department has also been formed. This is known as: "The Good Samaritan". This department

(continued on page 8)



Campmeeting time in Ahoada, Rivers State, Nigeria



Nigerian Women's Committee in Ahoada, Rivers State



Good Health Department



It's common knowledge that many of the foods and goods we use these days contain harmful elements. In fact, there seems to be something dangerously harmful in almost all of the processed and commercially produced edibles on the market. We should know these substances and what they are found in, and we should heed the warnings given. Leading doctors and scientists will admit that much disease is caused by poisons in the food we eat and in the things we use and come in contact with.

Unfortunately, we can't always avoid unhealthy substances and dangerous materials — at least not completely — that's one of the prices we pay for living in a "modern" world. We can, however, use some common sense and greatly improve the odds. We can choose natural materials over synthetic wherever possible and we can choose natural fruits and vegetables and simple, unprocessed foods over the highly processed and often very unhealthy "junk" foods available today in such staggering variety. Even a little attention paid to these matters will reap significant dividends in a healthier, happier and longer life — the kind of life God intended us to have.

Did you know that . . .

Baking Soda neutralizes digestive juices and essential stomach acids and destroys all the B vitamins.

Commercial Breads contain mercury from fertilizers used on wheat, bleaches and anti-molds. They are, in addition, fumigated and bromated.

Chocolate brings about calcium deficiencies and contains a large amount of caffeine.

Sugar — White refined sugar destroys B vitamins and contains many undesirable chemicals.

Pickles containing alum should not be eaten.

Soft Drinks contain coal tar dyes for coloring. They also contain caffeine.

Ice Cream — Most commercial ice cream contains many undesirable chemicals, in particular radiator anti-freeze. It is also no longer made of pure milk and cream.

Hot Dogs contain nitrates, preservatives and coloring.

Heated Fats effect chemical changes in the body. Consumption of fried foods is dangerous. Cooked and saturated fats cause cholesterol build-up and heart disease and have been linked to certain cancers.

Charcoal grilled meats may bring about cancer, as hydrocarbon from the charcoal makes cancer-causing pyrene to form on the meat. Over a time the body can accumulate a dangerous amount, enough to trigger a malignancy.

Wax — Many fruits and vegetables on the market today are waxed in order to keep in moisture, even though many of these waxes are toxic.

Alkalizers and Antacid Tablets destroy vitamins, are damaging to the kidneys and have been known to cause ulcers.

Sodium Nitrates and Nitrites are found in hot dogs, luncheon meats, canned meats and in chemical fertilizers. They are cancer causing.

Fluoride extinguishes important enzymes in the body.

Many Plastics are toxic and warm foods should not be put in plastic containers as the plastic releases its toxic substances — in particular formaldehyde — when in contact with heat.

Teflon should never have contact with heated foods. It is a plastic substance which releases a toxic gas when heated.

Most Cosmetics have been found to contain mercury, which is absorbed through the skin by rubbing.

Most Detergents and Soaps have long-range and harmful effects.

Dyes may cause more cancer than any other known thing, especially the coal tar dyes which are widely used today. These harmful dyes are used in coloring candies, hot dogs, cakes, cookies, soft drinks and any number of other food items on the market. Many dyes to change the color of hair are also found to be cancer causing.

Aluminium Utensils destroy vitamin C and defile food with toxic substances.

Aureomycin causes liver damage. It's fed to meat animals to speed up fattening time.

Stilbestrol is a hormone used to fatten cattle. It is suspected of being cancer causing. The use of it has already been outlawed in Sweden.

Arsenic, this well-known and deadly poison is found in food, medicine and in the atmosphere. It is especially high in cigarettes and in all food grown with chemical fertilizers and sprays.

Mercury is a deadly toxin used in all diuretics and in most cosmetics and chemical fertilizers.

Mineral Oil kills vitamins A, C, D and K. □

THE LORD'S WORK AROUND THE WORLD (continued from page 6)

comprises only the sisters. Since the formation, they are very busy and dutiful in visiting, praying and giving alms to the blind, the crippled, the sick, the orphans, aged men and women (within and outside the fold).

Please, your fervent prayers are needed for the Lord's work here. We cease not in doing the same for the Lord's work there.

Your brother and fellow-laborer,
E. O. Ukadike

From Faith To Faith

by A.E. Stilwell

You have said, Lord, that "*whatsoever is not of faith is sin*," (Romans 14:23), which tells me that every moment of this day has to be a 'faith moment', a moment of trust, if it is not to be sin.

If there is a time, a situation, a circumstance when I cannot look up into your face confidently and trustfully, believing that I am in your will, being led and empowered by your Spirit in the way of present and eternal blessing, then it is sin.

My lack of faith in God's faithfulness to His promises is sin, even though I may not be aware of committing any sinful acts. Unbelief is sin.

Every open sin is initially a state of unbelief in the heart which is an insult to a loving, caring God. I can easily retrace this sin in my life.

Lord Jesus, Savior, your Word teaches me that Bible faith is a living, ever-functioning union with you, by which means I may daily draw of your forgiving mercy for sins known and unknown, and drink of your ever-flowing Spirit to be my moment by moment holiness, love and power; to worship and serve God.

I have learned that to live the faith life free from sin and 'unbelieving care', I must, in quiet confidence, witness to my own heart, to God in praise, and to my fellowmen that 'Christ liveth in me' (your Word says so in Galatians 2:20) and that "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*." Philipians 4:13.

I must reckon that I am alive unto God in the power of your inflowing resurrection life, moment by moment, receiving wisdom, love, guidance, power, utterance and ability for every work of God in and through me (Romans 6).

With the pen of the Spirit you do write your laws powerfully in my mind and heart (Hebrews 8:10) and do think your holy thoughts, and will your own purposes in and through me. This I now believe: the Spirit is working in me, and in simple faith I would seek to give outward expression to His inworkings. He alone knows the mind of God and He will convey that mind to me; through me, as I rest in His inworking while walking and working in faith.

Lord, show me if I do not understand the faith life; if there is presumption in my attitude to the Holy Throne of God.

Is it presumption Lord when I believe you minister to me just as I am, whether I be bowed down under a sense of sin and shame, or broken spirited over a faltering faith in trial? Have you not said that I may "*come boldly to the throne of grace and find mercy and grace to help in time of need*?" Hebrews 4:16.

Without such mercy and grace, Lord, there can be no hope for any sinner. Without such abundant mercy and grace in the past I would not now be rejoicing in your Presence, and I well know that without this continued mercy and grace I will never finish my earthly course with joy.

Praise God, I am a branch in you! I am God's Vine, receiving of your resurrection life-sap, moment by moment, through the Spirit and the Word.

I am like Aaron's rod that budded, blossomed and bore fruit with no root in any natural resources but "*rooted, built up, and established in you*." Colossians 2:6, 7.

No matter how wonderful my natural gifts may be, as men judge, I am but a 'dead stick' which your inflowing Spirit makes alive with Divine Life.

If there is any spiritual beauty in my life it is the bud, blossom; fruit of your inworking Spirit. All glory be yours, Savior and Life giver!

Contemplating this unfolding day, I can anticipate with joy and peace of mind, the continuous infilling of your Spirit to meet every need and every duty towards God and man. Yours is the working, mine is the trusting.

"*He that glorieth, let Him glory in the Lord*." 2 Corinthians 10:17. "*God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power and love and of a sound mind*." 2 Timothy 1:7. □

.....

"Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." Isaiah 52:7-10.

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BIBLICAL FLORA AND FAUNA ALIVE AND WELL IN ISRAEL (continued from page 15)

when seen in profile, it seems to have just one long slender horn. The powerfully-built white oryx is in fact one of the rarest creatures on earth, and the herd at Hai-Bar was brought here, after protracted negotiations, from Saudi Arabia — via Los Angeles.

