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CHAIRMAN NEWS LETTER

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הסתדרות עולמית מנכ"י

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

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MAY/JUNE, 1956

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 50

JUBILEE EDITION

**MR. DAVID MARSHALL, CHIEF MINISTER OF SINGAPORE,
HONoured BY MACCABI**



Mr. DAVID MARSHALL (standing) addresses those present at the reception given in his honour
at the premises of Maccabi Association London (N.W.)

With Mr. Marshall are (left to right): The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, Mr. Jack Richman,
The Very Rev. Israel Brodie and Mr. Pierre Gildesgame.

A FULL REPORT WILL BE FOUND IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial Comment

This is the 50th edition of the "Chairman's Newsletter" - the Jubilee edition. I am glad I was able to continue publication of this "Newsletter" and am grateful in the knowledge that it serves to maintain a link between Maccabi leaders in many parts of the world, as well as to disseminate news considered of general interest. Owing to technical difficulties and to pressure of work, it has not always been possible to publish this "Newsletter" at monthly intervals. Once again, I must appeal to my correspondents in Europe and elsewhere to provide me with up-to-date information as, without it, this "Newsletter" will not serve fully the desired purposes. On the other hand, I wish to thank all those who assisted and supported me and who, in so doing, have helped this publication to become a stimulant to better endeavours in Maccabi ranks.

You have already been advised that this year's Annual Conference will be held in London during the WEEKEND SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST TO MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD. The 1956 Conference will be called upon to decide on a number of important problems affecting every club in the Territorial Organisation of the European Region. It is not my intention to anticipate the various resolutions which Conference delegates will be called to consider and to vote upon. It can be said with certainty that Territorial Organisations will be asked to consolidate their ranks and to embark immediately upon vigorous preparations for the 5th Maccabiah. We are aware that Maccabi leaders in Europe, as in any other parts of the world, are already giving consideration to the participation of their national teams in the 1957 Games. Normal as such a mental exercise may be, it would prove of no avail if those responsible did not attempt to lay down plans for EARLY ACTION. Let the example of Great Britain once again serve as an inspiration to the rest of our friends in Europe. A Maccabiah Organising Committee has already been set up and is fully active. Outstanding Jewish athletes in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are being approached with a view to the formation of the British team which, it is hoped, will, once again, prove a redoubtable challenger in the field of international sporting contests. Maccabi clubs all over Great Britain are being urged to look out for "talent" in the ranks of their members and those who appear promising will soon be undergoing intensive training under qualified instructors. A body of public-spirited Maccabi supporters is being formed, whose task will be to raise a sum of £15,000. It is intended, this coming year to send out and bring back home a British team of about 100 athletes by chartered planes.

The Conference will also be honoured by the presence of our President, the Right Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt, P.C., T.D., D.L., and by the very popular Vice-President, Mr. Romi Goldmuntz of Belgium.

It can be said, without any hesitation, that the London 1956 Annual European Maccabi Conference will be as memorable an event as any of the preceding Conferences which were so excellently organised by our colleagues in Holland, Ireland, France, Belgium and Switzerland.

IN THE COURSE OF THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO, the European Regional Executive H.Q. will issue a circular letter to all Territorial Organisations in Europe containing full details of the programme of the European Conference and of the arrangements being made in connection therewith. Those receiving the information are earnestly requested to read it carefully and to send us their replies with least delay, as it is desirable that all Conference arrangements be concluded early in July. Otherwise delays will occur during the Summer holiday season, as a result of which arrangements for the

Conference will suffer.

Hapoel Festival.

Some reports appear in this issue under the above heading which should prove amply the failure of the Hapoel to compete successfully with or to undermine the prestige of the Maccabiah. We are not rejoicing in Hapoel's failure; on the contrary, we would have liked their efforts to be crowned with success, for we know that, if it had been a success, it would have done a great deal of good to Israeli sports, as well as to the reputation of Hapoel, a leading and the numerically strongest sports organisation in Israel. Let us hope, therefore, that Hapoel have drawn the logical conclusion from this, their first, and let us hope their last, effort at competing with the Maccabiah. As Hapoel is purely an Israeli Sports Organisation, having no branches or outposts outside its own country, it should confine its activities to the betterment of sports and sportsmanship in its own ranks - in Israel! The Maccabi World Union, on the other hand, is a World Organisation, with a splendid record of activities for over 70 years. The Maccabiah has been, and will continue to be, an exclusive Maccabi World Union institution.

Let us hope, therefore, that Hapoel, having learned a lesson of how not to compete against a fraternal institution, will now offer its wholehearted co-operation to the Maccabi World Union as, in this manner, it will ensure that the forthcoming Maccabiah shall be the outcome of harmonious and sincere co-operation between the leading sports organisations in Israel.

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MR.DAVID MARSHALL, CHIEF MINISTER OF SINGAPORE HONOURED BY MACCABI.

A full report and photo appear in this issue on the Reception given to Mr.David Marshall during his recent visit to London. I should like to quote at this juncture an extract of the excellent speech delivered on this occasion by the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, the Very Rev. Israel Brodie.

In recalling the fact that David Marshall was, at once time, a member of Maccabi in London, the Chief Rabbi proceeded by saying:

"Maccabi members belong to an organisation of the community which had set itself very high ideals. I am not surprised
 •• that those who have passed through Maccabi were men and women who made their contribution to the welfare of the community and work with might and main, for a Cause which they held dear. I wish the Maccabi Movement was allowed to operate freely in those countries where it could not do so at present. (The Chief Rabbi referred to the countries of Eastern Europe, beyond the "Iron Curtain"). It would be a glorious day and the fulfilment of Mr.Marshall's ideals if those countries could be represented in future Maccabiahs in Israel."

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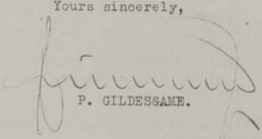
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MY REPORT ON THE VISIT TO BELGIUM CRITICISED.

I am informed that Herman Bochner and Roger Katz considered my criticism of certain aspects of Belgium's Maccabi leaders' participation in the Zionist World Congress elections unwarranted. Replying to Herman Bochner, I informed him that we are free to criticise each other and will do so publicly, if necessary, so long as by so doing we can better serve the ultimate cause of the Movement. I deplored the fact that some prominent leaders of Maccabi Belgium (not Herman Bochner) allowed themselves to be nominated as delegates to the World Zionist Congress by one of the political parties. Time

and again European Maccabi leaders voiced strong criticism of Maccabi leaders in Israel, known to associate actively with some political party and who thereby caused Maccabi Israel to be identified with party politics. Our Israeli colleagues were severely criticised and reprimanded for so doing and I see no reason why European Maccabi leaders should be immune from such criticism.

Yours sincerely,



P. GILDESSAME.

News from Territorial Organisations.

ISRAEL.

MACCABIAH VILLAGE PROJECT.

Messrs. Netanel and Tory, Chairman and Hon. General Secretary of the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q., submitted to us recently a Memorandum containing counter-proposals for the incorporation of a Company who would be the owners of the Maccabiah Village. It is premature to disclose to my readers the differences arising between the two memoranda. An exchange of correspondence is taking place, aimed at composing the differences between those concerned, namely, the World Executive members in Tel Aviv and in London. As soon as agreement in principle has been reached, I will be pleased to impart further news on the subject. It is hoped that an opportunity to discuss the matter in greater detail will soon be at hand, so that the European Conference may give a mandate to the European members of the Executive to reach final agreement with the Israel Executive.

THE HAPOEL SPORTS FESTIVAL.

It will be recalled that the Festival (known in Israel as the "Kinuss") was held in May in Israel to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the establishment of Hapoel.

A report has now reached me from the Sports Director, Dr. R. Atlasz, in Tel Aviv, extracts from which I quote:

"Yesterday I witnessed the Closing Ceremony, which promised to be the culmination of all events. Participation from European countries was restricted to 16 (sixteen) athletes in all (comprising Belgium, Austria, Great Britain and Switzerland) all of whom were members of their respective Workers' Sports Organisations. In the Athletic events 7 athletes from three countries participated. From Israel only members of Hapoel took part; in most competitions only 2 - 3 athletes from Israel participated; sometimes only one. The only event of some importance was the long-distance Cycling race, a kind of a "Tour de France", extending from Dan to Beer Sheva. Among 17 competing cyclists only 4 were foreign. The football match between an Israel selected team and the Uruguay team "Rampla Juniors" took place on the first day of the "Kinuss" at the Ramat Gan Stadium, which drew a smaller number of spectators than a week earlier when the Sunderland team from England played against an Israeli selected team. The Turkish Basketball team, scheduled to compete, did not arrive. The other sports events were only of local interest. As regards the Closing Ceremony at the

Ramat Gan Stadium, this attracted about 20,000 spectators. (It will be remembered that the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Maccabiah in 1953 attracted over 50,000 spectators on each occasion.) To swell the ranks of the participants, Hapoel and the Histadrut mobilised school-children from Towns and Settlements and organised a "March Past" which was truly impressive. The "Jerusalem Post" described this, however, as a rather poor affair, for the show lasted from 3.30.p.m. until 7.p.m. Publicity was poor. The man in the street did not feel at all that a big event was taking place and the Hapoel people themselves expressed disappointment in that their event was insignificant when compared with the Maccabiah. Some commented that the Hapoel "Kinuss" held in 1952 was much better than the last one."

The London "Jewish Chronicle" correspondent reported on the Hapoel Festival as follows:

"British representatives were most successful. Joyce Fielder won the ladies' singles table tennis championship and, together with Simcha Finkelstein, of Israel (who won the men's singles) also gained the mixed doubles title. G.A.Morris was one of the most outstanding cyclists at the festival. There were only 4 British participants in all."

The English Sunderland Football team which has recently visited Israel have won two of their matches and drawn one. Sunderland defeated Petah Tiqva Maccabi 2 - 1 and Haifa Maccabi 4 - 2, after exciting struggles. The tour ended in a 1 - 1 draw played against a selected Israel eleven. The Sunderland football team who returned last week from Israel have invited Maccabi Petah Tiqva to send a team to England in October. On arrival at London Airport one of the leading Sunderland players, Len Shackleton, commented: "There is plenty of good football in Israel."

THE LATE DR. F. TEILHABER.

Dr. Felix Teilhaber, who died recently in Tel Aviv at the age of 71, was head of the Sick Fund of the Israel Maccabi Organisation, a founder of Maccabi in pre-Hitler Germany, and author of a number of books on German Jewry. Dr. Teilhaber was himself a leading sportsman and, despite his age, took part in the Chanukah torchlight runs from Modlin. On his 70th birthday last year he ran from Petah Tiqva to Tel Aviv.

ISRAELI FOOTBALLERS SCORE IN U.S.A.

A football match between the Israeli Olympic team and an all-star American XI featured in a Sports Festival held in New York recently to celebrate the State of Israel's eighth birthday. The festival was organised in co-operation with the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel.

A crowd of 42,000 saw the Israeli team defeat the all-star American team 2 - 1 in the course of the Sports Festival "Salute to Israel". Taking advantage of the weak American defence, Israeli forwards scored after 7 minutes. Most of the dangerous Israeli moves were initiated by their right-winger, Glaser, (who also distinguished himself when Maccabi Tel Aviv Football team played against professional teams in England two years ago.)

Lionel Schalit, who was at that time in New York, and who attended the Festival, tells me that there was also a parade, headed by "Miss America and "Miss Israel". Greetings were read from the Governor, Mr. Averell Harriman, the Mayor of New York, Mr. Robert F. Wagner, and Mr. David Ben-Gurion sent greetings to the gathering over the trans-Atlantic telephone. The Israeli players were given a civic reception in New York, following which they paraded through the centre of the city.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A RECEPTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER OF SINGAPORE, MR. DAVID MARSHALL.

A large and distinguished gathering of friends of British Maccabi met at Maccabi House, London, N.W.6, on 29th April, to honour Mr. David Marshall, Chief Minister of Singapore and a former member of Maccabi Association London. Among those present were, Lord Nathan, The Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, Sir Leon Simon (a Vice-President of Maccabi Union) Mr. Hannen Swaffer (a leading newspaper Editor and a patron of Maccabi Association London), Mr. J. Shaftesley, O.B.E., Editor of the "Jewish Chronicle", as well as members of Mr. David Marshall's family, recently arrived in England from Bombay, India.

Mr. Jack Richman, Chairman of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, stated that he and his colleagues were proud to welcome back a former member who returned as a champion of his people.

Pierre Gildesgame, President of the Association, recalled that David Marshall was, at one time, a member of the Rambling Section of the club ("Rambling" means walking long distances out in the open air). David Marshall has now become a champion hurdler, for he has to jump many political obstacles before reaching his goal - the independence of Singapore. David Marshall was one of the few political leaders who was proud of his Judaism and made no secret of it. Marshall was also proud of his association with the Maccabi Movement, to which he remained loyal. A member of his family in Bombay, notably Miss Grace Marshall, who was present at the Reception, was for many years Hon. Secretary of Maccabi Bombay.

Pierre Gildesgame bestowed on Mr. Marshall the Gold Badge of Honorary Life Membership of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, the greatest honour this club can bestow on anybody. David Marshall also received the new club tie at the hands of Mr. Fred Bogard, who was at one time leader of the Rambling Section of the club.

In thanking the gathering for the honour they had done him, Mr. Marshall said he was deeply touched by the tokens of friendship shown to him that evening. He was very proud of the gold badge and the tie and he proceeded by saying:

"It might be thought something of a paradox that a Jew should be Chief Minister in a land of so many different communities and races and where the Jew was a member of a tiny minority. I think that the probable reason was the sincerity of my desire and urge for justice and mutual respect between races. It was because of the racial memories of unjust treatment throughout the ages that the cry for justice came from the very marrow of the bone of the Jew ..."

"The principle of inter-racial respect was necessary for the survival of mankind. It was part of the historic mission of the Jew to make real this ideal of justice for all races and harmonious partnership between all races. I HAVE ALWAYS RECOGNISED THE NEED TO BE CONSCIOUS OF ONE'S FAITH AND I AM GRATEFUL TO MACCABI FOR HELPING ME TO FIND THE SOURCE OF STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION WHICH LED TO MY BECOMING CHIEF MINISTER OF SINGAPORE. Whatever the results of my mission in Britain, I am deeply grateful to have had the opportunity to have put into practice some of the ideals which went into the making of a Jew."

The Chief Rabbi, who followed David Marshall, expressed the gathering's deep gratitude to him for a "most moving and sincere address". The Chief Rabbi proceeded by expressing his view on the part which Maccabi plays in Jewish education (see a quotation of the Chief Rabbi's speech in the Editorial comment.)

Sir Leon Simon said it could rarely have happened that a Jew holding such a high position in a non-Jewish world should publicly testify to his own faith. The more Jews that there were in the world like that the better it would be for humanity as a whole.

Lord Nathan, who spoke last, said it was gratifying to hear Mr. Marshall speak with such affection for the club of which he was a member, and with such humanity of his modest origin. This, Lord Nathan said, "was something that all might take to heart and remember. The great adventure upon which Mr. Marshall had embarked - the coalescence of the various communities and races of Singapore - was a hard and historic task, one in which we all hoped he would succeed and which would be to the advantage of Singapore and the United Kingdom alike."

The Reception in honour of David Marshall was filmed by newsreel cameramen as well as reported in the Jewish weeklies and national newspapers.

Mr. Marshall was invited to attend a theatre show in the West End of London, organised by the Central Maccabi Fund.

Israel's Independence Day was celebrated in several Maccabi clubs in Great Britain in the form of Concert Parties, Sports Displays and special lectures delivered on the significance of Israel's independence. At Maccabi House, London, N.W.6. the principal guest was Mr. Gershon Awner, Counsellor to the Israel Embassy in London. A performance was given by the Maccabi Choir and a violin recital by Mr. Ophir Carmi, the young Israeli violinist, accompanied by Mr. Martin Goldstein also by the Young Poale Zion group of dancers. Mrs. Uli Shocken, the Israeli Soprano rendered several songs.

The British Maccabi Oratory Contest took place recently in London which was adjudicated by Mrs. R. Stiffl-Lipman. First place in the contest was gained by 17-year old Nathan Joseph, Chairman of Birmingham Maccabi Association's Intermediate Section, who spoke on "Jews on the Platform". Second place was awarded to Jack Davies, of Maccabi Association London (N.W.) who recently gained first place in Maccabi's Southern Area Oratory Contest. He spoke on "Intermarriage Between Jew and Non-Jew".

The Annual General Meeting of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London was held on May 13th at Maccabi House. Mr. P. Gildesgame, President of the Association, in reviewing the club's activities during the past years, called on members to intensify sports and cultural activities during the coming year. He took the opportunity of appealing to outstanding Jewish sportsmen all over Great Britain to join Maccabi and other Jewish clubs. "It was wrong", Gildesgame said, "for Jewish athletes to turn their attention only to clubs where they can find sportsmen in their own class. To raise the standard of Jewish sports, it is necessary for outstanding Jewish athletes to give an opportunity to the less experienced ones to compete against them. When the club had among its members such champions as Fred Oberlander, the Wrestling Section grew in strength and in numbers, and produced some of the finest amateur wrestlers in Great Britain. Such was also the case with Ben Helfgott, Champion Weightlifter, who remains a member of Maccabi's Weightlifting Section, who are the finest exponents of this sport in the whole country."

The club's membership was at present 400 and its Junior section is 100 strong. Honorary Life Membership was conferred on Mr. Laurie Lowenthal, leader of the Junior Section, in appreciation of his work, as well as of his successful endeavours to promote a Section of Junior members which thrives and prospers to the delight of all. Jack Richman was re-elected Chairman of the club.

Chico Raanan, Israeli and Maccabi champion diver, competed recently in the Manchester Diving competitions held at the University's physical training centre in that city. Raanan is a radio operator with El Al Airlines and is engaged on the Israel-London-New York service.



Pierre Gildesgame delivering his Chairman's report to the delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 27th May at Maccabi House, London, N.W.6.

Seated Left to Right: Sir Leon Simon, C.B., Mr. H. Robinson and Mr. F. S. Worms.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MACCABI UNION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Over 50 Delegates, representing 18 British Maccabi clubs attended the Annual General Meeting, held at Maccabi House in London on 27th May. The meeting opened with the recitation of prayers, specially composed for the occasion by Rabbi E. Newman, M.A., of the Golder's Green Synagogue. In his Vice-Presidential Address (deputising for Lord Nathan) Sir Leon Simon, C.B., referred to the record of which Maccabi could justly be proud and especially to the services which Mr. Gildesgame, together with the National Executive Committee, was rendering to the Movement. Pointing to the link with Israel which the Maccabiah provides, Sir Leon Simon dealt also with the impetus which sporting activities should receive from preparations for the forthcoming Games in Israel. Sir Leon Simon appealed to delegates to return to their clubs with a renewed sense of duty and to treat more seriously cultural activities provided for them in every club.

The annual Chairman's Address was delivered by P. Gildesgame who stated that this was the time for stock-taking, as well as for a reappraisal of Maccabi policy in Great Britain. He thought that despite the many shortcomings from which Maccabi in Great Britain had suffered, it occupied a position of great distinction in the Movement. Maccabi in Great Britain, Mr. Gildesgame stressed, was better organised than any Territorial Organisation

he knew, outside of Israel. He stressed the importance of the Maccabi Leadership Courses, and referred to the newly agreed plan for holding them on a national basis. A sense of belonging to the Maccabi Movement is being fostered among those who attended the Leadership Courses and who placed the benefit of their experience at the disposal of their fellow club-members. Dealing with the question of club premises, Mr. Gildesgame called upon delegates to show greater courage and imagination in their efforts to solve the serious problems affecting them as a result of the lack of premises or of adequate facilities for indoor and outdoor sports and recreational activities. He welcomed the development of Junior sections in many clubs and which, in his opinion, formed the backbone of the Movement. The National Executive, he reaffirmed, was resolved to set up club premises in the North London area, where many hundreds of young boys and girls must be looked after and provided with facilities for all activities. He announced the creation of a special Policy Sub-Committee, whose task it will be to re-assess the cultural and sports requirements of Maccabi clubs, in the light of present-day circumstances. He added that a British contingent to the Maccabiah with only a few members of Maccabi would mean a disastrous set-back for the Movement. He called, therefore, upon club members to intensify their training so that when the time will come, a large number of Maccabi members shall be selected in the Maccabiah team due to represent Great Britain at next year's Games. Mr. Gildesgame announced also that Maccabi, in co-operation with the Association for Jewish Youth, were preparing a Tercentenary Youth Display, to be staged in one of London's West End Theatres on December 9th, 1956. This, he concluded, was an example of co-operation between different Youth Groups in Great Britain.

A spirited discussion followed the Chairman's reports, as well as the reports given by Bernard C. Saphir, Hon. Treasurer, and F.S. Worms, Hon. Secretary. Reports were also given by Ken Gradon, Joint Sports Director, which was followed by a lively discussion. Mr. I. Fromson, Cultural Director, stated that there was much room for improvement in the matter of support for the National Cultural Contests held during last year. He congratulated the winners of the 1956 Oratory Contest and stressed the importance of Cultural activities throughout the Clubs.

Among resolutions passed at the Annual General Meeting was one calling upon members of Maccabi to take an interest in the Shnat Sherut scheme. The possibilities of bringing a Shaliach from Israel to help British Maccabi in the furtherance of Junior activities within the clubs is also to be investigated.

Mrs. Selig Brodetsky, widow of the late Professor Brodetsky, was nominated, and elected by acclamation, as a Vice-President of Maccabi Union. Gildesgame was re-elected Chairman, H. Robinson and L. Schalit Vice-Chairmen, B.C. Saphir, Treasurer, and F.S. Worms, Hon. Secretary. H. Shapiro, who, until recently, was Chairman of the Northern Council and who has now set up home in London, was elected Sports Director. I. Fromson was re-elected Cultural Director.

At the meeting of the East London Maccabi, held recently at Colvestone Crescent East, Mr. Y. Edelstein a member of a border settlement in Israel, described the difficult conditions under which some of the border settlements had to carry on their pioneering task.

Flamingo Football Club (Hackney) defeated Brighton 3 - 2 in the final of the Cyril Anekstein Cup in the Maccabi Cup League at Maccabi Stadium. It was a clean and well-fought game between two sound teams who, however, took some time to settle down.

Members of the Maccabi Association (N.W.) London visited the Jewish Home for the Blind, near Dorking, Surrey, recently and provided tea and entertainment for the residents. The Association presented also a cheque for £30 to the Blind Society.

Manchester Maccabi Association achieved notable success at the national finals of the 12th annual Drama Festival of the Federation of Jewish Youth Societies which took place recently in Manchester by winning the first two prizes.

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FOOTBALL.

Cup Final. In the final of the Leslie Luck Cup Football competition in Glasgow in May, Glasgow Maccabi Association defeated Maccabi Association London (N.W.) 5 - 0. East Hill United won the Division 1 championship of the Maccabi Southern Football League. East London Maccabi Association "A" team are runners up. In the Second Division first place has been gained by Leytonstone Maccabi "A" team and second place by Jeffreys Sports.

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Glasgow Maccabi may have good grounds for claiming that the Leslie Luck Trophy should find a permanent home in their clubrooms for when they defeated London Maccabi (N.W.) in the final it was the fourth time in seven years that they had won the cup. The proudest man was their Captain and left-back, Sydney Jacobson, who not only skippered the team when they won the cup two years ago, but was also a member of the side when they were successful on the first two occasions. Thus he has the distinction of possessing four cup-winner's medals. (With acknowledgment to the "Jewish Chronicle".)

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In their first match of the new season Bar-Kochba-Maccabi defeated Islington (London) Soccer Club 6 - 3 at Finchley Road Baths, Hampstead, London.

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In the British Games, (the principal annual Athletic event in the British Isles,) three Jewish athletes distinguished themselves: Harry Kane, 440 yards hurdler; D. Siegal and P. Abrahams, sprinters, gave highly creditable performances. It will be remembered that Harry Kane and D. Siegal participated in the last Maccabiah Games. It is hoped that both of them, if not all three athletes, will be included in the British team for this year's Olympic Games. If selected, they will certainly be a great asset to the British Maccabiah team.

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Miss Angela Buxton, Maccabiah gold medallist, has been in fine form in the French Lawn Tennis in May. She reached the semi-final in the singles when she was beaten by a superior American coloured player, Miss Gibson. Together with Miss Gibson, Angela Buxton won the women's doubles championship of France.

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Congratulations to Mr. John Shaftesley who was awarded the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) by H.M. Queen Elizabeth for distinguished services rendered to the Anglo-Jewish community in his capacity of Editor-in-Chief of the "Jewish Chronicle". As will be known to my readers, Mr. Shaftesley is an enthusiastic Maccabi and Maccabiah supporter, who attended also some of our European Conferences.

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REUNION OF THE LEADERSHIP COURSE.

Major M. Sharon, Assistant Military Attache to the Israeli Ambassador in London, was guest of honour at the Reunion Party held recently at Maccabi House, London, N.W.6., by Maccabi Union Southern Area Leadership Course. Major Sharon stated "Jewish youth in the Diaspora could help in the difficult situation facing the State of Israel by spending at least a year working in border settlements. He called upon them to enlist in the Schnat Sherut scheme, thus helping to relieve the sorely tried settlers of their daily tasks and enable them to devote more time to guard duties.

LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The 1956 Area Lawn Tennis Championships were held on Sunday, June 10th, on the Tennis Courts, Maccabi Stadium, Hendon. There were 80 entries. Despite bad weather, a considerable number of matches was played, but the tournament had to be stopped, owing to rain. It is being resumed a week later. The following matches were played and the semi-finals reached: Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Ladies' Singles, Boys' Singles.

PROMISING YOUNG TENNIS PLAYER.

Michael Wolfe, aged 18, of Weston-Super-Mare, is a very promising lawn tennis player. He took up the game at the age of ten and won his first tournament a year later. Since then he has won about twenty other tournaments. He has captained the Somerset County junior team for the last two years, and has played at Wimbledon and Queen's Club.

Last year he played for the Somerset County senior side three times, and has been awarded a County badge.

At the recent Annual General Meeting at the Leytonstone Area Maccabi Association, Mr. H. Phillips spoke on the progress of the club during the past year, emphasizing in particular the introduction of drama, Jewish affairs, literary and musical appreciation, all of which have proved very successful. There has also been an increase in membership. Mr. H. Phillips was re-elected Chairman.

Maccabi Southern Football League hopes to form shortly a Junior Division for players aged under 18 years.

IRELAND.

H. Levy, of Dublin Maccabi retained the light-weight championship for the fifth successive year at the recent Irish Amateur Wrestling tournament

Dr. Cecil Roth, Vice-President of British Maccabi, was the guest speaker in Dublin when the Jewish community there celebrated the 8th anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish State. The function was held at the premises of the Dublin Maccabi Club.

At the Dublin Maccabi ground a Football match was played on May 21st between Dublin and London Maccabi, which finished in a 1 - 1 draw. London Maccabi took the lead after 30 minutes when after a right-wing cross near the goalmouth their centre-forward headed it home. Dublin retaliated and within 5 minutes equalised.

NETHERLANDS.

BENNO HESS' VISIT TO ISRAEL.

Benno Hess, Chairman of Maccabi returned recently from Israel and reports:

"I am in every respect satisfied with my trip, in spite of the fact that conditions in Israel remain unsettled. Everybody, including members of my family, is self-confident and in good spirits. This is also true of our Maccabi friends. I was present at a meeting of the World Executive. I saw and talked with Mr. Netanel a few times and also with Dr. R. Atlasz, Fritz Levinsohn, Mrs. Singer and others. As always, I had the feeling of meeting good old friends. I am sure that they work hard for the Maccabiah and that they have not the slightest doubt that the Maccabiah itself will take place as planned. The meeting of the World Executive was held in their own new premises, which are quite nice.

"I met also the Chairman of Maccabi Ramatayin, who asked me to distribute prizes to winners of a Table Tennis Contest. I have also made contact with Maccabi Gedera. They are building there a large-sized Maccabi House. From my conversations with many

Maccabi people in Israel, I gained the impression that they are all aware of the good work being done in European Maccabi clubs and the way Maccabi is led and managed in the Diaspora. They are all speaking warmly about you, Pierre, and your work."

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Maccabi Netherlands' 5th Anniversary is being celebrated and, in connection therewith a special edition of their magazine has been published. I quote an extract of a special message I sent on this occasion:

"It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of the forthcoming anniversary being celebrated to mark a further milestone in the development and progress of Maccabi-Netherlands..."

"I am sure that with the co-operation of your leaders and by a collective effort of the Chairmen of the four clubs in the Netherlands much can be achieved to benefit our young friends being brought up in the spirit of a free and liberal country."

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I am informed that Mr. J. Brilleman, member of the Netherlands Territorial Executive, has been asked, and has agreed to be Editor-in-Chief of the "Maccabi Nieuws". All communications can be addressed to him personally at Parnassusweg, 28 hs, Amsterdam. He will succeed G.Muller, who recently resigned.

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The May edition of "Maccabi Nieuws" carries the following items of interest:

"Our four clubs will celebrate the 5th anniversary of Maccabi at Scheveningen at 8.p.m."

"Our annual meeting of the 4 clubs was held this year in The Hague. Our table-tennis competition was held on 15th April with the following results: In the "A" competition, Amsterdam gained 13 points, The Hague 12 points and Rotterdam 5 points. In the "B" competition, all matches were won by Amsterdam (In the "B" competition only the best player of each Maccabi club is allowed to compete).

"On May 10th we had a Lawn Tennis tournament. Late in the afternoon it started to rain so that we were forced to stop play. We hope to continue on June 10th. On June 17th we will also have the first Athletic competition. 80 competitors have entered their names."

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MACCABI BELGIUM.

Impressive invitation cards have been received recently from Antwerp by those invited to attend the special Concert and Display to celebrate the Royal Patronage bestowed upon Antwerp Maccabi by the King of the Belgians. Published in the special souvenir brochure were messages sent by Lord Nathan and myself. Lord Nathan stated:

"I am very pleased to send you cordial greetings on this occasion when you celebrate this event, unique in the history of Maccabi. You are the first Maccabi club in any part of the world able to claim Royal patronage. I would like to assure you that every Maccabi member, the world over, has received this news with considerable pride, and therefore I take this opportunity of expressing our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for many years of successful endeavours."

I quote also extracts from my own message:

... "Maccabi Antwerp, one of the oldest and most experienced, has well deserved the honour that H.M. the King of the Belgians bestowed upon it recently. It is not surprising, therefore, that all of us feel proud and delighted that your club will henceforth be known as the "Koninklijke Sportclub Maccabi". You, our friends

in Antwerp, have set an example to many of us how to combine loyalty to Judaism with a sense of duty to the promotion of happiness and welfare of a young and growing generation. Despite two World Wars you have carried on your work indomitably and I know your members will show themselves worthy, not only of the high honours which only Kings can bestow, but of the confidence and support of your community, who look upon you with pride and who expect you to continue to play your part in the promotion of sports and of sportsmanship in a true Maccabi tradition."

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Herman Bochner sent me copies of the exceedingly well-produced souvenir programme, issued in connection with the celebrations held in Antwerp on 31st May. He sent me also some newspaper cuttings from the local press. An extract of the report published in "Le Matin" is quoted hereunder

"The Antwerp Maccabi club comprises a charming group of young sportsmen engaged in a multitude of activities. The function arranged by the club to celebrate the honour bestowed upon it by the Belgian King was an artistic affair. The distinguished gathering included a representative of the Governor of the Province, as well as civic and military personalities of the town and provinces of Antwerp. Mr. Romi Goldmuntz presided. A group of young athletes appeared on the stage and its formation read the word "Maccabi". A piano recital was rendered by Varda Hishri, a talented Israeli artiste, the Nashir Choir rendered several songs, including Handel's Hallelujah. The Concert was followed by a reception. This dignified function was well organised, upon which the committee of the club is to be heartily congratulated.

SWITZERLAND.

Oskar Wessely reports:

On May 27th., the official opening of the new Hakoah-Maccabi Tennis Courts took place in Zurich, in the presence of a large gathering, including official representatives of Jewish organisations, of the Israel Consulate, of Municipal authorities, and of Maccabi clubs from all over the country. The cost of the Tennis Courts was met from their own resources. David Neufeld, President of Maccabi Switzerland, heartily congratulated the Tennis Section of the Sports Club Hakoah-Maccabi in Zurich, expressing the hope that this new club home shall be run in a true Maccabi spirit. A bench, carrying a Maccabi badge was provided in the Pavilion, a gift of Maccabi Switzerland. To inaugurate the Courts, the Swiss Lawn Tennis Champion, Mrs. Kaufmann, a member of Hakoah-Maccabi Basle, and Mrs. Gafner, a member of Hakoah-Maccabi Zurich, gave an impressive exhibition.

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Much interest has been aroused by the international Sports Meeting to be held in Zurich on 8th July. The following entries have already been received: Soccer teams from Copenhagen and Metz; Track and Field athletes from London; a fairly large contingent from Switzerland and several entries also from France and Belgium. Baruch Habas, the Maccabi athlete, and member of the Olympic Israeli team will also participate. He has recently broken an Israeli record. A few more Maccabi athletes from Israel may also participate. In Tennis there will be competitions between Swiss players only.

The Organising Committee had struck an attractive badge to commemorate the occasion. Further information on the subject of the Sports Festival can be obtained from Maccabi Switzerland, Gartenstrasse, 15, Zurich, 2.

NEWS ABOUT EXECUTIVE MEMBERS.

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Dr. V. V. Rosenfeld has recently returned from New York, where he attended a banquet in his honour, given by Hakoah-Maccabi members residing in the United States. The principal speakers included George Fleisch, a Maccabi veteran, who interrupted his Bond Drive trip to South America to travel to New York specially for the occasion, as well as Fred Oberlander, World Executive representative in Canada.

FRED OBERLANDER'S VISIT TO LONDON.

A reception was held at Maccabi House, London N.W.6., on Tuesday, 12th June, in honour of Fred Oberlander, amateur Heavyweight Wrestling Champion of Canada and representative of the Maccabi World Union Executive in North America. After being welcomed by Mr. Jack Richman, Oberlander delivered a lively speech, in which he called on sports leaders in Britain not to be complacent. He would like to see the establishment of a great Jewish Centre in London, where young and old could find facilities for sports and recreational activities. "Without it," Oberlander exclaimed, "Maccabi would not justify its continued existence." He described the Y.M.H.A. Centre in Montreal, where they had a membership of 14,000 and an annual budget of \$500,000. "What Montreal can do - London can do just as well." In welcoming Oberlander on his return visit to his own club, Pierre Gildesgane stressed that Maccabi Association in London urgently needs a gymnasium and that some of the homeless London Maccabi clubs needed a centre, which is already being planned in co-operation with the Central Maccabi Fund.

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ARON NETANEL'S HEALTH IMPROVING.

In a letter, dated May 9th., Mr. Netanel writes to me as follows:

"The airmail copy of your Chairman's No.49 has duly come to hand.

"I sincerely appreciated your kind attention and your hearty expression of sympathy as to my health.

"I am glad to repeat that my health is improving every day and I am resuming my daily activities in the public and private spheres."

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הסתדרות עולמית מנבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
P.C., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.

A. A. Scott



9a BEDFORD PLACE,
LONDON - W.C.1

'phone: LAngham 4886
Cables: Hazak, London

Please reply to:

July/August, 1956.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO⁵¹.

Editorial Comment

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to be able to report that all arrangements for the Conference, to be held in London early in September, have now been satisfactorily concluded. Replies have been received from several Territorial Organisations nominating their delegates. Considerable interest has been aroused throughout Europe and, as far as can be predicted, the Conference is sure to be well attended. Our President, The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, will declare the Conference open on Saturday, 1st September at 8.45 p.m. at Maccabi House, in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering, among whom will be distinguished representatives of various Anglo-Jewish communal bodies, as well as of leading sports organisations in Great Britain. On the Conference platform will be seated also Chairmen of Maccabi Territorial Organisations in Europe whom we will welcome in London at the same time as members of the World Executive from Israel, two of whom have already announced their participation.

Invitations are also being extended to Chairmen and Secretaries of Maccabi clubs in Great Britain who are eager to make contact with their Continental colleagues, as well as to be present at Conference Sessions as silent observers, interested in the addresses and debates. They will wish to hear how Maccabi organisations in Europe progress in their manifold activities. For their benefit a special "public gallery" is going to be set up in the main Conference Hall. The praesidium is going to be elected before the business of the first Morning Session (on Sunday September 2nd) commences. It is our intention to invite leading Maccabi members from the Continent of Europe to preside at the various sessions and not to limit the Chairmanship to one or two persons only - as has been done in the past.

For the benefit of delegates whose knowledge of the English language is not adequate, it is hoped to install an earphone system so that all speeches and discussions being conducted in English be translated simultaneously into German, with the help of qualified interpreters. This system, novel to Maccabi Conferences, should prove very helpful, as it will also obviate the necessity of having to translate speeches, questions and answers which, in the past, entailed additional valuable Conference time.

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As has already been announced, the Conference will be held at Maccabi House - a clubhouse of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, situated in the heart of London's popular suburb: Hampstead. I take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Executive of Maccabi House who, not content with placing their premises at the disposal of the Conference, have also offered to provide all amenities and facilities for the benefit of the delegates, entirely at their own expense. This gesture - not unexpected of our generous friends in Hampstead - will

be much appreciated by all.

The Conference Dinner will be held, as already announced, at one of London's most modern hotels, the Washington Hotel in Curzon Street, W.1. Due to the difficulties connected with Kashruth it has been found necessary to provide a meatless dinner but this, like all other meals served to Conference delegates, will conform with Kashruth requirements.

Delegates will be provided with London Underground maps, amusement guides, as well as with a list of synagogues.

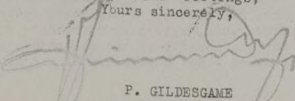
In a word, the Conference organisers, under the able and dynamic leadership of Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld and Fred S. Worms, are doing everything in their power to ensure that the organisational side of the Conference shall be satisfactory in all aspects. Some difficulties may be encountered as a result of the Conference opening towards the end of the holiday period, during which time many Londoners will be spending their vacations. Provision has, however, been made to anticipate any difficulties but heads of Territorial Organisations would do well to send in their lists of delegates, as well as their written reports - as already requested - with least possible delay. Otherwise, the arrangements in hand may suffer from undesirable delays. Your co-operation is invited.

WHAT DOES THE CONFERENCE AIM TO ACHIEVE? Those of you who have already received copies of the Agenda will be left in no doubt that we are aiming high, and that we wish this 10th European Conference to serve many useful purposes, as well as to be in many ways a momentous one. Several World Executive and Council members have volunteered to deliver speeches on subjects considered of general interest, not only to delegates, but also to the rank and file of the Movement. Discussion concerning the Maccabiah and the Maccabiah Village scheme will once again exercise your minds and ours. So will a review of the general position of the Maccabi Movement in Europe, which will be reflected in the reports to be rendered by the heads of delegations and in the discussion which these will provoke. It is intended to acquaint delegates, once again, with the need to promote leadership for the Maccabi Movement everywhere. It is felt that the lack of leaders is largely responsible for the deterioration in Maccabi activities in a large number of clubs. As has been stated in previous editions of this "Newsletter" this acute problem has been dealt with very energetically by the National Executive of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain. Results of efforts made during the past 2 years appear to be gratifying, and it is felt that the application and adaptation of a Leadership Course, on the British pattern, will help solve many of the problems besetting your clubs wherever they may be and no matter under what difficult conditions you are labouring.

The Conference wishes also to take stock of the position relating to representatives' participation in the 5th Maccabiah. It is realised that, so far, the imagination of our Maccabi leaders in Europe has not been fired to the extent of reaching a firm resolve to participate in the Maccabiah, no matter how great the difficulties facing us all between now and September, 1957. But I am sure that none of us, true to our convictions and honest in our intentions, will surrender to the domestic difficulties which no-one should underrate and that Europe will, once again, proudly march its teams on to the Ramat Gan Stadium, when the 5th Maccabiah will be declared open by the President of Israel.

Members of the Maccabi World Union Executive in Israel, as well as in Europe, look to the 10th Annual Conference with great expectations. Europe was the cradle of the Maccabi Movement. Europe must continue to give the lead to the World Movement.

With Maccabi greetings,
Yours sincerely,


P. GILDESGAME
Chairman.

News from Territorial Organisations.

SWITZERLAND.

Maccabi Switzerland deserves to be heartily congratulated on the magnificent effort, made under the leadership of Paul Nordmann, resulting in the first post-war European Maccabi Games being held in Zurich on July 8th.

Warm tributes were paid to the organisers of the Sports Meeting by the "Israelitisches Wochenblatt", as well as by the "Neue Züricher Zeitung". The "Israelitisches Wochenblatt" carries several photographs of the event and praises unstintingly the organisers and competitors alike. The "Neue Züricher Zeitung" which is known as the leading Swiss national newspaper, reports the event in a long column, and describes the competitors as those "sporty Maccabees".

More justice to the event can be done by reporting on it according to a communication received from my good friend, Oskar Wessely, the Press Officer of Maccabi Switzerland. Several extracts of his communication are quoted:-

"Maccabi Switzerland has honoured the promise announced at last year's European Conference to organise a Sports Meeting, with the participation of teams and competitors from several European countries. The intensive preparations, which entailed several months of hard work, have been rewarded. The competitors from Denmark, France, England and Israel, spoke highly of the manner in which the Meeting was organised as they have also spent a very pleasant time among their Swiss Maccabi friends.

"On the eve of the Shabbath, delegates were invited to attend a service at the Synagogue, where the ceremony was preached by the Rabbi Dr. Zwi Taubes. The Rabbi welcomed the visitors and gave them his blessing. The organisers feared bad weather for the day, and weather reports have been anxiously studied by them until the last minute. Rain kept falling ceaselessly and yet, on the morning of July 8th, the sun shone brightly and the events, which started at 7.15. in the morning, proceeded throughout the day according to schedule and were concluded at 6.p.m. Several good performances were witnessed. Outstanding among them was that of E. Freudmann, R. Preston and Miss C. Reuben of Maccabi London Juniors, whose victories over their fellow-competitors were justified and convincing. Baruch Habas, an Israeli Olympic Maccabi athlete, excelled in putting the shot, having achieved 15.07 m. Habas is staying on in Switzerland, undergoing specialised training with the national Swiss team, under the direction of Prof. Misangy. Habas is to represent Israel at the Olympic Games in Melbourne.

"In the Basketball event, Maccabi Paris defeated Maccabi (J.T.V.) Berne. In the Football events Hakoah Copenhagen defeated Maccabi Metz, and were declared the winners.

"The "March Past" of all competitors, which took place in the early afternoon, was witnessed, among others by Dr. Emile Landolt, President of the City of Zurich, the Israeli Minister in Switzerland, Mr. Tolkowsky, the Israeli Consul, Mr. Massi, the President of the Jewish communities in Switzerland, Dr. Brunschewig, representatives of municipal authorities, of cultural and sport organisations, etc.

"The winners of all competitions were presented with medals and trophies during a Reception held in the Jewish Communal House in Zurich, and which was followed by a Dinner, in the course of which David Neufeld, President of Maccabi Switzerland, and Paul Nordmann, Organiser of the Sports Meeting spoke."

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David Neufeld informs us that he took advantage of the favourable atmosphere prevailing as a result of the successful Sports Day in that he decided to reconstitute the Council of Patrons of Maccabi Switzerland. Dr. Lucien Levallant and others have promised their co-operation. In this manner, Neufeld hopes that Maccabi Switzerland will be assisted in its pre-5th Maccabiah campaign. We wish David Neufeld and his colleagues every success in their splendid initiative and effort.

EIRE.

An active member of the Jewish community of Dublin, well known for his Maccabi sympathies, Councillor Robert Briscoe, was recently elected Lord Mayor of Dublin. He is the first Jew to occupy this post. It will be remembered that Councillor Briscoe was present at the European Conference, when held in Dublin, and that he was also one of the principal speakers, in the course of the banquet which Dublin Maccabi Association arranged in honour of the delegates.

The Leinster branch of the Irish Amateur Swimming Association organised an international Gala at the Blackrock Bath, jointly with the Dublin Maccabi Association in which teams from Israel and Ireland participated. Yoav Raanan, Israeli Diving Champion, Asian and British Champion, and gold medalist of the 4th Maccabiah, also participated.

According to the "Dublin Evening Press", the aforementioned Swimming Gala was the first "international" to be staged at the Blackrock Bath with a country other than England, Scotland or Wales. Dublin Maccabi Association deserve to be congratulated on their initiative.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW. New premises, estimated to cost approximately £15,000 are planned for the Glasgow Maccabi Association. The Corporation of Glasgow have granted, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Scotland, a lease of ground at the junction of Torrisdale Street and Niddrie Road, Langside, for the project. According to the "Glasgow Evening News", the building will consist of a hall suitable for a full-length basket-ball court, which will also be used as a gymnasium and badminton courts. Plans may provide also for a stage for dramatic and social activities. There are to be shower baths, side rooms, and an office, in addition to the kitchen and canteen. Mr. H. L. Glickman, Chairman of the club, informed the Glasgow Press that building will start as soon as half the required sum is raised. At present the club meets in the Hebrew College in Turriff Street, hardly adequate for its membership of over 260. The club meets practically every evening and activities include swimming, table tennis, badminton, tennis, football, and public speaking.

ENGLAND.

The Drama Group of Leytonstone (Senior Section) Maccabi, London, recently performed two plays in the Club Hall. There was also a One Act Play about a Jewish family arranging a Bar Mitzvah. This was the start of a 6 months' period to mark the 13th anniversary of the club. The Club Chairman, Hymie Phillips, presented medals to the football team who did well in the Maccabi Southern Area Football League.

In the Cricket Match between Maccabi Union and the Central Maccabi Fund, which took place at the Maccabi Stadium, Hendon (London) early in July, the match ended in a win for the Central Maccabi Fund by 3 wickets. This is the third consecutive win by the Central Maccabi Fund in this annual Cricket match.

The "Brighton & Hove Herald" reports on a young man who has brought a new industry to the town and who celebrated his coming-of-age last June. He is Olive Brian Roffe. He introduced something quite new in textile manufacturing. The business has made rapid growth and he is now supplying

the home and export markets. The local newspaper emphasizes the fact that Olive Roffe is an active member of the Brighton & Hove Maccabi Association and also a keen Lawn Tennis and Table Tennis player.

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Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships. Angela Buxton, the Maccabiah gold medallist, reached the finals at Wimbledon, only to be defeated by Shirley Fry, the American champion player. The entire British Press was unanimous in praising Angela's determination, as well as fine sportsmanship. Photographs of Angela Buxton appeared in every daily, weekly, and evening newspaper. Before participating in the Wimbledon Championships, Angela Buxton won the Women's title at the Queen's Club - a magnificent achievement, in view of the strong international entry. Angela Buxton added two more to the titles previously gained when she won the Women's Singles and Doubles in the Swedish International Lawn Tennis Championships held there recently.

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Other Jewish players who participated in the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships were Miss Claire Levy and Oliver Prenn (Great Britain), Abe Segal (South Africa) and Herbie Flam and I. Dorfman (U.S.A.).

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In British Track and Field events, several young Jewish athletes distinguished themselves recently, including among them Stanley Orman who won the 100 yards in 9.9 seconds to gain second place when competing for London University against Oxford University and Loughborough College.

Due to his leg injury, Harry Kane, Maccabiah 400 yards Hurdles Champion, was unable to defend his Southern Counties Area Title at Motspur Park, Surrey. He participated, however, in the Amateur Athletic Championships and took 4th place in the finals.

David Segal finished a close second in the 100 yards when competing in the Motspur Park Contest. Michael Ruda finished third in the javelin event with a throw of 185 ft. 5 in.

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Bar Kochba-Maccabi defeated Neptune S.C. by 8 - 2 in a water polo match recently. In another match Bar Kochba beat Islington (London) S.C. by 3 - 2.

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The Duke of Edinburgh has recently announced a special award to provide an inducement for training and achievements in fitness, pursuits, rescue, public service training and expeditions. There are three series of tests, the first qualifies for a letter of recommendation and the second and third for silver and gold medals respectively. Sir John Hunt, the Conqueror of Everest, is Chairman of the Committee set up by the Duke of Edinburgh. The main object of the Duke of Edinburgh Award is to encourage wider interests in sports activities among young boys. The Chairman of the Junior Section of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London has already notified Sir John Hunt of his intention to encourage his members to compete for the Award.