The Bible through Nature

In a country where 'love of the land' is taught in schools and where the most frequently-used guide book is the Bible, the creation of Hai-Bar and Neot Kedumim is a further affirmation of the age-old three-way bond between the people, the land and the Book. Recognition that the physical setting of the Bible holds vital clues to a comprehensive understanding of the text, has attracted many biblical scholars, Jewish and Christian, to these two sites. The message of the gardens and the wildlife reserve is that, just as the study of historical sites and long-lived tradition can offer insights into antiquity, it is no less important to explore the rich natural environment that sustained spiritual and physical life in the days of the patriarchs and the prophets. Otherwise the Bible may remain, in many respects, a closed book. □

Extracts From Readers' Letters

CISKEI.—

Dear Pastor,

Greetings of joy. We hope and wish that this will find you in good spirit and health.

We are progressing in His work despite the many things which are trying to form stumbling blocks in God's way. I'm very thankful to our Heavenly Father for all His good ways.

We always pray for you and will keep doing so. We appreciate hearing from you as this keeps and helps us to be in good spirit.

Your brother in love,
T.W.D.

LIBERIA.—

Dear Sir,

It is indeed an honor to extend my personal greetings to you in the precious and holy name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How are you all coming on? I hope that the Lord, who is the same yesterday, today and forever, is protecting your lives and country.

Sir, the main aim of writing to you this day, is that I have seen and read one of *The Mount Zion Reporter* magazines. Because of its interesting news and stories which I read, it enthused me to write you. So for this reason I am asking you kindly to acquaint me with its selling price so I will be able to purchase it from here.

I hope to hear from you as soon as possible.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all.

Yours in Christ,
W.N.G.

KENYA.—

Dear Brother Fauth,

First, and the foremost, I thank my Heavenly Father for all what He does for us. In fact, He is the one who provides us with our daily needs.

I should inform you that I have received the cassette you sent me. I thank you very much. Now we are having songs from Zion and by doing so we feel as if we are with brethren.

Here in our area, the Lord's work is moving smoothly. Many souls have been saved. We thank God for that because He is the one who called them. We urge you and the staff to pray for this work. We likewise will do the same for the work there.

Your brother in Christ,
J.K.T.

NEW MEXICO, U.S.A.—

Dear Fauth,

Shalom! Greetings in the name of Jesus our Messiah. I hope that this letter finds you and the SonBeams and staff in good health and happy in the Lord.

I am praying fervently each day that all of the needs there will be supplied in getting out *The Mount Zion Reporter* to many parts of the world. It has been a great blessing to me here. I have been deeply concerned and am praying that the money will be supplied to purchase the land where the church is located.

The work here is moving along, and I am busy getting out many Bible-teaching seminar tapes to brethren who are taking

these much needed Bible courses, anointed by God, thru the mail. I personally have given out thousands of Gospel tracts and have witnessed to many people here on streets and in homes, and have visited and preached in local churches and have prayed for many sick people and Jesus has healed and performed miracles.

Being a Christian Jew, naturally I am very much concerned about the work in Israel — especially that of *The Mount Zion Reporter* and SonBeams.

Thanks to all of you for your much needed heart-felt prayers for me. May God bless and keep all of you. Keep praying for me.

Your Jewish brother in Messiah,
I.S.K.

NIGERIA.—

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Recently I received a copy of the Holy Bible from you. I am very happy about it. I wish you God's rich blessings.

I have read with delight news and stories from your magazines and letters. They are very wonderful. From *Judah*, I have read with interest the happenings and events in Israel. I have also read with interest the spread of the Lord's work in Africa through your ministry, especially in Nigeria. May God reward you immensely and prepare you for His fast second coming.

In the Lord's name,
E.S.O.

PHILIPPINES.—

Dear Brother Fauth,

The peace of the Lord be with you.

Many thanks for the continued supply of *The Mount Zion Reporter*. I am always praying for the peace of Jerusalem, and enjoy reading *The Mount Zion Reporter*. Thank you.

Shalom — In Jesus' Name,
C.B.Y.

ENGLAND.—

Dear Elder Fauth and The Reporter Staff,

Greetings from the saints of the most High God. We are pleased to report that the people of God are well and are moving on.

We are grateful for your recent letter and are pleased to note the contents and safe receipt of the Quarterlies and *The Mount Zion Reporters*.

There is much to say about what the Lord has been doing for us. Of course it will not all fit in this letter. However, briefly, the Lord has been helping us to preach the Word and by this the church is growing steadily day by day. We cannot rule out that the devil has his plans also, but, we are well aware of this and the Lord is providing us with much strength to fight him. Please continue to pray for the work here in England.

From *The Mount Zion Reporter* there is no doubt that the Lord's work is spreading around the world.

I am pleased to hear that Elder Fauth enjoyed his trip to the States and his tour generally. I hope that it has benefited him more spiritually and that he has been able to gain a wider outlook on the world and what it is coming to.

May the Lord's richest blessings continue to be with you.

Yours in the Master's service,
E.S.H.

Darwin on his Deathbed

Charles Darwin is known as the father of the theory of evolution. But what exactly were his spiritual convictions? Did he believe that his speculations and theories were proven facts which ruled out the existence of God, or did he still believe in the Heavenly Father?

Neither the biographers of Charles Darwin, nor writers on evolution, relate the following story of the last days of Charles Darwin, as told by Lady Hope, at meetings in Northfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A:

"It was on a glorious autumn afternoon, when I was asked to go and sit with Charles Darwin. He was almost bedridden for some months before he died. He was sitting up in bed, wearing a soft embroidered dressing gown, of a rather rich purple shade.

"Propped up by pillows, he was gazing out on a far-stretching scene of woods and cornfields, which glowed in the light of one of those sunsets which are the beauty of Kent and Surrey (England). His features seemed to be lit up with pleasure as I entered the room.

"He waved his hand toward the window as he pointed out the scene beyond, while in the other hand he held an open Bible, which he was always studying.

" 'What are you reading now?' I asked.

" 'Hebrews!' he answered — 'still Hebrews. *The Royal Book*, I call it.' Then, placing his finger on certain passages, he commented on them.

"I made some allusion to the strong opinions expressed by many on the history of the Creation, and then their treatment of the earlier chapters of the Book of Genesis. He seemed distressed, his fingers twitched nervously, and a look of agony came over his face as he said:—

" 'I was a young man with unformed ideas. I threw out queries, suggestions, wondering all the time over everything; and to my astonishment the ideas took like wildfire. People made a religion of them.' Then he paused, and after a few more sentences on 'The Holiness of God' and 'The Grandeur of this Book,' looking at the

Bible which he was holding tenderly all the time, he suddenly said:—

" 'I have a summer house in the garden, which holds about thirty people. It is over there,' pointing through the open window. 'I want you very much to speak there. I know you read the Bible in the villages. Tomorrow afternoon I should like the servants on the place, some tenants, and a few neighbors, to gather there. Will you speak to them?'

" 'What shall I speak about?' I asked.

" 'Christ Jesus,' he replied, in a clear, emphatic voice, adding in a lower tone, 'and His salvation. Is not that the best theme? And then I want you to sing some hymns with them. You lead on your small instrument, do you not?'

"The look of brightness and animation on his face as he said this I shall never forget, for he added:—

" 'If you take the meeting at three o'clock, this window will be open, and you will know that I am joining in with the singing.' "

The foregoing story, told by someone who knew Mr. Darwin during the closing days of his time on earth, is quite interesting and also significant, particularly when you consider the 'religion' that the Theory of Evolution has become to many.

Although Darwin's evolutionary theories are still being expounded in many of our schools, and his "Origin of the Species" is being taught as fact and not theory; at the same time, these theories are being contested and discarded by many scientists today. This should come as no surprise, for all the theories of evolution are, by their very nature, just that — theories — and none of them have ever been proven or shown in any way to be anything but speculation. In fact, scientific discoveries of recent years which have exposed the unbelievable complexity and marvel that is life, show that in many ways it actually requires more faith to believe that blind chance is responsible for it all than it does to believe in a Heavenly Creator!

The Bible says, in Genesis 2:7, "*And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*" □

Reported Jewish Aid to Hitler Based 'on Old Forgery'

LONDON. — A Soviet allegation that a Jewish-owned bank lent money to Adolf Hitler four years before he came to power has been strongly denied by the London-based Institute of Jewish Affairs (IJA). After extensive research, the IJA has proved that the accusation was "lifted" by a Soviet historian from an old and long-discredited forgery.

The Soviet press agency, Tass, published an interview with the historian Lev Korneyev on January 18, in which he claimed that the Amsterdam banking house of Mendelssohn and Co. lent Hitler \$10,000 in 1929. Korneyev said this was an example of Zionist collaboration with fascism which he maintained continues today.

The IJA discovered that the story first appeared

in a pamphlet published in Amsterdam in 1933 under the title "The Financial Sources of National Socialism: Three Conversations with Hitler." Its author was Sidney Warburg, listed as a partner in the American bank Warburg and Co.

The pamphlet said Warburg met Hitler in July, 1929 and offered him financial support. It went on to suggest that the \$10,000 contribution would be channelled through Mendelssohn and Co. in Amsterdam.

The Dutch publishers withdrew the pamphlet from circulation as soon as the Amsterdam company trading under the name of Warburg pointed out that there was in fact no U.S. banking house of that name and certainly no Warburg. A spokesman for the IJA said that the author of the pamphlet, J.G. Schoup, invented the whole thing.

— "The Jerusalem Post"



Life in Israel



by Sarah Fauth

Shalom!

I hope this finds you well. Here in Jerusalem we are all fine. It is spring here now; trees are budding and flowers blooming! We are in the Biblical month of Nisan, the first month of the Biblical year (Exodus 12:12; Esther 3:7).

It is nice to have my father, Gordon Fauth Sr., back from his latest trip to America. He had a fruitful and busy time, and we want to thank all who held him up in prayer during his journey.

Throughout the nation, at this present time, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, or *Pessah*, is being celebrated. During this week-long feast, all leavened bread and leavening of any kind is forbidden. Jewish grocery stores sell, instead, a sort of tasteless wafer called *matza*. It's not too bad with butter and soup, but it is impossible with sandwiches — it's crisp and crumbly and cracks terribly! I'm sure they must have had a better recipe in Moses' time.

There are always many Christians here this time of year for Easter. There are big processions along the route Jesus took into Jerusalem, with thousands of people singing Hosanna and waving palm branches. Only they can't enter in the gate through which Jesus entered — "The Golden Gate" — for, even as the prophecy in Ezekiel 44:1-3 states, it is sealed tight. According to tradition, the Arabs sealed it and built a cemetery around it, so that the prophet Elijah (who they believe is to return first through the gate and herald the messiah's coming, and who, as a Jew of the priesthood, is not allowed to pass through a cemetery) would not be able to come. This, they thought, would hinder the Jewish Messiah from coming. Little did they know that in so

doing they would actually be fulfilling a prophecy of His coming and thus hastening His return.

The Christian pilgrims also walk to the Tomb where Christ is said to have been buried. There are two such tombs designated as the place where the body of Jesus was laid: one which the Catholics endorse and over which the Church of the Holy Sepulcher was built; and the other, The Garden Tomb, which is next to a hill called Golgatha and which is widely accepted by the Protestants as Christ's burial place. I could not say which, if either, of the two is the correct spot. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher is much older and has an impressive history, but the Garden Tomb, to me, looks more like what one would imagine Christ's tomb to be. A few days ago, a sister who attends church visited The Garden Tomb on the day Christ is said to have risen. When she came to visit us later, it was clear she had received a touch from Heaven. She greeted us with Hallelujahs and exclaimed the joyful news that Christ was risen. "He's gone!" she rejoiced. "The stone is rolled away and I saw the empty tomb!" From the testimony she spread and the joy which radiated from her, it was surely evident that the Lord was risen in her heart. And, when you get down to it, that is the most important thing — not the evidence of His empty tomb, or of man-designated monuments, but the evidence of His living existence in His disciples. "*He that hath received His testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.*" John 3:33.

As always, we were happy to receive visitors from abroad in recent weeks. We will have fond memories of Lillian Mueller from Texas who stayed with us a while here in Jerusalem, as well as Richard Wiedenheft from Pennsylvania whose company we enjoyed for several



The Hill of Golgotha — place of Christ's crucifixion

days. We are always happy to meet the different ones from around the world who share with us a common faith and hope in the coming Messiah.

Well, I guess I will say "Shalom" for now. We look forward to hearing from all of the "Reporter" family and appreciate your prayers.

Your Sister,
Sarah Fauth



THE ALMIGHTY CHOSE ZION

"They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even forever."

Psalms 125:1, 2.

"The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life."

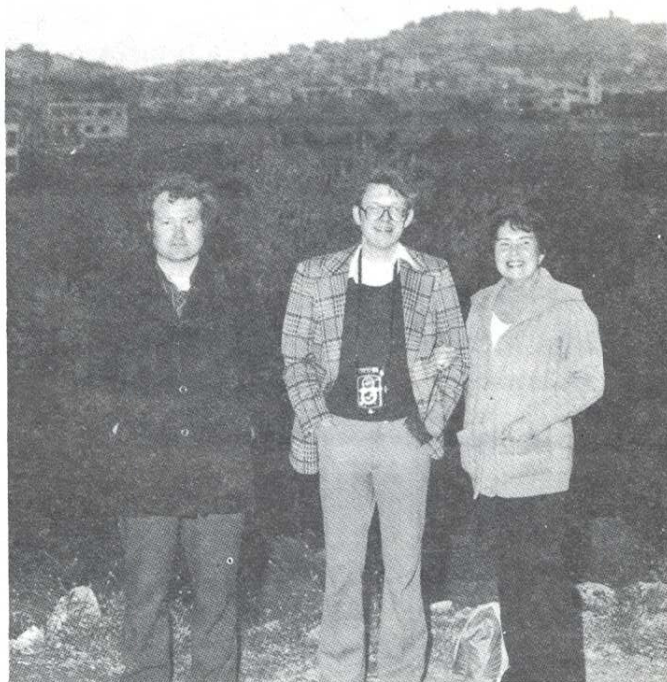
Psalms 128:5.

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation. This is my rest forever. Here will I dwell, for I have desired it."