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The Central Maccabi Fund annual open handicap golf competition was held in June at Coombe Hill Golf Club. The Jack Steinberg trophy was awarded to Dennis Lever and cups were presented by:- Sam Beckman, Harry Craps and H. Lee, all members of the Central Maccabi Fund, to other winners.

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Miss Claire Levy, a member of the 4th British Maccabiah team last week won the Middlesex Closed Lawn Tennis tournament at the Queen's Club, when she defeated in the final P. Wheeler, the Middlesex County player.

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David Gribler, serving now with the R.A.F., aged 20, won the Javelin Championship at Uxbridge with a throw of 160' 11".

BRITISH MACCABIAH SELECTORS PLEASE NOTE!

INDIA.

Bombay. Sass Moses, Chairman of Maccabi Association, Bombay reports by letter dated June 16th on the success of his club's best boxer, Sandy Solomon who had a number of fights during the last two years and has won them all. If still in good form, and finances permitting, Sandy Solomon hopes to participate in the 5th Maccabiah. Maccabi Bombay entered a team in the Motiram Inter-Club Badminton Championship, having reached the semi-final. Unfortunately, they lost in the semi-finals to a superior team. Sass Moses sent me some newspaper cuttings from the local Bombay Press, which generously praises the activities of the local Maccabi club. Sass Moses concludes his remarks thus:

"I read with very great interest your News Letters which are received by us regularly, and I am extremely happy to see that you are once again the moving spirit behind the British team for the next Maccabiah. I wish you success."

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FRANCE.

The Association of Jewish Youth (Senior Division) will play two representative Football matches in December of this year. One match will be against Paris Maccabi.

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BELGIUM.

True to their established reputation, the Royal Sportclub Maccabi, Antwerp, staged an INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING GALA on Sunday 24th June, in which a team from Israel participated. An attractive brochure, comprising the programme of events (and followed with a page of commercial advertisements) was published. In a message of greetings to participants and spectators, Herman Bochner, Chairman of the Club wrote some inspiring words which, but for the limitation of space, I would have liked to reproduce verbatim. Sally Beek, Chairman of the Swimming Section of the Antwerp Maccabi club, is warmly to be congratulated on the success of the event, which the local Press has hailed as one of the best organised for many years: "The International Maccabi Swimming Festival, held at the Astrid Swimming Pool, had attracted a large crowd of spectators. The organisation of the event was perfect and the competitions followed one another without interruption or delays." - states the local Antwerp paper, when describing the function in which Israel and Antwerp Swimmers competed for records. In addition to participants from the various Belgian clubs, there were also some from the Netherlands.

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HOLLAND.

An Israel Maccabi team of swimmers visited also Amsterdam, The Hague, and Rotterdam, where matches have been fixed for them with the assistance of and in co-operation with Maccabi Netherland.

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The Press Officer of Maccabi Netherland informs me that copies of "Maccabi Nieuws" are being sent all over the world. He is also willing to supply other interested clubs with news concerning the activities of Maccabi Holland. All enquiries and requests are to be addressed to:

Mr. J. Brilleman,
Parnassusweg, 28 hs,
AMSTERDAM,
HOLLAND.

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ISRAEL.

Russia versus Israel. Russia defeated the Israeli Olympic Football team 5-0 in a match played in Moscow last week, watched by over 80,000 people. This was the first of two matches between the two countries in the qualifying round of the Olympic Football competition. A return match is to be played in Israel later on this year. The President of the Soviet Football Association said that Israel has some of the most stubborn

defenders he had ever seen. He also praised the sportsmanship of the Israeli players. Before the game the Moscow band played Israeli folksongs as well as Hatikvah.

A memorial evening was held on July 1st in Tel Aviv, organised to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the death of Dr. H. Lellower, at one time Chairman of the Maccabi World Union, and Europe's most dynamic Maccabi leader in pre-war days. Among those who paid tributes to Dr. Lellower were Mr. P. Rosen, Minister of Justice, Aaron Netanel, Chairman of Maccabi World Union, and Mr. Sh. Sissman, Chairman of Maccabi Israel.

In a letter dated the end of June, Mr. Netanel informs me that several sub-Committees have already been set up, entrusted with different tasks facing them in connection with the organisation of the 5th Maccabiah. A draft budget is already in the course of preparation, and which it is hoped will be available during August. Mr. A. Netanel and Mr. Walter Feuchtwangner, members of the World Executive in Israel, hope to attend the European Conference in London and personally to report on the progress on latest Maccabiah developments.

A copy of No. 7. of the "Maccabi Review" has just been received. It deals mainly with the 5th Maccabiah events and it provides also very useful data such as a list of Track and Field records recognised by the Maccabi World Union as of January, 1956. A separate news bulletin for July/August reports also on events in the Maccabi World in Latin-American countries. Thus we learn with great pleasure that Maccabi in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) has procured its own sports field, that Maccabi Sao Paulo has won the championship in Handball and that the Basketball Maccabi team of that town was placed among the 6 best teams. Chilean Maccabi has scored successes in Swimming, Light Athletics, Volleyball, and Ping-Pong. Good progress is also being reported from Mexico and Uruguay.

SOUTH AFRICA.

I acknowledge with thanks to the Editor of the "South African Maccabi News", receipt of several copies of his excellent and well-informed newspaper. Anyone reading this last edition will be impressed, as I was, by the effort being made in the various parts of South Africa, under the sponsorship of the South African Maccabi Council, to enlist as much financial aid as possible, without which South Africa would be unable to send a team to Israel to represent it at the next Maccabiah. Typical of this campaign is the first sentence of a paragraph published on the front page and which reads "Do you want a team of only 20 members to represent South Africa at next year's Maccabi Games in Israel? Of course not! As in 1950 and 1953 every Maccabi sympathiser wants a plane-load of 50 or more to fly to Israel in 1957." There are various news items appearing from time to time in the "South African Maccabi News" to prove that our friends in that part of the world have some splendid Track and Field athletes, Swimmers, Tennis Players, not to mention Bowlers.

The last page of the May issue carries an item entitled "Who's Who in the Sporting Clubs", furnishing details of some leaders of Maccabi clubs and associations in various parts of the Union of South Africa. A very impressive list indeed.

In the course of a short stay in London, Mr. M. J. Spitz, a veteran Maccabi leader of South Africa, head of the Peltours Travel Agency in Tel Aviv, gave me a very heartening account of activities in Maccabi clubs in South Africa. He spoke highly of its leaders and paid a warm tribute to the Chairman of the South African Council, Mr. Ian Maltz.

MACCABI IN RHODESIA.

The beginnings of Maccabi in the Rhodesias were very modest and of comparative recent date. Late in 1952, under the guidance of the Rhodesian Zionist Council, a small committee under the Convenorship of Mr. Arthur Sarif, M.B.E., was established.

The Rhodesian Maccabi Association today has an enrolment of over 500 which is halfway to its membership target. Considering that the total Jewish population of the Rhodesias is estimated to be between seven and eight thousand souls Maccabi has reason to be satisfied with its expansion to date. Maccabi displays - as is expected from it - a deep and active interest in Israel and in Jewish affairs.

The Maccabi Council recently contributed £1,500 towards the Israel Emergency Appeal, which was launched throughout Southern Africa. Maccabi also supports other ventures directed towards supporting Israel and strengthening the bonds of local Jewry.

Maccabi has sponsored the visits at various times of teams from Israel and from the Union of South Africa. Recent visiting teams from Israel have included a soccer team and a table tennis team.

The Maccabi Council has been considering a drive for Sports Kit for Israel and proposes despatching a supply of new equipment soon. Emphasis has constantly been laid on the dual duty of the Maccabi Sportsman - not only to foster Jewish Sport in the Rhodesias but to assist in fostering sport in Israel and sport as part of the bond between Jews in Israel and the Diaspora. This principle is unquestionably accepted.

With an eye to the financial requirements for the 1957 Maccabiah, Rhodesian Maccabi is organising a series of fund raising functions to enable the largest possible number of Rhodesian Sportsmen to participate in the Games.

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הסתדרות עולמית מכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
PC., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.

A. A. Scott

9a BEDFORD PLACE,

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Please reply to:

September, 1956.



CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO.

52

10th European Conference
Full Report.



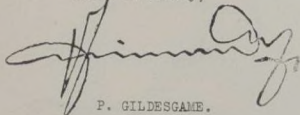
ABOVE: Delegates and Guests assembled at the Inaugural Session at Maccabi House, London, N.W.6.

BELOW: Seated from Left to Right: Miss D.R. Bailey (Mayor of Hampstead), the Chief Rabbi The Very Rev. Israel Brodie, A. Netanel, Fred S. Worms, Lord Nathan of Churt, P. Gildesgame and His Excellency the Israel Ambassador, Mr. Eliahu Elath.

Dear Friends,

The Conference Report which I have pleasure in sending you today was compiled from notes made by me during the various Conference Sessions as well as from memory, to the best of my recollection. I apologise for any inadvertent errors and omissions. I hope that every one of you will read this report carefully and preserve this copy for future reference.

Yours sincerely,



P. GILDESGAME.

I have pleasure in quoting below extract of a letter received from our President, Lord Nathan, dated 13th September, 1956.:-

..."I could not write to you before I left on vacation, but I am taking this opportunity of telling you how admirably I thought the Conference went and to congratulate you on the arrangements and on the excellent way in which you played your own part in the proceedings, maintaining a masterly control of them."

September, 1956.

Dear Friends, Conference "After thoughts"

Instead of an Editorial Comment on the subject of the European Conference I decided to publish a letter mailed to Mr. Aron Netanel, Chairman of the Maccabi World Union H.Q., Tel Aviv, on the eve of his departure to Israel.

"Dear Aron,

7th September, 1956.

"I believe that you are due to leave England tomorrow morning. I therefore wish to take this opportunity of wishing you God speed and a safe return journey to Israel. I was glad, and so were all my British and overseas Maccabi colleagues, that you were able to be present at our 10th Anniversary Conference and to make a valuable contribution to our deliberations. Your presence at such and similar Conferences helps to make our younger Maccabi leaders conscious of their duties towards the Movement, as well as to respect and to appreciate the wisdom and leadership of the Chairman of the World Executive. Although I realise that you intervened many a time during the discussions, tactfully reminding us that you were only an "observer", I wish to make it clear to you that, in most cases, your intervention was of a constructive nature and has helped us overcome some delicate situations. The public tributes paid to you by some of my colleagues and myself were not mere "lip service", we meant every word we said and we will look to you for similar guidance and advice on future occasions, not necessarily when we meet together.

"On the other hand, there are one or two points to which I feel I must, in all honesty and sincerity, draw your attention. I trust that my observations will be accepted in the spirit in which they are conceived.

"Never allow Executive members in Israel to write or speak in a manner creating an impression that the Maccabi World Union is an Israeli organisation, having branches in several overseas countries. It must be always borne in mind that Maccabi is a world organisation, bearing that name and endeavouring to live up to its claims.

"So far as the European Regional Organisation is concerned it must, of necessity, be treated on its merits, for it is - and you witnessed this, not for the first time - an integrated body, very much alive, labouring under difficult organisational, administrative and financial conditions, but nevertheless playing an important part in the furtherance of the Movement in Europe. I know of no other Continent in the world where Maccabi is better consolidated than it is in Europe, and I say so despite my knowledge and constant awareness that it has a long way to go, before it will be fully developed and fortified, according to our plans and aspirations. However short the distances separating one Territorial Organisation from another, it is impossible to maintain closer contact because - as you know - we are short of dynamic leaders, able and willing to dedicate themselves entirely to the tasks confronting them. I am satisfied, however, in stating that, so long as we strive for better results - in the form of sports and cultural activities throughout the branches and clubs - further progress will become evident in all spheres of our endeavours in the years to come. Not content with the work being done daily and constantly, my colleagues and I take more than a superficial interest in the Movement as a whole, in that we maintain regular contact with Executive H.Q. in Israel, offering advice and availing ourselves of guidance, as well as co-operating with your colleagues in spheres well outside the boundaries of Europe. Here, in Europe, we have at least a semblance of an integrated organisation, and nothing should be done to discourage or to frustrate the few who are working in the spirit which I have just described.

"On the subject of the 5th Maccabiah I should like to add a few words. I have endeavoured, during this last Conference, to impress upon my colleagues, the delegates from 10 European countries, that active participation in the Maccabiah is a prerequisite condition for the survival of our Territorial Organisations in Europe. The appeal I have made to them was intended also to be heard in other parts of the world, and I hope that it will not go unheeded. The response, you will have seen, was an emotional one. Whether we will succeed to translate it into action remains still to be seen. It is not only a matter of organisation, which primarily will assume the form of setting up Maccabiah Organising Committees everywhere. It is also a problem bound up with the ability which Maccabi leaders in Europe and elsewhere will display in the art of fund-raising on a major scale. In some countries, Maccabi is popular as a Youth Movement, but members of the community have not, as yet, come to realise that our youth deserves of active financial support, and not merely of eloquent tributes. In other countries, Maccabi is either not developed sufficiently, or is under-going a process of slow disintegration. Be that as it may, the challenge of the Maccabiah produces, in most cases, the effect of a deterrent. Our boys and their senior colleagues fear that they may be unable to raise enough money to defray the cost of a return fare to Israel, by sea or air, and their initiative is paralysed as a consequence of the very thought of it. Maccabi clubs continue to struggle for their physical survival; the lack of premises and of elementary facilities for indoor and outdoor sports is still very active. Planning is going on in several places, such as Belgium, Denmark and France, but the hopes of such plans materialising are still slender. We have heard it said, at previous Conferences, "that a man who cannot afford to buy himself a pair of shoes must not be allowed to enter a commitment for the purchase of a villa." Discouraging as this may sound, it is nevertheless true, to some extent, but we are doing our best to explain to our friends that, without the Maccabiah - the ultimate goal and dream of a Maccabi sportsman - the Maccabi Movement as a sports and youth organisation may well be doomed to extinction. To meet all contingencies and commitments such as must be faced by a Maccabi leader, one must, first of all, be sure that conditions are favourable for internal progress and consolidation. European Conferences, affording an opportunity for Maccabi leaders to meet together once a year, are intended to serve that purpose, and I am happy in the thought that the exchange of views and experiences at such Conferences has helped us strengthen the ranks of the leadership of the Movement, which remains obstinate and staunch in the resolve to continue constructive work, regardless of temporary difficulties.

"This brings me also to the question of the Maccabiah Village scheme. In a nutshell, materialisation of the scheme depends exclusively on the vast sum of money required to be raised in the course of the next few years. I wholeheartedly approve of the architects' and engineers' plans; I approve - even contrary to my previous attitude - of the scheme being completed partially by September, 1957. Having analysed it dispassionately, I am still somewhat unhappy at one aspect of it: We have not succeeded, as yet, in drawing up realistic plans holding a promise for the total sum of money required for the completion of the "Village" to be raised in the foreseeable future. I know that you in Israel will cheerfully bear the brunt and face up to your commitments thanks to which the embryo of the Maccabiah Village will emerge, but what of the rest? American support is not assured; the South African contribution is questionable; only minor contributions from European Continental countries can be expected, providing they will prove successful in raising sufficient funds to finance their Maccabiah teams by September, 1957. Great Britain will do its best - and so far as can now be anticipated, their contribution will be equal to that made in 1950. But will the aggregate estimated contributions be sufficient to complete the first part of the scheme, as envisaged by us?

"I am not dealing, for the present, with the commercial side of the "Village", which is still under discussion between us. Nor is it my intention to embark upon a controversy as to the legal relationship between the Maccabi World Union and the Maccabiah Village. One thing

is certain; we are all glad that the Maccabiah Village is to be owned or, in some other form, controlled by the Maccabi World Union. But we must make it clear to Jewish communities all over the world that the Maccabiah Village is far from a luxury. It is to become a permanent institution, based on Israeli soil, destined to benefit Jewish youth and deserving support from all over the world. It deserves, therefore, universal support, not only from the handful of Maccabi members and leaders who have their hands full with their everyday tasks, to keep Maccabi on the move, and to provide for 1,000 Jewish athletes a home for two weeks every 4 years. This is one of the reasons why I would like to see the Maccabiah "Village" prospectus broadened in its scope and provided with "wings" so that it may reach the hearts and minds of every Jew who cares for the welfare of our youth and who sympathises with the aims and objects of Maccabi.

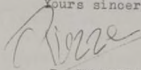
"The Maccabi Movement, the Maccabiah, and the Maccabiah Village, are in need of more publicity and of well devised propaganda."

"You and your Executive colleagues in Israel must be aware of that. We trust you and your leadership. By mutual consent you can speak for the World Movement as a whole. Let, therefore, the voice of Maccabi be heard and let it not be confined merely to one episode - the Maccabiah; let the World Executive - all of us - make Jewry all over the world aware of the existence of the Maccabi Movement and of the contributions towards our communal life. The Maccabiah is a spectacular demonstration of what Maccabi can do. But more emphasis should be laid upon what Maccabi - as a Movement - has done, and is resolved to continue to do in years to come.

"Such are my Conference "after-thoughts" which I felt I ought to share with you at the moment when you are on your way back to Israel and to arduous work.

"I hope and pray that you will be preserved in good health, that you will enjoy the fullest co-operation of your colleagues, as you have already won their confidence."

With Maccabi greetings,
Yours sincerely,



P. GILDESCAME,
Chairman.

FULL REPORT of the 10th ANNUAL EUROPEAN CONFERENCE LONDON 1st September to 3rd September, 1956.

A tribute to the Organisers.

The Inaugural Session was declared open by Lord Nathan on Saturday evening at 9 p.m. and was attended by a distinguished gathering of delegates, observers and guests in the Lord Melchett Hall at Maccabi House, London, N.W.6. The Melchett Hall, which is normally used for indoor sports, for dramatic performances, public meetings, as well as for dances, was transformed on this occasion into a Conference room. Large national flags hung from the ceiling, accommodation for delegates and observers, as well as for the public, was provided around tables covered with green cloth; miniature flags fixed in wooden blocks indicated the presence of Maccabi delegates from Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Denmark, Eire, France, Finland, Holland, Italy and Switzerland. Israeli flags were equally prominent and indicated the presence of three distinguished members of the World Executive, namely Aron Netanel, Chairman, Walter Feuchtwanger, Treasurer, and Fritz Lewinson, Publicity Director respectively.

For the first time in the history of the Maccabi European Conferences a simultaneous bilingual German/English electronic translation system was installed by means of microphones and earphones. Two professional lady interpreters (one of whom was Ilsa Bloom, at one time Honorary Secretary of Maccabi-Bar-Kochba, London) worked hard to keep up with the flow of words delivered by distinguished orators and delegates alike, during the 4 Conference Sessions, the last of which terminated punctually on Monday, September 3rd, at 12 noon.

Despite some justifiable criticism, the organisation of the Conference could not have been better. Under the leadership of Fred S. Worms, aided by Jack Shulman, National Organiser of Maccabi Union in Great Britain, and enthusiastically assisted by members of the Executive Committee of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, notable among them being Derek Burns and Morton Morris, Maccabi House was transformed entirely for the purpose of the Conference and anyone entering the House could immediately sense that everything was excellently arranged. The display of various Maccabi photographs and Israeli posters, and of Maccabi publications on the walls of the Conference room, were yet other welcome features. The courtesy and efficiency of the voluntary Stewards and Stewardesses, serving coffee or lunch to delegates and distinguished visitors, were an example of what one currently refers to as "Maccabi Organisation."

THE INAUGURAL SESSION.

The top of the oblong-shaped Conference tables was occupied at five minutes past 9 on the Saturday evening by the principal guests and speakers, headed by Lord Nathan, The President, followed by the Chief Rabbi, the Very Rev. Israel Brodie, His Excellency the Israel Ambassador, Mr. Eliahu Elath, Councillor Miss D.R. Pailey, the Mayor of Hampstead, Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, the Vice President, Mr. Barnett Jenner, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Mr. Victor Mishcon, President of the Association of Jewish Youth in Great Britain, Mr. Jack Steinberg, Chairman of the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain, Mr. Aron Netanel, Chairman of the World Executive of Maccabi World Union in Israel, Mr. Fred Worms, Honorary Organiser of the Conference, Mr. Lionel Schalit, member of the European Executive and Pierre Gildesgame.

Other European Executive and Council members attending were: Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld and Mr. A.A. Sopher, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer respectively of the European Regional Executive H.Q., and H. Robinson, European Executive member.

The Territorial Organisations were represented by the following Delegates:

<u>AUSTRIA:</u>	<u>Mr. Erich Sinai.</u>
<u>BELGIUM:</u>	<u>Mr. & Mrs. Sally Beck.</u>
<u>GREAT BRITAIN:</u>	<u>Mr. M. Berman.</u>
(Delegates & Observers).	<u>Mr. J. Cheyette.</u>
	<u>Mr. K. Gradon.</u>
	<u>Mr. Alfred Morley.</u>
	<u>Mr. C. Jurke.</u>
	<u>Mr. S. Lehrfreund.</u>
	<u>Mr. J. Shandy.</u>
	<u>Mr. B.C. Saphir.</u>
	<u>Mr. H.H. Raphael.</u>

<u>DENMARK:</u>	<u>Mr. B. Bodnia.</u>
	<u>Mr. J. Nachemsohn.</u>

	<u>Mrs. Bodnia (Observer)</u>
	<u>Mrs. Nachemsohn ("")</u>

<u>IRELAND:</u>	<u>Mr. Hubert Wine.</u>
	<u>Mr. H. Davis. (A World Council Member).</u>

<u>FRANCE:</u>	<u>Mr. F. Haas.</u>
	<u>Mr. R. Biberman.</u>
	<u>Mr. C. MilkoF.</u>

<u>HOLLAND:</u>	Mr. B. Hess (A World Council member). Mr. M. Mark.
<u>ITALY:</u>	Mr. S. Fisher (and Mrs. Fisher as observer).
<u>SWITZERLAND:</u>	Mr. D. Neufeld (a member of the European Executive). Mr. O. Wessely. Mr. E. Pascheles.

Present by invitation was also Mr. Ichelov, member of the Knesset and a veteran Maccabi leader in Israel.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS.

Lord Nathan referred to the leadership which Britain had held in the service of youth and which formed a part of the whole system of social welfare culminating in recent years in the British Welfare State. He recalled that in that service which youth had inspired and which remained the object of its main efforts, stress must be laid on development of the spirit as much as of the body. Lord Nathan expressed the hope that the Conference will give expression to the earnest desire of European Jewish Youth for closer union and co-operation with Israel youth. He wished the Conference well.

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On behalf of the Borough of Hampstead, its Mayor, Councillor Miss Bailey, welcomed the guests from overseas and assured them that the citizens of Hampstead were proud that "Maccabi House" was situated in their Borough and that it has rendered such excellent service to its thousands of members ever since 1937.

* * *

The Chief Rabbi reminded us of absent friends when referring to the large and powerful pre-war Maccabi organisations of Poland, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria or Russia. He said: "I hope and pray that when one of your next Conferences takes place, we shall have the rare joy of welcoming representatives of young people also from those countries where Maccabi activities are now prohibited. The ideals and aims of Maccabi" - the Chief Rabbi went on - "helped to ensure a generation of upstanding and upright Jews and Jewesses - healthy in body, developed in mind, possessed of a spirit of Jewish history, exemplified, in particular, in the life and heroism of the Maccabees. I am very much concerned to see the youth of the Jewish people go forward with strength and loyalty for the benefit and welfare of our faith and people."

About voluntary immigration to Israel.

The Israel Ambassador rose, amidst applause, to deliver his address on the importance of the combination of spiritual and physical elements and the renaissance of the Jewish people and the Jewish State. Speaking in English, Mr. Elath stated: "If the Jewish revival, whose highest expression was the re-establishment of the Jewish State, was to be maintained, the combination of the cultural and spiritual, and of the physical and material elements within it must be preserved as one integral entity." The Ambassador expressed the hope that the Jewish organisations, particularly of the kind of Maccabi, will do their duty in trying to induce young Jewish men and women to link their future with the Jewish State.

"Immigration to Israel cannot be forced but - Mr. Elath went on - by providing their members with the knowledge and understanding of Jewish history and of Jewish ideals, by teaching them the Hebrew language, not merely as a medium of contact, but also as part of Jewish life and culture, he felt sure that the desire in the hearts of the young people will grow voluntarily to emigrate to Israel and to make their contribution there for the re-building of the State in a constructive and lasting manner."

Sports the best Ambassador.

In his address Mr. Aron Netanel emphasized the importance of the

Maccabiah which has become the possession of all Jewish people, and not only of one single organisation. The leadership, as well as the masses of the people of Israel, have come to recognise the importance of Sport, both as a means of national renaissance as well as a medium to carry the message of Jewish revival to places where even the ablest of Israeli Ambassadors could not easily reach. He recalled the recent visit of the Israeli Footballers to Moscow, where a match was witnessed by some 80,000 spectators and where Hatikva was played in the Dynamo Stadium. "There were thousands of Russian Jews present" - Mr. Netanel went on - "and I am sure that the appearance of the Israeli team and the sounds of the Hatikva have brought a message of joy and hope to Jews in Soviet Russia. The Maccabi Movement was expanding in many parts of the world, particularly in Latin-American countries, wherefrom larger Maccabiah contingents are expected at the 1957 Games."

The Second Maccabiah remembered.

Mr. Barnett Jenner, M.P., in welcoming the delegates and in wishing the Conference every success (in his capacity of President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews) recalled the glorious part which the Maccabi Movement played on the Continent before the war and particularly in the face of recent Nazism and Anti-Semitism. He referred to the Maccabiah held in Prague and to the deep impact which it made on Eastern European Jewry. Mr. Jenner paid a generous tribute to the part which Maccabi plays in the education of Jewish youth and shared the hope, already expressed earlier by the Chief Rabbi, that the Maccabi activities in some Eastern European countries will be revived again in the not-too-distant future.

Co-operation in the ranks of Jewish youth.

Mr. Victor Mishoon welcomed the ever-growing co-operation and the friendly spirit between Maccabi in Great Britain and the Association for Jewish Youth, of which he is President.

He felt that there was plenty of room for improvement insofar as facilities for sports and cultural activities were concerned but he added: "Under good leadership, and providing we are determined to succeed, I see no reason why even better results cannot be anticipated before long."

The Central Maccabi Fund.

Mr. Jack Stodolberg gave a brief outline of the work done by the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain and stressed his Committee's determination to help Maccabi in all its endeavours, thus benefiting some of the work in which Maccabi leaders are engaged for the better consolidation of the Movement on a European basis.

The 10th Anniversary of the European Conference and what it aimed to achieve.

In opening his address, P. Gildesgame reminded the Chief Rabbi and the audience that the first European Conference, held in Basle in 1946, was attended by representatives of several Central and Eastern European Maccabi organisations, most notable among them being a group of delegates coming from camps for Displaced Persons in the British, American and French zones. Since then, however, Israel and other countries have absorbed the majority of those who survived the Nazi onslaught, and many of them now occupy positions of responsibility in the ranks of Maccabi leaders in Israel and elsewhere.

"The 10th Anniversary of the European Conferences" - Gildesgame continued - "indicated that the Movement in Europe was very much alive and, looking at this Conference Agenda, no-one could be left in any doubt as to our determination to see the Movement go from strength to strength in years to come. We are fully conscious of the fact that we are short of able leaders, willing to dedicate themselves to our work, but we are not prepared to surrender to these difficulties without attempts being made to overcome them. The question of leadership in Maccabi exercises our mind continually and we will not rest until our work shows signs of satisfactory progress."

Turning to other problems with which the Conference would have to occupy itself, Gildesgame referred to the 5th Maccabiah and to the permanent Maccabiah Village project. There were some matters of equal importance facing the Movement at present. He would like the Israeli Government to grant the Maccabiah the official status of the World Jewish Sports Festival. He felt that in this manner the status of the Maccabiah would be enhanced in the eyes of the Jewish communities all over the world who would no longer look upon it as a purely Israeli sports meeting. Moreover, he called upon delegates' wholehearted support for a resolution appealing to Israeli youth and sports organisations to form, for the next Maccabiah, one integrated national Israeli team, without regard to party politics, for which there was no room in Sport.

Gildesgame also addressed an appeal to Jewish sportsmen all over the world to rally around the Maccabi World Union to enter pre-Maccabiah trials and competitions in their respective countries, with the ultimate object of being selected for participation in the Maccabiah. In this manner, Gildesgame hoped the slogan, inspired by the Olympic ideal and adopted at the European Maccabi Conference held in Paris in 1949, would once again become the battle cry of Jewish sportsmen all over the world "IN UNITY, FOR THE HONOUR OF JEWRY AND THE GLORY OF SPORT".

In his opinion, Gildesgame continued: "The ideal of the Maccabiah is effectively to unite Jewish sportsmen, irrespective of nationality, colour or club affiliation. If that was possible in all countries, it should also be possible in Israel itself."

In greeting his fellow delegates and in welcoming them to this 10th Anniversary Conference, Gildesgame stressed the invaluable contribution made towards the success of the 4th Maccabiah and the exemplary leadership being shown under present difficult conditions in Israel by the Chairman of the World Executive in Israel, Mr. Aron Netanel. "Without him, and without his inspiring leadership there shall be no 5th Maccabiah next year. Let us be grateful to him for what he has done in the past and let us spare him, assist him, and support him in his present work for the success of the next Maccabiah."

The Inaugural Session terminated at about 10.30 p.m. and was followed by a RECEPTION during which refreshments were served in the Lounge, Restaurant and Library of Maccabi House.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd. MORNING SESSION. 9.45 a.m.

At the suggestion of Fred Worms, Honorary Conference Organiser, the following Presidium was elected: Messrs. R. Goldmuntz, P. Gildesgame, L. Schalit, B. Hess, D. Neufeld, H. Davis and S. Beck. By unanimous consent P. Gildesgame was invited to preside and he accordingly took the Chair. A few minutes later, Mr. Jack C.G. Crump, Captain of the British Olympic team and Honorary Secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Association arrived and apologised for his inability to be with us during the Inaugural Session, due to the presence of the Russian team of athletes in London. In the course of his speech Mr. Crump stated: "We are all engaged in work and are concentrating our energies to promote sports for the sake of international friendship. Seeing the delegates from so many European countries present at this Conference I feel sure that you, the Maccabi Movement, share our love for sport as well as our hope that, through it, friendship, better understanding and world peace can be fostered. We admire the work done by Maccabi and we are entirely with you. We can help you by tendering advice and guidance and we are prepared to put on competitions for your athletes to assist you in the organisation of international athletic meetings in Great Britain or in Europe and to provide athletes against whom your sportsmen can compete." Mr. Crump concluded his remarks by wishing the Conference well and said "Count us as your friends."

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The Chairman announced that greetings have been received from a number of Jewish institutions wishing the Conference success. He particularly referred to a letter received from The Gaon, Religious Head of the Spanish and Portuguese community in Great Britain; to a letter from the Rev. W.W. Simpson, Secretary of the Council of Christians and Jews in Great Britain, in which he stressed the important part Maccabi plays in the Council's endeavours to bring about better understanding between Jews and Christians by means of friendly sports and recreational competitions. Last, but not least, a letter from Mr. Israel M. Sieff, Honorary President of the Zionist Federation in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in which warm tribute was paid to Maccabi's work among Jewish youth in their endeavour to create better understanding for the ideals of Zionism.

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In the course of his Chairman's report, entitled "ANNUAL SURVEY", F. Gildesgame stressed the following points:

- (a) The European Conference is not to be looked upon, nor treated as a Congress. The Maccabi World Congress is the supreme Governing Body of the Movement. The European Conference aims at consolidating the Movement in the European theatre only. It is entitled to decide on matters affecting the European region and as a result of its deliberations it can also make recommendations to the World Executive or to the Maccabi World Union Congress in matters affecting the Movement as a whole.
- (b) In the absence of an up-to-date Constitution, the European Conferences have set several precedents, some of which have been approved, or otherwise acknowledged by the two post-war Congresses held in Israel. Hence the creation of the European Regional Executive H.Q. and the friendly relationship between it, the Executive H.Q. in Israel and the Continental Territorial Organisations.
- (c) Members of the World Executive residing in Europe form an integral part of the World Executive. Their Constitutional status in no way differs from that of the Executive members residing in Israel, or elsewhere. There is, however, a practical difference, inasmuch as the European Executive body enjoys the status of a Regional Headquarters only, whereas the H.Q. set up in Israel are recognised as the World Headquarters.
- (d) The need for a revised Constitution of the World Movement is imperative and urgent. The existing Constitution of 1938 is lamentably out-of-date and substantial amendments thereto are very much overdue. The Maccabiah Village scheme is, at present, under active consideration and the legal form which it will assume will have to be related to a revised Maccabi World Union Constitution which, it is hoped, will be considered, discussed and ratified, in its amended form, at the next World Congress in 1957.

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Gildesgame then proceeded by reviewing the situation prevailing in the European Territorial Organisations, on the basis of reports, of observations, and as a result of personal visits during the past year.

AUSTRIA.

After welcoming Erich Sinai, who attended the European Conference for the first time, Gildesgame proceeded by saying that Hakoah-Maccabi in Vienna continued to have a checkered career. The absence of a young Jewish generation in Vienna is acutely felt. It is estimated that there are only 600 young people left at present in Vienna. Of these 100 are active Hakoah sportsmen, organised in such sections as Handball, Water Polo, Volleyball and Table Tennis. The Lawn Tennis Section is now being founded. Despite the sad financial position, efforts are being made with a view to the formation of a Maccabiah team. The Austrian delegate, Mr. Sinai informed him that the Hakoah Mountaineering and Winter Sports Section has recently acquired a Hut at Semmering, comprising 7 rooms and 30 beds.

Members of Maccabi visiting Austria are invited to make use of the Hut at a charge of only 30 Austrian shillings per day, including food.

Gildesgame continued: "Hakoah-Vienna has a great and illustrious reputation to uphold. I appeal to the leaders of Hakoah-Vienna to do their utmost to keep the club in Vienna going. I hope that our friends Herbert Schelzer, Otto and Robert Glucksmann, Elias Schapira, Dr. Sternberg, Erich Sinai, Walter Wittler and others will draw inspiration from the pre-war tradition and that they will see to it that Hakoah-Vienna becomes once again the object of pride and glory of the Maccabi Movement in Europe."

BELGIUM.

Gildesgame regretted the absence from the Conference of Herman Bochner, the dynamic Maccabi leader in Belgium. He congratulated the Royal Maccabi Sportclub of Antwerp on the honour bestowed upon them by the King of the Belgians and expressed the hope that the Antwerp club will soon acquire its own premises where it can house and accommodate hundreds of active members, showing as much zeal and enthusiasm for the Movement as in years gone by. He would like to see a Junior Section encouraged. He congratulated Sally Beck on his outstanding achievements as leader of the Swimming Section and he regretted that this Section, in future, will be without his inspiring leadership. (Beck has recently accepted the office of Honorary Secretary of the Antwerp Jewish Community.) Beck assured Gildesgame, however, that he will remain a member of the Executive of Maccabi Antwerp and that he will continue to give the club as much attention as his other engagements will permit. Gildesgame extended a particular welcome to Mr. & Mrs. Sally Beck, the delegates representing Belgium who have an unbroken record of attendances at European Conferences.

On the subject of Maccabi Brussels Gildesgame stated: "I am firmly convinced that this club suffers from a lack of leaders, able and willing to dedicate themselves to the cause of our youth. They have club premises which could well be the object of envy of a good many youth clubs in any part of Europe. Their facilities for indoor activities are not being used to the full. Much of the trouble is attributed to the lack of finance but I am not prepared to accept this as a valid excuse."

The Belgian Maccabi Federation exists only in name and its Chairman, Herman Bochner, is far too busy to co-ordinate activities between the two Belgian Maccabi clubs, or to promote closer co-operation between them. "I hope that my remarks will reach the ears of Bochner, as well as of Roger Katz, Chairman of Maccabi Brussels; that they will make good the promise given me to co-operate more closely, bearing in mind that, unless energetic steps are taken now, the membership of Maccabi in Brussels may be lost to other, less deserving youth organisations, and, if this happens, it will be too late to remedy the damage caused." (A full report of the Belgian Maccabi Federation was received too late for inclusion in the Conference papers and a condensed version of that report in English, as well as in German, will be found attached to these papers.)

DENMARK.

In welcoming Bodnia and Nachemsohn, as well as their charming wives, to the Conference, Gildesgame regretted the unavoidable absence of Meyer Rudaizky who would have joined the delegation but for reasons of ill-health. He wished Rudaizky a complete recovery. Gildesgame continued: "I wish to congratulate our friends in Copenhagen on the acquisition by them of a plot of land outside the capital, upon which they hope to build a home for Jewish youth with facilities for recreational and sports activities. Our Maccabi friends in Copenhagen are known for their sporting prowess, particularly so in the sphere of wrestling. Hakoah co-operated with other Maccabi clubs on the Continent despite the difficulties under which they are labouring; our Maccabi friends in Copenhagen have thus set an example of initiative and courage on which they deserve to be warmly congratulated."

FINLAND.

A. Livson was welcomed by the Conference on this his first attendance. "Mr. Livson," Gildesgame continued, "has already proved his worth as a Maccabi leader, when he was nominated Honorary Consul of Israel at the time when the Olympic Games were held in Helsinki. Almost single-handed, Livson took care of the Israeli Olympic team, providing accommodation as well as Kosher

food for them. News of activities of Maccabi Helsinki was rather scanty and little was known about another Maccabi club in Turku." It was to be hoped that Mr. Livson's presence at this Conference will stimulate him to engage in more energetic and sustained activity in future, that he will take back to his friends in Finland a message of hope and of cheer, and that he will also be able to assure them that the Movement here, somewhat removed, away in the Northern outskirts of Europe, is well, alive, and full of optimism.

FRANCE.

After welcoming the 3 delegates: Messrs. Haas, Biberman and Milkof, who attended for the first time a Maccabi Conference, the Chairman addressed his remarks to them directly by saying that he felt very unhappy about the situation in the Maccabi ranks in Paris and that one knew very little about what was going on in such centres as Metz and Strasbourg. In fact nobody seemed to know anything about it. On occasions one hears that there is still a Maccabi Football team in Metz, but whether this team forms itself from time to time for the purpose of playing a game, or whether it constitutes an integral part of an organised club, no-one seemed to know for certain. It must, therefore, be assumed that there is only one Maccabi club in the territory of France; Maccabi Paris. All the grand efforts made by Leo Kaminski and the appeals addressed by him and by Gildesgame to the handful of Maccabi veterans in Paris had produced no results. Mr. Lefschetz, Chairman of Maccabi Paris, and undoubtedly a man of great integrity and of firm resolve, seemed to have lost enthusiasm and, in the course of a speech he delivered in Paris, earlier this year, he stated publicly that his "Maccabi flame has become extinct"; he was tired and frustrated and unable to carry on any longer. And yet, the young members of Maccabi Paris were all willing and eager to engage in sports activities. It appeared, therefore, to an objective observer, that the younger members were not allowed, or that they were not encouraged, to decide upon their own destiny. Paris Maccabi would have prospered, its membership would rise to well over 1,000 and their sports and cultural sections would have made considerable progress had a home been provided for them. Mr. Kaminski repeated, on numerous occasions his promise to help raise the money for the acquisition of a home but he did not want to embark upon this enterprise alone. Well known Maccabi personalities such as Freddy Goldschmidt, Leo Rosenberg and others either offered criticism or undertook no action whatsoever. And yet, these were the men upon whom the future of Maccabi Paris depends! Gildesgame continued: "I am glad to see here Mr. Haas, of whom I have heard a great deal, who has been highly praised by Mr. Kaminski, flanked on either side by two young energetic-looking men, Biberman and Milkof. I sincerely hope that these men, in whose good intentions I do not doubt, and of whose ability I am quite confident, will return to Paris, determined to solve the problem which is urgent, by giving a lead to others who, I am sure, will join forces with them. Paris has a large and influential Jewish community. For all we know, the Jews in Paris enjoy prosperity, freedom and equality. They owe it to those who have perished at the hands of the Nazis and who layed down their lives in the "Resistance" so that the younger generation might live. Go back to Paris with that thought in mind, and report back to us in the near future. Tell us soon that Maccabi Paris is undergoing a process of drastic re-organisation and that Maccabi Paris will play the part which it is destined to play, that of a leading youth organisation on the European Continent."

GREAT BRITAIN.

Gildesgame said he was reluctant to speak at length on the subject of the Territorial Organisation of which he is the Chairman and which provides a great deal of publicity for Maccabi in Europe. "I am glad that Maccabi in Great Britain continues to give a lead, that it has produced men of action and of vision and that so many of them continue to work in harmony and unity in one common purpose: to see to it that Maccabi in Europe shall go from strength to strength, regardless of the sacrifices that have to be made in the pursuit of this objective. It is to be regretted that Maccabi in Great Britain has not been able to accept all invitations from Territorial Organisations to send sports teams. Incredible as it may sound, lack of funds is the main obstacle. However, Great Britain is resolved to help in the Maccabiah Village effort in the course of the next 12 months and it is morally committed to raise a total of about £20,000, of which at least £5,000 will constitute its contribution towards the Maccabiah Village scheme."

HOLLAND.

Benno Hess and M.Mark arrived late at the Conference. They were nevertheless greeted warmly by the delegates. Gildesgame praised Maccabi leaders in Holland who, despite the lack of youth and of funds have succeeded in the formation of 4 active clubs in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Deventer, all of which according to reports, are making good progress under their respective club leaders, supervised and inspired by Benno Hess, Chairman of the Netherlands Maccabi Federation. "There was reason to believe," - Gildesgame proceeded, "that the Dutch Jewish community had come to realise that it was in duty bound to help Maccabi financially. The 1955 European Conference, held in Wassenaar, and which was attended by a large gathering of leading Dutch Jews, had produced a deep impression upon the community there, who now recognise Maccabi as the premier Dutch Jewish youth organisation."

IRELAND.

In welcoming the Irish delegates, Hubert Wine and Harold Davis, Gildesgame recalled the efficient manner in which they organised one of the previous European Conferences in Dublin. The Dublin Maccabi Association, its clubhouse and playing fields have become a communal institution enjoying support of the community and rendering to it invaluable services. "Anyone reading the Dublin report could not help being impressed by it. The Dublin Maccabi Association deserves of our admiration and has become an example of a well-organised youth club on the Maccabi pattern."

ITALY.

The inevitable absence of Dr. Aldo Jarach was greatly regretted and the presence of Mr. S. Fischer, Chairman of Maccabi Trieste, was warmly welcomed. "Few realised," Gildesgame said with emphasis, "that there has been no Maccabi Movement in Italy in pre-war years. When a Maccabi group was formed in Milan in 1946, the municipal authorities granted it facilities in the basement of a building which was, at one time, the Headquarters of the powerful Fascist party." Gildesgame paid a warm tribute to Dr. Jarach who, despite his modesty and apparent phlegmatic behaviour had, nevertheless, succeeded in keeping the Maccabi Movement in Italy on its feet. Jewish communities in Italian towns have, as yet, to be socially integrated and, because of that, one should not be surprised at the difficulties being encountered by Dr. Jarach and his colleagues in the setting up of clubs in such important centres as Rome and Florence. Nevertheless, Maccabi Italy has twice participated in the Maccabiah and it continues to participate in, as well as to sponsor inter-Territorial Maccabi sports competitions. "It is to be hoped that Mr. Fisher, who appears to be an experienced, serious, and able leader, would report to his colleagues, upon his return to Italy, on the Conference deliberations and that he, jointly with his Maccabi friends, might conceive a plan for the re-organisation of the Italian Maccabi Federation for the inception of the Movement in the larger cities, and that its organisational co-ordination would result in larger numbers of Jewish youth becoming attracted to Maccabi activities in the foreseeable future."

SWEDEN.

The Conference delegates greatly regretted the absence of any delegates from Stockholm. Even Joel Haskel, now on a business tour in Japan, was unable to make the trip to London. Little is known about the present activities of Jack Witz, Chairman of Maccabi Stockholm, as no reports have been received from him since he was elected to that office. The only reports reaching the London Executive H.Q. are usually signed by Joel Haskel himself. They are scanty and, to some extent, incoherent. There is a fairly large Jewish community in Stockholm and, at one time, it was confidently expected that a Maccabi organisation in that town would attract several hundred Jewish youth. Maccabi Stockholm has been granted facilities in the Jewish Communal Hall and what is already known about members' activities has been published in previous editions of the "Chairman's Newsletter". According to Joel Haskel's latest report there is a hope that Maccabi Sweden will, once again, send a team to the 5th Maccabiah. The difficulty anticipated there is that connected with fund-raising.

SWITZERLAND.

Gildesgame welcomed D. Neufeld and his two fellow delegates, E. Pascheles and O. Wessely. All three were known for their active participation in the affairs of Maccabi Switzerland, as well as for their frequent personal contributions in several spheres of endeavour. In congratulating Switzerland warmly on the Sports Meeting organised by them, last July, Gildesgame stated: "Our Swiss friends are difficult to be convinced of a new idea but, once they are convinced of the merits of a cause, and they pledge their support to it, they can be relied upon to acquit themselves of their obligations honourably and with highest marks. Not content with having already set an example Switzerland will insist, in the course of this Conference, upon European Sports Meetings being organised in future." Gildesgame was sure that their initiative would meet with wholehearted support. He was glad of the friendly co-operation now existing between Switzerland and the Executive members in London. He recalled the fact that the first European Conference ever to be held took place in 1946 in a Swiss town - Basle. Maccabi in Switzerland continues to make good progress under the dynamic leadership of D. Neufeld, who excels not only in the art of good administration but who has apparently succeeded also in surrounding himself with collaborators, able to work with him in what appears to be complete harmony.

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Before concluding his Annual Survey, Gildesgame referred also to the friendly relationship and close co-operation existing between the European Regional Executive H.Q. and the World Executive H.Q. in Tel Aviv. He warmly welcomed the presence of 3 Israeli Executive members, headed by A. Netanel himself and assured them of the keenest desire to help in the work upon which they are engaged at present, namely the carrying into effect of the costly and ambitious scheme - the Maccabiah Village.

Of the work of the European Regional Executive H.Q., Gildesgame spoke with some reticence, because he did not wish to enlarge upon it, on the assumption that everyone present was already well informed on that subject. However, he reminded the Conference of the public relations work done by the European Executive, in connection with the Mediterranean Games, from which Israel was excluded. "We are not so much concerned that Israel may not participate in the next Mediterranean Games. But we want to be quite sure that they shall not be deliberately excluded from them."

Gildesgame recalled also the effective action taken by the London Executive in connection with the Hapoel Festival, and which resulted in a practical European non-participation. Lastly, he referred also to the contact being maintained between the European Executive H.Q. with Canada, U.S.A., Australia, India, etc, such contacts having proved beneficial to all concerned, as they have also helped to uphold the spirit of kinship - so very desirable in a world Movement such as ours.

* * *

Gildesgame's address, which he took about an hour to deliver, was immediately followed by a lively debate.

D. Neufeld (Switzerland) stated: "It is not my intention to quarrel with the Constitution of the World Union, or with the constitutional validity of the European Conference. Although I have contested this issue in the past, the usefulness of the European Conferences and their necessity have now been fully substantiated. It is to be hoped that the World Executive will make sure that the Movement is given a properly drafted Constitution which the next Congress could support and ratify."

Dealing with the European Sports meetings, per the resolution to be submitted to the Conference, Neufeld emphasized that the European inter-Maccabiah, on the contrary, they will constitute an opportunity for training for the Maccabiah, as they will also reveal to us such talents as we may have among Maccabi athletes in Europe.

A. Livson (Finland), after conveying greetings from Finland said: "Maccabi is the strongest and finest youth organisation in our country." Livson dealt with the importance we should attach to the promotion of sports in our ranks as, in his opinion, "Sports activities will attract our youth to the ranks of Maccabi and thereby we will be able to put a stop to the ever-growing assimilation which is becoming a real menace to Jewish communities throughout Europe."