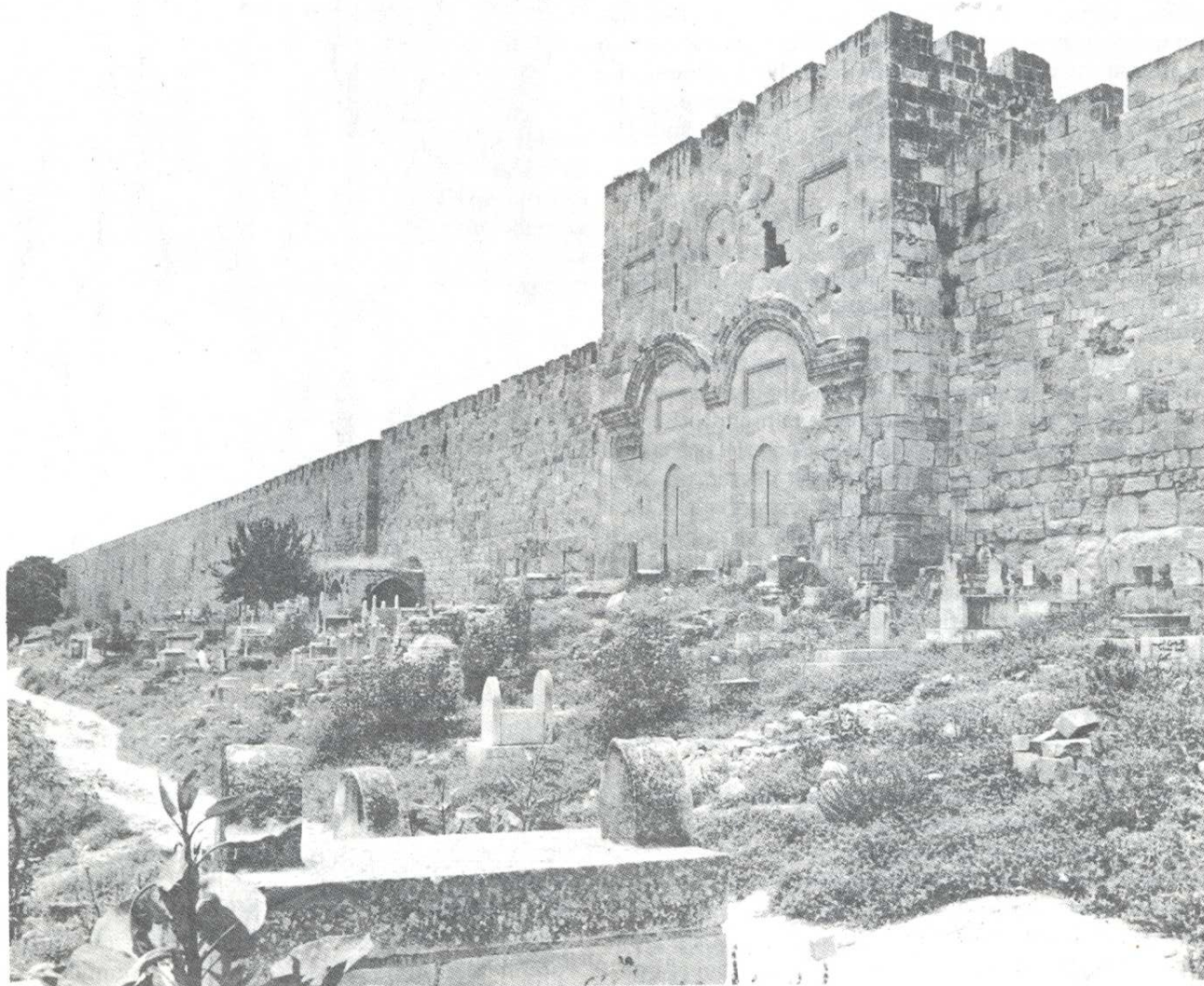
Psalms 132:13, 14.

"Let them be confounded and turned back that hate Zion."

Psalms 129:5.



From left to right — Gordon Fauth Jr. and two of our recent visitors: Pastor Richard Wiedenheft and Lillian Mueller, at Shepherd's Field, by Bethlehem.



The sealed Golden Gate in the eastern wall around the Old City of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 44:1, 2). The inside part of the gate is divided into two gateways, one passage called The Repentance Gate and the other, The Mercy Gate. Directly inside the Golden Gate is the Temple Mount, where the 2nd Temple once stood.

Biblical Flora and Fauna Alive and Well in Israel

by Jennie Goldman

"My beloved is like a gazelle." Song of Solomon 2:9.

"Like a crane or swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove." Isaiah 38:14.

"The boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars. She sent her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river." Psalms 80:10, 11.

The Bible abounds with passages like these, which draw their inspiration from an intimate knowledge of the land and its ecology. In all, there are over 220 different plant and animal species mentioned. Some references are literal and descriptive, many are symbolic; all are suggestive of a powerful bond between the people, the land, and the Creator of all life. Numerous features of this biblical environment are still part of the landscape, from Galilee in the north, to the Negev desert in the south. And with the return of the Jewish people to this region, a Bible-inspired sense of closeness to the land has prompted keen study of the flora and fauna so familiar to the patriarchs and prophets who lived here. Among the fruits of this quest are two unique conservation projects: Neot Kedumim, "The Gardens of Israel," and the Hai-Bar Biblical Wildlife Reserve.

Sage, Olive, and the Rose of Sharon

Neot Kedumim, the creation of Israeli botanist Nogah Hareuveni, stretches across 500 acres of hilly land midway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Partly wooded, the gardens feature virtually all the different plants, shrubs and trees mentioned in the Bible and the Talmud. There are also scaled-down versions of specific landscapes evoked by the Prophet Isaiah and others.

With the aid of texts and diagrams along the paths, and exhibits at the well-equipped study center of Neot Kedumim, the visitor is shown how aspects of the local flora have become an integral part of Jewish culture and idiom. One notable example is the striking parallel between the stem-formation of a type of sage, in Hebrew *moriah*, and the seven-branched candelabra, or *menorah*. This stood first in the Tabernacle in Sinai, and later in the Temple at Jerusalem; today it is the symbol of the State of Israel. In the book of Exodus, the *menorah* is described almost exclusively in botanical terms: stems, branches, calyxes, petals and cups.

The director of Neot Kedumim, Helen Frenkley, points to a grove of olive trees, and the effect produced by the wind. Because the underside of each olive leaf is silver-white, the trees seem to come alight when the wind turns the leaves upward. "The dove mentioned in the story of Noah's Ark bore an olive branch in its beak," she notes. "It meant peace to the world as a symbol of light, not only because olive oil gives off a pure white flame when burned, but also because, as you see, the olive actually becomes a tree of light when the wind blows

through it."

The Bible contains a wealth of practical information relating to the land, Miss Frenkley points out. The book of Isaiah, for example, gives a detailed account of terrace construction — a prerequisite for cultivating the hilly terrain. "Here we are growing a vineyard exactly according to the description of the Prophet Isaiah," she says. "We've built terraces and planted grapevine cuttings, and we've covered the terrace walls with small prickly

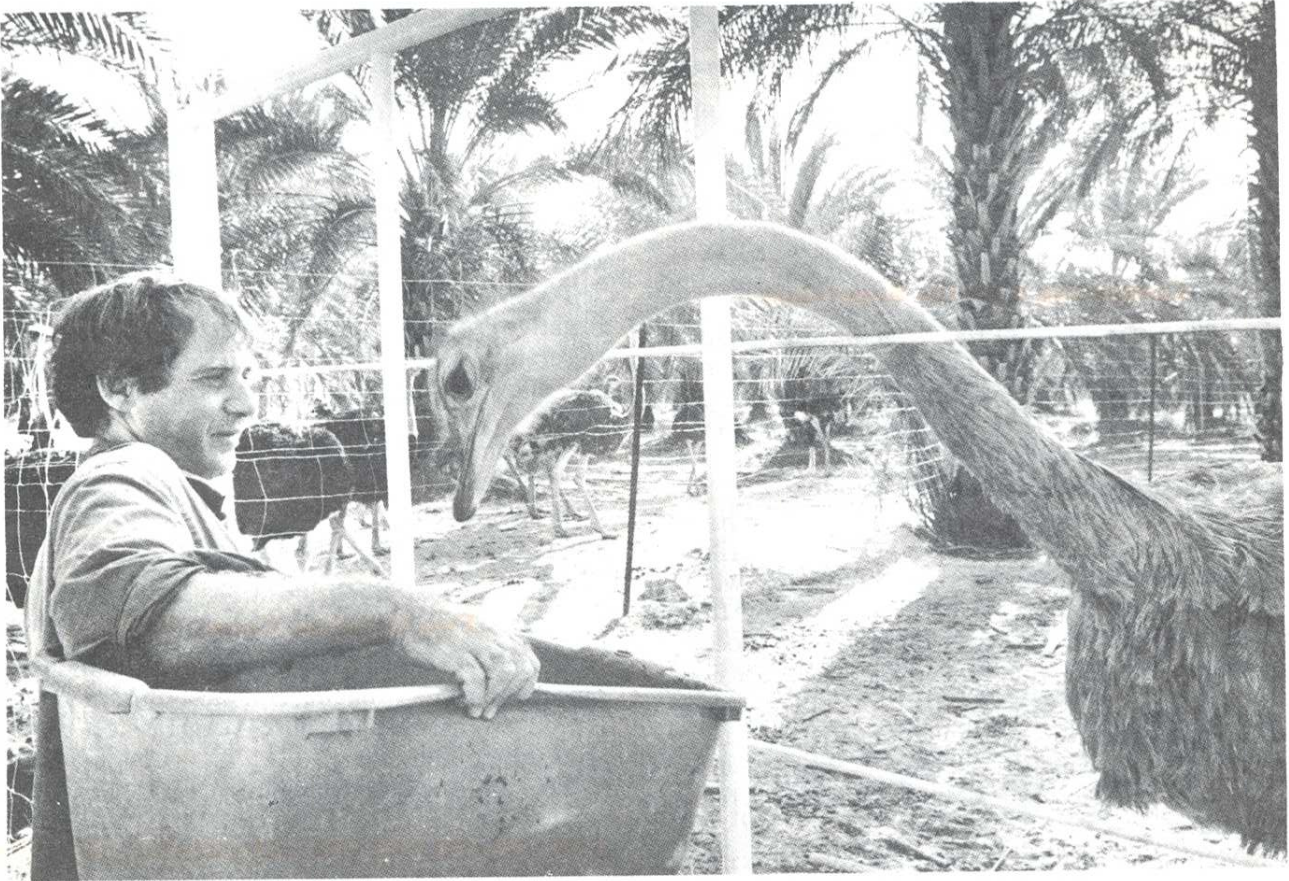


Ibex, wild goat, on the hills of Israel.

bushes — Isaiah's "hedge" — to keep the gazelles from entering the vineyard and eating the young shoots."

But before reaching this stage, the Neot Kedumim team of workers had to contend with ecological problems that were unknown in biblical times. "Many centuries of neglect and erosion left these once-fertile hills denuded of all plants and with little or no soil," says Helen Frenkley. "We hauled soil back up on the slopes and rebuilt the stone terraces using the remnants of the earlier, 3,000-year-old walls as a blueprint."

Today, Neot Kedumim is a thriving microcosm of biblical ecology, and an important research center on the



Ostriches being fed by keeper.

subject. Many discoveries await the visitor who walks its paths. For example, did you know that the celebrated "Rose of Sharon" is in fact a tulip? Or that the seed of the carob tree's fruit (St. John's Bread) is the smallest biblical weight? In fact, the carob seed is almost identical in weight to the present-day standard jeweller's measure (.0069 of an ounce), and its Hebrew name has given us the English word "carat".

Noah's Ark Revisited

The wild ass, antelope and ostrich that roamed the land in antiquity are three of twelve biblical species that have long disappeared from the landscape, eliminated over the centuries by indiscriminate hunting. Other species have only few survivors and are thus threatened with extinction. It took the inspired vision of a latter-day Noah to remedy the situation. The late General (Res.) Avraham Yoffe, former head of the Nature Reserves Authority and a legendary figure on Israel's conservation scene, had cherished a dream of restoring to the Holy Land the wildlife that had flourished here in antiquity. Five years ago, that dream became a reality in the form of Hai-Bar, a nature reserve covering thirty-five square kilometers in the heart of the Negév wilderness. At the time of General Yoffe's death earlier this year, at the age of sixty-nine, Hai-Bar (the Hebrew for "Wildlife") had several hundred animals, many of them brought to Israel from beyond these borders, from what might be called a diaspora of biblical species.

The setting is a dry, rolling plain dotted with thorny acacia trees; on all sides, a humming stillness under a fierce blue sky. Bill Clark, for two years chief curator of Hai-Bar, points to a group of ostriches that have come striding into view. "They're very inquisitive birds," he

says, "but notoriously stupid." Opening a well-thumbed Bible, he reads from Job 39:17. "*God hath deprived her of wisdom,*" he quotes, "*neither hath he imparted to her understanding.*"

The book of Job mentions another denizen of Hai-Bar, ancestor of our domesticated donkey: "*Who has loosened the bands of the wild ass?*" Job 39:5. Like the ostriches, the African wild asses on the reserve were originally brought here from Ethiopia.

Many of the animals at Hai-Bar have been reintroduced to their ancestral land after living for generations in the confines of a zoo. "The general programme here is to reacquaint these animals with a natural environment," explains Bill Clark, "to teach them how to be wild again, and let them reproduce. Then after two or three generations, we release them into nature. In this way we are planning to repopulate whole areas with long-lost biblical wildlife." A similar wildlife reserve flourishes on the Mount Carmel range in the Galilee, Bill points out, for animal species indigenous to Israel's northern region.

One of the most remarkable success stories of Hai-Bar is that of the ibex, or wild goat. Fifteen years ago, there were barely two hundred of these graceful creatures left in the land. "*The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats,*" writes the Psalmist (104:18), and it was in the hills of Ein Gedi, by the Dead Sea, that Avraham Yoffe and his team went looking for ibex to bring back to Hai-Bar. Today, several generations later, their population in the Negev has risen to 2,500. Not without reason has the ibex, with its magnificent long, curved horns, been adopted as the symbol of the Nature Reserves Authority.

No visit to Hai-Bar would be complete without a glimpse of the animal which features in the King James version of the Bible as a "unicorn," so called because

(continued on page 9)

BEING HAPPY IN A NEGATIVE WORLD (continued from page 3)

is just one of thousands of factory workers, or one of thousands of office workers. What he produces at work seems so insignificant — he lives for his pay and for the weekends, struggling to get some identity and sense of worth at home or in other pursuits.

Competing with the Superstars

And with the mass media bringing the world into every living room, people have an even tougher time feeling significant. For example, it's not enough for a woman to be attractive to her own family, in her own little world; she has to compete with the beauty queens of the "universe" who are continually parading through her home if she really wants to be *somebody*! For a baseball player, it's not enough to make a valuable contribution for his hometown team, he's got to compete with the superstars of the majors to really be *somebody*. It's not enough to make a valuable contribution on the block or in the school, or in the community. True success, real identity is in that big world out there. People feel that if they're going to really do something that counts, they have to compete with the superstars! They have to be *somebody* in the huge world that the media bring into their homes!

No wonder people feel so unsuccessful, so unfulfilled! No wonder they feel so useless and inadequate! No wonder they feel like nobodies! Compared to the superstars everybody is *nobody*!

Just think what a difference it would make if all the praise and appreciation that goes to a handful of superstars were given instead to local friends and neighbors — for their talents and abilities. People would begin to feel appreciated. They would begin to feel like *somebody*.

How about your world? Do you make others in your world (family, friends, co-workers) feel like *somebody*? Do you show them appreciation for the roles they play and the contributions they make? Do you make them feel like worthwhile individuals?

Read 1 Cor. 12:15-17. If you want to help the whole Christian body to become happier, begin to appreciate each member for the role he or she plays in the body! And then watch how the other members, in turn, begin to appreciate your contributions to their world.

Tearing One Another Down

We all want to be appreciated for *who we are and for what we do*. So we listen attentively to what others say, hoping to hear something positive, something encouraging. But, unfortunately, much of what we hear is negative — it tears us down and makes us feel inferior.

Why?

One of the reasons is that the people around us want to have a sense of value and identity just as we do. They want to feel like *somebody* too! And one way they can boost themselves up is to *tear us down* — to find fault with what we do, to give advice (perhaps well intentioned) and/or criticism. How often do you hear comments like these:

I would never do anything like that. That's no good! Your idea won't work! That was really stupid. You think that's something, listen to this. . . You ought to get out and work. You should stay home with your children. Be more

active in the community. Be more aggressive. Be more submissive. Get a better job. Be willing to work harder. You should do this — you should do that!

Of the giving of opinions there is no end — and usually no two opinions about what you should do agree.

By telling you how to live your life, by putting down what you do or think, others may feel better about themselves, but they certainly won't help you feel better about yourself. And the sad part is that to maintain our own self-respect we usually answer back with the same type of negative critical comments — or we just shut up and feel miserable. We are so easily intimidated by mere words. We allow the opinions of others to make us feel like *nobody*!

But opinions are just that — they are opinions, they are words; and often as not they are groundless and invalid. Don't allow yourself to be intimidated by them. After all, you're a person too. What about your opinion? Doesn't it count?

Two Opinions Count the Most

Actually, there are two opinions that should count the most in your life. The first and most important one of all is God's. What does He think? What does He think about you? About your life?

The Bible makes His opinion very clear. For when



The second most important opinion in your life is, believe it or not, yours!