O. Wessely (Switzerland) agreed with Livson and asserted that it was also the view of his colleagues, leaders of Maccabi in Switzerland, that assimilation of our youth is a matter which deserves to be carefully watched. After several other delegates participated in the discussion the Chairman called upon:

Dr. V. V. Rosenfeld, Honorary Secretary of European Regional Executive to deliver his address, entitled "CHALLENGE OF MACCABI".

In introducing Dr. Rosenfeld, Gildesgame referred to him as "This indefatigable veteran Maccabi leader, whose idealism and enthusiasm would set an example to many of our younger friends." (Dr. Rosenfeld is 71 years of age.)

In his opening remarks, Dr. Rosenfeld (affectionately referred to by everyone as V.V.R.) announced that this may be the last occasion upon which he actively participates in a Maccabi Conference, as it was his intention to retire from his arduous work and to give way to a younger man. He was determined to give Conference delegates his candid and honest views on what he considered "good or bad about Maccabi". He paid a tribute to Gildesgame's "Newsletter" and proceeded by saying: "In my honest opinion the Movement has greatly failed in recent years because it has overlooked that its main task is to promote sports. We are hailed as the greatest Jewish Sports Organisation in the world, but are we? The recently held One Day Sports Meeting in Switzerland may be looked upon as the beginning of a new and welcome development, but is this alone enough? Time and again it has been emphasized that we are a Youth Movement, but we are not really attracting sufficient numbers of youth to our ranks. Some of our leaders in various parts of the world are apparently too old to understand the mentality of the younger ones. This is, therefore, the time also to pronounce on whether we ought not to look for younger leaders than ourselves. Upon reading the reports from the Territorial Organisations I can find no reference to Track and Field activities and only very few clubs have Swimming Sections. We have not a single great Maccabi sportsman of whom we could be truly proud. Training of athletes must be consistent and regular. It is no use training a few able-bodied young men on the eve of a competition. Membership of Maccabi must be treated as a privilege. This must be made clear to our members in a variety of forms. We must lay greater stress on discipline and, when admitting members to our clubs, we must also acquaint ourselves with their family background. How can we deal with young people, unless we know the homes from which they hail, or the education which they receive outside the clubs? Unless club leaders know their members personally, the position will not improve. It is no use having club leaders whose contact with their members is spasmodic or nil. Let us enlist children. Let them grow up in Maccabi ranks educated on the Maccabi ideology. We cannot expect better results from our members unless they have received training in our clubs for at least 6 or 7 years. Our whole conception and approach to this problem must be changed." Dr. Rosenfeld concluded by saying: "Let us plant seedlings in the hills of Judaea and the results will be seen in a few years' time in the form of tress in a beautiful forest."

In the discussion that followed, the following observations were recorded:

S. Beck (Belgium) "The programme outlined by Dr. Rosenfeld is good but we cannot expect better results in the next 2 or 3 years. It would be better, perhaps, if we decided on a 10 years' programme and work out a scheme with that in mind. Delegates must remember that as a result of the war we had practically no youth left. The post-war generation is only now beginning to grow up. We must also ask ourselves, and provide the answer to that question: "What is more important for Maccabi to have sportsmen or champions?" Antwerp

is inhabited by only 9,000 Jews. For the time being we only have a handful of youngsters. These are being attracted to Maccabi but the process is inevitably a slow one."

T. Haas (France) After thanking Gildesgame for the words addressed to the delegates from Paris, dealt with S. Beck's observations, with whom he agreed, "Maccabi's primary object was not to raise champions but rather Jewish sportsmen, to whom the ideals and spirit of Maccabi must be imparted as, otherwise, their inclusion in the ranks of our Movement would be of little consequence. The position in France remained difficult because Jewish youth join non-Jewish Sports Organisations, some of which pursue a distinct political party line. Leading French sports organisations can offer their members far better facilities than Maccabi can." Haas was hopeful, however, that the position in Paris would soon improve and that with the co-operation of experienced Maccabi leaders, Paris will set an example to French provincial cities.

J. Mundy (Great Britain) speaking in his capacity of Honorary Secretary of the Maccabi Stadium in London, emphasized the shortage of young people wishing to use a running track. He agreed with Gildesgame that the presence of outstanding athletes or champions in a Jewish club invariably attracts more youth, eager to have opportunities for competitions which would help them raise their own standard of performance. "For the present" - Jack Mundy concluded, "we need champions to train our members, but we need not necessarily concentrate exclusively on the production of champions."

E. Sinai (Austria) stated that he favoured team competitions rather than contests among individual sportsmen. Maccabi should, therefore, concentrate, at least for the time being, on the promotion of team sports such as Football, Volleyball, Basketball, etc., as, in the absence of adequate facilities, the ideal solution cannot at present be aimed at.

B. Hess (Holland) stated that some of our leaders, including himself, were too old to remain at the head of a Youth Movement. There was too great a difference in age and also in the general conception of what Maccabi stood for.

In response to Hess' remarks, Gildesgame intervened by pointing out that a leader of Maccabi need not necessarily be an active sportsman. Good leadership is not conditional upon the age of the leader. "We were all aware of what we were aiming at. A mature and responsible leader, regardless of his age, can outline a programme to the young leaders who would be entrusted with its implementation. With this conception we must all agree."

S. Fischer (Italy) made it clear that in Italy they had neither leaders nor sportsmen. This is why Maccabi in Italy has, so far, failed to score any successes. "We have been trying, for the last year or two, to find a solution to our problem and the prospects are not too good. We think it important to encourage, in the first place, closer co-operation with the small Jewish communities in Italy. In this manner, we hope to be able to provide for our youngsters better means for educating them in Judaism and Zionism. Co-operation with the community may result also in better support for our endeavours on behalf of Maccabi clubs."

H. Robinson (Great Britain). "We must try to forget the Continental Maccabi tradition. It is out of date. The problems today are different. We must inculcate in our Maccabi members an interest in sports at the same time as providing them with facilities for training and competition. We cannot overlook the fact that there is a general tendency today among our youth to join non-Jewish sports organisations. We must do more for our members. The Movement is an abstract and what matters are the members in the clubs. They form the backbone of the Movement."

H. Wine (Ireland) Disagreed with those who attribute our failure to the lack of facilities for indoor and outdoor sports. "Facilities" - Wine emphasized - "can be found by using municipal sportsgrounds, Swimming Baths and Drill Halls but, once we have the facilities, we must also provide opportunities for competition." Wine welcomed Mr. Jack Crump's offer to provide facilities for competition with British athletes and he hoped that the promise made by Mr. Crump will be borne in mind, not only by British delegates, but also by those from overseas.

E.Pascheles (Switzerland) pointed out that the problem of Jewish Youth joining non-Jewish clubs seems universal. It is a process which cannot be easily halted. Better organised Maccabi clubs experienced little difficulty in attracting members. Pascheles reminded the Conference that Swiss Maccabi have developed successfully Winter Sports and their Skiing Section has done good work in recent years.

H.Shapiro (Great Britain) pointed to the fact that Maccabi athletes have had little opportunity for training and competition because they are prevented from engaging in sports on the Shabbath. This is one of the reasons why so many Jewish sportsmen in many lands join Christian sports associations. If there are any Jewish champions or outstanding athletes one normally finds them in well known Gentile or inter-denominational clubs. Shapiro asked what the World Executive proposes doing about the age-old prohibition imposed on Jewish sportsmen, preventing them from playing on the Shabbath.

R.Goldmuntz (Belgium) spoke of the cost of running sports clubs and referred particularly to Maccabi Antwerp Football team which, he said, was extremely popular - some matches in which they play are attended by up to 2,000 spectators - and yet the cost of training and other expenses are high in relation to the number of regular players. Mr.Goldmuntz pointed out that no sports club can carry on successfully unless it enjoys full financial support. He was doing his best in an endeavour to help Maccabi Belgium in their work and will continue to do so in future.

M.Mark (Holland) said that this European Conference had opened his eyes to one reality of which he was not aware, namely that Holland is not the only Maccabi organisation suffering from financial and organisational difficulties. He concluded his remarks on a more cheerful note: "I believe that to succeed and to appreciate our successes, we must overcome many difficulties, and so let's go forward and work together towards the up-building of a strong Maccabi Movement in Europe"

V.V.R. replies to the Discussion.

He agreed with some of the observations made by delegates, but he insisted that the Movement must, first and foremost, concentrate on youngsters and on training them. "We must concentrate all efforts to attract more members to our clubs, on giving them better facilities, on fostering closer contact between them and their leaders, and I am sure that, in so doing, our youngsters will stay at the clubs, or will engage in sports activities and, in the end, we will produce some fine sportsmen. If some of our better athletes show a tendency to join non-Jewish clubs, I don't consider it a tragedy. As soon as Maccabi clubs have raised their standard, and become better organised, we will attract more youth and, in this manner, we will have a larger reservoir to draw upon, thus strengthening the Movement in numbers, as well as in quality.

Gildesgame, winding up the discussion stated that, for the present the Executive did not feel able to alter its policy as regards sports activities on Saturday. The difficulty arising therefrom is well appreciated and has, for many years past, been the subject of keen discussion. "Maccabi, to be a representative Jewish youth organisation, must be able to attract youth from all walks of life and from all Jewish homes, religious and non-religious alike. Being a Jewish organisation, Maccabi dare not offend the feelings of those members of the community to whom the Shabbath is a day of rest and which should not be desecrated publicly or otherwise."

On the subject of general activities, Gildesgame stressed the importance of club premises, which is often overlooked by Maccabi leaders. "It is most difficult to integrate a group of youngsters and to foster among them a team spirit, unless one affords them opportunities for meeting together under one roof and for knowing each other better under congenial semi-home conditions. To achieve this, club premises are a prerequisite condition. I would like to see Maccabi Houses everywhere, accommodating and providing facilities for indoor sports and recreational activities for hundreds of our members. In most cases where club premises exist, Maccabi associations seem to be doing well and

they have succeeded also in paying their way. Let us, therefore, remember that there can be no club without a home and that we cannot hope to rear athletes and sportsmen unless we provide them with adequate and satisfactory facilities for training."

TREASURER'S REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS.

Aubrey A.Scott, Honorary Treasurer of the European Regional Executive H.Q. in presenting his accounts (copies of which were distributed to all delegates) dealt with the general financial situation, as reflected in the details of the statement before the delegates. He stressed that the income was largely derived from contributions coming from Great Britain and, notably from the Central Maccabi Fund, as well as from one or two members of the Executive who defrayed expenses out of their own pockets. These contributions - other than derived from the Central Maccabi Fund, are obviously not shown in the statement of income. Dealing with affiliation dues from Territorial Organisations, Scott paid tribute to Italy, who were the first to pay theirs for 1956. Other Territorial Organisations have sent their contributions a few days before the Conference, notable among them was Denmark, and several have actually remitted to him their cheques on that very day, an hour or so before he submitted the accounts to the Conference. Contributions made by Territorial Organisations were but a gesture of goodwill and a token of solidarity. The funds received from them were not sufficient even to subsidize the cost of the European Games, to which reference was made earlier. Some delegates enquired whether Territorial Organisations were bound to make also contributions to the Executive H.Q. in Israel. The answer was in the affirmative. "We must broaden our outlook on the World Maccabi organisation and bear in mind that the expenses of running the Executive H.Q. in Israel are substantial. In effect, contributions made to the cost of running the Executive H.Q. in Israel are vital and must be continued to the best of everyone's ability."

In the discussion that followed D.Neufeld (Switzerland) congratulated Scott on the lucid manner in which he presented his accounts, and he agreed that every Territorial Organisation is honour-bound to assist the Executive H.Q. in Europe, as well as in Israel, in the arduous work they are doing. B.Hess (Holland) suggested that the World Executive might do well to decide on one fixed subscription being received from Territorial Organisations, the proceeds of which are to be shared between the European and Israel H.Q. respectively.

W.Feuchtwanger (Israel) reminded the Conference that Israel was carrying the financial burden alone and appealed to Territorial Organisations generously to contribute towards the overhead expenses being incurred by the World Executive H.Q. and which keep rising steadily. He deplored the lack of response from some Territorial Organisations to whom letters are being addressed and from whom no reply is being received. "It is a matter of elementary courtesy and, surely, we can expect you to reply to letters, whether you agree with their contents or not, whether you are prepared to respond to our appeals, or whether you decide to decline them."

Replying to the discussion, Scott pointed out that the output of work by the London Office of the European Regional Executive H.Q. was substantial and it appeared to him that few delegates appreciated it. He thought that Hess' suggestion was not a practical one, but if it had any merit, he would do well to table a resolution and submit it to the Maccabi World Union World Congress in good time.

The Conference adjourned for Lunch, served in the Restaurant of Maccabi House at 1.15 p.m. Members of the club were in attendance as stewards and stewardesses.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd. A F T E R N O O N S E S S I O N, 2.10 p.m.
"The problem of Leadership in Maccabi".

In introducing the speaker on the aforementioned subject, the Chairman

stated: "Alfred Morley, who is due to address you, was National Organiser of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland for 10 years, having vacated his office some 18 months ago. He was also a member of the Committee instrumental in conceiving and organising the Leadership Course in Great Britain. He is therefore eminently competent to speak on a subject vitally interesting us all."

Morley said that, whilst sport was important and vital to the Movement, our main objective should be training in self-sufficiency, in citizenship and in sportsmanship. Religion, Zionism and the development of the State of Israel are the "be all and end all" of our Movement. All Maccabi's activities are "means to achieve an object." He commented on the remarks made the previous evening by Lord Nathan on the sociological problems at the turn of the 20th Century and added: "We Jews should be as much concerned about the welfare of our youth as any nation in the world. To ensure a better future for our youth, we must be assured of better leaders. To ensure the continuance of Maccabi as a World Movement, we must, first and foremost, be concerned with the problem of leadership. Time and again, we missed opportunities at a critical moment because we had no leaders whom we could follow with confidence. Here in Great Britain, we endeavoured to meet this problem by a rather simple device when we introduced the Leadership Course, first in the Southern Area and, later on in the North of England. The experiment has, so far, proved successful. We may not be altogether sure as to the definition of leadership, but we all know what we want. There is another problem besetting our minds, and that is the succession in leadership. Some of the delegates stated in the earlier debate that many leaders are too old to run a Youth Movement but, whilst raising this problem, they have not endeavoured to find a solution to it. Surely, the answer to the problem is to be found in the introduction of Leadership Courses and in acquainting our younger members, not only with the ideals of Maccabi, but also with the practical implementation of our aims and objects."

Morley did not agree with Dr. Rosenfeld's conception, according to which more importance is attached to the Section Leader than to the Club Leader. "Some men may be borne leaders," Morley concluded, "but those possessed of gifts of leadership must still be trained and guided and, so far as Maccabi is concerned, must be brought up in the spirit of the Maccabi ideology".

In the course of the discussion which followed the following comments were heard:

S. Beck (Belgium): "As an active member in the Movement for many years past I can see no conflict between cultural and sports activities, nor can I assess which of the two is the more important for the education of our youth. I do not think that a uniform pattern of a Leadership Course can be applied in all countries. Allowance must be made and account must be taken of local communal and social problems. Whilst fully agreeing with the necessity for a Leadership Course, I maintain that each Territorial Organisation should work out its own programme modelled, as it were, on the British pattern."

D. Neufeld (Switzerland). Did not think he could decide on a clear-cut policy insofar as youth leadership was concerned. He believed in the necessity but he was not sure about the implementation of Leadership Courses.

H. Robinson (Great Britain) put forward the view that a leader was successful if he had the confidence of the club members. The term "Leadership" should not be applied indiscriminately. He was not quite sure, Robinson continued: "whether one should be satisfied with leadership in sports, social or in cultural activities. Or did we intend producing an ideal Maccabi member, possessed of all qualifications and attributes?"

F. Lewinson (Israel) suggested that a Jamboree - on the pattern of the Scout's Movement - should be held in Israel during the Maccabiah period, with the participation of Jewish youth from all over the world, not necessarily competitors in sports. During such a jamboree, Courses in Maccabi leadership might be usefully introduced.

A. A. Scott (Great Britain) announced that a pamphlet on the Leadership Course, as introduced in Great Britain, is shortly to be published; he felt confident

that if Maccabi leaders on the Continent will read it carefully, they will come to a totally different conclusion from that so far evinced during this afternoon's debate. "The trouble with our leaders is that they are not giving enough time and thought to the tasks of leadership. If only executive members of clubs knew their members better, they would soon find among them talented young men and women, eager to engage in constructive work. These are our leaders-to-be. Find them, encourage them and train them."

After further discussion, in which several delegates participated, Morley replied, stating that we were indeed confronted with a common problem; no matter how anyone of us endeavoured to minimise it, the problem was there and it had to be faced and solved with courage and imagination.

"THE 5TH MACCABIAH".

An address on this subject was delivered by Lionel Schalit. He dealt with the three principal problems: The formation of teams, Method of travel and Finance.

"Territorial Organisations" - Schalit proceeded - "must make up their minds now that they were going to participate in the Maccabiah and that they will send out teams as large as they can afford to finance. Preparations in this direction must, therefore, be embarked upon immediately." On the subject of travel to the Maccabiah, Schalit thought that there was only one method to be considered, namely, group travel by chartered planes. In this manner, teams would arrive in Israel a few days before the Maccabiah, during which time they would get acclimatised and have opportunities for training, before engaging in arduous competitions. By deciding to take teams back to Europe by plane, the teams will also be afforded a few days after the Games, during which they will tour the country and acquaint themselves on the spot with the economic, social and political conditions in Israel. "This is one of the aims of the Maccabiah which must not be overlooked and which should not be neglected in 1957."

Dealing with the financial question, Schalit emphasised that he would not dare underrate the difficulties which Territorial Organisations will have to overcome before being able to plan the size or number of their Maccabiah teams. Cost of travel must be defrayed by the teams themselves and a contribution of \$6.00. per day, per athlete, will have to be made to the Maccabi World Union, who cannot be expected to feed and accommodate athletes without adequate funds being made available to them. Schalit appealed to the Conference delegates to study carefully the Maccabiah budget, copies of which were supplied to them on the eve of the Conference. He commended the budget as being a "sound proposal".

Gildesgame intervened in the course of the discussion that followed by announcing that, so far as Great Britain was concerned, a Maccabiah Organising Committee has already been formed with a number of sub-committees to which prominent and energetic persons have pledged their support. The Committee in Great Britain is headed by Lord Nathan, as President and by himself (Gildesgame) as Chairman. Many distinguished personalities, both Jewish and non-Jewish have consented to associate themselves with the Maccabiah effort in Great Britain, and their names appear on a list of Vice-Presidents which would not fail to impress the Anglo-Jewish community. Among them will be found the names of Lord Aberdare, a member of the International Olympic Committee and President of the Boys' Club Movement in Great Britain. Of Christopher Chataway, Roger Bannister and Jack Crump and many others who, when accepting nomination they clearly declared their sympathy with the Maccabiah ideal and their earnest desire to give it what support they could. The British Maccabiah Organising Committee has already decided to charter planes and to send their team to Israel and bring it back by air and, if any other European Territorial Organisations wished to co-operate with Great Britain, they would be welcome to do so, in view of the desirability to organise group travel. In reply to one question, as to the approximate cost of return fare by air (by chartered plane) Schalit stated, cautiously, that in his opinion the cost of return fare from the European Continent would be approximately £100 sterling. To this must be added, of course, the additional fare such as must be allowed for travel, say, from the Scandinavian countries to a central point on the Continent, wherefrom the planes would take off for Israel.

"THE PERMANENT MACCABIAH VILLAGE SCHEME".

Fred S. Worms (Great Britain) who served as honorary Liaison Officer between the Executive H.Q. in Israel and the European Regional Executive H.Q. in matters concerning the Maccabiah Village scheme, informed the Conference of the large volume of correspondence that has already been exchanged between London and Tel Aviv in recent months. Worms, as a Chartered Accountant, thought that the Budget submitted by Israel and received in London on the eve of the European Conference, gave a clear impression of what the Israeli Executive had in mind. Not only was allowance made for such income and expenditure items as could be reasonably anticipated one year before the Maccabiah is due to take place, but he was particularly delighted to note that it foresees a profit of £1. 120,000 which will be earmarked for the further construction and development of the Maccabiah Village. "This was sound budgeting and, at this rate" - Worms continued - "It is hoped that the profit from the Maccabiah Games will, in the course of years, cover the bulk of the cost of construction of the Maccabiah Village. One must not rely on this alone" - Worms proceeded - "as financial aid and substantial monetary contributions will have to be solicited from Jewish communities all over the world if the permanent Maccabiah Village is to be completed in the course of the next year or two." He welcomed the publication of a prospectus, copies of which were brought to the Conference by Fritz Lewinson from Israel. Unfortunately, the production of the prospectus did not come up to the expectations and it will therefore have to be revised before it can be distributed on a world basis. He drew attention to the fact that the budget provided for the maintenance of athletes by means of a contribution of £2. per day for the duration of 20 days stay in Israel. He did not think this excessive and he hoped those sending out teams will succeed in raising the necessary money. Even Olympic athletes are expected to make a contribution to the expenses entailed in their participation in the Olympic Games and he hoped - Worms concluded - "that between now and September, 1957, every effort will be made, throughout Europe, for unprecedented participation and for generous contributions towards the Maccabiah Village scheme."

A lively discussion followed.

A. Livson (Finland): "Participation in the Maccabiah is not a matter of good intentions. I take it that we all want to see our countries participate. It is merely a matter of money. We, in Finland, hope to raise sufficient money to send a team of some 20 athletes. Fund-raising had already begun. We have distributed collection boxes to all Jewish families in Finland. There are 690 Jewish families in our country. The initial results of the collection appears encouraging. We already have money to send 5 men. We are confident that we will raise enough by the time we are ready to send our team." Livson felt that if a capable man could be sent to Finland for one week, and who could accompany him (Livson) on a visit to several Jewish homes, they would be able to raise sufficient money to finance the Finnish Maccabiah team.

A.A. Scott (Great Britain). Wanted to know what was going to happen to the temporary structures between Maccabiahs and which are to be erected for the 1957 Games.

Intervening in the discussion A. Netanel (Chairman of the World Executive H.Q.) stated that the dormitories for which permanent construction will be ready by September, 1957, will no doubt be used by lady competitors, whereas tents will be pitched on the Maccabiah Village ground for all male athletes. Replying to a remark by D. Neufeld (Switzerland), that in his opinion £2. per day per athlete was an excessive charge for board and lodging and that private hotels in Tel Aviv or Ramat Gan would be satisfied with a lesser charge, Netanel stated, amid laughter, that the Maccabiah was not being held on Yom Kippur ... He did not know of any hotel or boarding house in Israel admitting visitors for a charge as low as that which the Maccabiah organisers propose making.

H.H. Raphael (Great Britain) thought it desirable that the method of

transportation of athletes be decided upon at the earliest possible stage. Participation of some athletes will surely be conditional upon the length of time they can spare away from their occupations during the period of the Maccabiah.

H.Wine (Ireland) questioned again the cost of the return fare by air and insisted that an early announcement be made, based on a definite quotation by Airway companies.

T.Haas (France). Agreed that participation in the Maccabiah was purely a financial question and he welcomed the suggestion of group travel from Europe, which, he thought, would result in cheaper fares.

M.Berman (Great Britain) referring to the Maccabiah Budget thought that the number of spectators (27,000) at the 5th Games was grossly underrated. He felt that 45,000 to 50,000 spectators would be nearer the mark. Whereupon Worms intervened by explaining that all figures in the Maccabiah Budget were estimated conservatively and allowance must be made for some thousands of spectators attending the Opening and Closing ceremonies by invitation.

B.Hess (Holland) agreed with the remarks made by the Chairman that "the future of the Movement depends on the Maccabiah and that participation in the Maccabiah should not even be questioned. "Europe has already decided, Hess continued - "on its wholehearted participation and support for the Maccabiah at its 1955 Conference. We should now address ourselves to the practical problems rather than continue to deal with theoretical principles."

S.Beck (Belgium) pointed out "that conditions have changed since the Wassenaar Conference. If anything - they have deteriorated. All are agreed on the importance of the Maccabiah to the Movement but the cost of the permanent Village is so great that it was well that we discussed this matter and gave it some careful thought before we committed ourselves financially."

J.Mundy (Great Britain) Agreed that the Maccabiah and Maccabiah Village which were interlinked could materialise only as a result of a world effort, and not one confined to Europe and Israel alone.

* * *

Replying to the debate A.Netanel (Israel) assured the delegates that he listened with great interest to the discussion and was satisfied both with its content and spirit. He continued: "In Israel we do not know what the next day brings. We are surrounded by enemies and every day is considered the eve of yet another war. But we remain undeterred and we shall not flinch or falter. I agree that the Maccabiah Village is a great and costly enterprise. It has been acknowledged as a vital necessity. If the Maccabiah Games are to continue at regular intervals, proper accommodation for athletes in a Village such as we have conceived must be provided. It would be easy to hire a few hotels, but this would not help build the Movement. I came to London to attend this Conference and I am glad of the opportunity to speak to you personally. I am happy to see that you treat this problem as one of vital importance to us all. We will build this Village in stages and we will see it completed by a common effort. The Maccabi World Union are probably the only institution in Israel having money at the bank. The profit remaining from the 4th Maccabiah, the sum of £1,50,000, was in effect greater than that figure - it was nearer £1,75,000. But we had to pay off debts contracted in connection with the 3rd Maccabiah and these have been fully met and discharged. Some of the remaining money being the profit of the 4th Maccabiah has already been spent in connection with the development of the Maccabiah ground, with the building of a fence around it, and with the laying on of water and electric power. Lord Nathan has seen the ground for the Maccabiah Village when he visited Israel last year and he found it eminently suitable (Lord Nathan nodded approvingly). I must appeal to the European Territorial Organisations to make up their minds as to whether or not they are going to help with the Maccabiah Village and whether they are going to assist us in the implementation of the first stage of the scheme to be ready by September, 1957. Latest by January, 1957, that is in 4 months from now, we must know how much money we can get from Europe. We must uphold the reputation of our Movement. We must not surrender so easily to the difficulties which are very real. The State of Israel would not have come into being if its creators were defeatists."

* * *

Before inviting further discussion Gildesgame assured Netanel that everyone understood what was at stake and that, so far as Europe was concerned, our Maccabi leaders were fully conscious of their duties. Gildesgame announced that he had just been handed a note from H.H.Raphael (Great Britain) in which he undertook to raise approximately £1,000 for the Maccabiah effort in his own town - Manchester. The announcement was received with applause.

D.Neufeld (Switzerland) stated that fund-raising methods in Switzerland were about the same as everywhere else, except that members of the community were already being burdened with appeals on behalf of Israel institutions and that Maccabi members in Switzerland did not feel able to raise larger funds unaided. He would, therefore, like Lord Nathan to come to Switzerland to address a public meeting or a banquet, as he felt confident that, by this method, a larger amount of money would be raised.

Lord Nathan. "I look upon the project of the Village as a concrete proposal. I therefore support it wholeheartedly. I am prepared to go anywhere in Europe to appeal for funds. Let me know where I am wanted and when I am wanted and I will make arrangements to visit you and to assist you." Lord Nathan's offer was warmly received and several delegates enquired whether and how soon Lord Nathan could visit them. To these enquiries Lord Nathan replied: "If you can get some people together who understand English, and if you will give me plenty of notice, I will come along to speak to them and do my best for you."

In winding up the discussion Gildesgame announced that he did not propose to anticipate the voting on the resolutions placed on the agenda for the 3rd Session which was to open the following morning (Monday, September 3rd). He felt, however, that the Conference had reached a climax and that delegates would do well to show their approval of and wholehearted support for the 5th Maccabiah and the Village scheme, which were the subject of discussion throughout the afternoon. Delegates stood up and applauded. Whereupon Gildesgame thanked once again H.H.Raphael (Great Britain) for his magnificent gesture and said that he hoped that this Conference will help to inspire others to embark upon an endeavour which will be more re-assuring than any written resolution.

Mr.Romi Goldmuntz Vice President of the European Regional Executive H.Q., announced that he would make himself responsible for the raising of £1,5,000 towards the cost of the Maccabiah Village scheme. His announcement was praised by Lord Nathan and by Gildesgame and appreciated by the delegates.

* * *

Gildesgame suggested that Resolution No.2., which was likely to arouse some controversy be dealt with the same afternoon. The resolution, as submitted by the European Executive read:

"THE 10TH EUROPEAN MACCABI CONFERENCE REQUESTS THE EXECUTIVE OF THE MACCABI WORLD UNION TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL, WITH A VIEW TO THE MACCABIAH GAMES BEING GRANTED OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AND THE STATUS OF THE WORLD JEWISH SPORTS FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL ONCE EVERY 4 YEARS, AND TO BE ORGANISED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF AND BY THE MACCABI WORLD UNION."

A.Netanel (Israel) appealed to the Executive members present not to insist upon this resolution being voted upon. In his view the Maccabiah had already assumed the character of a World Jewish Sports Festival, the status of the Games had already been established in fact; to insist upon formal recognition by the Israeli Government might only lead to controversy in Israel and to opposition by some elements who do not favour Maccabi's lead and initiative.

In the discussion in which Hubert Wine (Ireland), A.A.Scott (Great Britain), H.Robinson (Great Britain), D.Neufeld (Switzerland), Max Berman (Great Britain) T. Haas (France) and others participated, it transpired that the European delegates felt that the resolution should be supported and put to the vote.

opened his remarks in Irish (which no-one understood but which he translated himself). He spoke eloquently about the splendid example set by Great Britain and he too congratulated the Conference Organisers on the manner in which the Conference had been conceived and conducted. The final speech was made by Fred S Worms, who responded to Wine's toast expressing the hope that delegates will take away with them a feeling that the Conference has achieved something constructive and added that the results of the Conference will depend on what Maccabi leaders themselves will do in their respective countries. They are not to rely on everything being done either in Tel Aviv or in London.

The Conference Dinner terminated before midnight and delegates were reminded that they were due to attend the final session the following morning at 9.30.a.m.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD. FINAL SESSION. 9. 30.a.m.

Resuming the debate on Resolution No.2., Gildesgame announced that his Executive colleagues agreed to withdraw it in deference to Mr.Netanel's request but, at the same time, appealed to Netanel to bear in mind the discussion that took place on the subject and to report on it to all his colleagues upon his return to Israel.

Resolution No.1.:

THE 10TH EUROPEAN MACCABI CONFERENCE APPEALS TO JEWISH SPORTSMEN AND SPORTSWOMEN IN ALL LANDS TO GIVE THEIR FULLEST SUPPORT TO THE 5TH MACCABIAH GAMES TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL IN SEPTEMBER,1957, AND SO TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE FORTHCOMING WORLD JEWISH SPORTS FESTIVAL. MACCABIAH ORGANISING COMMITTEES IN EUROPE ARE REQUESTED TO ENCOURAGE INTENSIVE TRAINING AMONG MACCABI SPORTSMEN AS WELL AS CO-OPERATION BY OTHER JEWISH ATHLETES, REGARDLESS OF CLUB AFFILIATION; ELIGIBILITY OF INDIVIDUAL COMPETITORS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL MACCABIAH TEAMS TO BE CONDITIONAL ONLY, AS IN THE PAST, UPON INDIVIDUAL MERIT, HIGH SPORTING PERFORMANCE, AND A SINCERE DESIRE EVINCED BY THEM TO GO FORWARD TO THE MACCABIAH - "FOR THE HONOUR OF JEWRY AND THE GLORY OF SPORT."

After a brief discussion, the above Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No.3.1

TO FULFIL THE HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS OF JEWISH SPORTSMEN AND SPORTSWOMEN, AS WELL AS OF LOVERS OF SPORT IN GENERAL, THE MACCABI ORGANISERS MUST BE ASSURED OF THE WHOLEHEARTED CO-OPERATION OF ALL ISRAELI YOUTH AND SPORTS ORGANISATIONS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR POLITICAL TENDENCIES OR SELF-INTERESTS. THE 10TH EUROPEAN MACCABI CONFERENCE CALLS, THEREFORE, UPON THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE ISRAELI SPORTS ORGANISATIONS WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE MACCABI WORLD UNION IN ITS EFFORTS TO EMULATE THE SUCCESS OF THE PREVIOUS MACCABIAHS AND TO EMBARK IMMEDIATELY UPON A PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITY AIMED AT THE FORMATION OF ONE INTEGRATED AND UNITED ISRAELI TEAM, COMPRISED OF COMPETITORS SELECTED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERIT ONLY. MACCABI ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE LOOK FORWARD TO THE 5TH MACCABIAH AND TO AN IMPRESSIVE DEMONSTRATION OF UNITY AND HARMONY IN THE RANKS OF ISRAELI YOUTH AND SPORTSMEN FIRMLY RESOLVED TO GAIN HIGHEST MACCABIAH HONOURS FOR ISRAEL AND NOT FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL ISRAELI SPORTS ORGANISATION.

Adopted by acclamation without discussion.

Resolution No.4.:

THE 10TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE PLACES ON RECORD ITS ADMIRATION FOR THE MACCABI WORLD UNION EXECUTIVE IN ISRAEL AND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE SPLENDID EFFORT MADE BY IT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLANNING OF THE PERMANENT MACCABIAH VILLAGE. IN PLEDGING ITS WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT FOR THE SCHEME WHICH, ONCE MATERIALISED, WILL AFFORD ACCOMMODATION FOR 1,000 MACCABIAH COMPETITORS, OR TO AN EQUAL NUMBER OF YOUTH BENEFITING FROM IT IN THE YEARS BETWEEN MACCABIAHS, THE CONFERENCE CALLS UPON JEWISH ORGANISATIONS AND GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS THE WORLD OVER TO ASSIST

MACCABI IN ITS ENDEAVOURS TO PROVIDE A UNIQUE ADDITION TO EXISTING ISRAELI INSTITUTIONS, WHICH IS SURE TO MAKE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN VISITING JEWISH YOUTH FROM OVERSEAS AND THE MANY JEWISH YOUTH AND SPORTS ORGANISATIONS IN ISRAEL.

Gildesgame suggested that, as the substance of this Resolution has already been discussed the previous day, he would allow further debate, only if delegates had any relative remarks to make.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No.5:

MACCABI T.O.s IN EUROPE SHALL ENCOURAGE COMPETITION BETWEEN ISRAELI TEAMS AND MACCABI AND NON-MACCABI TEAMS IN EUROPE, PROVIDED THAT THE VISITORS COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- a. THAT REASONABLE NOTICE IS GIVEN TO THE EUROPEAN T.O. OF THE INTENDED VISIT TO THEIR COUNTRY.
- b. THAT THE OBJECTS OF THE VISIT, THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AGREED TO BETWEEN THE PARTIES TO A MATCH (OR MATCHES) HAVE BEEN FULLY APPROVED BY THE T.O. IMMEDIATELY CONCERNED.
- c. IN THE EVENT OF A VISIT BY A MACCABI ISRAELI TEAM, THE CONSENT OF THE M.W.U. EXECUTIVE H.Q. IN ISRAEL SHALL BE FORMALLY SOUGHT AND OBTAINED AND THE T.O. IN EUROPE BE NOTIFIED OF SUCH CONSENT IN WRITING.

R.Biberman (France) was strongly in favour of the resolution.

A.Scott (Great Britain) submitted an amendment to the Resolution.

H.Robinson (Great Britain) suggested yet a further amendment. Netanel, intervening in the discussion, suggested that the Resolution, as it stood, was not enforceable in Israel. F.Lewinson (Israel) agreed with Netanel.

L.Schalit (Great Britain) suggested that the resolution to be valid would have to be accepted by the Territorial Maccabi Organisation in Israel, unless it could be enforced by the M.W.U. in such a manner that Maccabi Israel would have no alternative but to abide by its provisions. S.Beck (Belgium) insisted that the Resolution was fully justified, in view of the sad experience that some Territorial Organisations have had with visiting Israeli teams who did not announce their arrival or who have not made preliminary arrangements with T.O.s whose countries they visited.

B.Hess (Holland) supported Beck in his arguments, but sought an answer to the question "What are we to do in the event of an Israeli team arriving in Holland unannounced but when we are nevertheless asked by the Chief Rabbi or by Israeli Minister to hospitalize the Israeli team and to assist them organisationally or financially. Are we to refuse or are we to co-operate?" Gildesgame, in winding up the discussion, stated that the resolution, if passed, was to serve as an implied instruction to Maccabi T.O.s in Europe as to what not to do in the event of Israeli teams coming to their countries uninvited or unannounced. The Israeli Sports organisations, including Maccabi, must be informed of the resolution and, if they came to Europe uninvited, they would have to suffer the consequences. Israeli teams are welcome in Europe, regardless of whether they play Maccabi, non-Maccabi or non-Jewish teams, but the least that could be expected from such Israeli teams would be that if they required assistance from Maccabi T.O.s, such assistance must be solicited and not expected as a matter of course. Gildesgame appealed, therefore, to Scott and Robinson to withdraw their amendments and to allow the resolution to go forward as it stood. He felt confident that if enforced by T.O.s in Europe and if noted by sports organisations in Israel, conditions in future will improve and the past chaos complained of would not recur. He undertook to send copies of the resolutions to Israel sports organisations or to have them published in Israeli newspapers so that no-one might plead ignorance. When put to the vote the resolution was passed unanimously.

Resolution No.6:

Submitted by Maccabi Switzerland.

A EUROPEAN MACCABI SPORTS MEETING IS TO TAKE PLACE, THE TIME TO BE CHOSEN IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE MACCABIAH. THE COUNTRY WHERE THE MEETING IS TO TAKE PLACE IS TO BE CHOSEN AT THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE TAKING PLACE AT LEAST

ONE YEAR BEFORE THAT MEETING. SPECIAL COMPETITION REGULATIONS FOR THE MEETING ARE TO BE DRAWN UP, THE EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

TO RAISE THE SPORTING STANDARD OF THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS, TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO BE ISSUED BY THE EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE IN TERMS TO BE AGREED. THE EXECUTION OF THE SPORTS PROGRAMME IS TO BE ENTRUSTED TO A SPORTS DIRECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE.

D. Neufeld (Switzerland) explained the motives prompting the proposers to place this resolution before the Conference. In the course of his remarks, he described the preliminary efforts made by the organisers of the All-Day Maccabi Sports Meeting to ensure the success of this first post-war experiment. Neufeld's remarks were warmly appreciated by the Conference and on behalf of the delegates, Gildesgame congratulated Neufeld and his colleagues on their splendid effort and achievement.

In the course of the discussion that followed, H. Shapiro (Great Britain), whilst not opposing the resolution as it stood, suggested that the organisation of European Games be entrusted to the Hosts or the Sports Director of the Territorial Organisation. He also observed that it would be desirable to hold such Maccabi European Sports meetings once every 2 years. G. Jurke (Great Britain) agreed with Shapiro's contentions. M. Mark (Holland) pointed out that Shapiro's desire for more frequent European Games deserved to be supported but that, in practice, it could not be implemented. The cost of organising an event such as a One-Day-Sports-Meeting was fairly high and the cost of travel by the competitors would be such as to render participation prohibitive, especially in view of the contingent commitments assumed by the Territorial Organisation in respect of participation in the Maccabiah Games.

In winding up the discussion Gildesgame pointed out that, at all events, according to the resolution, and if adopted, no European Sports meeting could take place during 1956 or during 1957. At the earliest, such a European Sports meeting could only be organised in 1958 or 1959. It was therefore premature to discuss details. On the other hand, he very much wanted to see this resolution adopted and he promised that the Executive would see to its implementation at an opportune time.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES:

A. Livson (Finland) announced that he was under the impression that a full report from Finland has been sent to the Conference but when it was pointed out to him that the last report from Finland was some 6 months' old, he promised to send a report to the European Executive H.Q. in London at his earliest convenience.

S. Beck (Belgium) requested Madame Beck to read the report which they brought with them from Belgium. There was no time for the report to be read and translated. (At this stage the simultaneous translation system had broken down.) Gildesgame promised that a condensed version of the report would be published in the next "Newsletter".

All other reports, copies of which were supplied to the delegates with their Conference papers, were formally adopted.

ELECTIONS:

B. Bodnia (Denmark) in nominating M. Rudaizky for election as European Executive member, pointed out that J. Haskel (Sweden), serving as a member of the European Executive for the past few years, had done very little work, and carried little weight insofar as the Scandinavian Maccabi Territorial Organisations were concerned. Speaking for his Danish friends, he thought that Meyer Rudaizky deserved to be promoted to the office of Executive member, in the place of Joel Haskel.

Gildesgame pointed out that this procedure would be anti-constitutional. Joel Haskel had not resigned and the Conference had no power to enforce his resignation. Moreover, as Joel Haskel was absent, he was unable to defend his position or his alleged inactivity. Gildesgame proceeded by informing the Conference that, after consultation with Aron Netanel, it was decided not to oppose Rudaizky's nomination, whilst allowing Haskel to stay in office until the next Conference - unless he resigned his office during the interim period. Gildesgame paid a tribute to Meyer Rudaizky's work as a leading member of Maccabi in Denmark, as well as a promoter of Maccabi work in Europe. Rudaizky was elected unanimously as a member of the European Executive of the Maccabi World Union.

D. Neufeld (Switzerland) announced that E. Pascheles, who has been active in Maccabi work in Switzerland for several years past, and who has been the main Maccabiah promoter on the last two occasions, deserved to be promoted to the office of World Council member; his delegation nominated him to that office, subject to Conference approval. O. Wessely (Switzerland) seconded the nomination by paying tribute to Pascheles' work.

Pascheles was unanimously elected a member of the World Council and in thanking the delegates he promised to do his utmost to ensure the success of the European Maccabi Movement and that of Switzerland in particular.

Gildesgame announced that all the remaining Executive World Council members offered themselves for re-election and, unless opposed, they would be duly re-elected. To this proposition all delegates assented. The European Regional Executive H.Q. Executive and Council members for the coming year will, therefore, comprise the following:

PRESIDENT: The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt, P.C., T.D., D.L.
VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. Romi Goldmuntz (Belgium)
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pierre Gildesgame.
HON. SECRETARY: Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld.
HON. TREASURER: Mr. A.A. Scott.

MEMBERS: H. Bochner (Belgium) D. Neufeld (Switzerland)
J. Haskel (Sweden) H. Robinson (Gt. Britain)
L. Kaminski (France) L. Schalit (Gt. Britain).
W.W. Meisl (Great Britain, ex officio).

COUNCIL: C. Blausten (Great Britain)
H. Davis (Ireland)
S. Goldberg (Sweden)
B. Hess (Holland)
A. Jarach (Italy)
R. Katz (Belgium)
A. Livson (Finland)
E. Pascheles (Switzerland)
H. Schelzer (Austria)
H. Shapiro (Great Britain)
F.S. Worms (Great Britain).
V. Jacob (France).

A. Netanel congratulated the Conference on the success it achieved and appealed to Gildesgame to maintain closest contact with the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, to ensure their participation in, as well as support for, the Maccabiah endeavour. Gildesgame assured Netanel he was already doing so and, indeed, he had hoped that Mr. Louis Kraft would attend this Conference, representing the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel. Mr. Louis Kraft, temporarily residing in Paris, assured Gildesgame of his desire to attend the Conference but for personal reasons he was unable to come to London.

The question of the 1957 European Conference was also discussed and two suggestions were received, one from Mr. Fischer (Italy), who thought that the Conference could be held in Milan, the other from Mr. A. Livson who promised that Maccabi Finland would gladly afford hospitality to the Conference, if so desired. Mr. Fischer's offer was favourably received and he was requested to make enquiries as to whether the Conference could be held in Milan in May 1957. After a brief closing speech by Gildesgame, the Conference terminated at 12 noon - exactly as scheduled. Several of the delegates were entertained to lunch as the personal guests of Lionel Schalit and Gildesgame.

Bericht des Belgischen Maccabi an die Europäische Maccabi-Konferenz.
(September, 1956.) (Auszugsweise Uebersetzung.)

- 1.) Unsere Executive wurde vergroessert und junge Elemente einbezogen.
- 2.) Die Beziehungen zwischen Antwerpen und Bruessel waren normal. Im Maerz war eine Maccabi-Versammlung in Bruessel, der Mr. Gildesgame anwohnte.
- 3.) Wir halten es fuer noetig, die Haltung des Gesandten von Israel zu erwahnen, der zweimal unsere Einladungen ablehnte.
- 4.) Unsere Beziehungen zu allen nicht-Juedischen, Juedischen und Zionistischen Organisationen in Antwerpen sind gut. Wir sind im National-Fond und in der Juedischen Gemeinde vertreten.
- 5.) Wir konnten weder Grund noch Geld fuer den Bau eines Klubheims finden. Jetzt beabsichtigt die Juedische Gemeinde, ein Juedisches Zentrum zu erbauen, in welchem wir auch unsere Raume haben werden. - Unser Fussball-Platz wurde verbessert, eine gedeckte Tribuene gebaut, und Umkleideraume fuer die Korb- und Volleyball-Spieler.
- 6.) Ein Nachrichtenblatt erschien viermal im Jahr, herausgegeben von 2 jungen Maccabim. Da es nicht oft genug fuer Propaganda-Zwecke erschien, wurde auch die lokale juedische Presse hier-fuer benutzt.
- 7.) Die Leichtathletik-Sektion war nicht sehr erfolgreich; es wurden Wettkaempfe zwischen Schulen, ein Hanuka-Waldlauf arrangiert und Sportfilme gezeigt, doch laesst das Ergebnis zu wuenschen uebrig.
- 8.) Die Maccabi-Bridgespieler nahmen mit grossem Erfolg an den offiziellen Meisterschaften teil.
- 9.) Trotz Unterstuetzung durch die Executive, konnte die Korbball-Sektion die Meisterschaft-Spiele mangels Interesse der Teilnehmer nicht beendigen.
- 10.) Nach einem guten Beginn stellte die Schachsektion wegen innerer Schwierigkeiten ihren Betrieb ein. Der Praesident begann dann eine energischere Fuehrung und Erfolge stellten sich wieder ein.
- 11.) Das erste Team der Table Tennis-Sektion kam auf den dritten Platz in der Staatsmeisterschaft; zwei unserer Spieler gewannen die B-Meisterschaft im Double. Es wurde viel Jugend herangezogen.
- 12.) Die Gymnastik-Sektion machte ebenfalls aus inneren Gruenden eine Krise durch. Die Klubexecutive setzte daher eine neue Sektionsleitung ein. Mangels einer Trainingshalle, erhielten wir die Erlaubnis, die neuerbaute Halle in der juedischen Schule zu benutzen.
- 13.) Das erste Fussball-Team kaempfte hart und erfolgreich, um seinen Platz in der ersten Provinz-Liga zu behaupten.
- 14.) Die Volleyball-Sektion bewaehrt sich gut. Im Juli fand in Bruessel ein Maccabi-Tag statt, an welchem Mannschaften von Paris, Amsterdam, Bruessel und Antwerpen spielten. Unser Ehren-Praesident Romi Goldmuntz und Delegierte von Frankreich, Holland, und Belgien waren anwesend. Naechsten Monat wird uns ein Ismel-Team besuchen und gegen ein belgisches National-Team antreten. (Der Kampf ist von Maccabi-Antwerpen veranstaltet.)
- 15.) Schwimmen. Die Sektion arbeitet fleissig und mit sehr gutem Erfolg. Drei Wasserball-Mannschaften nahmen an den Wettkaempfen teil und die Erste Mannschaft stieg von der Zweiten in die erste Liga auf. Ein Jugend-Cup wurde ausgetragen. Die Saison endete mit einem gelungenen internationalen Schwimmfest,

an welchem die Wasserballer von Maccabi-Tel Aviv und die Schwimmer von B'rith-Maccabi in Tel-Aviv teilnahmen.- Mr.Beck trat von der Sektionsleitung zurueck und es ist zu hoffen, dass sein junger Nachfolger die Zuegel mit gleicher Energie fuehren wird.

- 16.) Dank der Intervention der Belgischen Sportorganisationen, wurde dem Maccabi der Ehrentitel 'Koeniglich' von unserem Koenig verliehen. Dies wurde im May in einer grossen Halle in Anwesenheit vieler Belgischer Persoenlichkeiten, und Vertretern juedischer und nicht-juedischer Organisationen des In- und Auslandes mit einer Cocktail-Party gefeiert, bei der kuensntlerische Auffuehrungen geboten wurden.
- 17.) Im Dezember fand eine Versammlung aller Maccabi-Fuehrer statt, bei welcher Berichte gegeben und die Arbeit fuer die Zukunft besprochen wurde.
- 18.) Eine Finanz-Kommission wurde in diesem Jahr gebildet, die den Sektionen die finanzielle Moeglichkeit gab, sich zu entwickeln und Trainings-Lokalitaeten zu mieten.
- 19.) Die 'Puenktlichkeits-Aktion' wurde erfolgreich fortgesetzt und erzieht die juedischen Einwohner zur Puenktlichkeit.