God first created man, he looked at His handiwork and said, "... it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). Of course, man sinned and made a mess out of himself and his environment, but God still thought so much of him that He sent a Savior. *He thought so much of you that He sacrificed His only Son for you!* You are so precious, so valuable, so significant to Him that He made it possible for you to become His very own child and to live with Him forever (Rom. 8:15-17). He says that if He is for you, who is there who can be against you (Rom. 8:31)? He says that there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:1). Even the fact that God hates sin proves how much He thinks of you — He hates sin because He knows it hurts you. And He does not want His precious child to be hurt.

Wow — how great is God's care and concern for us! How is it then, that we can be so down on ourselves? The answer is that all our lives we've been brain-washed with the negative influences of Satan and of this world — to the point that God's opinions just don't seem real to us. If we had His thoughts bombarding us every day on TV, radio, and in print, we might begin to believe Him. We might begin to obey Him. And that, of course, is what Christianity is all about — unconditional surrender to God in every aspect of life!

The Second Most Important Opinion

The second most important opinion in your life is, believe it or not, yours! You're the one who must determine what is important to you. You've got to choose how to live your life, how to spend your time. You're the one

NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

All Items from "The Jerusalem Post"

Blessings

It was one of those cases of the blessed blessing the blessed.

While waiting in one of those seemingly endless Sunday morning queues for the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv bus, we watched a pious old gentleman making his way through the crowd, arms outstretched, blessing the waiters-in-line over the head.

He found himself in front of a very tall blonde, Scandinavian woman wearing a cross, whereupon he bestowed upon her the same blessing as he had on everyone else.

Apparently understanding him, the woman smiled and said in English, "And Jesus blesses you, too."

The little old man looked at her quizzically, and she repeated herself in Hebrew. His expression didn't change: her reference to "Jesus" didn't register. But at least both of them had received their daily blessing.

Parks and Beaches Overflow as Pessah Holiday Ends

TEL AVIV. — Tens of thousands of people visited camping and picnic sites around the country on Friday and Saturday as the Pessah (Passover) vacation drew to an end. The country's beaches were also packed with holidaymakers.

More than 2,000 people took part in the singing of "The Song of the Sea" on the seventh and final day of Pessah on Friday in the lighted square at the seaside Ramada Hotel in Tel Aviv.

"The Song of the Sea," from *Exodus*, is sung to commemorate the parting of the Red Sea, which according to tradition occurred on the last day of Pessah.

In Tel Aviv on Thursday afternoon, some 100 rabbis burst into a restaurant on Dizengoff Street and attacked diners for eating *hametz* (foods forbidden on Pessah).

The rabbis had come from a demonstration nearby, at Dizengoff Circle, against *hametz* consumption during Pessah.

Shouting "Goyim," (heathens) "Get out of this country," and "It's not your country" in Hebrew and English, they attacked diners and waiters, smashed dishes and plates, threw food off the tables and hurled chairs at the walls.

Police arrived after about 20 minutes, but no one was arrested.

At the demonstration in Dizengoff Circle earlier some 200 rabbis from Tel Aviv and surrounding towns, led by Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi Yedidya Frenkel, decried the sale of *hametz* during the holiday.

Uncle Sam's Helping Hand Aids Haifa Family

HAIFA. — A volunteer crew from the U.S. Sixth Fleet went into action last week to help a hard-up Haifa family get their home shipshape. The sailors took up the task after hearing about the plight of the 45-year-old mother and her seven children from United Services Organization representative Gila Gerson.

Gerson told the men of the destroyer USS Sampson that she had read about the Peretz family in a local paper. The mother, an alcoholic, was looking after the children alone following the death of her husband.

The family home in Rehov Yehiel was flooded and damaged because of a plumbing fault, and the municipal and government welfare authorities could not decide who was responsible for repairing it.

When Gerson boarded the Sampson to help organize the men's shore-leave arrangements, she told the story to the captain Jerry Naigan, who is Jewish.

"He took it to heart and sent one of his specialists to check out the situation. On his recommendation, 15 officers and men went to the flat in their working fatigues with the necessary tools and went to work on it," she told *The Jerusalem Post*.

A ship's plumber fixed the piping and toilet, the crew pumped out the water, scraped the moldy walls and painted them, repaired the broken down front door, and took the family's dirty clothing for laundering on the ship. By the time they were through, the flat was unrecognizable, and they left with the blessings of the astounded neighbors.

Shroud of Turin

A U.S. medical school professor says he has discovered evidence that the man whose image appears on the famed Shroud of Turin was Jewish.

Dr. Alan Whanger, who for eight years has researched the shroud that supposedly was the burial cloth of Jesus, also said the facial image on the shroud may have been used for hundreds of artistic depictions of Jesus since the second and third centuries.

Whanger, of Duke University Medical School, used a polarized image overlay technique to discover the existence of a phylactery (*tefila*) on the left arm of the figure on the shroud.

Whanger said the discovery of the phylactery imprint, coupled with his earlier discovery of a phylactery on the head of the image, indicates the person was Jewish.

New, Faster Cancer Test Developed Here

A new and faster Israeli-developed test for cancer will be available here and abroad within a few months. It is based on the fact that active cancer cells cause the body to produce antibodies that can be detected in the blood. The type of these antibodies can indicate where the malignancy is located.

The test, which is simple and can be performed in any properly equipped laboratory, gives quicker results than biopsy and radiological evaluations. It can detect both primary cancers and metastatic growths.

The test, which has been clinically tested and found to be reliable, was developed by Bio-Yeda Pharmaceutical and Research Laboratories in Rehovot.



The Greek Orthodox Patriarch makes his entrance in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Harmony is Keynote of Easter in Jerusalem

A babel of languages echoed through Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre yesterday morning as Protestants and Roman Catholics celebrated Easter and members of various Orthodox faiths marked Palm Sunday. Followers of the Eastern rite will celebrate Easter next Sunday.

The Roman Catholic mass was held in Latin and Arabic in the edicule of the church. Not far away the Greek Orthodox and Armenian Patriarchs entered the sanctuary, each with his own solemn procession.

According to Daniel Rossing, head of the Christian Communities department of the Religious Affairs Ministry, everything went smoothly with no friction or untoward incidents.

"To carry off something like this, you must have precise coordination," Rossing told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The Tourism Ministry said it estimated 55,000 Christian pilgrims were in Jerusalem for the holiday, a 25 per cent increase over last year. Security forces kept a low profile.

"If you want an orderly, quiet mass, this certainly isn't the place to come. That I can have at home in Europe. But it's special here, with all the different groups worshipping," said Reno Nix, a seminary student from Switzerland attending mass at the Holy Sepulchre.

Protestants gathered for open-air services at the Garden Tomb just outside the walls of the Old City in East Jerusalem. About 1,000 people attended the English-language service in the chilly hour after dawn, which was followed by services in other languages.

The official overseer of the celebrations at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was Wadji Nusseibeh, a Moslem in his 30s whose family has held the keys to the massive wooden church door since the year 640 A.D.

"Everyone in this life has his own (religious) feeling and his own way of living. But if everybody believes in God, this is the main thing," he said.

Nusseibeh said the Crusaders, who captured Jerusalem in 1099, confiscated the key for a century or so, but it was returned to his family when Saladin conquered the city and returned it to Moslem rule in the 12th century. Since then a member of the Nusseibeh family has opened the door before sunrise and closed it after dark every day.

Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg received a telegram of good wishes for Pessah (Passover) from Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Filaret of Moscow. Filaret is second in the hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church and this is the first time that the Moscow-based Church has sent such a message.

Burg quickly reciprocated by sending Filaret his good wishes on the occasion of the Russian Easter.

Thousands in Palm Sunday Procession

Tens of thousands of pilgrims retraced the steps of Jesus down the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem's Old City in a song-filled Palm Sunday procession.

Hymns and songs in Arabic, English, German, Latin and other languages marked the opening of a week of celebrations preceding Easter.

Elderly women made their way leaning on canes,

clutching palm branches in the other hand to symbolize the leaves waved at Jesus by welcoming crowds when He entered Jerusalem 2,000 years ago.

A sunny sky marked the outset of the procession along the stone-wall route.

A jeep full of Border Police guided the marchers down the mountain.

Arab teenagers in scout uniforms lined most of the route to St. Anne's Church in the Old City and cordoned off a throng of onlookers.

Israel, France to Sign Agreement for Reactor

HAIFA. — Israel is shortly to sign an agreement for the purchase of a 950-megawatt nuclear reactor in France, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal revealed this week. He said that the country's first nuclear power station can be built in seven years and go into operation by 1993.

Shahal was speaking at a symposium on Israel's power economy held under the auspices of the Technion's Samuel Neaman Advanced Research Institute.

The new 1,100 megawatt coal-fired power station at Ashkelon is to be completed by 1995.

Jewish Treasures in Vatican Library Collection

A 12th century Tora from North Africa, a first edition of a 15th century Bible and precious second-century gilded glass from Roman catacombs were among the Jewish treasures in the Vatican library collection, many of which were shown on an Easter morning television special in the U.S.

Patrimony: Judaica at the Vatican on the American television network CBS, offered the first public glimpse of many treasures usually seen only by religious scholars.

The 600-year-old parchment Tora is magnificently illuminated and in perfect condition, as is a 14th century Spanish Bible shown in close-up amid the splendor of the frescoed library.

Among the 20 items shown from the Vatican's extensive collection of rare books and manuscripts were the 1488 Soncino Bible, which was among the first printed books; the Bomberg Bible, which is a 1512 edition of the Pentateuch; and a 1701 leather-bound edition of the homilies of Pope Clement XI. Clement's homilies are in Latin on one page and Hebrew on the facing page.

Another rarely shown manuscript was a perfect edition of the Samaritan Bible and its accompanying *targum*, or commentary.

New Heart Medication Goes on Sale Here

A new Israeli-synthesized drug for the treatment of chronic heart disease went on the market this week.

The Health Ministry licensed the new drug, *Dilatam*, a brand name for the synthetic chemical Diltiazem, after extensive clinical trials.

Abic Pharmaceuticals, producer of the drug, say it is in the calcium-regulating group of cardiac drugs.

The advantages of the new synthesis, they say, are its low cost and minimal side effects.

T.V.'s Arabic Service to Get Israel Prize

The 1985 Israel Prize for a special contribution to society and the state will be awarded to Israel Televisions' Arab-language service, the Education Ministry announced over the weekend.

The announcement cited the Arab-language service's accurate picture of Israel's achievements and society and its high professional level.

Israel Television was established, the announcement noted, in large part due to the need felt for Arabic broadcasts during the "waiting period" before the Six Day War. At its outset, the Arab-language service faced many difficulties because of a shortage of Arabic-speaking journalists and technicians.

The Arab-language service has gained a large audience among Arabic speakers in Israel and among viewers in neighboring countries, the announcement continued, attributing this to a policy of not emphasizing the negative and of holding to the principle of co-existence in the Middle East.

The award decision was made by a committee headed by Prof. Shmuel Moreh and was approved by Education Minister Yitzhak Navon.

International Harp Contest Here in July

The Ninth International Harp Contest will be held in Israel July 9-21.

Participating will be 42 harpists from 18 countries: Yugoslavia, Poland, Rumania, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, the U.S., Canada, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, England, Wales and France. The winner will be guest soloist at a gala Jerusalem concert of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta.

This competition — the only world-wide contest for the harp — has adopted Israel as its permanent home and has been held here every three years since 1959. In addition, the Second World Harp Congress will be held in Jerusalem from July 19-26 with 200 participants.

Research on Rat Cells May Help the Elderly

Better health during old age may be one of the results of research now being done by Hebrew University scientists. A team headed by Prof. Yéhezkel Barenholz has found that by altering the amounts of certain fatlike substances in older body cells, the cells exhibit characteristics associated with youth.

Barenholz warns against drawing unwarranted conclusions from these tissue culture experiments. However, one may hope that one day there may be an improvement in the state of health in old age, the announcement said.

Bomb Dismantled at Rachel's Tomb

A border Police sapper on Friday safely dismantled an explosive device found at Rachel's Tomb on the outskirts of Bethlehem.

The device, found in a restroom, contained half a kilogram of explosives.



Members of the Japanese pro-Zionist Makuya sect, on the sect's 24th annual pilgrimage to Israel, visit the Western Wall.

Japanese Sect Meets Herzog at End of 24th Pilgrimage

A 91-year-old physician and world expert on Japanese samurai fencing and his 88-year-old wife are among dozens of Japanese Christians studying Hebrew in an ulpan opened last September in the heart of Tokyo.

Aragaki Tsenemasa and his wife Riuko, a little hard-of-hearing but full of energy, took part in the 24th annual pilgrimage to Israel of the Japanese pro-Zionist Makuya sect. They and 131 other Japanese from Japan, the U.S., Norway and Taiwan have spent two weeks touring the country, from Mt. Hermon in the north to Mitzpe Ramon in the south. Yesterday they ended their pilgrimage with a visit to Beit Hanassi in Jerusalem, where they were warmly received by President Chaim Herzog.

"Minasana yuhkoso irashaimashita totema ureshii-jesu," the president said, using a Japanese greeting of welcome. His guests, waving Israeli and Japanese flags, were moved almost to tears.

They provided the entertainment at the 35-minute reception, singing Hebrew songs based on biblical verses to the accompaniment of accordion playing.

Herzog said the Makuya, a sect founded by the late Prof. Avraham Ikuro Teshima in 1948, are always welcome in Israel. Their unbounded support and admiration for the State of Israel, he continued, shine in stark contrast to the hatred of Israel's enemies. He praised the Makuya for establishing a Japanese garden at Kibbutz Heftziba, where many Makuya study, and noted that the Jerusalem stone on Teshima's grave symbolizes his love for Zion.

Yitzhak Migasaki, leader of the pilgrimage, noted that the Hebrew ulpan was established as the result of the publication of the Makuya's Hebrew-Japanese dictionary, prepared by Makuya members who have spent time studying in Israel. After members of the sect were interviewed on Japanese television and in mass-circulation papers in Tokyo, many hundreds of Japanese Christians asked to learn Hebrew so they could study the Bible in the original. Some of the ulpan students accompanied the Makuya on their pilgrimage, which included the eating of lamb in a Beduin tent, "like the ancient Israelites."

Migasaki expressed the Makuya's "profound sorrow" over the deaths of 12 Israeli soldiers in Sunday's Shi'ite attack.

Ethiopian Elders to Study in Preparation for Rabbinate

Arrangements are being made to recognize the traditional elders of the Ethiopian community as rabbis.

This was revealed yesterday by Rabbi Dov Begun, director of Machon Meir, the Jerusalem institution that is providing religious instruction to a number of the elders called *Kessim* in Amharic.

The institute, which Begun described as a Zionist-oriented, apolitical training center for young Jewish men from around the world, has been offering courses in Hebrew and basic Jewish studies to three of the *Kessim* for the past three months.

Plans are under way for another 10 to begin a one-year programme, which would also include

Jewish history, religious thought and Bible. Begun stressed that at the same time, the institute would respect the traditions of the Ethiopians.

Begun said that he did not know if those taking the course had undergone the token conversion ceremony the chief rabbis have demanded of the Ethiopians and which the bulk of the community has refused to undergo. "I don't want to become involved in this conflict. I just assume that they have done so," he said.

In addition to the programme for elders, the institute also hopes to begin a programme for 30 to 50 younger members of the community, who will, Begun hopes, form the core of the future spiritual leadership of the Ethiopian Jews.

Ali: Israel Has Improved West Bank 'Quality of Life'

WASHINGTON. — Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali says Israel has taken "real steps" to improve life for Palestinians on the West Bank and may accept arbitration to settle the Taba border dispute.

In an interview published yesterday in *The Wall Street Journal*, Ali also said Egypt and Israel will continue to exchange high-level envoys to discuss bilateral issues as well as the broader effort to revive the peace process.