Condensed Report from the Belgian Maccabi Federation, September, 1956.

Our Executive has been enlarged and the relationship between Antwerp and Brussels is improving. Last March Mr.Gildesgame attended a meeting in Brussels. We regret that the Israel Envoy of Belgium has twice declined an invitation from us. Our relations with Jewish and non-Jewish organisations, as well as with the Zionist Organisation in Antwerp are satisfactory. We are also represented on the J.N.F. and on Jewish communal bodies.

So far, we were unable to raise funds either for a clubhouse or for the ground upon which it is to be built. The local community is, considering the erection of a Jewish communal centre, part of which is to be allocated for youth work.

Our Football ground has undergone improvements, a covered stand and changing rooms have been built. Facilities for Basketball and Volleyball are now available.

Our News Bulletin appears 4 times a year, edited by two young members.

Our Track and Field Section has not been too successful. Some of our members have been awarded prizes in Bridge contests. Our Chess Section continues to prosper. Our Basketball Section, despite encouragement and support by the Executive has not proved as successful as was anticipated.

In the national competitions our Table Tennis Section was awarded third place. The section for Gymnastics is being re-organised. Our Football team is doing well, having retained its place in the League. The Volleyball Section is doing equally well. During July a Maccabi Day was held in Brussels in which competitors from Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels and Antwerp competed in a Volleyball contest. Next month an Israel team is expected to play against the best Belgian national teams.

The Swimming Section continues to develop satisfactorily. We have three Water Polo teams and a team of juniors is now being encouraged. The end of the season was marked by an international Swimming Gala in which Water Polo players from Maccabi Tel Aviv participated. Mr. Sally Beck resigned from the leadership of the Swimming Section and it is hoped that his successor will carry on the work with equal energy and devotion.

A Finance Sub-Committee has been set up recently to look into the financial position of all sections, with a view to providing them with training facilities locally.

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
PC., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

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V. V. Rosenfeld

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Please reply to:

November 1st, 1956.



CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO.

53

Dear Friends,

Special Edition

ISRAEL - WAR AND PEACE.

As I dictate these lines my thoughts go out to our brethren in Israel who are, once again, engaged in the defence of their very existence. Full of anxiety for their fate we must hope and pray that Israel shall not be made the "scapegoat" of international politics. We take comfort in the latest pronouncements made by members of the British and French Governments who, at this fateful and late hour, have declared that Israel has been subjected to unprecedented provocation, threats and attacks which the people of Israel could no longer bear. On the other hand, a large section of the public in Europe joined by many millions in other parts of the world condemn aggressive warfare, linking the names of Israel with those of Great Britain and France. Thus, Israel is once again branded as an aggressor for its actions aimed, as the more honest-thinking people of the world know, at its self-preservation as a peace-loving nation. Surrounded by enemies, bent on Israel's destruction and making their intentions known to the world at large, without fear or hesitation, Israel stands alone in its battle for survival and it demonstrates to the world, without ostentation, that the SPIRIT OF THE MACCABEANS is still very much alive in the ranks of the Israelis, regardless of all odds and the superior numbers of its enemies. They remain firmly resolved to defend their land and to uphold their freedom, regardless of sacrifices which will undoubtedly be made in the course of the events now unfolding themselves before us. United Nations spokesmen were outraged and indignant at the intervention of the Soviet Armies when the people of Hungary and Poland fought during the last weeks to regain their freedom of thought, of speech, and of political philosophy. We have heard some representatives of world powers in the United Nations say that their hearts go out to the fighters for freedom, thus commiserating with the victims of oppression and aggression. Never have such pronouncements been made, even by Israel's best friends among the 70 nations who subscribed to the United Nations' Charter. Time and again, Israel has been branded as an aggressor and its actions in self-defence were referred to as "aggressive wars". The fear of the Arabs and of the economic repercussions that might affect some world powers in the event of the Arabs' displeasure being incurred, seemed to override any considerations of a humanitarian nature in favour of the struggling people of Israel. Can anyone wonder that Israel's patience has been exhausted and that it is now resolved to put an end to all attacks upon her people and territory? Strangled economically, boycotted by the Arab world, and ostracised by the majority of the United Nations, Israel is facing its future not like a person who is in despair; maybe Israel was right to bring its case now to the notice of the world, thereby shaking the world's conscience and the leaders of the nations to make up their minds, once and forever, as to whether they really wish Israel well and want to see it lead a peaceful existence, or whether they are indifferent to Israel's fate and would not raise a finger

should it be invaded by its neighbours and annihilated in a matter of days.

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It is not for me to indulge in speculation of a political nature, nor am I competent to pronounce on the attitude of Britain and France and their ultimate intentions in the present struggle. But let no-one, least of all Jewish youth, brought up in the tradition of the Maccabees, have any doubt as to what is at stake in the present struggle insofar as Israel is concerned. We do not wish to see Israel engaged in any armed conflicts. At the same time, we do not wish to condone in our minds any action undertaken by some world powers which is likely to serve their own ends at the expense of Israel's future. Nor dare we agree with those - and they are numerous - who brand Israel as an aggressor or potential menace to its neighbours. Anyone doing so would be guilty of a short memory and of a lack of clear conscience. As citizens we owe loyalty to our respective countries whose subjects we are. But this does not mean that as free citizens we are not allowed to disagree with any one government, or power, or political party, whose sole object is the defence of their economic and territorial interests, regardless of how temporary victories gained by them may affect the fate and future of the Jewish people. For don't forget that Israelis form an integral and indivisible part of the Jewish people as a whole, that they are our brethren, our next of kin, the saviours of the Land of Promise and the fighters for its freedom, the defenders of the respect in which the Jewish people have been held ever since they have proved to the world that their will to have a land of their own was interpreted in deed. Our common hopes could not be achieved without great sacrifices being made by the Jewish people as a whole, the world over.

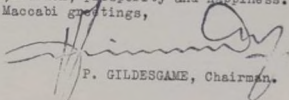
Let us watch the developments with staunch hearts, ready to make sacrifices, if called upon to do so, in the knowledge that any help given, however remote or indirect, will raise the morale of the Israelis who are under constant pressure, engaged in a struggle which will mean either the chances of a glorious future or the beginning of a new and endless struggle.

To demonstrate to our friends in Israel that we do not think in terms of defeat, let us carry on with our work undaunted and determined to bring it to a successful and happy ending. Let us carry on with our preparations for the 5th Maccabiah, full confident that it shall take place in a free Israel, in a land free from fear, able to defend itself against future onslaughts, and whose confidence will be enhanced by its past successes. The present crisis should be looked upon as a challenge to us - Jews living away from Israel and free from daily attacks and provocations. Let this message reach our Maccabi friends in Israel: WE ARE HEART AND SOUL WITH YOU! We watch your gallant struggle with an ardent prayer in our hearts that you may emerge from it victoriously. We will continue to dedicate ourselves to the cause of Israel, and as Maccabim will go forward, making all preparations for the sending of our teams of athletes to Israel, in September, 1957, when we hope to find you all released from the constant tension, happy to receive us in your midst and able to afford us an opportunity of joining in your rejoicings that Israel has been freed from fear and that it shall go forward, confident of a brighter future.

Solidarity with our brethren in Israel need not necessarily be expressed by the supply of manpower and armaments. A demonstration of spiritual solidarity and of confidence in Israel's ability to emerge from this present crisis successfully will, I am sure, help to uplift their morale, as it will render them conscious of the fact that they do not stand alone, fight alone, or go forward alone on the road to liberty, freedom, prosperity and happiness.

With Maccabi greetings,

N.B. The November edition of the Newsletter will be published within a fortnight containing an up-to-date report from Territorial Organisations of the Maccabi World Union.


P. GILDEGAME, Chairman.

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November, 1956.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO.

54

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment.

THE PROBLEM OF DISCRIMINATION. Time and again news reaches us about the admission by some Maccabi clubs in France, Belgium, Austria and Great Britain, of non-Jewish members. During the recent year or two, the inclusion of some non-Jewish players in Maccabi teams aroused a good deal of discussion. In some cases, the admission of non-Jewish players was deliberate, as it was done in a desire to strengthen their playing teams. Protests were heard on all sides and some demanded the expulsion of non-Jewish members, even at the risk of offending elementary principles of racial tolerance.

I feel it my duty, therefore, to offer some advice and guidance to those having to meet such situations, whether they be the outcome of deliberate action or otherwise.

Maccabi is essentially a Jewish Youth Organisation.

- * It encourages in Jewish youth the development of mind, spirit and body in the tradition of the Maccabees.
- * It aims at the promotion of the interest and active participation by Maccabi members in work aimed at the development and advancement of Israel.
- * Through a variety of activities it cultivates among members a knowledge of Jewish history, of the Hebrew language, of national traditions and, indirectly, it lays also stress upon the advancement of Jewish religious education and respect for the principles of the spirit of the Jewish faith.
- * Last but not least, throughout its history the Maccabi Movement had succeeded in fostering better understanding between Jew and non-Jew by means of sporting, social and cultural activities.

All Maccabi clubs ought to bear in mind the aforementioned aims and objects of the Movement and to have them incorporated in a Charter or Constitution, a copy of which should be shown to every individual applying for membership, requesting him or her to state whether they are able and willing to subscribe to it, to respect and to live up to the Maccabi Movement's ideals.

Consequently, Maccabi clubs cannot honestly admit non-Jewish members, nor should non-Jewish members be encouraged to join clubs where they may feel, sooner or later, out of place. This, however, is not to be taken to mean that non-Jewish members must be debarred from fraternisation with Maccabi sportsmen. In certain circumstances, and in some countries, it might even be considered desirable to admit non-Jewish sportsmen to Maccabi clubs, but only as associate-members. In this manner they can train and play with their Jewish fellow-citizens but, for reasons stated earlier, they could not be admitted to full

membership, nor could they truly represent a Maccabi team, which would be assumed to be composed of Jewish boys and girls only. There is no room for falsepretence in our midst and the conception of fair play must be extended and applied to facets of our activities other than competition and sports only.

Reports have reached us that, in some instances, non-Jewish boys and girls under the age of 15 applied for membership to a Maccabi club where they were admitted in all good faith. Club committees argued that they were unable to explain to such juveniles the aims and objects, as well as the Jewish character, of Maccabi and they could not, therefore, expect such applicants to say whether or not they could subscribe to them. Surely, the practical advice one can give in such instances is for Club committees to write to the parents of the juvenile applicants, informing them of Maccabi's aims and objects. Past experience has shown that most parents withdrew their children's applications, or asked for the children to be allowed to remain in the club only as non-active members. Neither the parents nor the children felt in any way offended.

It is far better to make the position clear to every individual applying for admission to a Maccabi Club, especially so if they are non-Jewish, than to have to deal with an embarrassing situation at a later stage, culminating in what may appear as open discrimination.

* * *

THE FIFTH MACCABIAH. Good news reaches me from the M.W.U. Executive H.Q. in Tel Aviv. Undeterred by the recent troubles, our friends are carrying on with preparations confident that Israel will emerge from its troubles and that life will return to normal as soon as world politicians will reaffirm that the State of Israel has come to stay and that the people of Israel have every right to defend their right to Nationhood.

* * *

NORTH AMERICA.

George Flesh, a veteran Maccabi leader, who, for the past year or so had been active in Canada and North America in a fund-raising campaign on behalf of the Jewish Agency, reports fairly good progress on his negotiations with the sponsors of Maccabiah Organising Committees. He seems quite confident that Canada will send a team of 25 competitors and that the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel will see the wisdom of giving their blessing and wholehearted support to a strong team of U.S. Maccabiah athletes.

* * *

GREAT BRITAIN.

In Great Britain, the Organising Committee for the Maccabiah, under my Chairmanship, set up a number of sub-Committees and Commander Max Berman is, once again, in charge of the Technical Committee. Advertisements have appeared in the Jewish Press, inviting applications from potential competitors and the response so far has been very satisfactory indeed. But for the present crisis, necessitating a redoubled effort in the fund-raising campaign for the benefit of Israel, the Finance Sub-Committee would have gone into action with a view to raising, with the help of the Anglo-Jewish Community, the sum of £20,000. It is estimated that £10,000 will be required to defray the cost of air travel for a team of 100 strong; that at least £5,000 will be contributed towards the cost of the Maccabiah Village, and that another £5,000 will be needed to pay for the cost of maintenance, feeding and accommodation of the British team during its 20 days stay in Israel.

* * *

ANOTHER AMBULANCE.

It may interest my readers to learn that, meanwhile, Maccabi clubs throughout Great Britain intend raising, in the form of small donations

from individual club members, a sum of £1,600 to pay for the cost of an AMBULANCE to be dedicated under the Magen David Adom scheme "To the successors of the Maccabees, the fighters for the freedom of Israel."

Such is the spirit and the mood in the ranks of Maccabi leaders in some parts of the world who are determined to remain undaunted and who are resolved to continue to promote Maccabi work culminating - as it surely will do - in the 5th Maccabiah, due to open on September 15th, 1957 in Israel.

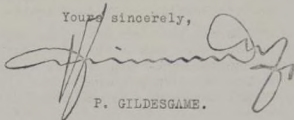
I am happy to be able to report a very favourable reaction, in the form of several letters received during the past few days, to the Special Edition of the "Newsletter" in which I dealt with the present crisis in Israel. I thank all those who were good enough to express their appreciation.

A NOTABLE PRESS CONFERENCE.

Early in October, Mr. A. Netanel, Chairman of the Executive H.Q. in Israel, gave a Press Conference which was widely publicised by all the Israeli Radio Stations, as well as by many overseas newspapers. In the course of his address, Mr. Netanel had stated that work has begun on the building of a permanent Maccabiah Village at Ramat Gan on 80 dunams of land. It will include 12 dormitories, two swimming pools, a clubhouse, sports grounds, tennis courts, a post office and a bank. Mr. Netanel added, however, it was not expected that the whole of the Village will be ready for the 5th Maccabiah. A larger number of competitors from all countries than took part in the last Maccabiah, (when 530 sportsmen from 22 foreign countries participated) have already notified their intention of competing in the "World Jewish Sports Festival".

With Maccabi Greetings,

Yours sincerely,



P. GILDEGAME.

Reports from Territorial Organisations.

AUSTRIA.

Mr. Walter Feuchtwanger, a member of the World Executive in Israel, has recently returned from Austria, and I am grateful to him for a report sent to me on an interview he had with several Maccabi-Hakoah leaders in Vienna, held on October 20th:-

"Immediately after my arrival in Vienna, I contacted Mr. Sinai, who represented Austria at the last European Conference in London. He arranged a lunchtime Conference, during which I met Mr. Shapiro, President of Hakoah Vienna, as well as Mr. Breuer, a member of the Committee. Other members of the Committee, namely Mr. Vogel, Mr. Glicksman and Mr. Krell, were unable to attend due to the short notice. I gathered from my conversation that Austria is prepared to send 20 people to the 5th Maccabiah. They hope to raise sufficient money to pay their fare, estimated at about 5,000 Austrian Shillings per person. They are confident that they will be assisted by such organisations as Sportoto, the Austrian Olympic Committee and the Education Department of the Austrian Government. The Vienna Jewish Congregation and individual members of the community have also promised some assistance.

"The Jewish population of Vienna is estimated at 9,000 souls of which 220 are youth. There are about 7 different youth groups with a small membership. Hakoah-Vienna is the largest of these groups. The committee of the club finds it difficult to integrate the members who contribute only 5 Austrian Shillings per month by way of subscription. Members of the Hakoah Committee are very doubtful as to their ability to make any contribution towards the Maccabiah Village scheme, in fact they will consider themselves fortunate if they will be able to raise sufficient funds to pay the cost of sending a team to Israel. If pressed hard for a contribution towards the Village, they may be forced to reduce their team to a token number.

"They promised also to pay their dues to the M.W.U. H.Q., having already remitted their annual subscription to the European Office."

* * *
BELGIUM. (ANTWERP)

In a Volleyball match played last month in Antwerp, Israel beat Belgium by 3 sets to Nil.

* * *
H. Bochner reports: The Football and Table Tennis Sections are on top of the list in their respective divisions. The Water-Polo team is first in the second division. The Gymnastic Section organises training at the local Jewish school. Progress in the activities in all sections would have been far greater had there been better facilities available. The lack of premises is still felt acutely.

* * *
FRANCE. (Paris.)

The September and October News Bulletins of Maccabi Paris revealed, once again, that, despite all difficulties and shortcomings from which this club has suffered for many years, their sports activities continue satisfactorily. The most active sections are Football and Basketball.

In his personal messages, the President of the Club, Mr. E. Lefschetz, continues to stress the inadequate part played by the Paris Jewish community in its support for Maccabi. At the same time, the President points out that members of the club are not showing sufficient interest in the Movement as a whole and in activities other than sports.

* * *
We have heard Mr. Lefschetz voice these complaints on many previous occasions and we have expressed our sympathy with the difficulties under which his club members have laboured. But do we have to remind Mr. Lefschetz and his colleagues, once again, of the old proverb that "God helps those who help themselves"?

Delegates representing Maccabi Paris at the recently held 10th European Conference in London, Messrs. Haas, Biberman and Milkof, will well remember the lively discussions that took place on this subject, as well as the promises they gave us to make a positive contribution towards the re-vitalisation of their club and the provision of a clubhouse in which Mr. Leo Kaminski promised to co-operate. It is to be hoped that Mr. Lefschetz was informed of the situation and that his Committee will discuss it urgently.

* * *
FINLAND.

Maccabi Finland celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 31st. The European Executive H.Q. congratulated the Helsinki club on this occasion but regretted that no representative from London could attend the anniversary celebrations.

According to Josel Haskel, Maccabi Stockholm was due to play Maccabi Helsinki in a football match. No further report on the subject has been received.

In the same letter, dated the end of July, Haskel informs me that Stockholm intends starting the Maccabiah campaign early in the Autumn.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Maccabi Southern Area Championships, 1956, took place at the Maccabi Stadium, Hendon, early in October. Athletic competitions were arranged for Youths aged 17 to 19 years and 19 years and over. Some good performances by participants from all clubs in the Southern Area were noted. In the over 19 age group, Martin, of Maccabi Association London (N.W.), won the boys' 100 yards in 10.6 seconds, the 220 yards in 25.2 seconds and the 440 yards in 54 seconds. D. Ansell scored 22 ft. 8" in the Long Jump.

In the under 17 age group, B. Barratt, of Brighton & Hove Maccabi Association, won the boys' 100 yards in 10.8 seconds and the 440 yards in 57.2 seconds. P. Roseman, of Junior Maccabi Association London (N.W.), won the 880 yards in 2 min. 9 seconds, and the mile in 4 min. 51.7 sec. M. Orenstein of Leytonstone Area Maccabi Association won the boys' discus event by throwing 115 ft. 3 in. and the javelin event with 104 ft. 5 in.

* * *
Miss Wendy Bates, of Brighton & Hove Maccabi, has been selected for the England Table-Tennis team to tour Germany shortly.

* * *
The 1956 British Maccabi Holiday Camp took place in Glen Almond, Scotland. The "Camp" was comfortably accommodated at the Trinity College. Participants had the free use of the spacious grounds and lawns surrounding the College. The programme included Tennis and Table Tennis Tournaments, Cricket matches, Film and Stage Shows, Dances and a Fancy Dress Ball. A Sports Meeting was also organised by the National Sports Director, Mr. H. Shapiro. Discussions arranged for post-graduates of the Leadership Course were well attended. So were religious services. There were coach trips to Edinburgh Castle and to other sights in Scotland. As in previous years, the Holiday Camp was organised by Mr. H. Robinson, Vice-Chairman of Maccabi Union, assisted by the National Organiser, Mr. Jack Shulman.

* * *
Maccabi Netball Championship. For the first time a Maccabi Union championship was held early in November at the Royal Air Force indoor Sports Arena at Stanmore Park, organised by Mr. Harry Shapiro, Sports Director of Maccabi Union. Six clubs participated in the event. The final scores were: North Manchester 10, Bar Kochba 8, East London Maccabi Association 6, Leicester 4, Leytonstone "B" 2, Leytonstone "A", 0. Among Leicester's participants was also Miss Jennifer Fraser the international high-jumper and Maccabiah athlete.

* * *
Glasgow Maccabi are arranging a number of gatherings to raise funds for the new building. As already announced in a previous edition, it is proposed to build premises on a site at Niddrie Road at a cost of £15,000. The new building will comprise a hall, which can also be used as a gymnasium and as badminton courts; show baths, ante-rooms; and canteen are also included in this scheme.

* * *
Sheffield Maccabi Players. have once again produced a play which earned for them the praise of the local press. An American play by Sylvia Regan "The Fifth Season" was presented at the Library Theatre.

The local press published cartoons of the principal players and photographs showing scenes from the play which, according to the critics was one of the best shown in town by amateur actors.

* * *
Manchester Maccabi retained their unbeaten record in Division 1 of the Manchester and District Table Tennis League when, after a hard struggle, they emerged 6-4 victors over Ladybarn House.

* * *
Leytonstone Area Maccabi Association has recently celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the club, in the course of a Dinner and Ball held at the Odeon, Marble Arch, London, W.1.

ITALY.

We are informed by Dr. Aldo Jarach that, contrary to our hopes, the Italian Maccabi Federation will be unable to organise the 1957 (11th) European Conference in Milan.

NETHERLANDS.

Maccabi Amsterdam recently issued a programme of activities for all sections, providing a time-table, as well as indicating the venues where such activities are being held.

SWEDEN.

A private correspondent from Sweden sent me a circular-letter issued by Maccabi in Stockholm to all members of the Jewish community, inviting youth to join the club and its activities. The membership drive giving a full programme of activities was due to commence on October 3rd.

It is regretted that no detailed reports reach us from Stockholm and that only occasionally news is received from Joe. Haskel who, as it is well known, is on a world tour, in connection with his present commercial advertising job.

ISRAELI SPORTS.

Football. Israel finished second in the Asian Cup Football competition held recently in Hong Kong. First place was gained by South Korea. According to correspondents the Israeli team gave some very fine performances and, at one time, were leading in the competition. One of the victories gained by Israel was over South Vietnam by two goals to one. The Hong Kong team also took part in the competition.

The Israeli Maccabi Football team was due to visit the United States at the end of September, under the auspices of Bnai Zion, the American Zionist fraternal organisation. They were due to play their first game in New York against the Soccer League all-stars XI. Other matches will be played in Newark, Boston and Toronto.

In Boston the Maccabi Israel F.C. gained its first victory when it defeated the Celtic F.C. by 6 goals to Nil.

According to a report reaching London late in September, the American All-star Football team defeated in New York the Israeli Maccabi team by 3 goals to 2. The match was watched by 10,000 people. The Israelis took a 2 goal lead through their left-winger, Glaser, but the Americans dominated the rest of the Match.

The New York Herald Tribune of October 15, reports on the Maccabi Soccer club of Tel Aviv, 14 times champions of Israel, who defeated the national team of Iceland 2 to 0. The match was played at Downing Stadium on Randall's Island. Both elevens wound up American tours before 5,814 spectators. It was the Iclander's first defeat in a three-games tour sponsored by the State Department.

In the course of the 6 matches played by the Israelis they have been defeated once, tied once, and won 4.

A despatch from Istanbul, early in October, announces that the Turkish Football team, Beshiktash F.C., has received permission from the Foreign Ministry to visit Israel to play against Israeli teams. The team was due to leave Istanbul on October 11.

Volleyball. In the Volleyball World Championship, held recently in Paris, the Israeli Women's team defeated West Germany in 3 sets: 15-11; 15-7; 15-3. Israel was defeated by Brazil.

The Israeli Men's team beat Korea in 5 sets and Austria in 3 sets. The team lost to France, Portugal, Brazil and East Germany but has beaten Luxembourg. The Israeli Women's team lost to the U.S.A., Russia and Belgium.

* * *

Chaim Bohrer, Captain of the Israel Volley-ball team back from the World Championships, visited London late September and, in an interview with the "Jewish Chronicle" reporter has stated that the Israeli Men's team was placed sixteenth in the championship final. The winners were Czechoslovakia. During his world tour, Mr. Bohrer met a number of players from other countries, among them was a Jewish member of the Russian team. The standard of Volley-ball in Israel, according to Mr. Bohrer, was not as high as that of Basketball. Volley-ball is played mainly in the kibbutzim, whilst Basketball is popular in the cities and towns.

Mr. Bohrer, a sabra, is a member of the Beit Zera settlement, near Tiberias. He has been one of Israel's outstanding players for many years and has visited many countries, including the Soviet Union and Poland with the Israeli team.

* * *

RUSO-ISRAEL RELATIONS IN SPORT.

An interesting report appeared in the "Jerusalem Post" on 24th July, extract of which I quote:

"When the Soviet Union soccer team arrived at the end of July, they were asked whether the decision taken by the Soviet Supreme Council for physical education in the early 1920's was ever carried out. The Council then decided that the heads of Judas Maccabeus and Bar Kochba, leaders of the Jewish uprisings against ancient Greece and Rome, be placed in a museum that was to be built near the sports stadium in the Vorobyov Hills (now named after Lenin). The question was to be put by Mr. Yitzhak Rabinovich who founded the Maccabi sports organisation in Russia in 1913. When the Communists assumed power in 1917, a call went out to sports groups to help organise pre-army training for youth. Mr. Rabinovich contacted Mr. Podvoyski of the Ministry of Defence. He offered Maccabi's facilities to the new Russian youth organisation in return for a promise that the Jewish sports organisation would be allowed to carry on its activities. Podvoyski agreed and kept his promise. He kept the organisation going, in spite of 3 attempts... by Jewish members of the Communist party to close it down. As a member of the Supreme Council for Physical Education and Pre-Army Training, and as an engineer, Podvoyski was also a member of the Construction Committee for the "International Museum" near the Stadium, to celebrate revolts all over the world. It was then that Mr. Rabinovich proposed that the heads of Judas Maccabeus and Bar Kochba be included and the suggestion was adopted.

To this day, Mr. Rabinovich does not know whether the museum was built and, if so, whether the ancient Jewish heroes heads were represented for, in 1926, he was exiled to Siberia along with about 100 other Zionist leaders. 3 years later he was given permission to emigrate to Israel.

* * *

OLYMPIC GAMES IN MELBOURNE.

The Chief Rabbi of Great Britain has been informed that a comprehensive scheme of kosher catering has been arranged for all Jewish athletes competing in the Olympic Games in Melbourne this month.

* * *

The following Jewish athletes have been selected in the British Olympic team: HARRY KANE, hurdler, BEN HELFGOTT, weightlifter, ALAN JAY and RALPH COOPERMAN, fencers, and DAVID SEGAL, sprinter. All the aforementioned athletes participated in the 4th Maccabiah in 1953. The British Maccabiah Organising Committee sent to the aforementioned athletes cables of congratulations and good wishes.

* * *

Ben Helfgott equalled the Olympic lightweight weightlifting record of the Press of 236½ lb when he competed for England against Sweden early in October. Helfgott scored a total of 732 lb and defeated his Swedish opponent Bergelin. (England, however, lost the match).

* * *

Only 3 Israeli athletes will be sent to the Olympic Games in Melbourne instead of 24 competitors, as originally planned. This drastic reduction in the Israel team is due solely to the present Middle East crisis.

Any suggestions, made in some newspapers, that Israel might be barred from the Olympic Games because of the fighting are discounted by British officials who pointed out that nations who fought in the Korean war took part in the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki.

* * *

A PERSONAL REQUEST.

I have received very little news from Territorial Organisations, and from my usual correspondents in Europe and elsewhere, during the past two months. I am, therefore, unable to publish such news in the current issue of the "Newsletter". May I request all my friends to be good enough to furnish me with periodical reports on their activities, as well as for the period October/November, 1956? Any other news considered relevant, as well as details of planned future activities for 1957 will be gratefully received.

* * *

הסתדרות עולמית מנבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
PC., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

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HON. TREAS.

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Please reply to:



CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO.

December, 1956/

January, 1957.

54a

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment.

REMEMBER SEPTEMBER, 1957.

There only remain 8 months to the 5th Maccabiah. This is the time for vigorous preparations. This is also the time for prospective competitors to go into hard training. The 5th Maccabiah will set up new records. Outstanding Jewish athletes are now to be found in every country - particularly so in Great Britain and in the United States. This does not mean, however, that we have discovered all available talent. Every day one reads of a new star on the horizon of athletics, lawn tennis, swimming, boxing, weight-lifting, wrestling or fencing. These are the youngsters we wish to encourage to apply for selection in our various national Maccabiah teams, for their inclusion in the competitions will help raise the standard of competition and, with it, the standard of amateur sports among young World Jewry.

No time is, therefore, to be lost in setting up MACCABIAH ORGANISING COMMITTEES in your various countries. Each Organising Committee would be well advised to draw up a plan of immediate action and implementation, and which must be entrusted to energetic, willing and able, organisers. You would do well to adopt the pattern of the organisation such as has been set up, once again, in Great Britain. We have a National Maccabiah Organising Committee whose members are entrusted with specific tasks. One is Chairman of the Technical Committee, whose principal role is to appoint officers in charge of various branches of sport. Thus the Technical Committee consists of members who are experts representing the various sports in which Great Britain hopes to compete. Then there are Finance and Fund-Raising Committees, entrusted with plans to raise funds, according to a budget decided and approved upon by the National Committee. For your information, the budget of the Maccabiah Organising Committee in Great Britain amounts to £20,000, for it is hoped to field a team of 100 competitors, accompanied by officials. Apart from defraying the cost of their return transportation by air, Maccabi in Great Britain is determined to contribute a minimum of £5,000 towards the construction of the Maccabiah Village at Ramat Gan. We also have a Publicity and Propaganda Committee, whose task it is to disseminate all relevant information having a bearing upon the Maccabiah and the enrolment of athletes wishing to compete for inclusion in the British national Maccabiah team. All told, we have some 50 men engaged in Maccabiah preparations in Great Britain and we do not think that number excessive. Work had already started in September, 1956 and the Organising Committee is meeting once every month, or more frequently, if necessary.

I repeat, therefore, that the example set by Great Britain is one that could serve as a guidance to those who would like to reap the benefit of our past experience. Anyone applying to me for detailed information on how to set up a Maccabiah Organising Committee and how to operate it, will be most welcome to fullest and most detailed information.

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QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP.

The Leadership Course, organised by Maccabi in Great Britain has started its 1957 session. Courses of lectures are being organised simultaneously in Manchester - for the benefit of clubs in the Northern area - and in London - for clubs in the Southern area. The Course will shortly be celebrating its third anniversary and, although it is difficult to assess exactly the benefits of this very important and unique Maccabi endeavour, for it may take a few years before some outstanding new leaders will arise, it is not too early to pay, once again, a warm tribute to our friend, Aubrey Scott, the initiator of the Leadership Course and its main promoter.

A great deal of soul-searching has been going on recently among Maccabi leaders as to whether they are still able to serve the Movement usefully under the ever-changing social and economic conditions, the impact of which, on modern youth, is very considerable. Many of us wonder whether the difference in age between senior leader and young member is not so great as to render mutual understanding and confidence impossible. Leadership of youth is a matter of great moral responsibility, one which cannot be redeemed without fullest and undivided dedication to the task. Harassed and pre-occupied by daily occupations, most of us have to work hard to earn a living, younger and old alike, and we can do no better than our very best when rendering our services voluntarily for the welfare and happiness of our young ones. But it is not the amount of energy, nor is it the number of hours devoted to our task, that matter most. It is the QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP which proves always to be the essential attribute. Personal integrity, determination to succeed, practical experience of club work, and a full and adult comprehension of Maccabi's aims and objects are essential requirements expected of an ideal Maccabi leader. We must have many of them in our midst! Let us, therefore, discover them, introduce them to our "way of life" and encourage them to emulate the efforts and achievements of our elder ones. Therein is to be found the ultimate purpose of a Leadership Course such as has been introduced in Great Britain and which I hope to see introduced in every Maccabi Territorial Organisation resolved to ensure that their efforts too will be crowned with everlasting success.

THE PROBLEM OF DISCRIMINATION.

I am not in the habit of patting myself on the shoulder, or of flattering myself in public. But I must confess that I was delighted at the receipt of a large number of letters from readers of this "Newsletter", some congratulating and others thanking me, for what I have written on the aforementioned subject in the preceding issue of the "Newsletter". It is my intention, time and opportunity permitting, to write a series of short articles in the forthcoming issues of this "Newsletter" on topics concerning us all in the Maccabi family.

A Gift of Sports Equipment to Israel.

In response to an appeal recently sent out to all Territorial Organisations by Mr. Netanel, Chairman of the World Executive, Tel Aviv, for Sports equipment to be distributed among the serving members of the Israeli Armed Forces, British Maccabi have obtained a special grant from the Central Maccabi Fund of £100, with proceeds of which footballs, volleyballs and handballs will be despatched to Israel in the very near future.

I wonder how many other Territorial Organisations have responded to Mr. Netanel's appeal. Or is it again a case of Maccabi in Great Britain setting an example to others without such an example being followed?

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all my correspondents, at the same time as wishing all my Maccabi friends everywhere a Happy and Prosperous 1957 - the year of the 5th Maccabiah.

Yours sincerely,

THE 5TH MACCABIAH.

Official invitations have been sent out by the Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q. in Israel to all Territorial Organisations calling upon them "to take part in the competitions and celebrations which will take place in Israel from 15th to 24th September, 1957." The invitation, artistically designed and bound with light blue silk ribbon, announces also the fact that the Maccabiah Games will be held under the distinguished patronage of the President of Israel, Mr. Y. Ben-Zvi.

No-one will now be left in any doubt that the Maccabiah will be held, as planned, subject only to any unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the M.W.U.

We are advised also that the Hapoel Organisation has notified the M.W.U. of its desire to participate in the Games and that negotiations with them are proceeding.

Territorial Organisations everywhere have been requested to notify Executive H.Q. in Israel of their intention to send teams to Israel, and it is hoped that the response will be overwhelming.

To set the Maccabiah Organisation in motion, Territorial Organisations must bear the following vital points in mind:

- a. A list of MACCABIAH COMPETITIONS is available, details of which are listed again hereunder. The numerical strength of every NATIONAL TEAM will, therefore, be determined by the number of events in which you propose to compete.
- b. The BUDGET of every Maccabiah team should be based on the following principles: Teams will be sent to and brought back from Israel by chartered aircraft. They will be required to be away for a period of 3 weeks and that, in addition to the cost of transportation, team organisers will be required to pay to the M.W.U. the equivalent of £2, (or \$6.00) per day for each team member during their actual stay in the Maccabiah Village.

To assist Territorial Organisations in Europe in their immediate planning, the following SUMMARY OF INFORMATION previously supplied might be found useful:

Time-table of the 5th Maccabiah, 1957.

Opening Ceremony, Sunday September, 15th, 1957.

Competitions will be held as from Monday, September 16th to Monday, September 23rd inclusive (excepting Saturday, September 21st.)

The Closing Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, September 24th, 1957.

Sports Events. The following is a list of competitions included in the Maccabiah programme. ATHLETICS, SWIMMING, GYMNASTICS, BOXING, WRESTLING, WEIGHTLIFTING, FENCING, TENNIS, FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, HANDBALL, VOLLEYBALL, CYCLING, SHOOTING, BOWLING AND TABLE TENNIS.

TRANSPORTATION. It is hoped to organise group flights by chartered aircraft on a European basis, but Territorial Organisations are free to make their own independent arrangements. Those interested and wishing to participate in group flights are requested to communicate immediately with Mr. Lionel Schalit, c/o. Maccabiah Organising Committee in Great Britain, 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Telegraphic Address: EMATZ, London.

BOARD AND LODGING. Arrangements for accommodation in the Maccabiah Village and matters concerning payment for board and lodging should be discussed by direct correspondence with the M.W.U. Executive H.Q., P.O. Box. 76, Tel Aviv, Israel. Telegraphic Address: HAZAK, TELAVIV.

National Sports Federations. An important announcement has been issued by Dr. R. Atlasz, from Tel Aviv, to the effect that all 5th Maccabiah competitions are recognised by the Sports Federation of Israel, as well as by all International Sports Federations and Governing Bodies. Athletes representing

their countries in International Competitions should, therefore, have no difficulty in obtaining permission from their Governing Bodies to participate in the Maccabiah Games.

IMPORTANT REMINDER.

ALL TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS ARE URGENTLY REQUESTED TO NOTIFY THE MACCABI WORLD UNION IN ISRAEL OF THEIR INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 5TH MACCABIAH AS WELL AS TO INDICATE THE EVENTS IN WHICH THEY INTEND COMPETING. SOME INTIMATION AS TO THE NUMBER OF COMPETITORS EACH TERRITORIAL ORGANISATION PROPOSES SENDING TO THE MACCABIAH GAMES, FOR WHOM ACCOMMODATION AT THE MACCABIAH VILLAGE WOULD BE REQUIRED, SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

MACCABI PUBLICATIONS.

I have before me copies of various publications and news bulletins, some printed, some carefully mimeographed, others nicely bound and with photographs. I have noted considerable progress in the volume and frequency of Maccabi publications issued by various Territorial Organisations. I would like to congratulate, in this instance, the Editor of the "Maccabi Nieuws", organ of "Sportvereniging Maccabi Nederland", the "Maccabi Review and Sports Bulletin" published by the Royal Maccabi Club of Antwerp, as well as the Editor of the "Maccabi Mirror and News Digest" published by the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and N.Ireland. Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, continues with the publication of their "Maccabi Times" - at monthly intervals, carrying news of their club only. So does Bar-Kochba-Maccabi in London, who have resumed publication of their mimeographed "News Bulletin" only recently. Maccabi Paris have never stopped publication of their one-sheet "News Bulletin", always comprising a message from their President, as well as topical news concerning past and future sports activities. It is greatly to be regretted that the various publications which I enumerate cannot be read by everyone in Europe, for most of them are published in their native tongues: Dutch, Flemish, French or English. I have also noted that some Editors of Maccabi publications have now found a way of defraying the cost of their publications by allowing space for commercial advertising. This is an idea which we have propagated some years ago, and which seems to have been successfully adopted.

Last, but not least, mention must be made of the "Maccabi World Review" (last issue November/December, 1956) which, apart from current news, carries also articles on the history of the Movement in many parts of the world - a melancholy memory of the "good old days".

As one responsible for the publication of this "Chairman's Newsletter" I am gratified and pleased to see how often news items published by me are reported in other Maccabi Bulletins. This is one of the purposes which I had in mind when I started this "Newsletter". I noted also that some of my "Editorial Comment" had been reprinted, as indeed, an almost full report of the European Conference, held in London last September, has appeared in the last issue of the "Maccabi World Review" - duly acknowledged to the "Chairman's Newsletter" No. 52.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED BY MACCABI ISRAEL.

The Maccabi Sports Organisation of Israel informed the World Executive that it agrees with Resolution No. 5. which was unanimously adopted at the European Annual Conference, held in London last September, on the subject of visits of Israeli Sports teams abroad. Maccabi Israel points out, however, that it may be unable to comply with one of the stipulations, namely the demand that objects of the visits and terms and conditions agreed to between the parties to a match or matches must be subject to prior approval by the Territorial Organisations concerned. They say this is a condition which may prove impracticable under certain circumstances as it may also encumber negotiations. They add, however, that once any agreement has been concluded between a visiting Israeli team and a foreign team they would undertake to supply information to the respective Maccabi organisation as soon as such is available.

It, therefore, appears from the foregoing that Maccabi Israel is willing to give notice to European Territorial Organisations of any intended visit to their country, for they will notify the Territorial Organisation of any arrangements made with clubs or teams, other than Maccabi, as soon as such arrangements have been concluded, and that, in the event of a visit of a Maccabi Israel team taking place, the consent of the H.W.U. Executive H.Q. in Israel shall be formally sought and obtained and the Territorial Organisation in Europe shall be notified of such consent in writing.

* * *
JEWS AND THE 1956 OLYMPIC GAMES (MELBOURNE).

Several Jewish athletes have distinguished themselves in the recent Olympics but, most outstanding among them was a Hungarian Jewess, Miss Agnes Keleti, whose achievement in winning four gold and two silver medals in the gymnastic events has hardly ever been equalled in the whole history of the Olympic Games. A gold medal was also won by the American Jewish weightlifter, Isaac Berger who, it is interesting to note, was born in Israel. Berger is America's Featherweight weightlifting title-holder who was taken by his parents to the United States a few years ago. During the Israeli War of Independence in 1948, Berger, then only a boy, distinguished himself by carrying ammunition from one Israeli sector to another.

* * *
Barney Ain, a distinguished American Sports commentator, who was among the officials of the last U.S. Maccabiah team, gave me some interesting information about Berger. He writes: "American Jewry boasts of a gold-medal winner in Israel-born Isaac Berger, son of a Rabbi, who won the feather-weight weightlifting crown, breaking the world and Olympic record at the time. Isaac will soon be given a banner reception in Brooklyn. Back in March, 1955, he qualified for the Pan-American team which competed in Mexico City, but didn't make the trip at the time because of passport trouble. His win at Melbourne gave America the weight-lifting title over Russia. I intend to interest him in the 5th World Maccabiah".

* * *
Another Hungarian Jewish competitor, Eva Szekely, won a silver medal in the women's 200 metres breaststroke swimming event. Miss Szekely is a former Olympic champion and record holder.

The Russian Jewish diver, R. Brenner, finished sixth in the springboard diving event.

The Russian Fencing team included some fine Jewish exponents in the art of Fencing: Mark, Midler and Tychler.

The Australian Jewish fencer, J. Wolfensohn, was his country's best competitor in the epee event. Alan Jay and Ralph Cooperman, of Great Britain, have been prominent members of the British Fencing team. David Segal, a member of the British team, came fifth in the 100 metres Relay event. Ben Helfgott, competing for Britain in the Weightlifting, finished thirteenth in the lightweight, lifting 749.25 lbs. which was his best ever. Thus he established a new British record for the Press. Harry Kane reached the semi-finals of the 400 metres hurdles in the good time of 51.8 seconds. In the Semi-final, Kane led for most of the way but then faltered and could finish only 5th.

* * *
Russian Jewish athletes unwilling to speak Yiddish!

According to Ben Helfgott, there were a considerable number of Jewish officials and competitors in the Russian team. Helfgott found an effective way of discovering whether the Russians were Jewish. He deliberately spoke Yiddish in their hearing and, in most cases, the Russian Jews asked him if he, too, was Jewish. All the Russian Jews appeared to him to be very assimilated and were unwilling to speak in Yiddish. Most of them also seemed to be critical of Israel and often repeated to him the Anti-Israeli propaganda put out by Moscow radio. When Helfgott asked one of the Jewish officials about conditions in Russia, the reply came "There was a bit of trouble but things are better now."

Jewish competitors from Russian and other Iron Curtain countries refused to attend the various receptions arranged for Jewish competitors and officials by the Melbourne Jewish community.

News from Territorial Organisations.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Following the successful introduction of the Netball Championship organised by the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, held in London, on Sunday, 21st October, 1956, Table Tennis Championships were played recently with the participation of many clubs affiliated to the Union. Most successful in the Women's Singles was Miss Pauline Goldberg, of Leicester Maccabi, who scored also a victory in the Women's Doubles. In the Men's Finals, Haase and Macmillan of Glasgow beat R. Bernstein and P. Flack (Maccabi Association (N.W.) London). In the Mixed Doubles Miss Gelfarb and R. Bernstein (Maccabi Association (N.W.) London) beat Miss P. Goldstein and V. Green (Leicester Maccabi). In the Boy's Singles S. Werth of Leytonstone Maccabi beat R. Mullen of Marlborough Maccabi. In the Men's Singles B. Brooks beat A. Hines of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London.

The Festival of Youth - Tercentenary Celebration.

As readers of this "Newsletter" well know, the Anglo-Jewish Community celebrated during 1956 the 300th anniversary of the resettlement of Jews in Great Britain. Throughout 1956 many functions have been organised by communal bodies, by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, as well as by other leading organisations and institutions all over the country. There can be no doubt at all that the most spectacular function of the year was the Festival of Youth, staged at the Palace Theatre, London, on Sunday, December 9th and organised by the joint efforts of Maccabi in Great Britain and the Association for Jewish Youth. Lord Attlee, at one time Prime Minister of Great Britain, and his wife Lady Attlee were principal guests of honour. Other distinguished visitors included Lord Nathan of Churt, P.C., T.D., D.L., the Haham (Chief Rabbi of the Spanish and Portuguese community) Mrs. Helen Bentwich, Chairman of the London County Council, several Vice-Presidents of Maccabi Union in Great Britain, the Chairman of the Youth Aliyah, Mr. Victor Mishcon, President of the Association for Jewish Youth, Pierre Gildeagane, Chairman of Maccabi Union, etc., etc. Six hundred performers, young people from London and the provinces, took part in a programme lasting 3 hours.

A packed Theatre witnessed a spectacle which will long be remembered. Boys and girls, even children, members of many youth organisations from all over Great Britain, gave displays in gymnastics, basketball, weightlifting and wrestling, Israeli Folk songs and dances. Jewish Girl Guides pitched a camp on the stage and the narrator explained the aims and objects of the Jewish Scout Movement. Clad in Scottish kilts Pipe and Drum Bands from London and Glasgow marched smartly up and down the Theatre, delighting the audience by their performance. One-act plays, specially written for the occasion, performed by amateur actors from Maccabi and A.J.Y. clubs completed an impressive programme.

Lord Attlee spoke feelingly about the youth movement in which he was brought up in the East End of London. "I am a great believer in the Boys' Clubs" he said. "My mind goes back to 50 years ago when I first started working for Boys' Clubs. Some of the old clubs have gone, but others still exist. I have seen very great changes in the standard of living of the population of Great Britain. The standard and well-being of youth today was very much better than it had been 50 years ago. But this did not mean that Youth clubs were no longer needed. On the contrary, they were needed to foster fellowship, as well as to give our young people an opportunity to be of service to their community and nation. The club is a school of citizenship and that is something that we should particularly emphasize in these days when living in a great democracy, for democracy depends upon the work of every citizen".

Lord Nathan, President of Maccabi, received a great ovation when he introduced from the stage Lord Attlee, as well as Mr. Victor Mishcon, President of the Association for Jewish Youth. Mr. Mishcon expressed the hope that "the happy matrimonial union between Maccabi and the A.J.Y. would be

One of the principal organisers of the Youth Festival was our good friend, Mr. Fred S. Worms who deserves to be warmly congratulated on yet another achievement benefiting Anglo-Jewish youth at large.

In a leading article in its issue, dated December 14th, 1956, the "Jewish Chronicle" commented on the Youth Festival, from which I quote as follows: "...This event was of an ambitious nature, designed to illustrate the varied activities of the Jewish youth organisations of this country, in which over 600 youngsters participated. Under the leadership of the Association for Jewish Youth and the Maccabi Union, the principal youth bodies combined to stage this representative show. This united endeavour by a multiplicity of groups and clubs was in itself a noteworthy achievement, and those of the younger generation were herein setting an example of happy co-operation which might well be followed by many of their elders. All who participated - irrespective of their varied opinions and beliefs and their different occupations and callings - resolved to work together in complete harmony for the common cause. It is right that the public should have had this opportunity of witnessing at first hand the beneficial ways in which the organised youth of Anglo-Jewry is being trained to spend its leisure.

"Last Sunday's function, therefore, came with particular timeliness to round off our Tercentenary celebrations and to mark our determination that the future of Anglo-Jewry shall be worthy of its glorious past. The distinguished speakers at the display finely expounded the ideals which animate this movement."

FRANCE (Paris).

The December News Bulletin, published by Maccabi Paris reports on a successful meeting held on November 12th, 1956 at the Headquarters of the Federation of Jewish Youth Societies, at which the Secretary General of the Zionist Federation was the principal speaker. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance, followed by a fund collection for Israel. Commenting on this meeting, Mr. Lefschetz, President of the club, states: "The response shown by the youngsters present at the meeting had demonstrated, beyond any doubt, the sense of solidarity with Israel which could be translated, in the case of need, into a readiness for sacrifice. This impressive meeting, once again, proved the useful work Maccabi can do in the course of its general activities. It also proves that a far better atmosphere could be created among members of the club - if only they were in possession of their own Home."

A Home for Maccabi Paris - at last !

Mr. Leo Kaminski informs me by letter, dated December 18th, 1956, that he has recently concentrated all efforts on the provision of a clubhouse for Maccabi Paris. He writes: "After many disappointments I have found in my neighbour and friend, Mr. Th. Haas, someone capable of enthusiasm and initiative. A few months ago I proposed the formation of a private company, in co-operation with some Maccabi friends, the object of this company being the purchase of suitable premises which could be adapted to the needs of a Maccabi Centre. To give it substance, the company will have a capital of 3,000,000 Francs and it is my impression that, in a month's time, the first part of my task will have been realised. Indeed, an agreement has been entered into between Mr. Haas, Mr. Leo Rosenberg and myself to raise 2,250,000 Francs, the balance (750,000 Francs) to be provided by other Maccabi friends in Paris.

"As you already know, it is my wish that Mr. Haas should become the soul of Maccabi here, and already he deserves heartfelt thanks for the work undertaken by him, with a view to the creation of a Maccabi House. He is full of enthusiasm for this work and I am sure that, with his help, Maccabi will soon be revitalised."

The A.J.Y. Senior Football team gained a 7 - 1 victory over Paris Maccabi in a match played there at the Porte de St. Cloud stadium towards the end of December. During their stay in Paris the A.J.Y. team were entertained by our Maccabi friends in the course of a number of receptions, the principal

one of which was held at the Hotel Moderna.

MACCABI NETHERLANDS.

Benno Hess, who recently celebrated his 50th birthday (many happy returns to you, Benno) sent me a very gratifying report about the Territorial Organisations in Holland. "Amsterdam," he says - has been growing considerably of late. We have started a new Swimming Section only recently and last week we had 55 children in the pool. We already have about 15 members in the Swimming Section alone. The Hague have started a Swimming Section numbering 30 members. Activities in other clubs, Deventer and Rotterdam proceed satisfactorily and comprise gymnastics, table-tennis and lawn tennis. Only 30 members were accepted to the Tennis Section in Amsterdam, in view of the restricted accommodation in covered courts.

The latest and youngest addition to the Netherlands Maccabi organisation is a branch recently formed in Haarlem. Gymnastics and Swimming are the two principal activities in which Haarlem members are engaged at present.

"New rules (a Constitution) have been worked out by a special committee appointed for the purpose and these have already been accepted by all affiliated branches. Shortly, we hope to ask the Queen of the Netherlands to confer upon us the right to name our organisation "The Royal Netherlands Maccabi Federation."

SWITZERLAND.

Oskar Weassely reports as of December, 1956: "Now that the season of outdoor activities has come to an end, our Sports technicians and officials have the opportunity of reviewing the position in retrospect, as well as to lay down plans for the future. The European Maccabi Sports meeting, held this last Summer in Zurich, had clearly shown the absence of athletes in the ranks of Maccabi Switzerland. This must be stated at the time when Maccabi Switzerland is considering carefully its participation in the 5th Maccabiah. The selection of suitable and competent athletes will prove difficult indeed. The same remark applies to our Football players, whose record has not been spectacular. It is, therefore, very unlikely that Switzerland will send a Football team to the forthcoming Maccabiah. Better prospects are assured this time for a Handball team. Although, according to Swiss national standards, the Handball team of Maccabi Basle only participates in the 3rd League, it has, nevertheless, shown considerable promise in various matches which stimulated members of the team to yet better attainments. The Handball team of Maccabi Basle has also shown considerable progress in recent competitions. Accordingly, it is hoped to send a Handball team to the Maccabiah likely to acquit itself creditably. Keen Basketball and Volleyball matches were played during the Autumn in Berne, Lausanne and Geneva, during which Hakoah-Geneva team distinguished itself in the Volleyball national Championships.

"It must be recorded with regret that a crisis had marked the activities of gymnastics, - "the Swiss national sport." The Tennis Section of Hakoah - Zurich, on the other hand, has attracted more players and, given adequate training, one is permitted to express a hope of better prospects for next year.

"Many of our branches and clubs have, in recent months, devoted all their energies to the arrangement of social activities and public functions, proceeds of which were devoted entirely to funds benefiting Israel - a gesture which, it is hoped will be duly appreciated by the Community at large.

PRESS OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES OF TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS, PLEASE NOTE.

Unless I receive from you news of events and activities I cannot publish them. By not complying with my previous requests you are denying news about your own work to your friends and colleagues in the rest of the world who are very much interested in you. When sending your reports will you please let me have also details of your Maccabiah preparations?

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
PC, T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.

A. A. Scott

9a BEDFORD PLACE,

LONDON - W.C.1

Phone: LAngham 4886

Cables: Hazak, London

Please reply to:



February, 1957

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 55

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment.

A Doubt removed. Encouraging news reaches me from many quarters clearly showing that our friends in Territorial Organisations everywhere grow increasingly Maccabiah-conscious. Elsewhere in this issue more detailed information will be found. Having regard to the political and economic situation in Israel, in consequence of the Suez crisis, some doubts have been expressed as to the Maccabiah being held, as planned, next September. I felt that any existing doubts must be removed and I can do so best by quoting extract of a letter received a few days ago from Aron Netanel, Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q. This is what he writes:

"IT IS MY DESIRE TO MAKE IT VERY CLEAR TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES THAT WHATEVER THE SITUATION MAY BE THE 5TH MACCABIAH WILL BE HELD AS DECIDED UPON. This is a matter of policy and principle. We are used to hard times and critical situations. One could always think of a reason, or even many reasons, why not to hold a Maccabiah this year. We are determined to organise the 5th Maccabiah and are firmly resolved to do our job, notwithstanding any situation, be it political, economical, or of a security nature. We therefore refuse to entertain any idea as to the possibility of postponement. We have started and are determined to go ahead!"

Who pays for the Maccabiah? I am authorised by Mr. Aron Netanel and Dr. Atlasz to make the following announcements: European teams will be able to participate in the Maccabiah Games providing they will pay their own return fares (by sea or by air) and that a sum of \$6.00 (or the equivalent in other foreign currency) will be paid in respect of board and lodging, per day, for each participating athlete and official accompanying the team. This, therefore, means that a previous request for a contribution by participating teams from Europe towards the cost of the permanent structure of the Maccabiah Village will not be insisted upon. This concession is not being granted, however, to Great Britain, from whom a contribution of £5,000 towards the Maccabiah Village is expected. In addition thereto Great Britain will have to pay the fares of their own teams, as well as £2. per capita, per day.

The Maccabiah and the Press. I have in my possession a number of press cuttings carrying Maccabiah news. These are mostly from British newspapers, some from Israel, and a few from the United States, as well as from South Africa. It appears to me, however, that the Maccabiah has not, so far, been given sufficient publicity. It is to be hoped that the Press Office of the Maccabi World Union in Israel will soon release items of news to the World Press, as it has done on previous occasions. I would like to offer, however, some advice to our friends in Europe. If you have any news concerning your own Maccabiah preparations pass these on to your National Press agencies. They will gladly print it. This is our experience in Great Britain where London and provincial newspapers have already published a number of items concerning individual athletes, as well as about teams in the process of formation. As you know, newspapers are always hungry for NEWS. Provide them with the material and they will publish it. In so doing,

the public will become aware of the Maccabiah, aspiring athletes will apply for selection, and members of the Jewish community, whose aid and assistance you may require when applying to them for monetary help, will have already heard about the Maccabiah and may be glad to associate themselves with an effort sponsored by the Press.

PUBLIC SUPPORT. You would do well to form a Sponsoring Committee, comprising distinguished members of the Jewish and Christian community in your country. Acquaint them with the objects of the Maccabiah, inform them that you wish your country to be represented at the Games, and you will find they will gladly lend their name to any of your enterprises. This is what we have done in Great Britain, and the list of Vice-Presidents of the Maccabiah Organising Committee is a very impressive one indeed, including well known personalities of all political parties, members of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons, outstanding British athletes and leaders of the Anglo-Jewish community. We are issuing every 10 or 14 days, a "News Release" and, in this manner, the word "Maccabiah" appears in the Sports columns of many National papers. The London "Jewish Chronicle" is carrying a special column of news which will be identified by the Maccabiah emblem. A specimen of the printed stationery of the Maccabiah Organising Committee is enclosed herewith, for your information and guidance.

Maccabi France - Revitalised. I quote in this issue extracts from letters received from L. Kaminski and Th. Haas which, I feel sure, will gladden the hearts of all friends who, like myself, wish to see Maccabi France take its rightful position in the forefront of our European Territorial Organisations. I would add that Mr. Haas, a member of Maccabi of pre-war years, has been inspired by Mr. Leo Kaminski, the President of Maccabi France. All those who were present at the European Conference, held in London last year, will remember the impressive personality of Mr. Haas who, as anticipated and hoped for, is now giving a lead in the creation of a "Maccabi House" in Paris, as well as in the formation of a team of Franco-Jewish athletes, due to proceed to the 5th Maccabiah next September.

"Maccabi Today and Tomorrow." The article under this title, which I publish in this edition, should be read carefully by our friends in Europe and elsewhere who may need to be reminded that, unless our Movement progresses in accordance with a definite plan of action, its future will be endangered, with no "tomorrow" to look forward to. Shortly, a small book will be published in Great Britain, of which I am the author, in which I deal with the aims and objects of Maccabi, its past history, offering practical advice on how to organise club activities, etc. This will be the 4th Edition of a book, the first of which had appeared in 1944. Anyone interested to receive a copy of this book should apply to me, or to the National Organiser of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain, 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

Dr. Valentine V. Rosenfeld resigns. It is with regret that I have to announce the resignation of our beloved friend, - affectionately known as V.V.R., - from the Honorary Secretaryship of the European Regional Executive H.Q. Dr. Rosenfeld remains, however, an active member of the World Executive.

V.V.R., who will shortly celebrate his 71st birthday, has served the Maccabi Movement well for over 40 years. His first contact with the Maccabi Movement was when, 40 years ago, he joined Hakoah-Vienna, a club which has added much glory to the reputation of Maccabi in Europe. V.V.R. was Chairman of the Swimming Section of Hakoah for many years, having severed his connection with that club only in 1938, when he had to emigrate to England at the height of the Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany and in Austria. As soon as he came to London, he joined a group of other Maccabi stalwarts, among them Dr. Willy Meisel who, at that time, was Honorary Secretary of the Maccabi World Union Executive Headquarters in London (after they had been transferred from Berlin). When Dr. Meisel ceased to be Honorary Secretary, Dr. Rosenfeld took over this task in 1942. The late Professor Selig Brodetsky, then President of the Maccabi World Union, called upon us to continue the struggle. Dr. Rosenfeld set an example of selfless dedication to the Movement, without ever seeking thanks or publicity. Although a great idealist, and emotional by nature, his legal training helped him assess every

situation logically and realistically. His advice and counsel were always considered as coming from a man of great sincerity and of highest integrity. His attachment to the Maccabi Movement was exemplary. He never spared himself.

How very much he was loved and admired by those who have known him for the past 4 decades was best proved by the testimonial banquets arranged in his honour in Israel, as well as in New York, attended on each occasion, by hundreds of ex-members of Hakoah-Vienna (otherwise known as "Hakoahners"). No wonder! Because V.V.R. was the only man who maintained a spiritual link between them who, at one time or another, many years ago, belonged to Hakoah-Vienna and who are now residing in practically every corner of the earth. To help maintain this link, Dr. Rosenfeld continued to publish the "Hakoah Bulletin" of which he was the sole Editor for 30 years. During that time, he published 600 issues, of which the last one is due to appear next month. Anyone reading V.V.R.'s "Hakoah-Bulletin" could not help admiring the Maccabi spirit of fellowship permeating its pages.

We hope that V.V.R. will remain actively associated with the Movement and with the World Executive for many years to come. He has resigned from the Honorary Secretaryship but has not retired! (See tribute on Page 8).

Our good friend, Fred S. Worms, will succeed Dr. Rosenfeld in the position of Honorary Secretary. The appointment is subject to ratification at the 1957 European Conference.

The Offices of the European Regional Executive H.Q. are being transferred to 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1., Telephone Numbers EUSTON 3618/9, Cables EMATZ, WESDO LONDON, as from February 22nd, 1957, whereto all communications are to be addressed. This is the address of the Head Office of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and N. Ireland, of the Central Maccabi Fund and of the Maccabiah Organising Committee for Great Britain and Europe.

With Maccabi Greetings,
Yours sincerely,

P. GILDESGANE.

The 5th Maccabiah.

GOOD PROGRESS REPORTED.

ISRAEL. Repairs to the Maccabi Stadium and running track in Tel Aviv are proceeding. Negotiations with the Hapoel Sports Organisation have commenced and prospects for close co-operation between Maccabi Israel and Hapoel seem promising. The Government of Israel is taking a keen interest and, as has already been announced, H.E. The President of Israel, has kindly consented to confer his distinguished patronage. The Israel Government authorities responsible for tourism have promised their co-operation, and so has the El Al airline. A special postage stamp is to be issued in connection with the 5th Maccabiah Games and multi-coloured posters will soon be available for distribution to all Territorial Organisations requiring them.

GREAT BRITAIN. The Maccabiah Organising Committee for Great Britain has already received about 100 applications for sportsmen and athletes wishing to be included in the British National Maccabiah team. Among them are some leading athletes who distinguished themselves in national and international events and who participated also in the last Olympic Games, held in Melbourne. Miss Angela Buxton, the Maccabiah Gold Medallist, and Britain's No. 1. Ladies' Lawn Tennis player, has informed the press of

her readiness to compete for Britain, if invited to do so. It will be recalled that Angela Buxton was last year's Women's Singles finalist and winner, together with Mrs. Gibson of the U.S.A., of the Women's Doubles.

Plans for a fund-raising campaign, with £20,000 as its target, have already been approved and it is hoped that an Appeal Banquet will be held in London towards the end of May. Another means of raising funds will be in the form of an "Adoption Scheme". Many leading personalities of the Anglo-Jewish community will be requested to adopt one, or more, Maccabiah athletes by contributing the sum of £150 for each athlete so adopted. The scheme has already met with a fairly good response (it is estimated that the cost of transportation and of board and lodging for each athlete will be in the region of £150). Negotiations are also proceeding to charter at least one of Britain's latest long-distance giant aircraft (the well known "Britannia") in which the team is to be transported to Israel. In addition thereto, it is hoped also that some 250 tourists will accompany the British team to the Games travelling in the Super Constellation aircraft, under the auspices of the "British Maccabiah Tourists Association". All profits from this scheme will constitute a contribution towards the £20,000 which it is hoped to raise in Great Britain by next September. As soon as some funds will accrue, a transfer will be remitted to Israel on account of the £5,000 tentatively promised towards the cost of the Maccabiah Village.

FRANCE. The sum of 2 million francs is to be raised to ensure the participation of the French Maccabiah team. I am informed by Mr. Th. Haas that Maccabi France aims at the formation of a team 30 to 40 strong.

BELGIUM. Mr. Herman Bochner informs me that Maccabiah preparations have already begun and that a team of Swimmers and Waterpolo players are almost certain to be sent to Israel. The Swimming Section of Maccabi Antwerp hopes to tour France early in August to play Waterpolo matches there, prior to proceeding to Israel.

HOLLAND. Benno Hess reports that a Maccabiah Committee has been set up in Amsterdam and that negotiations to charter a plane to transport the team to Israel are proceeding. He is, as yet, unable to state what the strength of the team will be, but he assures me that Holland will be represented at the 5th Maccabiah with at least as strong a team as it was able to field in 1953.

CANADA. Fred Oberlander reports: Canada has set up a Maccabiah Committee, of which Jack Becker, a leading Montreal Industrialist is Chairman. He, together with his friends, hopes to raise the necessary funds and, if successful, they hope to lay the foundations of a "Canada Pavilion" at the Maccabiah Village. Alex Fisher, of Ontario, who was Canada's Maccabiah Team Manager in 1953, has been appointed Vice Chairman. Fred Oberlander, at present acting in the capacity of Hon. Secretary of the Committee, has already been designated as Team Manager.

I am glad to be able to announce that Fred Oberlander has also accepted the Chairmanship of the Israel Sports Committee of the Zionist Men's Association of Canada.

U.S.A. Mr. Barney Ain reports: "You may be interested to know that the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel has been buzzing with activity ever since the Israeli Basketball team arrived here."

According to Fred Oberlander, the first meeting of the U.S. Committee, to consider participation in the Maccabiah, was to be held on January 30th. The U.S. Committee have already been promised all uniforms and equipment which are to be donated to them by wellwishers.

As I often mention and quote Barney Ain, I would like to remind my readers that he is known throughout the United States as "Mr. Basketball". He is a sports commentator and one of the greatest authorities in the U.S.A. on Basketball. He was a prominent figure among the officials of the U.S. 4th Maccabiah team. Recently friends of Barney Ain threw him a birthday

party and, according to one newspaper report "Ain has been actively identified with basketball around New York City for more than 30 years. He refereed his first pro game ever played in old Madison Square Garden during the regime of Tex Rickard, in which the famous Brooklyn Visitations played. Before World War II he was associated with Clair Bee, the famous basketball coach and athletic director of Manhattan Beech for Joe Day, handling the basketball end. Ain has a hand in the World Maccabiah in Israel, the Olympic Games of that country. He missed the Olympics last fall for the first time in more than 30 years (due to ill-health). Ain is also a prominent member of the Albert Einstein Lodge B'nai B'rith, Brooklyn. Ain's son, Marty is a basketball star at Adelphi Academy."

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SOUTHERN RHODESIA. According to Dave Sandler, Athletic convener in Johannesburg, the South African Athletic team for the Maccabiah Games next September, will be nominated after the South African inter-Varsity Championships in May and will leave for Tel Aviv in August. The form of individual athletes would be assessed at the Provincial and South African inter-varsity championships.

News from Territorial Organisations.

FRANCE.

I am in receipt of very gratifying reports from Messrs. Leo Kaminski and Th. Haas, Paris, dated January and February, extracts of which I quote:

Mr. Kaminski writes: "Since I have returned from America, Mr. Haas and I have resumed efforts with a view to the creation of a Foyer (home) for Maccabi and, in addition to those whose names are mentioned in a previous letter, Messrs. Jeffreykin and Zas have also pledged a donation of 400,000 francs. In this manner we are assured that the necessary funds will be forthcoming. On the other hand, I have also made representations to the F.S.J.U (United Jewish Social Fund) which is closely connected with the Claims Conference and am glad to say that my application has met with fullest understanding for Maccabi. It is, therefore, to be hoped that our project for a Maccabi House in Paris will materialise during 1957."

"Mr. Haas has also agreed to take in hand the preparations for the 5th Maccabiah. We have decided on a budget of 2 million francs so as to ensure France's participation in the next Maccabiah."

"The greater the challenge, the greater the difficulties, the harder we will work to achieve our aims. I wish to thank you for your encouraging words."

Mr. Haas writes: "I was very touched by the tribute you were kind enough to pay me for the interest I am taking in the future of Maccabi France. If I have not reported to you earlier on latest results, it was because I wish to write to you only after we have had several meetings, during which the subject matters have been fully discussed, namely, the future of Maccabi Paris and France's participation in the Maccabiah."

"Meanwhile, I have also had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Worms, who was on a brief visit to Paris, and to whom I was able to give an account of the various difficulties which we have to overcome before success is assured. Although progress has been slow, I am sure that we are going to succeed in that the Maccabi Movement in Paris will be brought to its feet again and its standard raised above its present mediocre level. The slight frictions between the present leaders and the new team of workers are a natural and inevitable phenomenon. But we are, nevertheless, encouraged by the results of our work today and this is why we are sure of ultimate success."

"We have already raised 3 million francs for the Maccabi house and our negotiations with other organisations, whose help is sought, are proceeding satisfactorily. It is, therefore, not unreasonable to hope that our project will materialise this year and that a clubhouse for Maccabi, so vitally needed, will come into being, where our youth can continue its work under better and happier conditions.

"Shortly a meeting of all members of the Committee of Maccabi Paris will be held, at which it is hoped agreement will be reached on all matters under discussion. I should like to see the French Maccabiah team numerically and qualitatively strong. This is why I have taken upon myself to set up an Organising Committee, as well as to raise the necessary funds which would enable us to field a team of 30 to 40 competitors.

"The last Maccabi Ball, although a social success, has not satisfied us financially. Nevertheless, it filled me with optimism to continue our activities with maximum efforts. Given a good organisation run by dynamic persons energetically facing up to their task, I am absolutely sure of ultimate success.

"Mr. Kaminski continues to be active in the Movement. His personality and the high reputation which he enjoys among Franco-Jewish organisations are indeed a source of great satisfaction to us. Leo Rosenberg is also a pillar of strength as are Messrs. Zas and Jefroykin, not forgetting our old friends Wise and Jacob. - must add that my two colleagues who accompanied me to the European Conference in London, last summer, Biberman and Milkoif, are equally active, showing a great deal of initiative as well as sense of responsibility.

HOLLAND.

Benno Hess drew my attention to a typographical error in the No.54 of the "Chairman's Newsletter". I referred to 15 members already participating in the Swimming Section. In fact the figure should have been 150. I am glad to make this correction and I wish to take this opportunity of congratulating our friends in the Netherlands on the outstanding success of their Swimming Section. Benno Hess wishes me to add that their Swimming Section has already been attended by the 1000th participant - a young girl who, upon her arrival, was greeted by Maccabi Amsterdam's Chairman, Mr. Polak, who handed her a little gift as a memento of the occasion. A photograph of this event was published in all Netherlands Jewish newspapers. Activities at Maccabi Deventer are going quite well, says Benno Hess, and the majority of the members of that club comprises children. (Bravo Deventer!)

Benno Hess assures me also that sufficient funds are now available to help Maccabi Netherlands who divide such funds among Rotterdam, The Hague, Haarlem and Deventer clubs, according to their requirements.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Harry Getz, of Capetown, one of the most active members of the South African Maccabi Council, has been appointed to the International Waterpolo Board which, as will be well known, deals with the interpretation of rules, issues and considers changes and appoints referees for international Waterpolo matches. This is the first time that a South African has been appointed to the International Waterpolo Board.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Desmond Rayner, a member of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, a 28 year old actor-playwright, has written 13 Three-Act plays, of which one, "All that Glitters" is to receive its first public performance at Maccabi House in West Hampstead, London. Talent spotters from the British Broadcasting Corporation, as well as from the Commercial Television and West End Theatre Managements are attending the performance. Should the play be considered good, it is expected to bring fame to the Maccabi club, as well as to its author.

Another gifted actress, this time Mrs. Rene Newman, a member of Maccabi Sheffield, has made newspaper headlines recently. She and her husband, Morris, founded the "Maccabi Players" in Sheffield in 1946. She was also one of the founders of the Bradford Jewish Dramatic Society. During the war she accompanied her husband to his air-base and was the only woman member of a Concert Party. Besides a busy homelife (she has two daughters), Mrs. Newman assists on a number of Charity Committees. Stage roles which she most enjoys are those which give her "a chance of wringing a tear out of the audience."

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Mr. Walter Feuchtwanger, member of the World Executive, is again on a short visit to London. By invitation, he attended the February meeting of the Maccabiah Organising Committee, as well as an informal meeting of members of the World European Executive, held at the home of Mr. Fred S. Worms.

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The Maccabi Great Britain Hon. Sports Director, Mr. Harry Shapiro, continues with his good work. In order to popularise Badminton among Jewish youth he organised the first Championships in January which proved outstandingly successful. Matches were arranged for men and ladies, as well as for mixed doubles. Several clubs competed. Shortly a Swimming Championship is to be held at the Marshall Bath in London, as well as Cross-Country Races. These various Championships will be watched by Maccabiah selectors with a view to spotting talent. Any promising athlete will undergo intensive training and, if successful, will be selected to the Maccabiah team.

Maccabiah Table Tennis championship trials have already commenced. Although table tennis is not included in the Maccabiah events an international Table Tennis Rally will be held during the Maccabiah period. It is hoped to include 6 Table Tennis players in the British Maccabiah team, 3 men and 3 women.

Football matches are being played throughout the Season and, funds permitting, it is hoped to send a British team to the Maccabiah.

Maccabiah Football trials are to be held in February, March and April.

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Israeli Boxers come to London. A team of 10 Israeli boxers, covering between them all the 8 divisions from Flyweight to Heavyweight, is to visit London next May, under the auspices of the British Friends of the Hebrew University. The well known boxing promoter, Jack Solomons, is Hon. Adviser to the Organisers of the visit.

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Cycling.

"Cycling" - the official organ of the British Cycling Association, announces that a 80 kilometre massed start Road Race will be one of the many events of the 5th Maccabiah. That event was won in 1953 by Lutz Dürleicher of Great Britain. Cycling trials, to select Maccabiah competitors, will be held during the early Summer months.

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ISRAELI BASKETBALL. The Israeli national team, which is to play several matches in the United States, passed through London recently on their way to New York. Their Manager, Joseph Burstein, told a "Jewish Chronicle" reporter that the team has reached a standard which can be compared with the best in Europe. He added that in the World Championships, held in Brazil, Israel finished 8th.

The majority of the players in the team are members of Maccabi Tel Aviv. In Israel, Mr. Burstein added, there are, at present, about 400 Basketball teams. Their U.S. programme comprises matches in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. The team is coached by Elmer Ripley, former New York Celtics player and ex-Yale University Coach. But for the Middle East fighting, the Israeli team was set to play in the Olympic Games in Australia. Instead, the players were drafted into the Army for action against Egypt.

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The Israeli national basketball team which is now touring the United States, gained a 61 to 59 victory over New York Yeshiva University in a match played at Madison-Square Garden on Sunday. The match was watched by over 15,000 people.

DENMARK.

Meyer Rudalsky reports on the plans for a Youth House sponsored by the Copenhagen Jewish community for the benefit of Hakoah-Maccabi. "Progress is satisfactory and, as soon as the necessary funds have been collected, the erection of the building will commence."

Rudalsky wishes me also to inform all concerned that correspondence relating to Hakoah-Maccabi Copenhagen should be addressed to him personally: Meyer Rudalsky, Glucksvej 16, Copenhagen, S.V., Denmark.

BELGIUM.

Bernah Bochner, President of the Royal Sportclub Maccabi, Maccabi Antwerp, informs me that the Swimming Section hopes to organise its annual Gala during March, in which competitors from Hakoah-Vienna are due to participate.

As yet another example of Maccabi Antwerp's generosity in response to every appeal, I am glad to announce that Maccabi Antwerp responded to Mr. Netanel's appeal for sports equipment for Maccabi members in the Israeli Armed Forces. Early in January they sent to Israel 3 packages containing a large number of Basketballs, Handballs, Footballs, complete equipments for Table Tennis (including 144 ping-pong balls) etc.

Other Territorial Organisations - not mentioned in this or any previous issues of this "Newsletter" have themselves to blame for it. Time and again I ask for reports for publication and my repeated requests failed to produce the desired results.

I take, therefore, this opportunity of appealing to the undermentioned Maccabi Territorial Organisations, their Honorary Secretaries or Press Officers, to let me have early news about their current activities, as well as on the subject of the Maccabiah preparations: MACCABI-VIENNA, MACCABI BRUSSELS, MACCABI STOCKHOLM, MACCABI ITALY, MACCABI DUBLIN, MACCABI FINLAND and will also welcome further news from MACCABI SWITZERLAND.

Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld's resignation. I have just received the following tribute paid to Dr. Rosenfeld by the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q., in a letter signed by Mr. A. Netanel, Chairman and Mr. Y. Hadari, Head, Org. Dept.

"We have learned from your letter of January 5th, 1957 about the decision of Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld, the Honorary Secretary of the European Executive Office in London, to resign from active work.

"Although we already received an inkling of this intention of Dr. Rosenfeld at the last European Conference, we cherished a hope that, in view of the next Maccabiah, he would postpone his resignation."

"As it is, we are bound to respect his decision, true to the spirit of our sages: "The wish of a man is his honour".

"We feel that the announcement of the resignation of Dr. Rosenfeld will revive great memories and raise cordial sentiments among the rank and file of the Movement, where the name of Dr. Rosenfeld has become a household word. Certainly, the distinguished career of Dr. Rosenfeld in our Movement is an honorable testimony to his integrity, vision and devotion. Dr. Rosenfeld is one of the veteran leaders in the Maccabi Movement who devoted himself to the physical renaissance of the Jewish people when Jewish public opinion did not endow sports, games and physical culture with any educational and spiritual values, and looked rather askance upon these activities. Dr. Rosenfeld gave his devotion to the Movement wholeheartedly and stamped his personality on the development of the Maccabi Organisation in Austria in particular, and, later on, in the World Movement in general.

"In appreciation of the distinguished services rendered by Dr. Rosenfeld to the Movement, the Maccabi World Executive has decided to elect him as Honorary life-member of the World Executive."

"We wish to extend to Dr. Rosenfeld our expression of appreciation and heartfelt greetings, and hope that we may continue to enjoy his valuable collaboration for many many happy years."

With best Maccabi greetings."

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STOP PRESS.

FRED OBERLANDER has just arrived from Canada and will stay in England for a few days. It is expected that he will have several talks with Maccabi leaders in Great Britain and that he will also attend the Annual Ball of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, due to be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London, on Saturday, 16th February. Tickets for the Ball have been sold out two months ago and the Ball promises to be an outstanding social and financial success.

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An informal meeting of the Maccabi World Union Executive and Council members, residing in London, was held last Sunday, 10th instant, at which Gildesgame gave a full report to his colleagues on latest events, with particular reference to an exchange of correspondence with the World Executive H.Q. in Israel, on the subject of a re-drafted Maccabi World Union Constitution, the Maccabiah Village scheme, Maccabiah preparations in Europe and the 1957 European Conference.

Dr. V.V. Rosenfeld was thanked for his past services and a modest token of appreciation and of the regard and affection in which he was held, was presented to him before the proceedings were closed.

In his capacity of Hon. Secretary, Fred S. Worms will pay particular attention to Maccabiah preparations in Europe and will continue contact with Executive H.Q. in Israel on the subject of the Maccabiah Village scheme and its development.

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MACCABI TODAY AND TOMORROW.

Many Maccabi leaders begin to find fault with the Movement. They deplore the absence of incentive. In their opinion, a new incentive would stimulate and inspire leaders of Maccabi and its tens of thousands of members. Some say that the original objectives of the Movement - a Youth Organisation aiming at rendering its members fit and ready for emigration to Israel - has now lost its meaning. Others complain that Maccabi no longer places emphasis on intensive sports activities and, in consequence, everywhere club members seek opportunities for social enjoyment only.

It may well be that there are yet other complaints less frequently voiced which are thought to be equally justified. The matter is serious enough to be closely analysed.

First, let it be admitted that many pre-war conceptions and theories relating to youth education have undergone considerable changes. Youth reaches an age of adolescence and matures far sooner nowadays than it did 20 or 30 years ago. The impact of modern inventions, the fast tempo of life, the social and economic structure of the 1950s, the raising of the school-leaving age, and compulsory military service (at the age of 18), compel us to adjust ourselves progressively to conditions, the full implications of which have, as yet, to be appraised. The higher standard of living and full employment have also contributed to a different approach in the assessment of moral and material values.

The Leaders' dilemma.

It cannot, therefore, be denied that the task confronting today our Youth Leaders, who render their services in voluntary capacity, is often far above their heads and beyond their physical and practical means.

What is true of Youth Organisations in general, be they Jewish or Christian, is equally as true of Maccabi, if not more so. Let us remember that Maccabi is a Sports and Cultural organisation, run by young men and women dedicating their time and energies to the welfare of their fellow-members, without expecting, or receiving, any reward for their labours. The only reward awaiting them is the satisfaction of seeing their endeavours crowned with success.

Maccabi is not just a Football Club, a Swimming Club, a Wrestling Club, or a Gymnasium to train Boxers. Maccabi is one of the few youth organisations aiming at the provision of facilities for various indoor and outdoor sports activities, in addition to activities of a cultural and social - recreational nature. In other words, Maccabi has a very comprehensive programme of varied activities, which it believes it must provide throughout its clubs, in order to attract as large a number of youth as possible from all walks of life. Maccabi's ideology comprised in its Aims and Objects places a moral obligation on its members to engage in a series of activities which should help them understand and appreciate the meaning of Judaism, of its cultural heritage. Maccabi wishes also to foster, to promote and to encourage participation in any practical endeavour of a non-political character for the benefit of the State of Israel.

Maccabi IS different.

It is not, therefore, right, nor is it reasonable to evaluate Maccabi's efforts and the record of its achievements by comparison with other Youth Organisations, clubs, or associations, who have neither our aims or who are not inspired by our ideals, which we consider right and proper, forming an integral part of our programme of Jewish youth education.

Let us, therefore, ask ourselves whether Maccabi's opportunities for better progress and higher attainments are available and, if so, are they satisfactory?

One could easily answer this question in the negative by simply saying "no". But it is not my intention to confine my remarks to a defence only, without analysing the situation further. Time and again, serious-minded Maccabi leaders, younger and older alike, meeting together to discuss this problem, have reached unanimous conclusions that Maccabi's aims and objects and the programme of its activities should not undergo any alterations, except in cases where the absence of facilities, or insurmountable shortcomings, render a full programme impracticable. The first shortcoming from which a club suffers is that many of its leaders, and the majority of its members, are totally unaware of Maccabi's ideology.

Knowledge and understanding.

They know little of its past history and achievements from which hundreds of thousands of young Jews and Jewesses all over the world have benefited. I feel, therefore, that this is a matter which must be given highest priority throughout the Movement. Every Leader, the Chairman of every Club and the Captain or Head of every Section, should be made fully cognizant of the meaning, interpretations and implications of Maccabi's aims and objects as well as of its educational task. According to my information, a set of Aims and Objects incorporated in an established Constitution is hardly to be found anywhere except in Great Britain. The fault lies principally with the Maccabi World Union, who have overlooked the significance or importance to the Movement of a Charter setting out our aims and objects in a clear and concise manner and the principles of which would form the ideological basis of every Maccabi Club throughout the world.

Elsewhere in this issue is published a copy of the aims and objects of Maccabi in Great Britain, which, if suitably amended, could be "adopted" in other countries.
Conditions of Membership.

No youth should ever be admitted to a Maccabi Club before the Aims and Objects have been explained to him (or to her) and when sending an application for admission, the applicant should be required to sign a declaration to the effect that he, or she, has read and understood the objects of the organisation, or of the club, and promises to abide by them faithfully. The Committee, or officials, in charge of admission of members must satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the applicants, as well as to their good faith when signing the declaration. It must also be explained to applicants that admission to the club is conditional upon members participating actively in one, or more, activity through the existing sports, cultural and social sections. No member should ever be allowed to belong to a Maccabi club unless the undertaking given is carried into effect throughout the period of membership.

It is important to remember that Maccabi is essentially a Youth Organisation and that thereby is meant young Jewish boys and girls in the following age groups: from 10 - 15 years, and from 16 - 18 or 19 years. Activities should be provided for these, according to the age groups and thus junior and senior sections should be created and, if already in existence, promoted as extensively as conditions permit.

To be more successful in its work, the membership of a Maccabi club should comprise a substantial proportion - if not a majority - of young and impressionable youth, easily adaptable to a programme of regular activities, be they sports or other, ready to accept a mild discipline without which no collective effort can fully materialise. The result of priority being given to the younger age groups, may well mean that in some clubs "senior" members will have to be refused admission, or their number reduced progressively.

Some Essentials.

To attract and to retain the interest of youth in any activity, the competent authority of every club must not overlook the vital importance of two essential conditions: A clubhouse (or youth centre) and facilities

for outdoor sports and recreations, such as playing-fields, running tracks, swimming baths, tennis courts, etc.

Of course, all this means a lot of work and a great deal of money. Experience has shown that, where there is a will there is a way. No better incentive for collective or individual effort can be offered to young enthusiasts than a target which is within their reach, even though they might require outside help, from supporters and sympathisers alike.

Maccabi happens to be an organisation known all over the world, with which many prominent persons have been, or are now associated. To deserve assistance, Maccabi boys and girls must show themselves worthy of the help, as well as able to justify the confidence of those whose help they seek. It is in this manner that Maccabi clubhouses have come into being in many parts of the world, some possessing beautifully equipped premises, playing fields or stadia, others less impressive homes and rather less satisfactory venues for their open-air sports. But there are also scores of Maccabi clubs possessing neither a home nor even a place where they could meet regularly. The blame for this must be laid at the door of the local leaders, and not with the Movement as such. Of course, it must be stated, here and now, that no-one can expect children aged 12 or 13 to go around to the community begging for help. Nor can we expect, in all fairness, busy club leaders to devote their time, both to the promotion of activities in the club, as well as to the raising of monies. This must be the task of the senior members who could enlist the help of sympathisers and of supporters forming themselves into a Committee of Patrons.

The sooner leaders of Maccabi will come to an early realisation that nothing can be achieved without a consistent effort, wise planning and resolve, the sooner the Movement will gain a foothold in every country. It will attract large numbers of youth to its fold and will enjoy the support and sponsorship of the community, as well as of governing authorities, which it fully deserves.

In the next article I will write on the subject of "The Maccabi Spirit".

MACCABI AIMS AND OBJECTS.
in Great Britain.

(Extract from Constitution, Part 3)

The aims and objects of the Maccabi Union as set out in the Constitution of the Movement are:

(a) To promote the interest and the active participation of Anglo-Jewish Youth of both sexes, in amateur sports, in all forms of cultural, and in non-political, communal activities.

(b) To inculcate within its ranks a team spirit, the conception of fair play, good citizenship and self-discipline.

(c) To provide members of the Association with facilities for training and friendly competition in all its activities.

(d) To promote and to foster the interest and active participation by members in work aimed at the development of the State of Israel, and to cultivate a knowledge of Jewish history, of the Hebrew language and of National traditions.

(e) To provide for the advancement of Jewish religious education, and to develop within Jewish Youth the principles of the spirit of the Jewish faith.

(f) Generally to encourage in Jewish Youth the development of mind, spirit and body in the tradition of the Maccabees.

(g) To foster better understanding and friendship between Jews and non-Jews, by means of sporting, cultural and social intercourse.

(h) To co-operate with any organisation, association or club throughout the territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose Aims and Objects are similar to those of the Association.

MACCABIAH ORGANISING COMMITTEE

FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

President: The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt, P.C., T.D., D.L.

WORLD JEWISH SPORTS FESTIVAL

ISRAEL-15th September to 24th September, 1957



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Pierre Gildesgame

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For attention of the Editor

NEWS RELEASE

Despite her tense international situation, Israel is going ahead with the preparation of the VTH. MACCABIAH, the World Jewish Sports Festival which will be held in Israel in September of this year. A Village is to be built to accommodate competitors who will come from all parts of the World.

It is hoped to send an Anglo-Jewish Team of about 100. Among them will be Miss Angela Buxton, last year's Wimbledon Women's Singles Finalist and the Winner together with Mrs. Gibson of the Women's Doubles.

The President of Israel, Mr. Ben-Zvi, has agreed to be the Patron of the VTH. MACCABIAH.

Rumours that the MACCABIAH was to be postponed because of the tense situation on Israel's borders has been emphatically denied in Israel. Preparations for the MACCABIAH are now well advanced.

Negotiations have been started in Israel between Maccabi and Hapoel Sports Organisations regarding participation and co-operation in the MACCABIAH.

More applications from Anglo-Jewish Sportsmen and women will be welcomed by the Maccabiah Organising Committee, 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.



הסתדרות עולמית מאכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

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The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
PC., T.D., D.L.

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March/April, 1957.



CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 56

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment.

I have just returned from a trip to the Continent of Europe, combining a short holiday with business. Inevitably I made also contact with Maccabi friends.

When in Switzerland, I spoke to our friend D. Neufeld, of Zurich, who promised to send me a full report soon after his Executive Committee have met. Maccabiah preparations, he assured me, are proceeding slowly, and Switzerland will undoubtedly participate, if only in the form of a token team.

In Belgium, I spoke to R. Katz, of Brussels, who informed me that the building accommodating the Maccabi Club has recently been sold and that the owner requires the club to vacate the premises within 6 months. This created a serious problem for Maccabi Brussels, although the club, and particularly so the Junior Sections, continue successfully with their every day activities. Katz promised to send me a detailed report before long.

I spoke to H. Bochner, of Antwerp, who sounded very tired, for the previous day he presided over the J.N.F. Bazaar - a major function, organised by a Committee of which he was Chairman. Bochner sounded confident as regards the position of Maccabi in Antwerp, and he too promised to send me a full report before long.

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In Paris, I attended an informal meeting held at my Hotel, in which the following participated, Leo Kaminski, Th. Haas, M. Zas, V. Jacob and Mr. Weiss. Our friends in Paris appeared buoyant and full of confidence. The recent events in Israel, and the part played by the French Government in the Suez Crisis has produced an extremely favourable attitude towards every Franco-Jewish organisation. Thus pro-Israeli fund-raising in France has reached unprecedented records and I was told that members of Maccabi in Paris have, for the first time, responded to an appeal addressed to them, and which resulted in tens of thousands of francs being contributed by them spontaneously.

The Committee of Maccabi Paris is due for drastic re-organisation. Mr. Lefschetz is about to resign and his successor is to be nominated at the next Annual General Meeting of the club. The Committee will, it is hoped, comprise several young members determined to ensure the future success of the club on a longterm basis. The sum of 3 million francs has already been subscribed by a few individuals towards the acquisition of rented premises, which are to constitute the nucleus for a Maccabi House in Paris.. I was also informed that a Maccabiah Organising Committee is about to be set up, resolved to raise a team of 40 Maccabiah competitors. V. Jacob emphasised that the competitors will, by no means, prove to be

champions but, true to the Olympic slogan, "the important thing is to participate, and not to win." The Maccabiah Organising Committee is to be headed by a distinguished personality, whose identity I am not to reveal for the present. The Committee of Patrons will comprise Jewish and non-Jewish personalities whose sympathy for Israel and for Jewish Sports is beyond doubt. Application may well have to be made to the French Government to subsidize the cost of the French Maccabiah expedition but, for the time being, a budget of some 2 million francs is envisaged as being the minimum required to defray the necessary expenses.

* * *

I have visited Paris a good many times and have attended formal and informal meetings with Maccabi leaders there on several occasions. For the first time, I felt that a new spirit permeated the ranks of Maccabi in France, and this is due in no small measure to the inspiration of Leo Kaminski and to the dynamic and enterprising Th. Haas. Both are determined to place Maccabi Paris in the forefront of Maccabi clubs in Europe and, once their endeavours in Paris have proved successful, their activities will extend to other provincial cities, where larger Jewish communities are organised, among them Lyons, Metz, Strasbourg, etc.

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I have been unable to make contact with Dr. Jarach, of Milan, as I spent only a few hours in that city. I was informed, however, by our friend, S. Fischer, of Trieste (who attended the 1956 European Conference in London) that the Italian Maccabi Federation is due to hold its Annual Meeting before long and theret the question of Italy's participation in the Maccabiah will be raised as a matter of urgency. It is to be hoped that Dr. Jarach is fully conscious of his duties as leader of Maccabi Italy and that we will hear from him before long that Italy will, once again, unfurl its flag at the mast of the Ramat Gan Stadium next September.

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From Israel, good news reaches me every few days. Undaunted by the political crisis and undeterred by economic and technical difficulties, Aron Netanel and his colleagues continue with Maccabiah preparations achieving excellent progress. I have received copies of letters addressed to every member of the Israeli Government, as well as photostat copies of their replies. Members of the Israeli Government were individually invited to attend the Maccabiah Games and all, without exception, have not only accepted this invitation but wished the Maccabi World Union and the Maccabiah Organisers every success in their endeavours. Disappointing features about Maccabiah preparations are in evidence outside, rather than inside, Israel. With the exception of Great Britain, where hopes are still high to raise a minimum contribution of £5,000 towards the Maccabiah Village, no other country has as yet confirmed to the Executive H.Q. their ability, or willingness, to make a contribution, however, small. Again, with the exception of Great Britain, where the Maccabiah Organising Committee meets regularly, there are only few signs of active participation in other parts of the world.

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There are, however, a few notable exceptions: South Africa, where the Water Polo team has already been selected and no doubt a Bowling team comprising players from South Africa and the Rhodesias will once again put in a strong appearance; Fred Oberlander, of Montreal, who has been on a short visit to England recently, informed me that Canada will participate in about the same strength as on the last occasion. The U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel have already announced their participation in the Maccabiah on certain conditions which are subject to further negotiations between the M.W.U. and the U.S. Committee.

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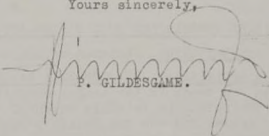
Few seem to realise that only 6 months separate us now from the opening of the 5th Maccabiah. I take this opportunity, therefore, of appealing to all our friends, in every part of the world, to follow the excellent example, set by our friends in Israel, by courageously and imaginatively pursuing their Maccabiah preparations without hindrance. It is of the utmost importance that Territorial Organisations and Maccabiah Organising Committees, wherever they exist, announce their participation

to the M.W.U. Executive H.Q., advising them, at the same time, of the approximate strength of their teams and of the events in which they propose competing.

It has already been made clear, in a previous edition of this "Newsletter" that the M.W.U. have waived the claim for monetary contributions towards the Maccabiah Village, and that those participating in the Maccabiah will only be expected to pay their own return fares to Israel, as well as to defray the cost of board and lodging of their competitors at the rate of \$6.00. per day, per capita. I would also like to remind Maccabi leaders everywhere, of the necessity to give the widest possible publicity in their respective national press to the advent of the 5th Maccabiah. Newspaper clippings reach me from some parts of the world, namely Great Britain and South Africa, in which frequent mention is made of the Maccabiah preparations in these two countries. But why not elsewhere? You will require moral, as well as financial support from your local communities. Make sure that they are aware of the forthcoming Maccabiah, and let those willing and able to associate themselves with this endeavour be made to feel proud that they have lent a hand to the Jewish World Sports Festival, to be held for the third time in free and indomitable Israel, this next September.

* * *
Maccabi Netherlands are to be warmly congratulated on the splendid progress made during this past year. It will be seen that, in relation to the Jewish population, and to the size of the country, they are now the strongest Territorial Organisation in Europe, having 7 clubs in all: - at Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Deventer, Haarlem, Leyden and Utrecht.*

Yours sincerely,


F. GILDESCAME.

News from Territorial Organisations.

MACCABI NETHERLANDS (HOLLAND)

J. Brilleman, Hon. Press Officer, and a member of the Executive of Maccabi Netherlands, reports:

MACCABI NETHERLANDS AND THE MACCABIAH. Preparations have started to form a team for the Maccabiah. A large number of individuals, members of the Jewish community in Holland, have been asked to accompany the Maccabiah team as supporters and, with this in mind, a plane is being chartered to convey the team and their supporters to Israel. The project holds a promise of success. A letter was also sent to all members and sympathisers, asking them to contribute towards the cost of sending a team to the Maccabiah. As the 5th Maccabiah is to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Maccabiah Games, it has been suggested to a large number of individuals to contribute multiples of five Guilders, with a minimum of 25 Guilders each, thus the 25th Anniversary of the Maccabiah is to be suitably commemorated.

Maccabi Amsterdam. On March 16th, the Annual Meeting of the club was held combined with the Purim Festival. A report of the meeting is awaited.

The first team of the Chess Section, which started only last year, has won all matches in the second class competition organised by the Chess

Club Association of Amsterdam. The Maccabi team has 3 more matches to play and there is a good chance that they might emerge from these contests as champions.

The Swimming Section is organising competitions in Amsterdam on March 28th, in celebration of its first anniversary. The section now counts over 150 members. In addition, the club has 9 other live and active sports sections: Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Basketball, Chess, Bridge, Judo, Billiards and Athletics. Each section is sub-divided into juniors and seniors, ladies as well as gentlemen.