In praising recent Israeli steps aimed at improving the "quality of life" on the West Bank, Ali pointed to Israel's decision to allow Palestinian banks to open there.

He also commended recent discussions between Israeli leaders and Palestinians living on the West Bank. He expressed hope for more steps in that direction.

Ali said the progress Egypt has detected on the West Bank means that issue will not block a return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

But there was no indication when the ambassador might in fact be sent back to Israel. Egypt is still holding out for a total withdrawal from Lebanon and a resolution of the Taba border problem.

Regarding Taba, Ali said Israel and Egypt will soon hold a new round of talks to resolve the dispute. He expressed confidence Israel will eventually agree to an international arbitration panel. "I think they will accept this idea," he said.

Ethiopian Olim Get Their Religious Books

TEL AVIV. — A collection of holy books and other religious objects from Ethiopia, brought to Israel by an undisclosed route, were yesterday presented to religious leaders of the Ethiopian community. Michael Corinaldi, head of the world committee of Ethiopian Jewry, said that now the Ethiopian Jews in Israel would be able to pray as they had for generations.

Absorbing Ethiopians Has Cost \$300m.

TEL AVIV — The absorption of Ethiopian immigrants has cost \$300 million so far, Prime Minister Peres said.

Peres told a student group at Tel Aviv University: "This was not budgeted. But I think you all agree it was worth spending less on other things to save lives."

New Method to Destroy Kidney Stones

An apparatus that destroys kidney stones with shock waves projected from outside the patient's body will be put into operation at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem in June.

The apparatus, perfected in Germany, is expected to allow more than 80 per cent of kidney patients to be treated without surgery. Patients at Hadassah now usually have kidney stones removed by an ultra-sound apparatus inserted into the kidney after the patient has been anesthetized. The new apparatus does not require general anesthesia or a prolonged stay in hospital.

Housing Ministry Team to Find Flats for Ethiopians

A Housing Ministry task force has been formed to locate suitable housing for the recently arrived immigrants from Ethiopia, ministry director general Asher Weiner has announced.

He said the team would not only prepare a list of available state-subsidized housing, but would also coordinate its plans with other government ministries involved in the absorption of the newcomers.

Weiner added that "substantial" sums from the ministry's operating budget are being allocated to purchase and renovate flats for the Ethiopian immigrants. These housing units are not only in outlying development towns, but also in veteran neighborhoods of Jerusalem, Ashdod, Petah Tikva, Eilat, Beersheba and Netanya, he said.

Before assigning flats to the immigrants, the task force will make sure there are ample employment opportunities near the flats.

Weiner told *The Jerusalem Post* that thanks to a grant of \$25 million from the Treasury and the Jewish Agency, the ministry is reserving another 500 new and used flats for Ethiopian immigrants.

Kibbutz in Pennsylvania

A union leader and city councilman from Philadelphia yesterday suggested kibbutz-type organization could prove a solution to the U.S. welfare problems. The councilman and the rest of a delegation of south-eastern Pennsylvania labor leaders were hosted by Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar yesterday at the end of a week-long visit to Israel.

Councilman Lucien Blackwell said that if Americans on welfare could pool their welfare cheques and organize cooperative food purchasing and child care modelled on the kibbutz system, they might improve their quality of life.

Hebrew in Egypt

About 1,000 Egyptian students are studying Hebrew and Jewish studies in three Cairo universities this year, Prof. Gavriel Warburg said.

Speaking in the Egyptian capital, Warburg, head of the Israeli Academic Center in Cairo, said Cairo University, Ein Shams University and Al-Azhar University each have a Jewish studies department which gives four-year B.A. courses, as well as courses towards second and third degrees.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

As a service to our readers, we offer the following books dealing with different aspects of Israel, its people and history. We regularly receive letters asking about the availability of such books, and we hope these selections will help to meet the demand. All prices are in U.S. dollars and include surface shipping to any part of the world. Payment can also be made in the equivalent amount in other currencies. If you are looking for a book (published in Israel) that is not listed here, write us about it, and we will try to find it for you.

LIVING WITH THE BIBLE — By Moshe Dayan, Israel's most famous general. *"I was introduced to the stories of the Bible as a boy, like all children born in the Land of the Book."* So begins this charming and very special recreation of some of the most dramatic events of the Old Testament, as Dayan explores the archaeology of the Holy Land and re-interprets familiar Bible Stories in a new light, drawing on his personal experiences and including parallel stories from modern times. Gives new life to many biblical accounts, and also an insight into the rebirth of the modern state of Israel. There is, for example, a fascinating account of the battle between David and Goliath, told with the special touch that only Moshe Dayan could provide. Well illustrated throughout, with over 100 photographs, drawings, and maps. 232 pages. Hard-cover. 10 x 8¼ inches. Price \$21.00

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THE GLORY OF THE HOLY LAND — An explorer's guide. Anyone interested in Israel, its places of holy and historical interest, and its biblical aspects, will find this book to be a treasure trove of information, with its more than 600 superb color photographs and richly-documented text covering all parts of the Holy Land, from the Mountain of Moses in southern Sinai, to the sources of the Jordan in northern Israel. Describes the places that are sacred to Jews, Christians or Moslems, as well as some of the other religious sects in the Holy Land, such as the Druse and Bahais. The book follows a geographical plan, covering the entire country and its region, always with richly-illustrated historical detail, and many biblical references. Over 600 color photos, 256 pages. 11 x 8¾ inches. Price \$21.00

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ISRAEL — THE PROMISED LAND. *"There should be some place on earth where we have a Jewish majority,"* said Golda Meir. *"As a minority, we have quite a history."* There is such a place and it's called Israel. Its history since the First Aliyah brought Jewish refugees from Russia and Romania in the 1880's

has brought more change to the Promised Land than the entire 2,500 years that preceded it. This fascinating book tells the story — from then to present. Covers Israel, its history and origins, its people, its wars and struggles. Features beautiful color photography throughout. The images of Israel captured especially for this book reflect not only the diversity of the land but of its people. Both are unique in all the world. From the golden city of Jerusalem to the blooming desert of the Negev to the bustle of Tel Aviv and the rich farms of the Galilee, Israel is an experience to treasure. An experience preserved here as only brilliant photography can preserve it. Over 300 color photos, 335 pages. 12½ x 9¼ inches. Hardcover \$39.00

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, ITS HISTORY IN MAPS — This interesting book traces the history of the Jewish people and the nation of Israel through the use of more than 100 maps. Beginning with Israel in Biblical times, it follows the Jews through their dispersion among the nations, through to their return in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the rebirth of Israel. It details the course of the wars with the Arab nations, the changing borders, etc. It reports the many incidents taking place in and between the wars, and gives many interesting facts regarding population, armaments, the political aftermaths, etc. Paperback, 126 pages, 9¾ x 6¾ inches. Price . . . \$15.00

100 COLOR SLIDES OF THE HOLY LAND — This set of 100 best color slides of Israel is complete with a 90 minute cassette tape commentary and accompanying guide book. It takes you on a vivid and beautiful tour of the main biblical and historical sites of interest in the Holy Land. Some of the slides feature the people of the land; their dress habits, occupations and customs — many of which have not changed too much since times of old. The descriptions and commentaries are easy to understand and interesting, containing a wealth of biblical references and historical information that, together with the beautifully captured images of the slides, will make the Land of the Bible come alive to you. Price \$28.00 (includes airmail postage)

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"Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."

Isaiah 52:7-10.

"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.



Jaffa Gate, one of the main gates leading into the Old City of Jerusalem. It is so called because it marks the beginning of the road to Jaffa, the ancient seaport which in days gone by was quite important to Palestine. Altogether there are twelve gates around the city – which may be symbolic of the twelve gates which will lead into the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:12) – though only seven are currently in use. The present walls around the city were built by the Ottoman ruler, Sultan Suleiman (see Isaiah 60:10), from 1520-1566, over the remains and foundations of the old walls, some of which date back to the 2nd Temple period.