Maccabi - The Hague. On March 3rd, this club held competitions for their children's gymnastic group. The winner was Simone Mozes gaining 272 points. On March 16th, Maccabi - The Hague also celebrated the Purim Festival, a large party having been organised at the Kurhaus at Scheveningen.

Maccabi Deventer started a Swimming and Tennis club section this year.

Maccabi Haarlem. This club counts now 40 members. Their first activities consisted of forming a gymnastics group, which is quite successful. They have recently also started a Swimming Section and their Tennis Section is due to start activities on April 1st.

TWO NEW CLUBS ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF FORMATION, LEYDEN AND UTRECHT.

Maccabi Rotterdam. Have recently been granted from the Jewish community facilities on one evening each week in the Communal Club rooms. In addition to their other activities Chess and Bridge sections have been founded.

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MACCABI ASSOCIATION DUBLIN (IRELAND).

Hubert Wine, Chairman of the club reports:

Club activities. The Cricket Section, which is probably the strongest, runs two teams in the League competitions, apart from the junior teams participating in friendly matches. The First Eleven was unbeaten during the season and won the Senior B Cup and the Section Eleven finished in second place in their league. The Cricket Section also organised a very successful tour in the Isle-of-Man during the summer.

The Tennis Section have two Men's Teams and one Ladies' team in the League and our first Men's Team won their section.

Rugby. Although we have only one team in League competition they have improved their standard considerably and we had an inter-visit in Dublin with Birmingham recently. It was a grand match and I am happy to say that we were successful winners. Prior to that, we also had an inter-visit with London which proved to be a tremendous success, not only from the sporting point of view but also socially.

In Table Tennis we have six teams, four men and two ladies and all are doing well.

Wrestling and Physical training sections are now being started and perhaps in a couple of years from now we can look forward to having some really good wrestlers.

The Debating Section has held many interesting meetings, all of which were very well attended, and now that we have a new stage in our clubhouse, the Entertainments and Dramatic Section have really "gone to town" and the latter section recently produced three one-act plays which ran for two nights and were enthusiastically supported.

The Bridge Section attracts many members and certainly helps to keep the interest of the older members alive.

Maccabiah preparations. We are making every effort to try to get a

team together for the Maccabiah in September but, naturally, we have our difficulties, both from the point of view of support and finance. So far as finance is concerned, if the proposed visit of the Israeli Boxing team to this country to fight against English boxers is a success, we should get over, to some extent, that difficulty. Dublin Maccabi Association are shortly to hold their Annual General Meeting. (Hubert Wine was good enough to send me an advance copy of his Chairman's Report from which it appears that the financial position of the club is being maintained and the grounds and playing fields are being kept in first-class condition throughout the year and that, sports activities, although not at a very high standard, are being well maintained. Every effort is being made to attract more junior members to the club sports activities.)

A highlight of the year's activities was the Israel versus Ireland International Swimming Gala, sponsored by Maccabi Association Dublin.

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MACCABI ITALY - TRIESTE.

The following sections are well supported: Gymnastics for boys and girls, Swimming and Table Tennis.

Social activities: Special cinema shows for children are being organised at frequent intervals and are also very well supported.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

The Hindustan Times, of New Delhi (India) carries the following interesting report, upon which I do not propose commenting:

"The South African Maccabi Association (Whites) wants to send a table-tennis team to Israel next year to take part in the Maccabiah games; To do so it has to ask permission first from the South African Table-Tennis Board, (a non-White organisation). This is the first test case since the International Table-Tennis Federation's ruling in June that only one body in South Africa, the S.A. Table-Tennis Board, can be recognised as the controlling body in the Union.

"The S.A. Table-tennis Union, the White Body, was not considered the legal controlling body, because it was alleged that it contravened rules of the international body when a foreign team toured South Africa in 1955 concerning the admission of non-Whites to halls. As a results, no South African team (even if it is White) can play against an overseas side unless it receives permission from the S.A. Table-Tennis Board."

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The Annual Maccabi Golf Tournament was organized in Capetown last January and played at the King David Country Club.

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GREAT BRITAIN.

Maccabi Badminton Championships, organised in London, to popularise Badminton among Jewish youth, took place at the Orion Hall, Stamford Hill (a London suburb) towards the end of January. Many competitors proved outstandingly successful, the Men's Singles having been won by A. Barnett (Maccabi Glasgow) with M. Epstein (Maccabi Manchester) as runner up. The Men's Doubles were won by A. Barnett and E. Jonah Maccabi Association (N.W.) London.

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The 1957 Maccabi National Leadership Course, was concluded at the end of February at Westcliff-on-Sea, where a Weekend Seminar was attended by some 30 successful graduates, selected from among 100 potential Maccabi leaders who attended courses in London and Manchester. They have been invited to a series of functions and to listen to several very interesting lectures. An Oneg Shabbat was conducted by Rabbi P. Shebson. On Shabbat morning, the members were welcomed at the Synagogue by the local Rabbi and honorary officers of the Hebrew Congregation. The same afternoon, Mr. John Shaftesley, O.B.E. Editor in Chief of the "Jewish Chronicle" delivered an address on "Anglo-Jewish Organisations and the part that Maccabi should play in the community". He said he was surprised wherever he went throughout

the length and breadth of the community, by the lack of any substantial knowledge generally of the history and structure of Anglo-Jewry. He thought that it would be a very good thing if this subject formed part of the regular curricula of Hebrew classes. After giving a review of the rise and development of the Jewish community in England, Mr. Shaftesley traced the inception of the Chief Rabbinate and beginnings of the principal communal institutions - religious, educational, Zionist, charitable, cultural and social. "Older members of bodies like Maccabi played a great part in Jewish communal affairs, apart from obviously concentrating on one of Maccabi's main objects - the promotion of healthy sporting competition - and the self-discipline that was thereby entailed, senior Maccabi members could utilise their experience as a school for rendering real and lasting service in various communal fields, outside that of sport and Zionist culture.

Mr. Shaftesley regarded Maccabi as a vital spearhead of voluntary communal effort because Maccabi were Zionist-minded and yet were non-political, a most valuable attribute. Maccabi enthusiasts tended to infuse into their associations with Jewish affairs that spirit of fair play and true sportsmanship which, he regretted to say, did not motivate much of communal deliberations. Thus it could be concluded with certainty that the ranks of Maccabi constituted a tremendous reservoir of communal workers of the future.

Other speakers included Mr. H. Richardson, Welfare Officer of the United Synagogue, who spoke on "The Relationship of Club Leader to Club Member", Mr. H.H. Raphael spoke on "Planning a Junior Section", Mr. Alfred A. Morley presided over a discussion on "A General Purposes Board" between Miss R. Richman and Mr. J. Richman. Mr. Aubrey A. Scott spoke on "Balanced Programme Planning" stressing that while Maccabi was predominantly a sporting organisation, cultural and educational matters played an important part in its work, for Maccabi aimed not so much at making good footballers as good Jews.

The Israeli Consul-General, Mr. R. Amir delivered an address on "The Current Situation in Israel and the Middle East". At the close of his address, he was given a prolonged ovation.

* * * Angela Burton, who is touring the Carribeans and the British West Indies is shortly due to come back to London. It is hoped that she will be well enough to play at Wimbledon this summer. She already announced her intention to join the British Maccabi team and to compete for highest honours in the Ladies' Singles Lawn Tennis Championships in Israel as she has done so brilliantly in 1953. (See later report.)

* * * A Sports Pavilion and Clubhouse are shortly to be erected on the grounds of the Maccabi Stadium, London.

* * * Jack Richman, for 10 years Chairman of the Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, intends to resign this next May. In addition to being Chairman of England's largest club, Jack Richman played a prominent part in the development of the Tavistock Repertory (Theatre) Company, one of the leading repertory companies in the country, which this year celebrates its silver jubilee. Mr. Richman joined the company 23 years ago at the age of 21 and played in leading roles on many occasions. He has been Chairman of the Tavistock Committee and is now one of the Directors of the Company. He will have important parts in the new series of plays. Many Jewish amateur actors are members of the company, which is still being used as a training ground by a number of professional actors and producers.

BRITISH INTERNATIONALS FOR THE MACCABIAN.

* * * Ben Helfgott, the British lightweight weightlifting champion and member of the British Olympic team hopes to join the British Maccabiah team next September.

* * * Applications have also been received from some of Britain's finest Olympic athletes, among them Harry Kane, the hurdler, David Segal and Paul Abrahams, the sprinters.

More prominent athletes have applied for inclusion in the British Maccabiah team: Alan Jay and Ralph Cooperman the well known Fencers, British Internationals and Olympic participants. Jay won recently the Delori trophy in Belgium; Stanley Orman who has run the 100 yards in 9.9 seconds and has represented the Amateur Athletics Association; Daniel Herman of Manchester University; Henry Martin and John Daniels, of Grafton A.C.; Michael Lazarus of Queens Park Harriers; Paul Abrahams, an Oxford University "blue" and Louis Dias, of Grafton A.C., middle-distance runners; Mark Rosenbloom, who won the junior long-jump at the last Maccabiah, and the R.A.F. Javelin champion, David Gribler.

The Israeli discus champion, Galim, at present studying in Great Britain, expressed a desire to represent this country in the Maccabiah. Women athletes include Yvonne Kaye, havelin, Jennifer Frazer, Midlands high-jump champion, Joan Mesnick, Middlesex youth long-jump champion, and Sandra Freeman, the Scottish junior sprint champion.

Unfortunately, Angela Buxton, Lawn Tennis Star, will be unable to participate in the 5th Maccabiah, nor will she be able to take part in any competitive play for a whole year. She returned from her tour of the United States and the Carribeans last week with her right arm in a sling, suffering from a weakness in her right wrist. In an interview with a "Jewish Chronicle" reporter, she stated how very sorry she was that she will have to miss the 5th Maccabiah. She was nevertheless ready and willing to help in every way she possibly could and, if necessary, she will go to Israel to be present at the Games.

The British Maccabiah Organising Committee is inviting applications from boys who will be under 18 years of age on July 1st, 1957.

MACCABIAH ORGANISING COMMITTEE BANQUET.

Great Britain to raise £20,000 for the Maccabiah. The Maccabiah Organising Committee in Great Britain is organising a banquet at Grosvenor House, London on 28th May, over which Lord Nathan will preside. Among the guests of honour who already accepted invitations will be Sir John Hunt (Conqueror of Everest), General Sir Frederick Browning, Treasurer to the Household of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, The Chief Rabbi, the Haham, Mr. Israel Sieff and others. A further list of guests of honour will shortly be published. The Anglo-Jewish press has promised to give this event wide publicity. P. Gildesgame and Aubrey A. Scott are principal organisers of the banquet and a committee is being set up by them under a dynamic Chairman. Among other fund-raising methods an Adoption Scheme has been decided upon, the object of which is to ask friends and sympathisers to adopt one or more athletes at a cost of £150 each, that being the amount required to cover the return fare, board and lodgings whilst in Israel for a period of 20 days. A Maccabiah souvenir brochure, to be edited by A.A. Morley and based on the work done in 1953 by Fred S. Worms, is also to be published. This will recount sporting records achieved by Jewish athletes and by Maccabiah participants. Some 20 pages will be reserved in the brochure for paid advertisements, the entire proceeds of which will be devoted towards the Maccabiah fund.

The Annual Maccabi Swimming Championships were held recently at the Marshall Street Baths, London. Bar Kochba-Maccabi competitors were particularly successful. Many of these gained high points and Maccabiah selectors will bear them in mind for inclusion in future trials.

Northern Maccabi Table Tennis Championships took place recently at the Laski Hall, Manchester. Fifty competitors from North Manchester, Glasgow, Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Sheffield Maccabi clubs participated. The standard of play was high, particularly in the Men's Singles finals between P. Strulovitch and M. McMillan. Strulovitch is a Lancashire county player and McMillan is a Scottish international.

Southern Maccabi Table Tennis Championships were held recently at the premises of Leytonstone Maccabi. The Men's Singles final was very

closely contested by L. Hoffman and B.Meisel, both of Maccabi Association (M.W.) London.

After an eight-day contest between rival acting teams in Brighton's Youth Drama Festival, held at the Pavilion Theatre, the Maccabi Association Amateur Theatrical Group won the Junior Cup. They presented Rosalind Valance's play "Echo and Narcissus", a charming fantasy.

Manchester Maccabi new premises. Alderman A.Moss presided at the inauguration of the new premises of North Manchester Maccabi, when Mr.Maurice Kingsley, a prominent member of the Manchester community was presented with a golden key by Mr.H.Robinson, Chairman of the club. Alderman Moss spoke of Maccabi's courage in opening their new smaller premises after finding themselves unable to maintain their former premises at Grosvenor House. He appealed to the community to take notice of what Maccabi had done for itself. The Communal Rabbi, Dr. A. Altmann, recited a prayer of dedication and addressed the gathering. Other speakers included Mr. S. Glicher, President of the Council of Manchester and Salford Jews and Alderman Leslie Lever, Member of Parliament.

An Anglo-Jewish Cricket team intends accepting an invitation by the Israel Cricket Association to visit Israel in September to play a series of matches. South Africa is also to send a team and there is to be a tournament between the three countries.

U.S.A.

AMERICA WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE 5TH MACCABIAH.

Mr. Samuel Sloan, Executive Director of the U.S.Committee for Sports in Israel, addressed a communication, dated March 6th, to the M.W.U. Executive H.Q., informing them that the invitation to send a team from the U.S.A. to the 5th Maccabiah has been duly accepted. He added, however, that the acceptance was subject to certain reservations, as stipulated in the Minutes of a meeting of the U.S.Committee for Sports in Israel, held in New York on 25th February, extract of which reads..."The United States Committee for Sports in Israel will accept the invitation upon the condition that the Maccabi and Hapoel have reached an agreement to work together and that the United States competes against a team representing Israel at games conducted under the rules of the International Sports Federations and that the Israel team is selected by the Israel Sports Federation."

In his reply, Mr. Netanel, Chairman of the Executive H.Q.,Tel Aviv, wrote to the U.S.Committee for Sports in Israel, stating that he was glad to know that America will participate in the 5th Maccabiah and that, as on previous occasions, the M.W.U. had invited all Jewish Sports Organisations in Israel and abroad - including of course Hapoel - to take part in the Maccabiah Games. ... "It is understood that Israel will be represented in the 5th Maccabiah, as in previous Maccabiah, by one Team only which will be selected by the Israel Sports Federation. The selection of the Team will be effected strictly upon personal merit, and its composition - after competitions and trials in each respective sport..."

..."The Israel Sports Federation will also be responsible that the Games are held strictly according to the rules of the respective International Sports Federation. The Israel Sports Federation has already asked the various International Bodies to grant the necessary permits. Approval from almost all International Bodies have already reached this Office." etc.

Some outstanding U.S.Athletes coming to Israel.

Henry Laskau, who has won many American track and field titles, will retire from athletics after the 1957 Maccabiah. He won the walking event at the 1950 and 1953 Maccabiah, also competing in this event at the Olympic Games in 1948,1952 and 1956.

Offri, Centre of the Israeli Olympic basketball team which enjoyed

a successful U.S.A. coast-coast tour, will remain on a six-months' visitor's permit in America. He has been offered scholarships by both Adelphi College and New York University.

Sammy Mosberg, the first Jewish boxer to win an Olympic boxing lightweight crown in 1920, has been elected Vice-President of the U.S. Olympians New York Chapter. This organisation is composed of former Olympic competitors. Mosberg coached the American Boxing team at the 1953 Maccabiah and will do likewise at the 1957 Games.

Isaac Berger, born in Israel, broke the Olympic and world feather-weight record at the Olympic Games in Melbourne and expects to compete as a member of the American team in the 5th Maccabiah. Another good prospect is Alan Chasnoff, who has just won the Metropolitan Amateur Athletic Union lightweight weight-lifting title.

The Reverend Bob Richards, Olympic pole-vaulting champion, will accompany the U.S. team to Tel Aviv in September. In 1953, Harrison Dillard, the hurdler and Parry O'Brien, shot-putter, made the trip.

Tubby Raskin has been asked by a N.Y.C. labour organisation to accompany the tennis players Dick Savitt and Herb Flamm on a tennis tour which should wind up in Israel. Raskin prepared the Israeli Olympic basketball team for the 1952 Helsinki Olympics and also mentored the American cage squad which, in 1953, won the Maccabiah event.

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' MEETING.

At the home of Fred S. Worms, an informal meeting was recently held at which Walter Feuchtwanger, member of the World Executive in Israel was also present. The meeting was convened mainly to instruct Lionel Schalit, who is proceeding this week to Israel, to make a number of representations to the M.W.U. Executive H.Q. in Tel Aviv in connection with the Maccabiah, as well as to enquire about latest developments relating to accommodation of Maccabiah competitors, World Congress preparations, the Maccabiah Village project, and the draft of the Maccabi World Union Constitution. A full report of Lionel Schalit's discussions with the World Executive members will be published in the next issue.

Mr. Romi Goldmuntz celebrating his 75th birthday. The popular Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, Vice President of the Maccabiah Organising Committee in Europe, is shortly celebrating his 75th birthday in Antwerp. A Committee of Honour has been set up, comprising several members of the Belgian Government, as well as leading members of the Belgian Jewish and Christian communities. In anticipation of this memorable event, we extend to Mr. Goldmuntz our heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

STOP PRESS.

News reaches me from Johannesburg that the South African team hopes to compete in the following Maccabiah events: Bowls, Athletics, Tennis, Table-Tennis, Boxing, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Swimming, Water-polo and Soccer.

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Please reply to:

May, 1957.



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Editorial Comment

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Indeed, news reaches us that preparations for the Maccabiah in every part of the globe are well under way. International governing bodies of various amateur sports have announced that the Maccabiah competitions have been included in the International time-tables for 1957. Whenever meeting Maccabi visitors from overseas it seems natural for them to say to me on parting "Shalom, will be seeing you at the Maccabiah."

This much can be said for the "glamorous" part of the Maccabiah. But what about some stern realities?

So far as European preparations are concerned, the will to participate in the Maccabiah is very strong indeed. But the means are, so far, lacking. Nevertheless, we are now assured that Europe will be well represented, of which fuller particulars will be found in this issue.

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Once again we are indebted to the Royal Sportclub Maccabi of Antwerp for offering hospitality in their city to the 1957 European Conference which is to be held there on July 7th next.

It has been decided that this year's Conference be limited to one day only. It will, therefore, commence on Sunday at 9 a.m. and terminate the same evening. An Agenda for the Conference will be sent out shortly but, meanwhile, it can be announced that the Conference will deal with 3 major problems only:

- a. Maccabiah co-ordination in the European region.
- b. The Maccabi World Union Congress (to be held in Israel soon after the Maccabiah.)
- c. Plans for the re-organisation of the Maccabi Movement in Europe.

Every member of the World Executive and Council residing in Europe will be expected to attend this important Conference and it is hoped

that every Territorial Organisation will be represented by at least one fully accredited delegate.

WHAT IS THE "MACCABI SPIRIT"?

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1st. Inaugural Session.

SUNDAY, September, 29th 1957. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- a) Congress declared open.
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- a) Election of Congress Praesidium.
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TUESDAY, October 1st, 1957. 10 a.m.

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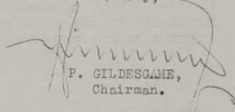
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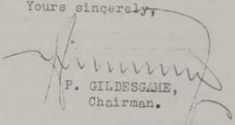
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that its members will compete in the following events: Fencing, Table-tennis and athletics.

DUBLIN, IRELAND.

Ireland is likely to be represented by a small team competing in the following events: Wrestling, Lawn Tennis, Track and Field.

FINLAND.

The Maccabiah team information will comprise at least 1 Wrestler, 1 Weightlifter, 1 Cyclist and, possibly, a Bowling team.

Maccabi Helsinki have decided to send an amount of \$1300 to Maccabi Israel "as a token of their admiration for their fight to ensure the continued existence of Israel." WELL DONE, HELSINKI!

GREAT BRITAIN.

The dates of a number of trials arranged for the selection of the British Maccabiah team have been announced. Among them the 50 miles Cycling trial, to be held on June 16th, under the National Cycling Union rules. The first Swimming trial will be held on May 14th at the Seymour Place Baths in London, where training sessions have already started under the supervision of Mr. Roy Romain, an Olympic swimmer, and at one time British champion.

Athletics trials will be held on June 16th at the Maccabi Stadium in London, and it is hoped that sufficient players will be found to form also a strong Basketball team.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

The "Bulawayo Chronicle" reports in its issue of March 6th: "The Rhodesian Maccabi Association Games and Competitions Evening, in the Jewish Guildhall, was organised to help raise funds to send Rhodesian athletes to this year's Maccabiah Games in Israel. The Association hopes to send more athletes to the Jewish Games this year than was possible in 1953, when the Rhodesians were represented, for the first time, by a Bowling team and 1 Sprinter only. This international Jewish sports festival resembling the Empire Games - held every fourth year in a stadium outside Tel Aviv - draws Jewish athletes from all parts of the world. It grew out of a movement to foster interest in physical development and sports, denied to the majority of Jews by their environment and the oppressions of their centuries of exile."

SOUTH AFRICA.

The "Cape Argus" Capetown reports in its issue of March 14th: "Four Western Province players have been selected for the water-polo team to represent South Africa in the Maccabiah Games during September. Formation of the team has now been completed."

BOWLING TOURNAMENT AND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS - MACCABIAH.

As would be expected, South Africa is once again taking the lead in the organisation of the Tournament and Open Championships, I am informed by Mr. Max J. Spitz, President of the Ramat Gan Bowling Club, who recently returned from a visit to Johannesburg.

According to Mr. Spitz, the South African team "will be round the 100 mark". There is a lot of enthusiasm apparent throughout the country and interest is at present concentrated on the selections of the various participants in the various Maccabiah events. Mr. Spitz proceeds by saying "This is particularly so in the case of Bowling teams, for Bowling is by now by far the most popular sport in the country. Seven Ladies and 7 men will be sent from South Africa and a like number from Rhodesia. Each country will enter 1 full Rink (4 players) 1 Pairs (2 players) and 1 Singles in the Men's and also in the Women's sections. The Israeli Open Bowling Championships will commence at the Ramat Gan Stadium on 5th September and, in this connection, "Mr. Spitz informs me "a special Bowler's team from South Africa and Rhodesia has been organised which, judging by the excellent response so far, will at least justify one large chartered plane filled with competitors."

Mr. Spitz asked me to give as much publicity as possible to the Bowling Competition among our Maccabi friends in Europe, - "even if it be

only 1 Rink of 4 players from each country - in which case the pairs and singles can be drawn from the same 4. This would not only prove a terrific stimulus for the game in Israel but would give a boost to Open Championships of an international character. At present, the competing countries in the Bowling Championships are: Israel, South Africa, Rhodesia, and very likely Australia. Invitations are also going out to Canada and North America where Bowling is quite popular on the "West Coast", Mr. Spitz concluded his report to me.

Other countries who notified the Maccabi World Union of their decision to participate comprise the United States and Canada, Argentine, Tunisia, Rhodesia, South Africa, Brazil, Denmark and Australia.

LATEST NEWS ABOUT MACCABIAH PREPARATIONS IN ISRAEL.

Lionel Schalit has just returned from Tel Aviv. I am glad to publish his report to me, for the information and guidance of all concerned. I am sure that this report will gladden many a heart and that it will arouse, not only our admiration, but also our gratitude to members of the World Executive in Israel who, undeterred and in no way discouraged at the lack of support, continue with their efforts to ensure the success of the 5th Maccabiah, which promises to be THE BEST EVER.

1. Agreement has been reached with all Sports Organisations in Israel, including Hapoel, to participate in the Maccabiah.
2. Israel will be represented by one national team in the various competitions whose members will be selected on merit only, by representatives of the Israel Sports Federation.
3. Youth Days will be organised throughout Israel in connection with the 5th Maccabiah, including towns and settlements in the Negev, as well as in the North; Folk Dancing, Sports Competitions and Displays will, therefore, take place in Jerusalem and Haifa, as well as in Beer Sheva and Elath.
4. Accommodation for male (men and boys) athletes, is being arranged in the "Maccabiah Village" grounds under canvas (in tents). The Maccabiah Village grounds are now fenced off by a wall, and access to it has been made possible through newly built roads. A permanent structure consisting of 15 rooms should be completed by September, and which will constitute the first pavilion on the Maccabiah grounds. During the forthcoming Maccabiah the solitary building will be used for administration purposes only and adjoining it will be a semi-permanent structure: the dining hall, capable of seating 500 persons. Permanent kitchens, etc., are now in the process of being built.
5. Girl athletes will be accommodated in private homes at Ramat Gan and offers of hospitality from local people are already coming in.
6. An agreement has been reached with road transport organisations in Israel to increase the number of buses serving the Maccabiah Village, as well as to put on a special 15 minutes service of buses from Tel Aviv.
7. A programme of trips has been planned, including a standard 4-day trip, comprising, one day in Jerusalem, one day in Negev, 2 days in upper and lower Galilee (covering also Tiberias and Safad). In addition thereto, a day tour to Elath is being laid on, or travel by air, costing an extra £7 sterling per head. It is thought important that as many Maccabiah competitors and visitors as possible see Elath, the Israeli city and port holding a promise of great development and importance to the economy of Israel.
8. Posters advertising the Maccabiah Games have appeared in the streets of Tel Aviv, and there is a general feeling of optimism that the Maccabiah will arouse a great deal of interest throughout the country. Press Conferences are being held at regular intervals.
9. Arrangements are already in hand for the sale of tickets for the Maccabiah Opening and Closing Ceremonies, as well as for the various individual events and competitions, due to take place in various parts of Israel. It is hoped that such tickets will be available for booking in London and in other European cities in the near future.

10. THE MACCABI WORLD CONGRESS will open 2 days after the closing of the Maccabiah, namely on Saturday evening, September 28th, and will be held throughout Sunday and Monday. A full Agenda of the Congress will shortly be distributed to all Territorial Organisations, together with draft of the new Constitution.

On his departure, Lionel Schalit gave a press interview, in the course of which he welcomed the agreement between the various Sports Organisations and outlined the steps being taken in Europe to ensure as big a participation in the next Maccabiah as will prove possible. Schalit welcomed also the help that the Government, the Jewish Agency, the Army, and the various Israeli Institutions have promised to the Maccabiah organisers. He also thanked the El Al airlines for their offer to co-operate.

* * *

Maccabiah Transport.

Since his return, Schalit has written to representatives of all Territorial Organisations in Europe, outlining a proposal he received from the El Al airlines, on the subject of chartered aircraft. It is of the greatest importance that a reply be received by Schalit with least delay, to enable him to give effect to the offers he received from the El Al Headquarters in Israel.

* * *

News from Territorial Organisations.

HOLLAND.

MACCABI NETHERLANDS. Benno Hess informs me that the first team of the Amsterdam Chess Club went into the 2nd class Championship of the Amsterdam League. Another important fact is that the Table Tennis team of Maccabi Rotterdam who, last year, won the 4th class Championship was this year promoted to the 1st class Championship of Rotterdam. Mr. Alter, who is one of Maccabi's enthusiastic supporters of The Hague, presented Maccabi Netherlands with a flag which is to be carried by the Maccabi Netherlands team when entering the Ramat Gan Stadium.

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BELGIUM.

Plans are being worked out for the provision of a Maccabi Home in Antwerp to bear the name of Mr. Romi Goldmuntz the popular Honorary President of the Belgian Maccabi Federation. I am glad to announce that Mr. Goldmuntz has promised to contribute 250,000 Belgian francs towards the project and two of his friends have promised to contribute 100,000 francs each.

Mr. Goldmuntz' 75th Birthday is to be celebrated in Antwerp on July 8th, under the auspices of a distinguished Committee of Honour, comprising members of the Belgian Senate and Parliament, Civic dignitaries and representatives of the community. Lord Nathan has also consented to be a member.

* * *

SWITZERLAND.

Maccabi Basketball Championships have been fixed to be played this year at Lausanne on May 5th. The finals in the Junior Football tournament are to be played in Berne on May 30th.

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FRANCE.

Early in April, a general meeting of members of Maccabi Paris elected a new Committee of which Mr. Leo Karinski is President. Messrs. Rosenberg, Zass, Lefschetz, Stark and Haas have been elected Vice Presidents. Mr. V. Jacob will carry on in the office of Honorary Secretary. Mr. Lefschetz the retired President of the Club will remain an active member of the Committee in charge of the re-organisation of the Junior sections. He will attach particular importance to cultural activities.

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DUBLIN.

At the Annual General Meeting, held recently, Mr. Solly Cohen, an active member of the Club's Committee, has been elected Chairman, thus succeeding Mr. Hubert C. Wine, who has held this office for the last 10 years. The attendance at the Annual General Meeting was described as "a huge success and, as usual, the Hall was packed to capacity."

In advising me of his resignation, Hubert Wine wrote a charming letter and, in conclusion, he states: "I wish particularly to extend to you personally my sincere and grateful thanks for your magnificent co-operation in the past, and for the many kindnesses you have shown to me. Please continue to send me the copy of the Chairman's Newsletter, of which I am a regular and interested reader."

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FINLAND.

At its Annual meeting, Maccabi Helsinki re-elected Maurice Schich as its Chairman, and Mr. Baron as Secretary. Maccabi Association in Turku, a provincial town in Finland, elected at its Annual General Meeting, Mr. M. Dryzun as Chairman and R. Partnailj as Secretary. The address of Maccabi Turku is: Maccabi Association, Yliopistokatu 24 A 21, Turku, Finland.

The Jewish community in Helsinki is planning to erect a Communal House. Its main attraction will be a large Hall, as well as offices and meeting rooms for the benefit of the members of the Maccabi Association in the capital of Finland.

On the subject of sports activities, Aron Livson reports that these have been rather unimpressive lately, as no individual record, worth mentioning, has been achieved. Activities continue in athletics and a newcomer to the Helsinki club, Ruleen Hirschowitz, has already distinguished himself in weightlifting. Interest in Wrestling is also slackening. Members show a little more interest for Table-tennis than they have done recently, but activities in Bowling are maintained regularly. Suggestions have been made that club activities also include Swimming and Fencing but again this remains, for the time being, in abeyance. Livson believes that the young generation, at present growing up, will form the backbone of the future membership of Maccabi Helsinki.

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GREAT BRITAIN.

A party of Israeli amateur boxers is due to arrive on May 13th, to meet a London Amateur Boxing Association team. The tournament will take place under the auspices of the London Amateur Boxing Association at the Harringay Arena, on May 21st, sponsored by the Variety Club of Great Britain and with the co-operation and support of the Committee of the Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. All proceeds from the tournament will be given to the Society for Under-Privileged Children in Israel.

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In April, in a friendly match, the Junior Maccabi team of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London defeated the Golders Green Jewish Youth Club by 3 goals to 1.

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Competing for the Amateur Athletic Association against Essex County, David Segal, Maccabiah prospect and participant in the 4th Maccabiah, won the 220 yards in the fast time of 21.7 seconds.

* * *

The Wingate Football Club of London, formed several years ago by Maccabi football enthusiasts (a club which is not, at present, affiliated to the Maccabi Union) won the London Football League challenge cup when they defeated Cray Wanderers by 2 goals to 1, in an exciting final at the Maccabi Stadium, London. This is the first time that the Wingate Football Club have won the title.

* * *

Ben Helfgott, Maccabiah gold medallist and British Lightweight Weightlifting champion, has accepted an invitation from the Soviet Union at the end of July. He is one of 3 British Weightlifting champions who have received invitations.

Lionel Moss, a member of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London recently won the South Eastern counties light-heavyweight weightlifting championships. He lifted a total of 695 lb. Another Maccabi member, Gerald Davis won the Home Counties' heavyweight weightlifting title with a total of 720 lb. Both Davis, Moss and Helfgott have applied for inclusion in the British team for the Maccabiah.

Three West of Scotland players are included in the 64 competitors who have reached the concluding stages of the nation-wide Table-tennis Tournament, sponsored by the "Daily Mirror". R.A. Brass aged 13, is a member of Glasgow Maccabi and will play in the Boys' Singles. Miss P. Phin, who is 16, is another Maccabi member and will play in the Girls Singles.

At the national finals of the 13th annual Jewish Drama Festival, held under the auspices of the Federation of Jewish Youth Societies at the Toynbee Hall Theatre, Commercial Road, London, E.1., the play adjudged to be the best was "Out of Eve" by Sylvia Levine, presented by the Maccabi Association Manchester and produced by Ben Kershner.

Due to technical reasons outside the control of the organisers, the MACCABIAH BANQUET, which was to have been held at Grosvenor House, London on May 28th, had to be postponed and will now be held on Tuesday, June 25th. As previously announced, the principal guests of honour will be Sir John Hunt, Conqueror of Everest, Lt.-Gen Sir Frederick A.M. Browning, Treasurer to the Household of H.R.H. Duke of Edinburgh, the Chief Rabbi, Mr. Israel M. Sieff, President of the Zionist Federation in Great Britain, and others.

A special Organising Committee for the Banquet has been formed under the joint Chairmanship of Mr. Louis J. Mintz and Mr. Sam Beckman. Both of these gentlemen are veteran supporters of the Maccabi Movement in Great Britain and leading members of the National Council of the Central Maccabi Fund.

URGENT NOTICE.

Chairmen of Maccabiah Organising Committees in all European countries and Chairmen of Territorial Organisations (where no special Maccabiah Organising Committee exists) are called upon to read carefully the circular issued in April by the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q., dealing with latest Maccabiah preparations and touching upon accommodation, fees, trips and tourism.

Dr. R. Atlasz, Sports Director, issued his first Bulletin giving fullest particulars of arrangements made for the 5th Maccabiah, as well as the timetable. He also announces some changes in the programme, which are of some importance to those intending to participate in athletics, and he requests that competent judges and referees accompany each team, especially for ball games. Of course, such judges and referees must be authorised to act in international events.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Several South African and Rhodesian newspapers gave full coverage to a football match played at Bulawayo last March between Transvaal Maccabi Soccer team which beat Matabeleland 6 - 4 in an exciting game. At half-time Maccabi's score was 2-1. Their side played without two players who were injured in the match against Bulawayo the previous Saturday, when Bulawayo won 5 - 1. The Maccabi team included, among others, Joe Goldstein, until 3 years ago an Israeli international.

AUSTRALIA.

Hakoah-Maccabi Football team of Sydney has won the Kennard Cup for the first time since entering this major competition, having defeated Lane Cove by 5-0. Mr. William Kennard, who donated the cup, is a member of the Jewish community and a recent immigrant from London.

WHAT IS THE MACCABI SPIRIT?

by P.Gildegame

- "True to the Maccabi Spirit!?"

- "Here is a fine example of the Maccabi Spirit!"

Such and similar exclamations have often been heard in the ranks of Maccabi members for many years past. For the benefit of those not already familiar with these by-words I would like to offer some explanation.

The "Maccabi Spirit" is the definition of an abstract conception adopted by those wishing to sum up in two words the soul and essence of the Maccabi ideology.

As is well known, our Movement owes its name to the Maccabees who, although only a handful of non-professional warriors, dared fight an enemy numerically superior and indeed shed their blood for the freedom of conscience, for the independence of their people, for the redemption of their homeland, and for all that Jewish religion and nationhood stood for.

The unparalleled struggle of the Maccabees and the undaunted spirit which sustained them has become proverbial the world over. Even in modern times, courageous fighters for freedom, or for any other righteous cause, are often compared by Jews and non-Jews alike, to the glorious Maccabees. It must be remembered, however, that not every-one waging battle or declaring war upon an enemy in these modern days can justifiably be compared to the Maccabees who, as God-fearing priests, did not possess firearms, nor were they trained in the art of open warfare. In those ancient days, when the people of Israel were subjugated and trodden down by hordes of invaders, the Maccabean warriors had little chance of emerging victorious. Nevertheless, they fought and gave battle because they believed that submission or surrender to a ruthless enemy were incompatible with the ideals of freedom. It was their gallantry and spirited courage that inspired many generations to this day.

When, at the beginning of the 20th century, Jewish communities in Central Europe endured sufferings and humiliations at the hands of their persecutors, communal leaders were actuated by the story of the Maccabees, of which we are being reminded every year on the occasion of the Chanukah celebrations. They called upon Jewish Youth to render itself physically and spiritually fit, to be able to defend itself against incessant onslaughts on their defenceless brethren and co-religionists. **THUS CAME INTO BEING THE MACCABI SPORTS MOVEMENT.**

From a small nucleus, first created in Russia, Maccabi has grown into a world organisation with, as its main object, the physical and spiritual regeneration of Jewish Youth. By promoting sports and recreational activities, it has been possible to substitute self-confidence for despair and national pride for a complex of inferiority.

The Maccabi Spirit - or the spirit of the Maccabees, is being re-incarnated, for today it is synonymous with unity in the ranks of Jewish Youth and solidarity with every Jewish constructive endeavour; it epitomizes courage of one's own convictions, it emphasizes the importance of fair play, and it fosters loyalty to one's country, as well as lasting devotion to one's cherished ideals.

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הסתדרות עולמית מכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT New address: 357 Euston Rd.,
The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt LONDON, N.W.1.
PC., T.D., D.L. Phone: EUSTON 3618/9
VICE-PRESIDENT CABLES: EMATE WNDON.
Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN
P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.
V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.
A. A. Scott

92 BEDFORD PLACE,
LONDON, W.C.1

Please reply to:

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 58

June, 1957.

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment

"LET'S COUNT THE DAYS". Only a few days ago, we have finished counting the "Omer". It is now time to begin counting the days to the 5th Maccabiah, to open amid pomp and ceremony on September 15th next. IN THREE MONTHS FROM NOW!

According to latest reports reaching me from Tel Aviv, preparations for THE DAY are well advanced. The main structure on the site of the Maccabiah Village is taking on shape. The Dining Rooms to feed 500 athletes simultaneously will be ready in time. Roads leading to the Maccabiah Village have been built. Electric light and power, as well as a water supply have been laid on. Maccabiah offices, which will become a "bee-hive" of day and night activity are about to be completed. Colourful posters, heralding the Maccabiah event are going up on kiosks, walls and hoardings all over Israel. The Post Office has already issued a Maccabiah stamp. The Government of Israel have instructed Consular offices, all over the world, to give every assistance to those wishing to proceed to Israel for the Maccabiah Games, be they athletes, or tourists. Consulates have also been instructed to issue visas to all those proceeding to the Maccabiah free of charge. The population of Israel from Dan to Eilat is looking forward to welcoming Maccabiah teams from all over the world. In factories, workshops and art studios Maccabiah "souvenirs" in metal, wood and textiles are being produced. Hotels are receiving bookings from every corner of the world, from tourists eager and anxious to attend the Maccabiah Games as well as to stay on in Israel over the High Festivals. In the next 3 months, the youth of Israel will forget all about their trials and tribulations, their economic difficulties, and have only one thought in mind: THE FIFTH MACCABIAH!

What about ourselves, what of the Maccabiah preparations in Europe and elsewhere? Dare we relax our efforts? Dare we rely on others to do the work for us? Dare we let down our friends in Israel who, for the past two years, have been working untiringly and relentlessly to ensure the success of the 5th Maccabiah? Dare we be deterred by our own domestic difficulties?

The answer to the aforementioned questions is obvious. It is the duty of every organised Jewish community, the world over, to help and assist those who took upon themselves the formation of a national Maccabiah team. But to receive such help, assistance and encouragement, Territorial Organisations, or Maccabiah Organising Committees, wherever they may be, must show an unflinching resolve to succeed! You, members and leaders of Maccabi everywhere, must show yourselves capable of forming a team of athletes who will represent your country, your clubs, indeed the flower of your youth, at the World Jewish Sports Festival. You must prove to your community that your team of athletes deserve to be helped. We all

realise that a desire to participate in the Maccabiah is not enough. Above all, two conditions need to be fulfilled:

- a. Formation of a team, chosen from among the best athletes in your country. The Maccabiah is open to Jewish athletes of all nations and their eligibility is conditional only upon individual merit and performance.
- b. You have to have sufficient funds in hand to pay the return fare of your team, as well as for board and lodging during a 3 weeks' stay in Israel. Great Britain is the only country whom the Maccabi World Union requested to contribute, in addition to anything else, the sum of £5,000 towards the Maccabiah Village.

However, other countries wishing to participate have only to fulfil the aforementioned two conditions. No matter how small your team **THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO PARTICIPATE, AND NOT TO WIN.**

Only three months are left. During those three months, strain every effort, every nerve, resolved to succeed. It is not too late!

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EUROPEAN CONFERENCE, 1957.

Circular letters have already been sent to everyone, informing them that the Conference will be held in Antwerp on Sunday, July 7th, commencing at 9.30.a.m., and terminating the same evening at 7.30.p.m. Much importance is attached to the forthcoming Conference for it will be dealing with matters directly affecting Europe's participation in the 5th Maccabiah as it will also be discussing problems having a bearing upon the future of the Movement as a whole. This year's European Conference will be a prelude to the 13th Maccabi World Union Congress to be held in Tel Aviv on September 29th. There should be no need for me to appeal to all concerned to attend the Antwerp Conference and to make their voices heard thereat. It is not our intention to organise a "European Block"; on the contrary, it is our earnest desire to consolidate and close the ranks of the Movement in recognition of the authority of the Maccabi World Union, as well as to ensure its organisational and future fortunes. Those who have not yet replied as regards their participation at the Conference are requested to do so without further delay.

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MR. ROMI GOLDMUNTZ 75 YEARS YOUNG.

On Monday, July 8th, 1957, in the city of Antwerp, members of the Belgian Government and dignitaries representing Government and civil authorities will be gathered in the beautiful salons of the Town Hall, Antwerp, suitably decorated for the occasion by students of the Academy of Art, to pay a tribute to Romi Goldmuntz, one of Belgium's most respected citizens, a proud and dignified Jew, a loyal Zionist, a philanthropist and a leading diamond industrialist. Mr. Romi Goldmuntz' links with Israel are very close indeed. Settlements, Art Museums and Institutions benefit by his generosity and bear his name. In Belgium, every Jewish Institution is grateful to him for the contributions he made towards their progress and welfare. But Romi Goldmuntz has yet another distinction and, in this respect, he is unique: Not only is he the eldest active member of the Maccabi Movement in the world, but also one of its most vigorous and enthusiastic supporters. In his capacity of Honorary President of the Belgian Maccabi Federation, Mr. Goldmuntz had endeared himself to young and old alike, who look upon him as their Godfather. In the ranks of Maccabi clubs and leaders throughout Europe, the name of Romi Goldmuntz is identified with dignified simplicity, generosity and big-heartedness. No wonder, therefore, that Romi Goldmuntz was requested, a few years ago, and has agreed, to become Vice President of the European Executive of the Maccabi World Union, as well as Vice President of the European Maccabiah Organisation. It was Romi Goldmuntz who, in September, 1956, whilst attending the European Conference in London, first responded to an appeal for funds towards the 5th Maccabiah preparations. Unobtrusively, he rose to announce that he would donate the first £1,000, thus laying the corner stone of the 5th Maccabiah financial structure. As always, Romi Goldmuntz kept his promise and for this, as well as for the other benefits which he bestowed on the Maccabi

Movement, we will always be grateful to him.

We wish our good friend, Romi Goldmuntz, many happy returns of his anniversary; We hope and pray that he may be spared in good health and in high spirits for many years to come.

As a token of respect and esteem, members of the European Executive will confer upon Mr. Goldmuntz the symbolical "Freedom of Maccabi in Europe". During the festivities in Antwerp, a silver casket, suitably engraved, will be presented to him, and this will contain a parchment scroll giving effect to the conferment of the "Maccabi Freedom" to the man who truly deserved of it.

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MANY CORRESPONDENTS CONTINUE TO ADDRESS THEIR LETTERS TO 9A BEDFORD SQUARE. YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED, SOME TIME AGO, THAT THE OFFICES OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN REMOVED TO 357, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.1, WHERE TO ALL COMMUNICATIONS ARE TO BE ADDRESSED. CABLES: ENLATZ, LONDON. TELEPHONE NUMBERS: EUSTON 3618/9.

ANYONE WISHING TO COMMUNICATE PERSONALLY WITH MYSELF CAN ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO HIGHFIELD MILLS, EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE, CABLES: GILDESGAME EARLSHILTON, TELEPHONE NUMBERS: EARL SHILTON 3185/6, 3188.

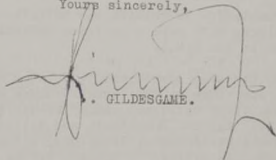
ANYONE WISHING TO COMMUNICATE PERSONALLY OR URGENTLY WITH MR. F. S. WORMS HON. SECRETARY, CAN DO SO BY ADDRESSING MAIL c/o TUDOR ACCESSORIES, LTD., BELCONSFIELD ROAD, HAYES, MIDDLESEX. TELEPHONE: HAYES 0442/3/4.

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With Maccabi greetings,
Yours sincerely,



F. S. WORMS.

World Maccabiah Preparations.

MEXICO: I have just received an attractively illustrated brochure and multi-coloured poster, issued by the Mexico Territorial Organisation "Jos Juegos Deportivos Nacionales-Israelitas Centro-Deportivo-Israelita-Mexico." In the brochure, previous Maccabiah records are listed and a full programme of all 5th Maccabiah events is shown in great detail. Mexican participation in the 5th Maccabiah is assured. Some fine athletes are to be included in the team. Leaders of the Mexican Jewish community are represented on a Committee of Patrons and names of the members of the Organising Committee suggest that the sponsoring body represents a cross-section of the entire community.

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TURKEY: Mr. A. Netanel, Chairman of the Maccabi World Union, who has recently visited Turkey, reports that a team of at least 15 sportsmen, including a Basketball team, will represent that country.

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U.S.A.: Our good friend, Barney Ain, reports splendid progress from New York. Some of America's outstanding amateur sportsmen will be included in the U.S. team which, it is estimated, will be about 90 strong. In Wrestling, Henry Wittenberg, 4th Maccabiah gold medalist, will be succeeded this time by Abe Cohen, now serving with the U.S. Army in Frankfurt, Germany. Abe Cohen recently scored several victories in the heavyweight

class. Cohen will wrestle in the Free-style as well as in the Greco-Roman.

The Westside Jewish Community Center Volleyball team, placed second in the Californian Volleyball championships, will be incorporated in the U.S. team. They are the National Jewish Welfare Board champions.

A crack mile runner, Ike Matz, and Henry Laskau, the long-distance walker, who won his 51st National A.A.U. title, will also participate. In Gymnastics, Abe Grossfeld, U.S. Olympic team member and member of the 1953 Maccabiah Squad will also be included.

In the Women's events, the U.S. team hopes to have several leading swimmers, one in the Tennis competition, and at least one in the Fencing.

For transportation an El Al aircraft is to be chartered, carrying 62 passengers at the cost of \$36,000. The U.S. team would like to be back in New York on the eve of Rosh Hashana, which means they will have to leave Israel on 24th September.

Among other items of interest to sportsmen, Barney Ain reports that Zachary Offri, well known Israel Basketball player, stayed behind at the end of their recent tour in the U.S. on a 6 months' visa. He has been offered a scholarship by Adelphi College and New York University. Our friend, Leo Attar, Chief Organiser of the 3rd Maccabiah events, at present living in America and recognised by local sports writers as an expert in selecting track and field champions, is now serving as athletic director at the Rochester (N.Y.) Y.M.H.A., where he has stirred up keen interest in the Olympic events.

David Oved, the promising Israel Boxer, is shortly to be released from the Israeli Army and will thereafter proceed to the U.S. to compete as a professional for light-weight honours. Oved won the Boxing Trophy in 1953 at the Maccabiah for the "Best fighter in the Tournament."

Barney Ain continues to publish the bulletin entitled "Sports" and the July issue is bulging with news concerning Maccabiah prospects and Maccabiah preparations in the U.S.A.

CANADA: The Canadian contingent to the 5th Maccabiah will include 30 of the best Jewish sportsmen of that country under the command of Fred Oberlander, winner of the "Best Sportsman Award" of the 4th Maccabiah. The Canadian contingent will include Basketball and Volleyball teams, Track and Field athletes, Swimmers, Fencers, Wrestlers, a Boxer, a Weightlifter, 2 Tennis and 1 Table-Tennis player. Trials, before the final selection is made, are being held in Montreal and Toronto during this month.

The "Montreal Star" and Fred Oberlander are my regular informants. This is what the "Montreal Star" has to say: "Canada will be among a group of at least 25 nations participating in the 5th Maccabiah. The announcement was made by industrialist, Jack Becker, who has taken over as Chairman of the Canadian Maccabiah Committee. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee is Alex Fisher, of Toronto. An estimated 30 athletes, including the bulk of the Snowden Y.M.H.A. Basketball team, that struck for the Canadian senior Basketball championship with an electrifying 29 to Nil record, are expected to make the trip to Israel this year. The athletes will be selected by various Technical Committees all over the country, National Chairman of which is Fred Oberlander of Montreal. Almost certain to earn a place in the team, if he is available, is Stan Levenson, of Toronto, a member of Canada's Olympic team. Meanwhile, it also was announced that the group plans to move right along with the selection of athletes for the Jewish Sport Festival starting with trials in Toronto next week.

Fred Oberlander sincerely hopes that his eldest son, Philip, a fine wrestler, will be selected to represent Canada. I hope so too!

SOUTH AFRICA: Latest reports from South Africa indicate that their team will be the strongest ever. Wellslie Parke, champion South African Sprinter, is sure to be competing against David Segal of Great Britain in the 200 yards race. He recently clocked 21.3 seconds. David Segal's best was 21.4 seconds.

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At least 60 South African Jewish sportsmen are to compete in 11 events at the Maccabiah Games; Light Athletics, Waterpolo, Soccer, Tennis, Table Tennis, Wrestling, Weightlifting, Cycling, Shooting, Boxing and Bowls. Mr. Kope Abro will be Captain of the South African team. He will replace Mr. Ian Maltz, Chairman of Maccabi in South Africa, who headed previous South African teams to the Games, because Ian is standing for election as Mayor of Johannesburg during September.

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AUSTRALIA: Australia has already chosen several top Jewish sportsmen to participate in the 5th Maccabiah. The Australian contingent will compete in Track and Field, Tennis Gymnastics, Weightlifting, Fencing and Table Tennis. It is hoped that the Australian contingent will also include a team of 4 Bowls players. Mr. Low Rose will lead the Australian team and the Israel Minister in Australia has agreed to preside over the Committee of Patrons who are assisting in the raising of funds. Mr. Harry Holt, of the Melbourne Olympic Games Organising Committee, has accepted a Maccabi World Union invitation to act as Technical Adviser to the 5th Maccabiah Games.

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VIVE LA FRANCE!

Our friends in Paris will not be outdone by anybody. This is what Th. Haas reports:

"We are working incessantly in connection with the preparations and we have, as yet, a great deal of work to do before we are ready. Negotiations with Government authorities on the one hand and begging supporters for money in the form of advertisements in the Maccabiah brochure on the other hand, amounts to a full time job. As is always the case "personal contact" is essential and most of it is done by myself. But what really matters is results...

"And so, I can inform you that, after long negotiations, we have obtained a subsidy of 500,000 francs from the Fonds Social Jeuf Unife towards the Maccabiah expenses. I hope also to obtain an even more substantial contribution from the Minister of National Education.

"It is now certain that we will send a football team, comprising players from Paris, as well as from Metz. There is a possibility that one or two of the players will also be recruited from Mulhouse, where there are some amateurs of international standard.

"A Basketball team will be selected after a series of matches has been played. We are also assured of the participation of some Sprinters in the 100, 200 and 1500 metres, of one exceptionally good Tennis player, a Weightlifter and, possibly, 2 Table Tennis competitors. It is unfortunate that the French Athletic Championships are taking place on 14th and 15th September, which means that several athletes who could have otherwise proceeded with us to the Maccabiah, will not be available. Thanks to the help of our friend, Mr. Jacob, some promising youngsters, now serving in the Army, may well be granted leave of absence, in which case they will be included in the team.

"It is no mean an enterprise to raise 4 million francs which we require to assure our participation in the 5th Maccabiah, but I am doing everything I can, with a view to succeeding. I am greatly assisted by all my Committee colleagues and am glad to inform you that the Committee of Patrons for the French Maccabiah is headed by M. Gilbert, Ambassador of France in Israel, M. Szur, Ambassador of Israel in France; President of Honour of the Committee is Baron Elie de Rothschild. Last but not least, let me inform you that we are doing everything we possibly can to enable the "Dauphins de Tunis" Swimming Club to join the French team and to proceed to the Maccabiah under our colours."

HOLLAND IS DOING WELL.

Here is a brief report from Benno Hess, President of the Netherlands Maccabi Federation:

"I can assure you that we are quite busy. A Fund-raising Committee has been formed and, up to now, we already have a few hundred pounds. It is also our intention to charter a plane. Lionel (Schalit), with whom I had several phone conversations this and last week, knows all about it. We do not know yet who will travel in the plane. But we hope that we shall have 10 or even 15 competitors in the team and that, in all probability, Antwerp will join us with about the same number. The remaining seats on the plane will be taken up by supporters and there are already 80 applications under consideration. There is quite a number of prominent people on our Sponsoring Committee, including Mr. Leo Horn, the well known referee, Mr. Leo van der Kar, coach of the famous 1948 Olympic Champion, Fanny Blanker-Koen, members of the Dutch Parliament, leaders of practically every political party, etc. Thus we are working on a relatively broad basis. However, this does not mean that we have already all the money we need. Meanwhile, we are stimulating interest in the Maccabiah through the press and radio. A Press Conference, attended by practically all Dutch newspapers, was recently held and articles about the "Jewish Olympiad" appeared in many papers. The Dutch Broadcasting authorities are arranging for Sunday, June 22nd, an interview with Mr. Leo Horn, the well known Football Referee and Mr. Leo van der Kar, about our own Maccabiah preparations! Well done, Holland!

LITTLE SWITZERLAND DOES GREAT THINGS. In a report received a few days ago from Oskar Wesseley, I read the following observations:

"Leaders of Maccabi Switzerland are conscious of the fact that all secondary and unnecessary matters have now to be set aside for the next three months and that all energy must be concentrated on the preparations for the Maccabiah so as to make sure the Swiss team's participation. Conditions at present appear more difficult than those that prevailed on the eve of the 3rd and 4th Maccabiah. It is for this reason that every member of the Committee is resolved to overcome financial and transport problems. It is also for this reason that both athletes and supporters have been rendered conscious of the urgency and have been greatly assisted in this connection by newspaper propaganda and publicity all over Switzerland. Interviews have also been published with various personalities connected intimately with Maccabiah preparations. Again and again, the public is being asked to support our endeavours. Our Handball players which will form the backbone of Switzerland's 5th Maccabiah team is now under the personal and technical supervision of Hans Studer, a member of the Technical Commission of the Swiss Handball League. Players will be recruited from among the best in Maccabi clubs in Zurich and Basle.

"A few days ago, Maccabi Switzerland has received the following important message from the Israel Legation in Berne. It reads: "I was glad to learn that a major group of your members will take part in the 5th Maccabiah. I hope that your team will be outstanding in numbers, as well as in achievements. I wish them all the best for their stay in Israel. I shall be particularly gratified in the knowledge that Maccabiah participants will be given full support from all those who sympathise with their efforts. All those willing and able to assist in your efforts will earn my personal thanks. (Signed Yeshayahu Aviad. Ambassador of Israel to Switzerland.)"

SWEDEN'S STRUGGLE CONTINUES.

A letter, dated June 9th, from Joel Haskel, confirmed the impression previously gathered that Sweden's participation in the Maccabiah depends on a number of factors, the most serious of all being lack of finance. It appears that the Zionist Federation of Sweden was willing to help - as it has done in 1953 - financially and otherwise - but is unable to do so this time as they have no funds available. They have, therefore, written to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem applying for a grant of \$2,000. Should the application meet with a favourable reception, Sweden's participation in the Maccabiah, however small, and of a token character only, would be assured.

NOTE: As I see it, the trouble in Stockholm is not so much attributable to a lack of finance as to leadership. Unfortunately, the Chairman of Maccabi Stockholm, Jack Witz, has been in poor health for some time past and has also undergone an operation from which he had not fully recovered. Joel Haskel has changed his job and is now in his own business. He is pre-occupied, and very much absorbed and, in addition to it all, he is not enjoying the best of health. It is, therefore, doubtful whether Joel will be able to join the team when it proceeds to the Maccabiah as he has done on two previous occasions.

* * *
More about Maccabi's activities in Sweden will be found later on in this issue. All that can be said, for the present, is that Maccabi organisations in Scandinavia, with the possible exception of Helsinki, seem to have suffered from a lack of drive which resulted in a deterioration of their otherwise dynamic and well constituted organisations.

* * *
GREAT BRITAIN GOING STRONG. The British team will be about 100 strong. As has been expected, Great Britain will, once again, field the strongest overseas team and, according to present estimates, it will include some very fine and outstanding athletes. I will not mention here any more names or records achieved by some of the athletes whose inclusion in the British team is almost a certainty. I must mention, however, how we, in Great Britain, do the work, resolved to succeed, regardless of the efforts entailed.

The Maccabiah Organising Committee meets at regular intervals; so do its subsidiary Technical and Financial Sub-Committees. Trials in the various events which will lead to the final selection are proceeding normally. These are being treated very seriously. To be selected, every member must undergo trials and only those whose record appears best stand a chance of being included in the team. Individual merit and performance are the only condition for eligibility.

COMPETITOR'S CONTRIBUTIONS. Nevertheless, recognising the financial difficulties which the Organising Committee will have to overcome, athletes have been requested to state whether they would be willing to make a contribution towards the expense of transportation and of their stay in Israel in the event of being selected. The response from the prospective competitors has been very gratifying indeed and it can now be stated that an average of £25 will be contributed by everyone, if and when selected. Considering that the cost of sending the team is estimated at £15,000 in all (or £150 per capita) it will be agreed that the contributions promised by participating athletes will go some way towards meeting the expense. On the other hand, the Appeals Committee, comprising only 6 or 8 active members, has been set up recently, under whose auspices an Appeal Banquet has been held at the Savoy Hotel, London on June 25th. Not relying on the generosity of those due to attend the Banquet, considerable efforts have been made to raise money 2 months prior to the date of the Banquet. At the time of writing, it can be confidently anticipated that half the amount required to finance the British expedition, namely £10,000 will be found by the end of June. With this in mind, estimates are being worked out on how to allocate the money, always bearing in mind that Britain is tentatively committed to a contribution of £5,000 payable to the Maccabi World Union in Israel towards the cost of the construction of the Maccabiah Village.

The Maccabiah Banquet has been publicised in various newspapers and a full-page advertisement has appeared a few days ago in the London "Jewish Chronicle".

"ADOPT AN ATHLETE" The main feature of the advertisement is the "Adoption Scheme" which proved to be a somewhat genial idea. Individuals, or firms, were called upon to adopt one athlete, or more, at the cost of £150, thus sponsoring a particular member of the British team. I am glad to say that many have agreed to join the "Adoption Scheme". Another source of income will be the "Maccabiah Book" - a profusely illustrated and beautifully produced brochure, in which many commercial advertisements are to appear, and for which charges of £50 per page and £25 for half a page are being made. The "Maccabi Trust", which is a recognised and registered charity, has also been the recipient of donations which will ultimately benefit those members of the Maccabiah team who are unable to defray their own expenses, or to make any contribution towards their own transportation.

HARD WORK. Those who have had any experience in Maccabiah preparations in years gone by, or who are experienced in the art of fund-raising, will believe me when I say that many of us have spent weeks, if not months, of hard work, of worry and of an extraordinary effort, not only to conceive ideas and to bring about the desired result, but also enlist the support and sympathy of members of the Jewish community who are constantly asked to contribute money towards a variety of Israeli funds, not to mention those benefiting Jewish communal charities.

CRICKET AND BOWLS. In addition to the British team participating in about 15 Maccabiah events, it is also hoped to bring to Israel, for the first time, a Cricket team. All members of the team have offered to pay their own expenses. They will participate in International Invitation Tournaments, in which South Africa and Israel will be principal contestants. Great Britain also hopes to send a Bowling team. This too is due to compete against Israel, South Africa, Rhodesia and Finland in invitation tournaments. Practically every British newspaper, London and provincial, carries news of the Maccabiah preparations and trials. Few persons interested in sports have failed to read news about the Maccabiah in recent weeks.

MACCABI ASSOCIATION BOMBAY: In a letter, dated 8th May, Mr. Sam Marshall, General Secretary, informed me: "Maccabi Bombay is sparing no effort to send a team of at least 4 or 5 representatives. We are up against tough odds, having to collect the sum of £1,000, but this only serves to strengthen our decision to send a team. This is expected to comprise a Boxer, 2 Women Table Tennis players and an athlete, men and women. The willingness and spirit are certainly not lacking. We are holding a Maccabi invitation Boxing Tournament during early July, and a Maccabiah Ball early in August, to raise the necessary funds, and have enlisted the support of Senior members of Bombay Jewry in this venture."

Sass Moses, Chairman of Maccabi Bombay, is at present in London and, at our invitation, attended the Annual General Meeting of Maccabi Union of Associations in Great Britain, held in May.

ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE.

FINLAND is sending a team of 12. BELGIUM will send a Waterpolo team in addition to some athletes. AUSTRIA hopes to send a team of 20. The position in DENMARK is, for the present, uncertain. So is ITALY'S participation. IRE hopes to send 5 to 6 athletes.

The Italian Maccabi Federation, acting on advice received from us, issued a Communique to the Italian Press calling upon the Jewish community, as well as on young Jewish sportsmen and sportswomen, to help in the formation of a team which is to represent Maccabi Italy at the next Maccabiah. A communique was issued early in June and news is awaited as to whether it has produced the desired results.

From DUBLIN, IRE, I hear that every effort is being made to ensure the participation of a small team.

I sincerely hope that you Territorial Organisations in Europe who have not announced, as yet, the formation of a team, or who continue to experience difficulties in their endeavours will, as on previous occasions, come to the realisation that to remain in the Maccabi Movement one must consider participation in the Maccabiah as absolutely essential. I call, therefore, upon our friends, in other parts of Europe, to spare no efforts to live up, not only to their promises, but also our hopes.

News from Territorial Organisations.

FRANCE.

Good news has reached us from Paris during the past few weeks. The Committee of Maccabi Paris has been completely reorganised with Mr.L.Kaminski as President and the following gentlemen having agreed to act as Vice-Presidents: Th.Haas, E. Lefschetz, M.W.Stark and Leo Rosenberg. The Committee includes a number of young men, among them R.Biberman and M.Milkof, whom many will remember as delegates representing Maccabi Paris at last year's European Conference, held in London. Writing in the May issue of the Paris Monthly News Letter, L. Kaminski refers to the newly-elected Committee and goes on to say "Here at last we have active members, including several young men. Let us not think that our aim has been achieved. Let us all be conscious, and now more so than ever, that we are expected to make a particularly great effort. Hundreds of young Jewish refugees are coming into Paris, and it is Maccabi's duty to ingather them and to create for them an atmosphere of friendship and of true sportsmanship. Nor must we forget the many hundreds of young "native" Parisians, our Jewish youth. The new Committee is certainly full of good intentions. We have two important tasks in front of us, which must be completed during 1957.

1. A dignified participation of a French team in the 5th Maccabiah.
2. The creation of the Foyer or of the Home for Maccabi-Paris.

Time is short insofar as the first task is concerned, but it is not too late to fulfil the second part."

The first meeting of the newly-formed Committee in Paris met on April 10th. A number of sub-committees was formed, some for sports and others for cultural activities. A special committee has been set up also to deal with the Maccabiah under the Chairmanship of Th.Haas. A Press and Publicity Committee and one for Public Relations have been formed."

WHAT A WASHING MACHINE CAN DO...

the aforementioned

An amusing incident occurred during the meeting. A bill has been presented for the sum of 84,000 francs in respect of washing and cleaning of football shorts and vests. The Committee has expressed its surprise, as well as regrets at such an extravagant expense, but Mr.Haas offered to have all such garments washed ^{of chance} free of charge in future by firms demonstrating Electric Washing Machines. Here is an example of ingenuity, resort and initiative!...

In the June issue of Maccabi Paris Newsheet, there is an appeal to members of the club and supporters to help in the organisation of the Maccabiah. It carries also an interesting report of a Cultural Evening held at the Synagogue Hall in Vincennes. A Colour film of the 3rd Maccabiah was shown and this has roused considerable interest and enthusiasm. The following day, a match was played between Maccabi Metz and Paris. Metz won the match by 2 goals to one.

On May 19th, the Jewish Youth Sports Day was held in Paris, the main feature of which was a Cross Country Race, in which 500 boys and girls participated. The winner was Reichtman, of Maccabi Paris. The programme included also a Basketball match between two Maccabi teams, as well as one Volleyball match.

THE PARIS-METZ CO-OPERATION.

Mr.Haas reports: "After the programme of sports has been concluded, an intimate Dinner Party was arranged at which members of Maccabi Metz were also present. It was on this occasion that Kaminski and Haas

met Mr. Flammer of Metz who is the leader of that club. (Flammer, I am told, has lived in Israel for quite some time. He is animated by strong desires to revive Maccabi activities in Metz.)

Those due to attend the European Conference in Antwerp will meet Mr. Flammer personally. Judging by a letter received from him, a few days ago, I believe that, in him, Maccabi Metz has found an excellent leader. Here is an extract of the letter received from Flammer: "I wish to affirm in my own name, as well as in the name of my entire committee, that we shall continue to follow the road which we have traced out for ourselves, that is, we shall remain dedicated to the task of reviving Maccabi activities in Metz, not only in the realm of sports, but also in a cultural and Jewish sense. We are firmly resolved to achieve our objectives, regardless of efforts and of sacrifices. You have heard a great deal about the Football team of Maccabi Metz. This used to form the backbone of our activities. But now we are introducing Basketball among junior members of the team, and we hope thereby to attract them to our activities. We have also formed a handball section. It is also our intention to send some delegates to the forthcoming European Annual Conference as we are most anxious to meet our friends, as well as to get to know them better. So far as Maccabiah participation is concerned, we are in close touch with Paris, and we hope you hear from them about our own contribution towards the formation of the French team. Shortly I hope to send you a full report about our activities in Metz, which I should very much like to see published in your Newsletter."

* * *

SWITZERLAND.

Wesseley reports: "Normal activities are being maintained apart from the preparation for the Maccabiah. At the Maccabi Basketball Tournament, held in Lausanne Hakoah-Geneva emerged victorious. This is not surprising as the now runner-up, Maccabi-Berne, had been holding the trophy for 3 consecutive years. Good progress was also shown by the players who participated in the Maccabi Junior Soccer Tournament in Berne and which was won by Hakoah-Zurich. They were awarded the "Challenge Cup" donated by Mr. Neufeld, President of Maccabi Switzerland."

* * *

SWEDEN.

Joel Haskel reports: "Our Handball team finished second in the Second League in Stockholm and was promoted to the First. The Table Tennis team is in the Second National Division and finished fourth. Anton Bolgar finished second in the championship of Stockholm, beaten only by the national Swedish champion, Mellstrom. Our Bowling team has done badly but, on the other hand, Handball is progressing very well. The Copenhagen Maccabi Handball team came recently to Stockholm and defeated our team, thus having abenged the defeat suffered by them in the Maccabiah finals in 1950. The Copenhagen players were superior, not only in goals but in everything else. As far as football goes, we now have two teams of youngsters only, one from 9 to 12 and another from 12 to 16. Our Club premises are due for renovations and the Stockholm community has promised us some help in this connection. Jack Witz has announced his retirement due to ill-health. He will remain, however, on the Executive. "Joel Haskel concludes by saying: "The Maccabi flag in Stockholm is still flying as well as in any other European or Scandinavian country."

* * *

HOLLAND.

Yom Ha' Maccabi organised a few weeks ago proved to be very successful. Benno Hess informs me that the Yom Ha' Maccabi festivities are usually split up into 3 days. One for tennis, one for table tennis and one for track and field events. Track and field competitions served also as trials for the Maccabiah. Benno Hess adds: "We picked out a few who may have a chance to be sent to Israel but this will be decided by the Sports Committee. All prizes were distributed by Benno Hess and I have been asked not to reveal to readers of this "Newsletter" that Benno Hess himself... has participated in one of the races so as to encourage the youngsters to compete in sports."

* * *

GREAT BRITAIN. The Annual General Meeting.

Probably the most remarkable and stimulating Annual meeting in recent years was that of 1957, held on the premises of Brighton and Hove Maccabi Association on Sunday May 26th, and which lasted from 10 o'clock in the morning until 7.30 in the evening. Despite the sunny weather, delegates concentrated on the business of the meeting, during the very full morning session which was presided over by Mr. H. Robinson and during which Gildesgame delivered his Annual Address in his capacity of Chairman of Maccabi Union. He referred to the dedicated services of leaders of Maccabi and delivered a survey of its activities in the sports, cultural and other fields, during the past year. He stressed the considerable and consistent assistance that has been given to Clubs affiliated to the Maccabi Union throughout last year. In several cases special commissions were set up to investigate particular problems of clubs and results have proved very gratifying. Continuing his address, Gildesgame stated that all youth organisations were today faced with the problem of apathy and escapism and our Jewish youth needed to learn how to make the fullest use of its leisure. This was the challenge which faced Maccabi and which it was ready to face. The Maccabi Movement has been founded on a non-political Zionist conception and interest in Israel was still one of Maccabi's primary goals. The future of the state of Israel superseded party interests with which Maccabi had no concern.

Lionel Schalit, who recently returned from Israel, gave a full report of Maccabiah preparations there. Bernard Saphir, the retiring Treasurer, reported on Accounts, whilst Mr. F.S.Worms, Hon. Secretary, reported on organisational and administrative problems. Harry Shapiro, Sports Director, to whom warm tributes were paid, outlined last year's activities, as well as a programme for the future. Jack Shulman, the National Organiser, appealed for a sense of perspective in keeping in mind the fundamental aims which the Movement as a voluntary association wished to foster. Aubrey Scott, to whom a tribute was paid in connection with his efforts as Chairman of the National Leadership Course, dealt with problems relating to education throughout the clubs and with the promotion of leadership in the ranks of the Movement. A resolution calling for specialised courses for Sports Leaders was carried, as well as one announcing the Sports Director's intention to arrange for expert coaching in Maccabi clubs. Other resolutions called for regular visits to the clubs by members of the National Executive, as well as for the eventual achievements of a minimum standard of premises and facilities at all Maccabi clubs. After the result of the elections had been announced, during which Pierre Gildesgame was elected Chairman and Saphir and Schalit elected Vice-Chairmen, with Jack Mundy as Treasurer, Fred Worms as Hon. Secretary, H.Shapiro as Sports Director, Gildesgame made an announcement to the following effect. He is forming a Trust out of his personal funds, which will award annually a scholarship worth £100 to a member of Maccabi showing promise, as well as willing to specialise in any particular branch of sport or cultural activity.

The Annual Conference was attended by about 75 delegates, representing every Club in the Movement throughout Great Britain.

* * *
ISRAELI BOXERS MAKE NEWS.

A Team of Israeli boxers made headline news in the British Press, when they came to this country last May, under the auspices of the Variety Club of Great Britain. They engaged in a number of bouts, in all weights. First in London at the Harringay Arena in the presence of a crowd of 8,000 spectators. Ten days later, they appeared again at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester. The Israeli amateurs fought some of the best English amateurs and, according to the opinion of experts, the Israelis acquitted themselves extremely well, even though it was admitted that they lacked experience of International Tournaments, and that some of them have, as yet, to learn ring-craft and correct punching. The Israelis avenged their slight defeat in London by gaining a victory in Manchester. Trophies and souvenirs were distributed to all competitors by Lord Roseberry.

It was generally agreed that the visit of the Israeli boxers was well worthwhile, as it has proved, once again, to the British Public that the Israelis excelled not only in football and basketball, but that they also have some very promising boxers who, upon their return to England, may show better form as a result of additional experience gained. In London, the Israelis were defeated 6 to 4. In Manchester they won by 7 bouts to 3. All proceeds of the two boxing tournaments were devoted to the Fund of the Friends of the Hebrew University.

WRIGHT LIFTING.

Allan Conway, a member of Maccabi Association London, represented the British capital in a friendly match against Warsaw early in June. Ben Helfgott, who was to have participated as well, had to withdraw from the Team because of a dislocated finger.

MACCABIAH TRIALS.

Trials proceed as planned, and it now appears that the British Team will include some very fine athletes indeed. Sixteen year old Debra Turner of Brixton Maccabi Association ran 100 yards in 11.6 seconds. David Gribbler won the javelin event with a magnificent throw of 202 ft. 8 ins. Yvonne Kaye won the womens discus and javelin and Jennifer Frazer of Leicester won the women's high jump. David Herman of Manchester University won the 440 yards and was second in the 100 metres, this race being won by Stanley Orman in 11 seconds. The half mile was won by Lotis Dias in 1 minute 58.2 seconds. David Segal, the Sprinter, won the 220 yards in 21.4 seconds, defeating the Olympic runner, Brian Shenton. Segal finished second in the 100 yards in 9.9 seconds. Another Maccabiah gold medalist, Alan Jay, recently competed in Holland and won the epee competition for the second year in succession. The British Team promises to be very good this coming September!

ISRAEL FULL OF OPTIMISM.

In a letter dated early in June, Aron Netanel reports on the splendid progress being made in connection with the Maccabiah preparations there. "The first floor of the main building of the Maccabiah Village will be up and we are making extreme efforts that the whole building is completed in early September. We are now also busy preparing the lay-out of the temporary camp, facing many difficulties in acquiring the necessary materials and of tents. All Sections of the Maccabiah Organising Committee are working hard, and at full speed. We expect a very good participation from practically every corner of the world. Joshua Alouf has been appointed Director General of the 5th Maccabiah. Under his able leadership all will be well."

MACCABIAH BANQUET IN LONDON.

As already announced, the banquet was held at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday, June 25th, in the presence of a very distinguished gathering which included Sir John Hunt, Conqueror of Everest, Sir Edward Boyle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Dr. Israel Brodie, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, Admiral C. Norman, General Secretary of the Playing Fields Association, Mr. John Shaftesley, Editor in Chief of the Jewish Chronicle, Mr. Israel M. Sieff, Honorary President of the Zionist Federation in Great Britain, Victor Mighon, President of the Association of Jewish Youth in Great Britain, Mr. R. Amir, Consul-General for Israel, and many others. Lord Nathan presided. The main purpose of the Banquet was to thank all those who have already announced their intention to assist in the fund-raising effort, or who have already made generous contributions. The "Adoption Scheme" (£150 per athlete) met with an excellent response, and the entire British Press, both London and Provincial, spoke very flatteringly of the idea, supporting it wholeheartedly. Typical headlines read: "Jewish Appeal to Adopt Athletes", "Adopt an Athlete" (£150) Plan is launched." "Britain to be represented in the

World Jewish Games", and the "Jewish Community is United in the Resolve to make this Possible", etc., etc.

Brief speeches were delivered in the course of which the aims of the Maccabiah were referred to. Present at the gathering were only 160 persons, but no-one was left in any doubt at the end of the evening, that the £20,000 needed will be raised by September 15th. Co-Chairmen of the Appeal Committee were Sam Beckman and Lou Mintz. The fund-raising campaign is still going on because only half the amount needed is now available. However, all those connected with this endeavour - not least of all myself - are confident that this time we will succeed and that the £5,000 promised to Israel will shortly be remitted.

* * *

A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO ALL MY FRIENDS,
READERS OF THE CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER.

Forgive me for not publishing the kind tributes received from many of you. I am glad in the knowledge that the publication serves the purpose for which it is intended and that it helps disseminate Maccabi news from all over the world, as well as to forge closer links between various Territorial Organisations and World Executive members.

* * *

I must ask the forgiveness of those who send me monthly reports of which I can only publish a condensed form.

* * *

Many of your letters and reports in German, French and English, must, of necessity, be "edited" and, whenever I quote any reports, these are not always "verbatim". I extract what I consider to be relative "news", or what would be generally considered of interest to my readers.

* * *

I have never thanked the International Press Cutting Bureau of London who have been supplying me, for the last 15 years, with newspaper clippings from English newspapers published all over the world where the words "Maccabi" or "Maccabiah" are mentioned. I therefore wish to tender my thanks for the free service of the International Press Cutting Bureau, of which my old friend, Joshua Podro and his son, David, are the principals, who have recently promised to supply me also with newspaper clippings relating visits of Israeli teams overseas and not necessarily connected with Maccabi.

* * *

In conclusion, I wish to remind my correspondents in every European Maccabi Territorial Organisation that I cannot publish news concerning their activities unless they supply me with material at regular intervals.

* * *

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי
MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

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CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 59

July, 1957.
August)

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment

ANOTHER EUROPEAN CONFERENCE.

This year's European Conference, held in Antwerp on July 7th, lived up to our expectations. We knew that only a few Territorial Organisations would be represented and that others would not. The constructive contributions made to the discussions by delegates present compensated for the absence of those whose voice could not be heard. I have made it clear, at the outset, that, this time, the Conference would be treated as a "business meeting"; All were conscious of the fact that 3 important and urgent topics were due to receive our earnest attention and that this was a time for prompt ACTION, rather than words. Thus, I am glad to say, that the meeting which started at about 10.a.m., terminated at 5.30.p.m., with only one hour's break for lunch; that all delegates present expressed their satisfaction at having had an opportunity of participating in the lively discussions; everyone's views were expressed freely and the Conference had served the purpose for which it was convened.

* * *

The presence of 3 young men from Denmark, the Isachsen brothers and R. Nathansohn, as well as that of R. Flammer of Metz, provided an added interest. The presence of Leo Kaminski, head of the French delegation, added authority and weight, not only to the discussions, but also to the decisions made. Th. Haas and his colleagues, Zass and Weiss, impressed us by their experience and knowledge of Maccabiah problems. Herman Bochner and Sally Beck, two Belgian Maccabi veterans, as well as the brief appearance of Roger Katz of Brussels, produced the impression that the future of the Movement in Belgium is well assured, so long as the leaders can work, as we hope they will be united in one purpose. On no previous occasion have I seen Benno Hess supported by such valiant and serious young men who made up the Dutch delegation. We were all struck by the forthright manner in which Goudemits spoke about the Netherlands Maccabiah team and the difficulties previously encountered, but now surmounted. Need I add that the British delegation acquitted itself well of its task and that everyone present could not fail to be impressed by Schalit's personality - a mixture of emotionalism and of mature business acumen; By Aubrey Scott - a fanatical Maccabean, but, at the same time, a sober businessman and able organiser; - by Fred S. Worms, the cool and collected Hon. Secretary, who never allows himself to be carried away by excessive imagination, and who often incurs the displeasure of his colleagues, who appear to confuse his forthrightness and honesty with a lack of so-called "tact and etiquette".

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When I looked around at all the delegates present, not forgetting the familiar face of Mme. Sally Beck and those of the close collaborators of Herman Bochner - the stalwarts of Maccabi Antwerp - who organised this Conference so well, seeking no publicity or praise, I was heartened and gratified because I felt more convinced than ever that the foundations of the Maccabi Movement in Europe have been well and truly laid and that, so

long as its future depends upon honest, sincere and consistent co-operation of leaders such as we have at present, there is little to fear or to worry about.

WHAT HAS THE CONFERENCE ACHIEVED?

FULL PARTICIPATION IN MACCABIAH.

It has served to confirm that some of the past doubts could now be dispelled and that the following European countries will participate in the 5th Maccabiah, in some instances by stronger teams than we ever hoped.

Great Britain's team, including Cricketers, Bowlers and officials, will hit the 115 mark.

Holland's team will comprise at least 20 competitors, as well as a few officials.

Belgium will have at least 15 competitors, mainly made up of a Waterpolo team.

France still thinks in terms of a team of 50 and, political conditions and financial resources permitting, theirs will include also a few athletes from Algiers. In this connection, it is worthwhile mentioning that Maccabi Metz - a club which it was thought, at one time, to have gone out of existence, will make a contribution towards the aggregate number of competitors from France.

We already know that Ireland will be represented by a team of about 6 or 8 but; the biggest surprise of all was the declaration of the Danish delegates, who stated that they will be sending at least 3 Wrestlers. Only a month ago, it was thought that Denmark will not be represented at the 5th Maccabiah at all!

Our Swiss friends will remain true to their previous estimates and promises and their team of 20-odd will be proceeding to Israel in good time, for which they are making independent travelling arrangements.

Finland's participation has already been made known previously.

Austria's participation is also assured and so the only exceptions, so far as it is known at present, are Sweden and Italy, who were unable to muster a team or to raise the necessary finance for it.

EUROPE'S REPRESENTATION AT WORLD CONGRESS.

Insofar as Europe's participation in the 13th WORLD CONGRESS is concerned, it can be stated, with satisfaction that, with one or two exceptions every Territorial Organisation will nominate delegates, some of whom will be accompanying their national Maccabiah teams.

The Conference learned of the receipt of a cable from the World Executive in Israel, informing us that my request to shorten the Congress has been considered, that it will open on 28th September and close on 30th September. In this manner, delegates wishing to return to their respective countries in the same planes in which their teams will travel, will be able to do so.

A SOUND APPROACH TO THE WORLD MOVEMENT'S CONSTITUTION.

The lively discussion, which took place on the subject of the draft text of the World Union Constitution, has once again demonstrated - if further proof was needed - that the younger among us, because they are less experienced are prepared to entrust their seniors with the work entailed in the revision of the Constitution which is to be acceptable to Maccabi organisations the world over, and not necessarily to the few. It was, therefore, understandable that the chief participants in the discussion on the subject of the Constitution were seasoned and experienced Maccabi leaders who have shown great anxiety, lest the Constitution to be ratified shortly, may introduce complications, rather than pave the way to a smoother and better co-operation in the ranks of the World Maccabi leadership.

The discussion on the draft Constitution has not been altogether conclusive, nor was it intended to be. Immediately after the Conference, I have reported on it to our colleagues in Israel, to those concerned with, and whose sole interest, at present, is the World Congress, at which a new Constitution will form one of the many topics of discussion. I feel confident that, with good will on all sides, a satisfactory solution of the differences at present existing will be composed by mutual consent.

Meanwhile, our Hon. Secretary, Fred. S. Worms, has requested all Territorial Organisations in Europe to nominate their delegates to the Congress, as well as to send in their observations concerning any amendments they wish introduced to the Constitution. These are urgently awaited.

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A. CALL FOR UNITY.

I think that an assurance can be given to our Israeli executive colleagues that, if they will refrain from making any effort, visible or invisible, at the formation of an Israel "block", the 13th World Congress will prove one of the happiest rallies ever held of Maccabi leaders from every part of the world. It will help cement a lasting and true friendship among men and women whose entire life is devoted to a cause promoted primarily to ensure the happiness and welfare of Jewish Youth in all lands.

To achieve this, and many other common efforts in which we are engaged, our friends in Israel and elsewhere must be reminded that Maccabi is, as it has always been, essentially and primarily a YOUTH ORGANISATION. Need I correct myself: A HEWISH YOUTH ORGANISATION? As such, it is dedicated to a set of aims and objects which must be clearly defined and which are capable of implementation in every land, according to conditions and customs prevailing there. Maccabi must be looked upon, treated, and built up as a World Organisation. There is no room in our ranks for nationalism or parochialism - in any shape or form. Whilst each one of us, according to nationality, may adopt different procedures in the implementation of our basic aims and objects, we are united by one common purpose, and that is, to provide opportunities and facilities for Jewish Youth everywhere, for physical training and for indulgence in cultural activities of a JEWISH CONTENT, so that when the young ones become adolescent, they will be conscious of their duties as citizens and Jews, as they will also be imbued with a sense of belonging to the country of their birth, to the Jewish people and, whatever their nationality, language, or the conditions under which they live, they will be brought up to understand and to evaluate the significance of the Jewish State - Israel - so that they will feel a natural urge to identify themselves with its present and future fortunes, by making a valuable, practical and consistent contribution towards that country's prosperity, and the happiness of its population, without necessarily being committed - so long as they are members of Maccabi clubs and associations - to any political party, or creed.

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MODERN ZIONISM, AS INTERPRETED BY BEN GURION.

To conclude, I should like to call the attention of all my readers in Israel, and elsewhere, to an important declaration broadcast by Mr. Ben-Gurion on the 9th Independence Day, in the course of which the Prime Minister said:

"EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN CREATED IN THIS COUNTRY IS THE COMMON POSSESSION OF JEWS IN ALL LANDS. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL DOES NOT REPRESENT JEWS OF THE DIASPORA AND EVERY JEW ABROAD IS A CITIZEN OF HIS OWN COUNTRY, BUT ISRAEL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND BUILT AS THE HERITAGE OF THE ENTIRE JEWISH PEOPLE AND ITS GATES ARE OPEN TO EVERY JEW. ALL JEWS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ARE PARTNERS IN THIS GREAT ENTERPRISE AND ALL SHARE IN THE CREDIT AND DUTY OF ABSORBING IMMIGRANTS AND HELPING THEM TO TAKE ROOT IN THE REDEEMED HOMELAND."

Surely, Mr. Ben-Gurion helped us sum up Maccabi's attitude and policy towards Israel, and I suggest that his declaration, made on the 9th Independence Day of Israel, should serve as a basis for Maccabi's interpretation of what is understood by modern Zionism, without political strings attached.

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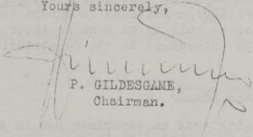
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A TRIBUTE TO AN EXCELLENT SECRETARY.

I wish to express my personal thanks to Miss Halzer, Secretary of Maccabi Antwerp, for supplying me with typed notes which she took during the Conference, without which I would be unable to do full justice to the reports and discussions that took place at the Conference.

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With Maccabi greetings,
Yours sincerely,


P. GILDESGAME,
Chairman.

11th European Conference.

held at the Bourse de Diamants, Antwerp, on 7th July, 1957.

F U L L R E P O R T.

The following European Territorial Organisations were represented by:

BELGIUM: Delegates - H. Bochner, S. Beck. Observers:- Messrs. Brunner, Wolfgang, Fruhauf, Goldberg and Mme. Beck.
R. Katz also attended part of the Conference.

GREAT BRITAIN: Delegates: P. Gildesgame, A.A. Scott, L. Schalit and F. Worms.

DENMARK: Delegates:- Messrs. Reinhold, Nathansohn, Henning, Isachsen.
Observers:- E. Isachsen.

FRANCE: Delegates:- Messrs. Kaminski, Haas, Weiss, Zass and Flammer.

HOLLAND:- Delegates. Messrs. Hess, Jacobs, Mark Polak. Observers:- Tugendhaft, Zendijk and Goudsmit.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Italy, Eire and Switzerland, as well as from Finland and Sweden.

Gildesgame took the Chair at 9.45 a.m. and, after extending a brief welcome to the delegates, he emphasised that the Agenda comprised only 3 principal topics, in addition to which Aubrey Scott, the Hon. Treasurer, would render a financial report.

E U R O P E A N M A C C A B I A H P R E P A R A T I O N S.

Reviewing the position relating to Europe's participation in the Maccabiah as was known at the time, Gildesgame stressed the importance of further effort being made to enlist largest possible contingents in each country with, so far as was possible, the emphasis upon active Maccabi athletes, on their individual and true merit. This, notwithstanding that everyone engaged in Maccabiah preparations knew how difficult the task was to raise money to finance even a small expedition.

He was gratified to have learned in recent days, that the repeated appeals made by the European Executive H.Q. to all Territorial Organisations on the Continent, have resulted in a re-awakening, showing far better results than one dared hope, a few months earlier. The Chairman thought it only right to pay a particularly warm tribute to the French delegation for the drive and initiative they have shown since September, 1956, inspired, as they were, by a desire to place Maccabi France in the forefront of Territorial Organisations in Europe, taking, as it were, advantage of the friendly atmosphere prevailing throughout France towards the Franco-Jewish community in general and towards everything affecting Israel in particular.

In Holland, the seed sown by Benno Hess and his colleagues during the

past few years is, at last, beginning to germinate and, before long, the fruits of their enthusiastic work will surely be reaped. A generation of Jewish Youth is rising and already 5 active clubs operate on the territory of the Netherlands. This time, the Netherlands will be represented by a Maccabiah team consisting of almost 100% Maccabi competitors. Such was not the case in 1953, when the team was small and, apart from one outstanding lady Fencer, its achievements were hardly registered.

Dealing with Belgium, Gildesgame praised Herman Bochner's untiring work which had resulted in Maccabi Antwerp becoming one of the strongest clubs in Europe. He was aided and assisted by a devoted good team of collaborators. Bochner only had one complaint, namely, the lack of co-operation and co-ordination with Maccabi Brussels. Gildesgame deprecated the Brussels Chairman's apparent inactivity, although he realised that he (Roger Katz) was hardly able to do justice to the office he held, considering that he suffered from failing health, that his Executive team had shown little desire for co-operation, that the Brussels club laboured under difficult conditions (having lost its premises) and that Mr. Katz himself devoted what time and energy he had to other Jewish Organisations which, in his opinion, were equally worthy. Bochner had assured the Conference, however, that, insofar as recent events were concerned, understanding is being reached between Antwerp and Brussels and, subject to funds permitting, the Belgian Maccabiah team will comprise competitors from both clubs and thus represent Belgium as a whole.

Insofar as Denmark was concerned, Gildesgame stressed the importance of Copenhagen continuing the lead which, at one time, they held in Scandinavia. Maccabi-Hakoah Copenhagen, was known for its sporting prowess and its reputation was almost invaluable, identified with a generation of first-class Wrestlers who trained in that club and who became Danish and European champions from time to time. He regretted the unavoidable absence of Meyer Rudaisky, Copenhagen's leader, although it was known that the Chairmanship of the Copenhagen club was in the good hands of Bodnia. When dealing with Copenhagen's participation in the Maccabiah, Isachsen remarked: "Yes, we will be there, we are sending 3 Wrestlers and possibly one or two more athletes." This remark gave great pleasure to all delegates present.

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As to the Maccabiah effort in Great Britain, it was stated that the task there was particularly difficult because of a promise made to the World Executive to raise £5,000 before September 15th, which sum was to be contributed and invested in the permanent structure of the Maccabiah Village, of which the first building is about to be completed on the Maccabiah grounds. Britain still hoped to send a team of 80 competitors, as well as of 15 Cricketers, thus making history "in the annals of the Maccabiah" because, on no previous occasions has an International Invitation Cricket Test Match been arranged in conjunction with the Maccabiah, let alone played in Israel.

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Gildesgame and Worms reported on the splendid team work being carried on in Great Britain, not only in connection with its own Maccabiah preparations, but also in a desire to help and assist the Maccabiah organisers in Israel. They were in regular touch with Tel Aviv in all matters affecting Maccabiah organisation in Israel and in Europe.

Gildesgame read out a cable he had received earlier that morning from Netanel, addressed to the Conference delegates reading: "FROM THE INCREASINGLY ACTIVE FRONTLINE I APPEAL TO THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE TO DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER AND MORE TO INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS IN THE LAST HOUR WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE MACCABIAH TEAMS BEST MACCABI GREETINGS - NETANEL CHAIRMAN MACCABI WORLD EXECUTIVE."

Netanel and his colleagues have been assured of Europe's wholehearted co-operation and, before long, ample proof of Europe's earnest intentions will be provided in a very tangible form," Gildesgame concluded his report.

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13TH MACCABI WORLD UNION CONGRESS

Gildesgame appealed to all present, and those unavoidably absent, to make every effort to be present, or represented, at the forthcoming World Congress which, according to a cable received from Mr. A. Tory, Hon. General Secretary of the World Executive in Tel Aviv, will open on September 29th at 9 a.m. and close on the 30th September in the afternoon. Territorial Organisations will shortly be called upon to nominate their delegates and observers. The 13th World Congress should prove to be one of the most important gatherings, and "get-togethers" of Maccabi leaders from all over the world.

MACCABI WORLD CONSTITUTION.

Apart from receiving reports of Maccabi activities in many parts of the world, the Congress delegates will also be afforded an opportunity to help shape the Movement's future policy and administrative structure, to be embodied in a number of provisions in a revised Constitution, being drafted jointly by A. Tory and Gildesgame. The Chairman drew the attention of the delegates to what he described as a "compromise draft", copies of which were distributed a few days prior to the Conference, and comments upon which would be invited during the afternoon session.

Gildesgame and Worms offered to answer questions as well as give additional explanations in regard to any parts of the Constitution with which delegates felt themselves in disagreement. If there were no objections, the Chairman requested delegates not to raise any, nor to waste the Conference's time discussing them.

As soon as the compromise draft was prepared by him, per copies now in the hands of all delegates, a further amended draft has been received from Israel, 48 hours earlier, introducing a number of further amendments, suggested by, and apparently unanimously agreed to by members of the World Executive residing in Israel. He was not yet familiar with these additional amendments and he invited Fred Worms to speak about them, as Worms had received a copy of the latest draft and had the time to study it before coming to the Conference, something which he (Gildesgame) was unable to do.

Some "Snags"

Worms emphasized that there were 3 major issues upon which "Europe" and "Israel" could not see eye to eye. Firstly, whilst agreeing that the M.W.U. Executive H.Q. be set up in, and operated from, Israel, no real 'autonomy' was granted to M.T.O.s and little, if any, executive power vested in members of the World Executive residing outside Israel. Secondly, the Israeli amendments to the Constitution, as they stood at present, deprived overseas Executive members of the right to vote by proxy under a set of circumstances. Thirdly, we in Europe do not believe in the practical necessity of a World Control Board - or a separate Executive Body for "Maccabi Hatzair" - as is provided for in the Israeli draft Constitution. The Israelis believed that the Board would control the financial activities of the World Union, as well as its administration. Our main objections, Worms continued, to such a Control Board, were that there was already a Supreme Body Governing the Movement - THE WORLD CONGRESS - and that the Constitution, to be ratified shortly, must provide for contingencies as may arise in connection with the setting up of an independent Board of Trustees, in whom the property of the Maccabi World Union and especially so the permanent Maccabiah Village would be vested. Other difficulties, Worms concluded, were of a minor nature, and could well be composed in the course of discussions with Israeli Executive members.

The Chairman wound up the reports by stating that ample opportunity would be afforded to delegates to discuss everything, as well as to offer criticism or suggestions relating to what has been heard during the morning session.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Copies of a statement of accounts for the half-year ending 30th June, 1957 were distributed by Aubrey A. Scott to all delegates and explained in some detail. These have shown that, after all expenses have been incurred and allowance made for income, the sum of £258. 4s. 11d. was still in hand, at the Bank. As on previous occasions, Scott emphasized the following points:

- a. That several Territorial Organisations failed to remit their affiliation dues, some of them owing such dues for the last 3 years.
- b. That in addition to the major contribution which Great Britain makes towards the European Regional H.Q.'s expenses, through the Central Maccabi Fund, not to mention the expenses defrayed by some individuals, Great Britain is also contributing to the World Executive H.Q. in Israel an annual sum of £300 in the form of affiliation dues.
- c. That the European Regional H.Q. are now formally set up at 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, which is also the general office of the Union of Maccabi Associations and the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain. Thus considerable economy is being effected, benefiting us to some extent.

Scott appealed to Territorial Organisations to continue paying their affiliation dues, if only as a token of their association in such amounts as have been volunteered by them and mutually agreed to.

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In the course of a brief discussion that followed, Leo Kaminski protested against claims being addressed to him in respect of France's affiliation dues and disclaimed any responsibility for it. Scott explained to Mr. Kaminski that requests must be addressed to the acting head of every Territorial Organisation and that, even though it was understood that Mr. Kaminski could in no way be held personally responsible, since he had resigned from the Presidency of Maccabi France, it would be appreciated if the commitment could be accepted and met. Thereupon, Mr. Th. Haas offered to settle arrears in the amount of £35 and there the controversy was closed.

Scott also drew the attention of the Conference to the fact that Austria owed dues for the years 1953 to 1957, totalling £30, that Denmark was a debtor in the amount of £21. 13s. 4d., and Eire in the amount of £18. 10s. Some Territorial Organisations still had to settle affiliation dues for 1956 and 1957 and he hoped that these would be forthcoming in the near future.

In the course of the discussion, in which most delegates participated, it was generally agreed that, even though the contributions were of a nominal nature, they must be continued in future and it was hoped that they would be received without there being any need for repeated reminders.

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DISCUSSION ON REPORTS.

In the preceding pages, a summary of the reports was given in the form of a "digest" and, hereunder, I will deal with the highlights of the lively discussion that took place on every stage of the report.

Maccabiah. In reference to Gildesgame's remarks on the subject of the great importance of the Maccabiah as a World Jewish Sports Festival, Bochner (Belgium) observed: "Some labour under the impression that the Maccabiah is primarily intended as a Zionist manifestation with sports taking second place. It must be made clear to all concerned that the object of the Maccabiah is to promote sports in the ranks of Jewish Youth, that it serves as an arena for competition for highest honours in sports and that, since we insist upon it being held in Israel, it goes without saying that one of the Maccabiah's main objectives is to ingather the flower of Jewish youth to the State of Israel, if only for a short while, thus giving it an opportunity to see with their own eyes, that the Zionist Utopia of years gone by has now become an outstanding achievement towards which every one of us is in duty bound to make a contribution. Jewish youth steeped in the Maccabi tradition is thus being brought closer to the appreciation of modern Zionism, but the

Maccabiah need not necessarily be treated and looked upon as a stepping stone towards an active political endeavour". Bochner also declared that every member of the Belgian team will be called upon, and has agreed, to pay 75% of the return fare.

On behalf of Denmark, Isachsen declared that they very much wished to send Football and Handball teams in which the club excels. Alas, this was not to be, owing to lack of financial means. However, they will endeavour to send a small team by train to Marseilles and Trieste and therefrom by boat, unless accommodation could be found on one of the planes from Central Europe.

For France, Th. Haas declared that the financial problem facing them was extremely difficult and complex. To overcome it, they applied to the Ministry of Education to obtain an official subsidy. They are collecting donations and contributions from individuals and they are also going to produce a "Maccabiah Book", wherein a number of paid advertisements would appear. In addition to teams of football, basketball, volleyball, athletes, boxers and tabletennis players, they hope also to bring along with them a group of youngsters who, whilst not participating in the competitions, would be afforded an opportunity to act as "supporters" at the same time as to tour Israel during the period of the Maccabiah.

In reply to questions, Kaminski replied that an application has also been made to the Fond Social Juif Unifié from whom a contribution of about $\frac{1}{4}$ million francs has been requested. A similar approach has been made to the Zionist Federation, from whom a contribution of 150,000 francs is awaited. The Jewish Agency has also been approached through the Israeli Embassy. At this stage, Hess (Holland) intervened, stating, amid laughter, that he regretted that Holland did not declare war on Egypt and, unlike France, is, therefore, not in a favourable position to collect monies from the Dutch population at the present time.

A short discussion developed as to the advisability of direct and indirect approaches being made to the Jewish Agency, and Gildesgame remarked that it was not advisable to adopt this procedure because such approaches might prejudice the representations being made by the M.W.U. in Israel to the Jewish Agency Headquarters for a major contribution towards the cost of the Maccabiah itself.

Flammer (Metz) informed the Conference that he and his colleagues in Metz are approaching various Jewish organisations, as well as the Jewish community, for a subsidy. He knew that a number of Jewish organisations in Metz had surplus funds in their coffers but, unfortunately, they did not wish to part with them. He hoped, nevertheless, that a token contribution of 10,000 francs may be forthcoming from the municipality of Metz.

Hess stressed the importance of a personal effort and personal approach to those from whom contributions can be obtained. It was only thanks to that personal approach which he and his colleagues have made in various directions, that there was a hope of any funds being obtained in due course.

Goudsmit (Holland) informed the Conference that he was the leader of a Sports Committee and that, despite all the difficulties so far encountered, and as described by Mr. Hess, the Netherlands will be represented at the Maccabiah by Fencers, Tabletennis and Lawn Tennis players, a few Athletes, Boxers and Gymnasts, as well as by a Basketball team. As things stood at present, Goudsmit emphasized, the Dutch team will consist of a minimum of 22 competitors, 5 or 6 officials, among them the well known Referee, Mr. Horn.

Schalit (Great Britain) dealt with the question of transportation from Europe and deplored the fact that the various letters and circulars he sent out to every Territorial Organisation have, so far, produced little co-operation or co-ordination. Consequently, he decided to organise flights from England only and, if any vacancies occurred in the 2 or 3 planes being chartered, he will communicate with other European Maccabiah organisers, offering them what vacant seats will remain.

Worms, (Great Britain) informed the delegates that, as a result of a request made to Dr. Atlasz by Great Britain, he agreed that the athletic Competitions will be postponed for a day to enable several outstanding Track and Field competitors, otherwise engaged in international competitions, to arrive in Israel in time. Haas added that the same problem was facing France, and he was, therefore, glad of the concession made.

Gildesgame called the attention of the delegates, and especially of Team Captains, not to select competitors indiscriminately. Such selections should only be made as a result of trials, and the strength of the team be related to funds available to finance the expedition. It was important, Gildesgame declared, that Europe be represented at the Maccabiah in great strength, and in as many events as possible. Only in this manner would the various competitions be made more interesting and larger Israeli crowds be attracted to them. The Israeli team was sure to be strongest in numbers, as well as in outstanding performers. The same was equally true of America. Although of secondary importance, Gildesgame remarked that due attention be paid to the turnout of teams and of internal discipline. By "turnout" he meant suitable uniform and equipment and by "discipline" he meant that every team member be made aware of the fact that participation in the Maccabiah is an honour, as well as a privilege, that every individual could act as an "Ambassador" of his country and, when returning to his respective country, he would carry away with him from Israel the best possible impressions. This time the programme of the Maccabiah provided not only for a large number of competitions in which athletes will be engaged, but also for an extensive tour of the country in which as many competitors as possible should consider it their pleasant duty to participate. "To arrive at the Maccabiah at the last minute, and to leave it as soon as the Games are over, is not our objective. Travel arrangements must, therefore, be devised so as to allow athletes to get acclimatized for a few days, prior to throwing themselves into the competitions and some time left in hand to enable the young athletes to tour the country leisurely"

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In reply to several questions concerning American participation, Gildesgame observed that, whilst it was known that the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel was actively canvassing for the formation of a strong team, its final numerical strength was, as yet, unknown. As to the rumours that the Americans will wish to accommodate their competitors in hotels, rather than in the tents being provided on the grounds of the Maccabiah Village, Gildesgame quoted Mr. Netanel as having said that "No team, not even the Americans, would be allowed to participate in the Maccabiah, unless they shared the same accommodation as is provided for all other teams"

Dealing with queries raised by the Dutch delegates, as to whether their athletes would be permitted to take advantage of hospitality in private homes, Gildesgame replied that no exception to the rule would be permitted and that, even though accommodation in private homes may prove more convenient, and less costly, he appealed to all present not to adopt the line of least resistance, and to remember that, apart from everything else, the Maccabiah's object is also to forge links of comradeship among Jewish Youth from all over the world and this could only be fostered if they had opportunities to meet one another off and on the field of competition and to fraternize on the grounds of the Maccabiah Village, although to achieve this some discomfort may be experienced in competitors having to sleep under canvas (in Army tents).

Nathensohn (Denmark) stated that he could not understand why accommodation in tents should represent any problem at all. Athletes should deem it an honour to proceed to Israel and to participate in the Maccabiah and the problem of accommodation should be left entirely to the care of our Israeli friends, who would spare neither effort nor expense to provide as good accommodation as they could under prevailing conditions.

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Scott (Great Britain) reminded all delegates of earlier remarks made by Gildesgame as to the importance that should be attached to the largest possible participation of Maccabi members being included in the various national teams, although it was understood that eligibility was conditional primarily upon the individual's fitness and standard of performance. Haas remarked that the French team may not excel in sporting prowess but "the important thing was to participate". He enquired also as to whether non-playing members of the

French team would be afforded accommodation in the Maccabiah Village. In reply, Gildesgame stated that this question must be addressed to Israel. He had no doubt that suitable arrangements could be made, subject to an agreed payment being affected in respect of the individuals so concerned. In fact, Gildesgame added, he would be glad to see the number of supporters accompanying every national team 10 times as great as the teams themselves, but this was not possible, in view of the restricted accommodation and high cost. Perhaps in years to come, the popularity of the Maccabiah will continue to grow and, if it does, it will attract very large numbers of Jewish Youth from all over the world, both as competitors, as well as spectators. The Maccabiah was open to all Jewish athletes, regardless of nationality or club affiliation and he hoped that this fact will become better known in the years to come.

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R. Katz (Belgium) who arrived during the discussion, was allowed to make a personal statement, and he declared that, in his view, the Maccabiah should serve as a "Rally" of Jewish Youth from all over the world in unrestricted numbers. It should become a pro-Zionist manifestation - in the broadest sense of the word - and it should afford all Jewish Youth an opportunity of seeing Israel and of becoming converted to Zionism.

In reply to the remarks made by Katz, Schalit (Great Britain) and others stated that, whilst the idea put forward by Katz had everybody's sympathy, Katz misunderstood the conception and the object of the Maccabiah - as such. The Jewish Agency was already making a very valuable contribution towards bringing youth to Israel in small and large groups, from every corner of the world. This is the Jewish Agency's task, and it is fulfilling it admirably. But the Jewish Agency is subsidising such tours - something which the Maccabi World Movement can ill-afford. Maccabi was primarily a Sports Organisation it aimed at rendering Jewish Youth conscious of Israel by organising Maccabiah in Israel and with the help and blessing of the Israel Government. Maccabiah tourists will always be welcome, and provisions for them are being made, or should be made in every country. Maccabiah tourists should benefit Maccabiah organisers financially, and those who know how to go about it, have already taken advantage of such an opportunity and will continue to do so in future.

Schalit proceeded by giving details of the plan provided for the Tour of the country by Maccabiah athletes, including a visit to Eilat, and then mentioned a number of points to be born in mind by the Commandants or Captains of every team. Athletes, Schalit declared, would be provided with sunlasses, light panama hats, cream to protect them from sunburn, light comfortable shoes. He also advised athletes to bring along with them 2 bed sheets and 2 towels each. Athletes would also do well to bring along with them a small supply of Mascara and Tea. Teams should not forget either to bring with them, or to send forward to Israel, their National Flags.

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On the subject of Officials and Referees, Schalit continued: "Officials attached to every team will be expected to stay with them at the Maccabiah Village. Referees and Judges would be accommodated in hotels and taken care of by the General Maccabiah Organisation." He also advised Team Captains to take the earliest opportunity to communicate with their respective Embassies or Legations in Israel, advising them of the dates of the arrival of their teams. Similar notifications should be sent out to the Maccabiah Headquarters in Israel as, otherwise, arrangements for conveyance from Air Fields or ports of embarkation could not be organised in time.

13th WORLD CONGRESS.

Before inviting a discussion on this subject, Gildesgame reminded delegates of the efforts that have been made since 1946, the year of the first European Conference, to integrate the Territorial Organisations on the Continent, to Europe, uniting them in one purpose: The furtherance of the Maccabi Movement. Even now, in some Territorial Organisations, there is a lack of energetic leaders able to take advantage of the existing youth remaining in affiliated clubs or suffering from bad club organisation. The same was true of the state of affairs affecting non-Jewish Youth Organisations but, nevertheless, Maccabi

must continue to play its part, that of a leading Youth and Sports Organisation and, because of its gradual growth, it was necessary that the affairs and the policy of Maccabi activities be subordinated to a responsible parent organisation, running and administering the affairs of the Movement on the basis of an existing and up-to-date Constitution.

The forthcoming Congress, which is to take place soon after the termination of the 5th Maccabiah will deal with a revised draft Constitution, to which reference was already made in his earlier remarks. Europe could make a valuable contribution towards the strengthening of the authority and prestige of the Maccabi World Union, by giving its World Executive wholehearted and consistent support. Likewise, the World Executive stands to gain very much by recognising the rights and privileges of the Territorial Organisations affiliated to it. A written and well-conceived Constitution can help fulfil such requirements. Europe already plays an important part in defending Maccabi World interests. European Maccabi leaders are sure to be able to make an even more constructive contribution towards the integration of the World Movement by helping to close its ranks, and by not allowing any obstructive elements to break them up.

Gildesgame reminded delegates of the strong representations made by the European Territorial Organisations to the authorities responsible for the organisation, a year ago, of the Mediterranean Games, and from which Israel was excluded. The task of the Maccabi World Union Executive Headquarters in Israel will also be rendered easier in the face of constant obstruction it has to contend with from such organisations as the Hapoel, if World Executive members in Israel will be made conscious of the moral support they can rely upon from the ranks of the leadership of Maccabi Organisations overseas.

Gildesgame deplored the still existing rift between Hapoel and Maccabi, and the unfriendly competition continuing between these two principal Israeli Sports Organisations. He was glad, however, to announce that, this time, the Hapoel Organisation in Israel agreed to participate in the Maccabiah Games, as well as to form one united Israeli national team, without having resorted to the protracted negotiations and controversies that were known to have taken place in 1951 and 1953.

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THE CONSTITUTION REVISED.

Reverting to the Constitution, Gildesgame asked delegates to discuss controversial points without bias or prejudice. Following the explanations offered by Worms and referred to earlier in this issue, the matter was open for discussion.

Kaminski, Bochner and Zass, drew attention to the fact that the Constitution, as it now stood, shows a lamentable misconception of the structure of the Maccabi World Union. The Movement should be based upon clubs, or Territorial Organisations, and not upon an abstract Parent Body, in the form of Executive members, most of whom reside in Israel, and who apparently desire to "direct" Territorial Organisations and to subordinate them in practically all matters, even of a domestic nature. Provisions of the Constitution cannot be discussed around this table, and they have to be studied very carefully as to their implications and real meaning. Autonomous rights granted to Territorial Organisations, Kaminski added emphatically, are cancelled out by the authority vested in the World Executive. In his opinion, the spirit of the Constitution was unbecoming to a voluntary Youth Organisation.

Haas agreed that it was difficult to discuss the Constitution part by part and that, so far as he was concerned, he was prepared to place his trust in Gildesgame and his immediate collaborators and would authorise them to reach an agreement with the Israeli Executive colleagues. Unless the Israeli Executive members were prepared to show that they were really interested in the Territorial Organisations which form the body of the Movement he, Haas, would not like to have anything to do with such an Executive.

Bochner, on the other hand, insisted that the principal provisions of the Constitution be discussed at the Conference and that it was unfair to

expect Gildesgame to decide on this matter on behalf of all others.

Polak (Holland) explained that the Constitution, as it stood at present, would not be acceptable to the Dutch Educational authorities, or to any Ministries within whose powers lay the recognition of a Youth Organisation or a Club. The draft, as it stood at present, created a very unfavourable impression in that the Maccabi World Union bore the character of an Israeli organisation with branches in many lands. This may not have been intended, but it was nevertheless implied, legally and otherwise. Bochner added, and he was supported by Weiss (France) that many difficulties have already been encountered with Ministries of Education in Belgium and France on account of their respective Territorial Organisation declaring itself affiliated to the Maccabi World Union, which organisation was unable to produce a Constitution acceptable to their Ministries of Education. Too much stress, they said, was being laid upon allegiance to Israel, and it was not made sufficiently clear that Maccabi was neither a Jewish religious, nor an Israel Youth Movement.

Scott supported those who, in the course of the discussion, favoured a closer study of the Constitutional provisions before agreement could be reached with our Israeli Executive colleagues.

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In winding up the discussion, Gildesgame explained that there could be no argument as to Maccabi's principal aims and objects. Nor could there be any compromise as to the basic structure of the Maccabi World Union, as at present in existence. The World Congress was the Supreme Governing Body and the Executive elected by it must be entrusted with the administration of the Movement as a whole. Any contradictions or inconsistencies in the present draft Constitution, having a bearing on the autonomous rights of Territorial Organisations, may be somewhat misleading if read in the wrong context. He trusted that our Israeli colleagues would make allowance for the fact and that they would agree that the Maccabi World Union must be given the character of a Universal and International Organisation, and that anything at present creating the impression of it being Israeli is due to a desire on his part, to compose some differences of view which have not been ironed out yet, but which can be reduced to a minimum, subject to further negotiations. Gildesgame agreed, therefore, to the proposals made by Worms, Scott and others and he supported the decision to the effect that all Territorial Organisations be requested to send in their comments within a fortnight's time. These would be carefully discussed by Worms and Gildesgame and the consensus of opinion on all controversial points would be imparted to Israel for further consideration by Mr. Tory and his colleagues. * * *

Yet Another Compromise.

He had yet another idea in mind which he will put to Mr. Tory, namely, to submit to Congress a shortened version of the Constitution, comprising the principal aims and objects of the Maccabi World Union, including such provisions as are necessary to give it the character of a legal entity. All other Constitutional provisions, having a bearing upon inter-relationship between the World Executive, Regional, and Territorial Organisations, could be incorporated in a set of Resolutions to be considered and adopted by Congress and which would go on record so as to become binding upon all Territorial Organisations without necessarily having such provisions incorporated in the Constitution in such great detail as at present. As soon as he had further news from Israel, in reply to his correspondence with Mr. Tory, he would send out a circular letter to Congress delegates, due to represent Territorial Organisations in Europe, notifying them of the position well before the Congress was due to meet.

Kaminski. in expressing his thanks to Gildesgame and his colleagues, for their hard work, and to Gildesgame, in particular, for his assiduity in working upon a draft Constitution for the past few years, expressed the hope that the next Congress will terminate on a note of harmony and understanding and that Gildesgame would not be given cause for disappointment, as was the case towards the end of the 12th Congress in 1953!

MACCABI GAMES IN EUROPE.

Gildesgame reported that offers have been received from Copenhagen, as well as from London, to arrange the European Games in their cities in the Summer of 1959. Reference was made to a recommendation discussed at some length at the Conference held in London in 1956 and to the example set during that year by Switzerland in organising small-scale Games in Zurich. Isaachsen, speaking for Denmark, informed the Conference that all the necessary facilities for Games existed already in Copenhagen, such as a suitable stadium, Swimming Pool, Running Tracks and Pitches, and that the reputation and growth of the Maccabi Movement in Scandinavia would be greatly enhanced if such Games could be organised in the North of Europe. He added that Copenhagen would hold itself completely responsible for the organisation of such Games, providing the co-operation of the European Territorial Organisations would be assured.

All those who participated in the discussion were in favour of the Games being organised in Copenhagen and, upon a vote being taken, the resolution was carried unanimously.

Gildesgame requested Denmark to treat the resolution as an earnest of Europe's acceptance of the invitation on principle, and that it was left to Copenhagen to pursue the matter later on this year, and to advise the European Executive H.Q. early in 1958 of the intended plans. Participation by Territorial Organisations will be governed by a set of rules which will be worked out between Copenhagen and the European Executive members.

SPEECHES BY LORD NATHAN AND MR.ROMI GOLDMUNTZ.

Gildesgame informed the Conference Delegates that Mr.Romi Goldmuntz has kindly extended an invitation to all Delegates to dine at Johnny's Restaurant that evening. The delegates would be his guests, although he himself would, unfortunately, be unable to participate. The delegates requested Mr.Gildesgame to thank Mr. GOLDMUNTZ who, at this stage of the proceedings, entered the Conference room accompanied by LORD NATHAN. All delegates rose to greet the President and Vice President.

Mr. Goldmuntz and Lord Nathan took seats on the right and on the left of the Chairman. Gildesgame then conveyed to Mr.Goldmuntz the congratulations of Maccabi members throughout Europe, as well as their good wishes on the occasion of his 75th Birthday anniversary. "In Mr.Goldmuntz" - Gildesgame proceeded - "the Maccabi Movement in Europe had a loyal, devoted and generous friend. The Maccabi organisation in Belgium was indeed fortunate in having Mr.Goldmuntz as its Honorary President. Mr.Goldmuntz' generosity is becoming legendary and proverbial and delegates present at this Conference were glad to be able to associate themselves with the many hundreds of guests present in Antwerp on that day who came to pay tribute to Romi Goldmuntz and to participate in the celebrations." Addressing Lord Nathan, Gildesgame stated that, in him, we found a friend and counsellor always ready to assist and to take an active part in Maccabi's day to day work. "We in Great Britain are proud of our President who has earned the respect and admiration, not only of the Anglo-Jewish community, but of all Jewish communities throughout Europe and overseas."

Replying, Lord Nathan thanked the Conference delegates for their warm welcome. He was deeply impressed by their enthusiasm and dedication to the Cause of Maccabi. He was not sure whether this Conference was held in Antwerp because Romi Goldmuntz was celebrating his 75th Birthday anniversary, or whether Romi Goldmuntz decided to celebrate his 75th anniversary on a date which would coincide with the European Maccabi Conference (laughter). He too admired Romi Goldmuntz, the man always ready and willing to help every good cause, of which Maccabi was one, very dear to him. Lord Nathan concluded by saying "I hope that this Conference has achieved what it set out to accomplish and that all the decisions and resolutions will be implemented without too many difficulties, of which so many have been already encountered during this past year". After paying a personal tribute to Gildesgame, Lord Nathan stated:"I do sincerely hope to see you all at the Maccabiah."

Then Mr. Romi Goldmuntz spoke, apologising on behalf of himself and Lord Nathan for coming so late to the Conference. He gave a brief account of the problems affecting Antwerp Maccabi, and then proceeded by saying: "I know that ground has already been found, or will shortly be found, in the city of Antwerp on which a Maccabi Club House will be erected. We will also find the necessary money to pay for the ground, as well as for the structure. I myself have offered 250,000 francs and two other friends of mine have each offered 100,000 francs towards the cost of the project. I am sure that, before very long, the project will materialise."

Dealing with the Maccabiah, Mr. Goldmuntz confirmed his promise of a contribution of 100,000 francs and he hoped that Bochner and his friends would find the balance, so as to make Belgium's participation in the Maccabiah possible. Should they run short of money he, Mr. Goldmuntz, will try to raise the balance required.

Addressing himself to Gildesgame, Mr. Goldmuntz concluded "Rest assured that Maccabi Belgium will, once again, participate in this year's Maccabiah. You also have my promise that your wishes and mine to provide Maccabi Antwerp with a Home will soon be fulfilled."

Delegates warmly applauded the short speeches delivered by Lord Nathan and Mr. Goldmuntz.

On behalf of the delegates, Schalit pointed out that everyone was fully alive to the challenge of the Maccabiah but, with good will, and through a consistent effort, the 5th should prove even a greater success than was the 4th.

Gildesgame thanked Maccabi Antwerp, who made the Conference possible. He requested also Bochner to convey thanks to the authorities of the Bourse de Diamants. At Bochner's suggestion, a letter of thanks would be addressed to the Secretary of the Bourse, in due course. At 5.25 p.m. Gildesgame declared the Conference closed, whereupon the delegates rose and sang 'Hatikvah'.

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Brief Maccabiah News from the rest of the world.

NEW YORK.

The U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel issued a tentative list of approved candidates for the U.S. contingent. The Committee invites contributions towards its funds (all of which are tax-exempt) in the amount of \$1,500 per athlete. It appears that the U.S. Committee have borrowed from Great Britain the idea of the "Adoption Scheme".

The United States will compete in the following events: Track and Field, Swimming, Basketball, Boxing, Waterpolo, Wrestling, Fencing, Gymnastics, Shooting, Weightlifting, Volleyball. Top priority is given to current Olympic competitors.

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Olympic Athletes in Exhibition Events.

It is learned that Mrs. Agnes Keleti, famous Hungarian Jewish Sportswoman, winner of 4 Gold Medals in the Melbourne Olympic Track and Field Games, at present living in Western Germany, will give several exhibitions.

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Another Olympic star, Rev. Bob Richards, famous as a Pole Vault Jumper, and nicknamed "The Flying Pastor", has also promised to participate in exhibition displays. At the last Olympics, he jumped 4.69 metres.

Henry Laskau, will be the Flag Bearer of the U.S. Maccabiah contingent. He was an Olympic contestant in 1948, 1952 and 1956. He won the 1950 and 1953 Walking titles and plans to retire after the 1957 Maccabiah.

Colonel Gaston Roux, Director General of the French Ministry of Sports,

has notified the M.W.U. of the acceptance by him of the invitation to be present at the 5th Maccabiah.

Several International Umpires and Referees are coming to Israel to help "keep order" at the Maccabiah. For Basketball, Mr. W. Cerasi from Turkey, Mr. R. Blanchard from France, and Mr. Van der Kar from Holland. For Waterpolo, Mr. A. Fauchs from Belgium, and for Football, Mr. Horn from Holland.

Boxing will be refereed also by Mr. Julien Neuding from Poland. Wrestling will be refereed by our good friend, Fred Oberlander. Fred will fill the place of the late George McKenzie of Great Britain, who died suddenly a few weeks ago.

MELBOURNE.

Australia is to send a small but firstclass team of sportsmen. Among the Track and Field competitors will be found David Abramovich and Judy Kellerman, top ranking Sydney athletes. David Abramovich won recently the Sydney University contests, winning the 220 yards race in 22.3 seconds, and clocked 49.1 second in winning the 440 yards title. (His time for the 440 yards would equal 48.8 seconds for the 400 metres.) This compares favourably with the Maccabiah record of 50.5 seconds established by Harry Kane, Great Britain in 1953.

Miss Kellerman has already bettered the existing World Maccabi and Maccabiah Long Jump records. She jumped 16 ft. 11 inches. She also threw the Discus 83 feet.

Darryl Cohen, national Junior Weightlifting champion of Australia is also assured of a place of honour in the Australian team. He is University and Inter-Varsity Title holder. He totalled 685 lb in the Victorian Weightlifters' Associations Meet recently. This was 5 lb over his own previous best and 5 lb above the winning total by Britain's Ben Helfgott's record at the 4th Maccabiah Games.

Another Australian participant, is Miss Eva Duldig, top Tennis player and triple title holder in the South Judean championships.

MONTREAL.(CANADA.)

Stan Levenson, Olympic Track and Field competitor, holds the Canadian 200 metres record of 20.9 seconds.

Canada's Star Table tennis player, Derek Glazer, has also been selected. In 1955, he became World Title Holder at the championships at Utrecht, Holland. The Canadian contingent will also comprise Basketball and Wrestling teams.

The "Montreal Gazette" gave a great deal of publicity to the Canadian Maccabiah trials in Track and Field events, as well as in Basketball. According to that paper, Canada will field a firstclass team comprising International and Olympic competitors. Their Basketball team will be the best ever and it is said to be stronger than the U.S. team.

CHILE.

The Chilean contingent will comprise 6 Track and Field athletes, 2 Women Swimmers, 3 Fencers, 1 Woman Gymnast and 1 Marksman.

SOUTH AFRICA.

BOWLS. It is now certain that the International Invitation Tournament will be played between South Africa, Great Britain and Israel. Mrs. Lily Pollen the only Kimberley (South Africa) Woman Bowler, has been selected to take part. Mrs. Pollen is a member of the Kimberley Town Bowling Club and has played Bowls for only 4 years, with remarkable success.

"DRIBBLING"?

The famous English Footballer, Stan Matthews, at present in South Africa, took a keen interest in the selection of the South African Maccabiah Soccer team.

The South African Maccabiah Tabletennis team has recently been selected. The final trials were held at Sea Point Town Hall in Capetown. The team promises to include some top ranking players. Selection was decided not on past performance but on the outcome of the trials.

CRICKET TOO!

According to the "Jerusalem Post", the Israel Cricket Association is busy making arrangements for the coming season, especially for the International Test Match to be played by Israel, South Africa and Great Britain during the period of the Maccabiah. The triangular Tournament is to be held in Haifa and is to be known as the "Cricket Festival". A decision was made to play single innings games only, involving morning play only, instead of full day. Thus history will be made in that an International Festival will be held there for the first time. Israeli children are also being encouraged to take an interest in Cricket and the first match with the participation of Junior "novices" only is to take place in Ashkelon very shortly.

SWEDEN.

In a letter dated the end of July, Joel Haskel reports that, to his great regret, Sweden will be unable to participate in the Maccabiah this time - due to lack of funds. An application made to the Swedish Zionist Federation for a subsidy had produced a negative response. There was still a possibility that one or two Tabletennis players, and one Tennis player may be able to raise sufficient funds to pay their travel expenses, in which case they alone will represent Sweden.

Haskel also reports on the untimely death, after a long illness of Jack Witz, until recently President of Maccabi Stockholm. Witz began as a Football Goalkeeper in the early thirties. He became Chairman of Maccabi Stockholm's Handball Section in 1946. He led the Swedish Handball team to victory in the 1950 Maccabiah, and became President of Maccabi Stockholm in 1951. The late Jack Witz devoted 11 years of his life working for Maccabi Stockholm. Everyone admired his spirit, ideas and devotion. Haskel concludes his tribute to the memory of Witz by saying that his memory will live for ever among all those who knew the Scandinavian Maccabi Movement. Maccabi Stockholm has decided to set up a "Jack Witz Memorial Foundation." The fund will serve to assist promising young athletes of Maccabi Stockholm to obtain better training and coaching. The successor to the Presidency of Maccabi Stockholm will be elected next October.

I take this opportunity of conveying our sincere sympathy to our friends, members of Maccabi Stockholm, on the loss they sustained through the death of Jack Witz, their much respected and beloved President.

Buenos Aires.

A letter has been received at the office of the European Executive H.Q., from the President of Maccabi Buenos Aires, Signor Ermino Dobri, announcing the forthcoming visit to London of Professor Adolfo Mogilevsky. Prof. Mogilevsky, who is due to attend a number of Medical Conferences in Europe will, thereafter, proceed to Israel to lead the Argentine Maccabi contingent.

BRITAIN PROVIDES CUPS AND TROPHIES.

The following Cups have been offered by leading Maccabiah supporters in Great Britain and which are to be awarded to the winners of various contests:

- THE LORD NATHAN CUP - for the Men's Singles Lawn Tennis Tournament.
- THE ISRAEL M. SIEFF CUP - to the winner of the Shooting Contest.
- THE PIERRE GILDESCAME CUP - to the winning Waterpolo team.
- THE LIONEL SCHALIT CUP - to the winner of an event as yet to be decided.

Miss Harriet Cohen, C.B.E., the famous pianist and communal worker, will award a Silver Medal to the best Girl Performer of the British team, upon the contingent's return from Israel.

Mr. Israel M. Sieff is Vice Chairman of the Marks and Spencer Organisation.

SWITZERLAND. MR. ADRIEN BLUM IN THE NEWS AGAIN.

Oskar Wessley reported recently on a controversy caused by the disclosure in the Swiss Press that the "Juedische Rundschau Maccabi" - a weekly organ, owned and published by Mr. Adrien Blum, who is Hon. President of Maccabi Switzerland, is being printed in what is described as a Communist co-operative printing house. Maccabi Switzerland promptly reacted by writing to the Editor of the "Neue Zuercher Zeitung" stating that it has no connection with the paper, despite the fact that its title bears also the name "Maccabi".

MY COMMENTS.

Readers of this Newsletter will remember how often I militated against Mr. Blum's publication, which is a purely commercial enterprise, benefiting himself exclusively and who, despite many protests and representations, continued to associate the name of his newspaper with that of Maccabi.

The London "Jewish Chronicle" reports that Mr. Blum has stated that he has no connection with the printing co-operative since 1954. I hope that the matter will not be left at that, and that Maccabi Switzerland will take the necessary steps to ensure that Mr. Blum gives no further cause for undesirable publicity, reflecting upon the Maccabi Movement. It was high time that Mr. Blum resigned from the high office held by him; the least he could do is to shorten the title of his newspaper by dropping from it the time-honoured name of "Maccabi".

DR. V.V. ROSENFELD'S "SWAN SONG".

I have just received the June issue of V.V.R.'s publication "Hakoah in Liberty". This is to be the last of 247 numbers published by V.V.R. since the beginning of the war. It is also the 580th number since V.V.R. became Editor of the Hakoah Swimming Club Newsheet which he edited since February 1927. V.V.R. may well be proud of this unique and unprecedented Maccabi record.

"The Hakoah in Liberty" served as a link among old friends dispersed throughout the world and who, at one time or another, were members of that famous club, and still remain loyal to its tradition and spiritual heritage.

Anyone reading V.V.R.'s publication - as I have done for many years past - could not fail to appreciate the great contribution it has made towards the spirit of brotherhood, which membership of any Maccabi club invariably fosters. THANK YOU V.V.R. FOR YOUR INVALUABLE WORK, MAY YOU BE SPARED FOR MANY YEARS AND MAY YOU CONTINUE TO SET AN EXAMPLE OF GALLANTRY AND LOYALTY TO ALL THOSE WHO HOLD YOU IN SINCERE AFFECTION.

MR. ROMI GOLDMUNTZ HONOURED.

At a Dinner Party given in his honour by members of the Belgian Government and Houses of Parliament, held in Antwerp on July 8th, and which was attended by 1,200 guests, the Belgian Prime Minister conferred upon Mr. Goldmuntz the Grand Order of Leopold II. Lord Nathan presented Mr. Goldmuntz with a Silver Casket containing an illuminated scroll conferring upon him the "freedom of the Maccabi Movement in Europe". The Casket was acquired by means of contributions from individual members of the European Executive, and the "freedom" was conferred upon Mr. Goldmuntz in the name of every European Territorial Maccabi organisation. Mr. Ben-Ami conferred upon Mr. Goldmuntz the Honorary Citizenship of Natanya. In reply to the many speeches, Mr. Goldmuntz thanked Maccabi for the honour and stated how very glad and proud he was of his association with our Movement.

THE NEXT* ISSUE OF THE CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER, will appear only towards the end of October. I hope to publish a full report of the 5th Maccabiah as well as of the 13th Maccabi World Union Congress.

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי
MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT
 The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
 P.C., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT
 Roml Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN
 P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.
 V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.
 A. A. Scott



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October, 1957.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO.

60

Dear Friends,

ARON NETANEL

A TRIBUTE TO A LEADER.



The Movement has lost one of its greatest leaders in the passing away, at his home in Herzliyah, near Tel-Aviv, on Friday, August 9th, 1957, of ARON NETANEL. His death has removed from our ranks a man who combined the qualities of an imaginative idealist and of a dynamic and active realist. At the age of 55 he ranked as one of Israel's leading industrialists among whom he stood alone in his sincere devotion to the cause of the welfare of Jewish youth. In his role of Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive he was unobtrusive as well as modest. Everyone knew that whatever Netanel undertook to do would be carried out efficiently, speedily, without seeking recognition or thanks. He made friends without offering or seeking favours. He enlisted voluntary co-operation without having to insist upon it. He set a brilliant example of self-sacrifice - an example which it will be difficult to emulate.

His hopes and achievements.

One of Netanel's greatest ambitions was to ensure the Maccabi World Union's financial independence. He realised that the Parent organisation of Maccabi Territorial branches - the Maccabi World Union - required financial means to pay for a permanent administration, offices and staff, working at the Executive Headquarters in Israel.

It was largely due to the initiative, drive and personal efforts of Aron Netanel that the Maccabiah games were held in Israel on three consecutive occasions, in 1950, 1953 and 1957. Without sparing efforts or health, Netanel laid down the plans for the Maccabiah games, most of the organisational work in connection with which having been carried out at his own office. He understood that to become a regular event, held every four years, nowhere else but in Israel, the organisation of the Maccabiah would have to be

enlarged and reinforced and that its success depended on a partnership comprising men and organisations equally as interested and equally as resolved as he was to ensure that the Maccabiah shall become one of the Movement's greatest and most important institutions - the object of admiration and respect of such sections of World Jewry who believe - as we all do - that the regeneration of our youth can be achieved by a variety of means, not least of all being the promotion of sports and sportsmanship and by providing an opportunity for competition along international standards.

Thus Netanel's greatest dream of all - a permanent structure for a Maccabiah Village - was to come true. He realised that to enlist regular participation by teams of Jewish athletes from all over the World, it will be necessary to provide them with good accommodation as well as with all such amenities as are indispensable on such occasions. Netanel agreed with all those who reasoned with him that a Maccabiah Village must be erected with least delay so that in future there would be no need to call upon competing teams to contribute monies to cover the cost of a temporary camp in addition to having to raise large sums to defray the cost of return travel to and from the games.

Whenever Netanel explained the blue-prints of the Maccabiah Village his voice trembled with emotion. He was thrilled at the very thought that such a "Village" will not only serve to accommodate the Maccabiah athletes but that it would also become a haven of rest, a hostel or a tourist centre for groups of young people visiting Israel throughout the years between the Maccabiah.

During the few months before his untimely death Netanel worked incessantly not only for the full success of the 5th Maccabiah games but also to be able to show to the visiting teams as much of the Maccabiah Village as could be erected by September 15th, 1957. Anyone inspecting, with a sense of appreciation, the "Village" such as we have seen last September, could not fail to perceive that a great deal of planning and of work has already gone into it. Netanel had not lived long enough to hear the warm tributes that were paid to the man who laid down his life to the cause of the "Village".

It was right and proper for the 13th Congress of the Maccabi World Union unanimously to acclaim a proposal put before it, to name the Maccabiah Village after Netanel and it will be known henceforth as the "Maccabiah-Village-Netanel".

All must help!

The monument which is being erected to the late Netanel, whom we all loved and admired, will remain meaningless unless we all lend a hand to its completion. The Maccabiah Village project was one which was heartily endorsed by Maccabi leaders everywhere. What shortcomings one could attribute to the "Village" as seen at present, could be made good in the course of time, but only if all work with that end in mind and remain dedicated to it until the "Village" has been completed. When completed it will add to the already existing, though inadequate, numerically, and otherwise, facilities provided in Israel for the benefit of Israeli and overseas youth. Above all, it will constitute yet another contribution made by the Maccabi World Union to the happiness and welfare of Jewish youth regardless of nationality or club affiliation. It will rank in importance with the Maccabiah itself as, indeed, it will become an integral part of the Maccabiah and, therefore, also of the Maccabi World Movement.

The death of Aron Netanel will be lamented for many years to come and he will be missed for just as long. Whether humble

or important the office held by every one of us in the ranks of Maccabi World leadership, let us remember Aron Netanel with deep affection as the man who set an example of selfless devotion to a cause which was dear to him and which in no way served to enhance or to further his personal vanity.

I have known Aron Netanel as a modest and unselfish individual. These attributes, more so than anything else, earned love and respect for him. The record of his achievements laid the foundations for the emergence of the Maccabi World Movement as one of the most remarkable phenomena in the annals of Jewry in the years following the Second World War.

THE FIFTH MACCABIAH IN RETROSPECT.

Hitting the headlines!

I cannot think of any event that took place in Israel during the past few years - other than of a political nature, such as the Suez crisis, - which has received as much publicity in the World Press and Radio as did the last Maccabiah Games. This in itself is very gratifying to those of us who devoted much thought, time and work to make the last Maccabiah a great sporting event. A generous tribute should, therefore, be paid to the very many sponsoring bodies and organisations in over 20 countries thanks to whose efforts teams of athletes were formed the majority of which were flown by aircraft from every corner of the Earth to the State of Israel - the land of Jewish hope and glory!

Let it be remembered that the following countries participated: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, ARGENTINE, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, CHILE, CANADA, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, HOLLAND, INDIA, IRELAND, ISRAEL, MEXICO, RHODESIA, SWITZERLAND, SOUTH AFRICA and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

An International Sports Event.

One of the highlights of the 5th Maccabiah was the presence of international judges and referees some of whom were actually appointed by the World Governing Bodies of Amateur Sports, to mention but a few: Mr. Paulen representing the International Amateur Athletic Federation, Mr. Pearl representing the International Weight-Lifting and Wrestling Federation and Mr. Horne the International Football Referee and Mr. Blanchard of the International Basketball Federation.

Mention should also be made of the fact that the International Amateur Athletic Federation (I.A.A.F.) has recognised the Maccabiah as an International Sports Competition; thus all Maccabiah sporting achievements will be duly recognised and suitably recorded by that body. Another event which must not escape our attention and sense of appreciation is the emergence of the Maccabiah Village - our own and permanent "Village" - which despite its unpreparedness has proved adequate for the accommodation and feeding of some 500 athletes who stayed there for over two weeks.

A Labour of Love.

This time the organisation of the Maccabiah has proved a far more difficult enterprise than any of the preceding ones. Firstly, because its chief architect, the late Aron Netanel, died three weeks before the opening of the games and this had inevitably produced

problems of management and of finance with which he alone dealt efficiently and with expert knowledge. Hurriedly, a Directorate had to be set up consisting of our friends Alouf, Atlasz and Rusetsky, who despite some criticism which had been levelled at them, have acquitted themselves, in the opinion of objective observers, most gallantly. Praise is also due to MR. GERSHON GUREVITZ who took over full control of the Maccabiah finances.

A success, despite shortcomings.

The absence of suitable venues for various indoor and outdoor competitions was felt more acutely this time than on previous occasions. The organisers were anxious this time to provide spacious and comfortable accommodation for competitors and spectators alike but had to decide, in some instances, on hiring halls which did not prove satisfactory. Thus boxing, wrestling and weight-lifting competitions held at an old circus in Ramat-Gan, the table tennis tournament played in cramped space, and tennis played on the old courts of Tel-Aviv provoked controversy and severe criticism. But those not concerned in the organisation of the games should have first enquired whether better accommodation was available before levelling criticism. Were the organisers to decide that the accommodation was not satisfactory they would only be left with one alternative, - namely, to cancel some of the Maccabiah events to the great disappointment of aspiring competitors. On the other hand the swimming which took place in Ramat Gan open-air pool was considered a vast improvement on the facilities provided previously at Haifa. Both competitors and spectators seemed happier this time. Such was also the case of basketball, as all matches were played on the spacious pitch, specially laid on, on the grounds of the Ramat-Gan Stadium.

Much can be said about the standard displayed throughout the competitions by individuals and teams alike. Much more will be said in the course of discussions which, I hope, will be arranged by the competing teams and the officials attached to them. By all means, the more constructive the criticism the better the hope of future improvements. But, here again, one must look upon the relative standards of performance in all the 5th Maccabiah events from the point of view of neutral and objective observers. In their opinion the best Maccabiah athletes, winners of gold medals, gave as good an account of themselves as did winners of International and Regional competitions in many parts of the World, during 1957.

A source of joy.

One of the greatest and most valuable aspects of the Maccabiah is the interest which it generates among and the joy it brings to the tens of thousands of Israeli youth. To them the Maccabiah is the most important event in the life of a country where austerity, tension and shortages are commonplace. They greet with affection their fellow-Jews from overseas and they feel happy to have them in their midst.

The essence of the Maccabiah.

The Maccabiah must not necessarily be looked upon as a breeding ground of World champions. Its primary objects are to provide competition in amateur sports to best Jewish athletes from all over the World and to hold such competitions in Israel, thus giving an opportunity to many thousands of aspiring Jewish athletes to see the Jewish State, to meet its people and to forge links of brotherhood between Israelis and Jewish youth from the outside World. Naturally, participation in the Maccabiah has become the coveted hope of many thousands of Jewish athletes, stimulating more intensive training in various sports as well as a desire to be incorporated in national teams representing their respective countries in a great

sporting event being held once every four years, the one and only
WORLD JEWISH SPORTS FESTIVAL.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS.

All those who participated in the 5th Maccabiah either as competitors or spectators will have carried away with them varied impressions from which they drew a good many conclusions. Some were most favourable, others unfavourable. This again is a very natural phenomenon, not very much different from three people partaking in a meal comprising the same dishes; some like them, some do not. If the organisers of the Maccabiah were to increase their efforts with a view to pleasing every one concerned to the tune of 100% they would fail in their attempt - even if the Maccabiah were to be organised professionally, with large funds available to them, engaged in that task daily over a period of four years. One must, therefore, exercise a sense of proportion and apply a fair sense of appreciation when evaluating the asset and liability sides of every Maccabiah event in relation to existing conditions.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Let me analyse some of the criticisms levelled at the 5th Maccabiah without, in any way, wishing to apologise for its shortcomings.

a. THE SPORTS EVENTS. By and large these were well planned and distributed according to the number of participants available for each competition and to the venues, indoor and outdoor, which were restricted in number. The sports programme had undergone several changes before the final timetable had been fixed. This was largely due to the uncertainty as regards participation of some teams or of individual competitors in certain events. One should not, therefore, be surprised at the suggestions made during the 13th World Congress Sessions by the Principal Sports Director, Mr. Robert Atlasz, to the effect that some competitions may have to be eliminated when plans are considered for the 6th Maccabiah.

I have already dealt with the shortage of accommodation and of venues for some of the principal sports events. For these the blame cannot be placed at the door of the Maccabiah organisers. It is a well known fact that neither the Israeli Government nor the Israeli sports organisations have sufficient funds to build and provide sports fields, running tracks, gymnasia and halls for day-to-day training, let alone for major International competitions. Full use has been made, therefore, and very wisely so, of the Ramat-Gan Stadium, of the Maccabi Stadium in Tel-Aviv and of the open air swimming pool at Ramat-Gan. All this additional and improved accommodation had entailed considerable expenditure which will be reflected in the final accounts of the 5th Maccabiah. It has already been tentatively mooted that no profit can be expected in view of the considerable expenses incurred. The organisers also had to keep a watchful eye on the potential income accruing from larger numbers of spectators wishing to see the various events and for this reason alone they endeavoured to centralise principal sports events in and around Tel-Aviv, which is known to be thickly populated. A very wise and bold decision.

b. THE MACCABIAH VILLAGE.

Accommodation and Food. At the risk of being very disappointed I have made thorough enquiries among competitors from various countries with a view to ascertaining their pleasure or displeasure with the accommodation and food provided at the "Village". It is a well known fact - and in this respect I am not guilty of any indiscretion - that the first to complain were our American friends.

Indeed, as soon as they have heard that athletes will have to be accommodated in army tents they sent out a special observer to Israel with instructions to book accommodation for the U.S.A. team in a luxury hotel. On second thoughts the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, the body sponsoring U.S. participation in the Maccabiah, decided to "make do" with the accommodation provided in tents, realising - as they did - that to exclude their team from the "Village" would amount to an act lacking in a spirit of true sportsmanship. The glamorous aspect of the austere "Village" deterred some of our friends from North America as well as one team from South America, and when they found out that no steaks were being served twice daily their complaints became rather louder and were re-echoed in the Israeli Press. This is what started a controversy.

I have put the same question to members of all other teams in the "Village" "Are you satisfied with your sleeping accommodation and is the food adequate?". Almost without exception the answer I received from every individual was the same: "Sleeping accommodation is as satisfactory as we expected it to be, and although the food is not as good as it is at home it is quite adequate and we have no complaints".

FULL VALUE FOR MONEY.

Some critics observed that the athletes were not receiving full value for the money being paid for them, namely £2 or \$6 daily. The critics have lost sight of the following considerations:-

1. The £2 daily covered cost of accommodation, of food as well as of transportation to and from the "Village", as well as of tourism, comprising two to three tours to Negev, Jerusalem and Galilee.

2. Unforeseen contingencies, by way of additional expenditure in food stuffs, (such as additional milk, fruit, etc.,) had to be allowed for.

3. Salaries had to be paid to a Staff of several officials in charge of the "Village" for a period of three weeks.

4. The organisers aimed either at making a small profit or wished to prevent a loss. Some loss was to be expected, because one or two teams had to be granted exceptional concessions as they were unable to raise sufficient money to pay for the transportation of the team in addition to \$6 daily for their stay in the "Village".

5. As regards food, free-lance critics lost also sight of the fact that meat is the most costly commodity in Israel and that the cost of food, generally, is very high. A firm of caterers had to be engaged to ensure professional service and attention and in this respect, too, the organisers have adopted the right course for if they had relied on voluntary cooks and waiters the organisation would have collapsed even before the first competitor had put in an appearance at the "Village".

THE FUTURE OF THE MACCABIAH VILLAGE.

I have already dealt briefly with this matter in the preceding pages but I must add here a few more remarks, which I consider relevant.

What the Critics say:

They maintain that:

- a) It is situated too far away from the centre of Tel-Aviv and that access to it was rendered difficult by the absence of

adequate, frequent and cheap transportation.

b) That the site is wrongly situated because there is no easy access to the sea.

c) That to complete it, a vast sum of money will have to be spent and which the Maccabi World Union is unlikely to raise in the foreseeable future.

d) That even when completed it will constitute a duplication of similar facilities already existing in Israel, one of which, repeatedly mentioned, was "The Wingate Institute".

e) That the Maccabi World Union should not have embarked on this venture, merely to provide accomodation for about 1000 athletes, for a period of two weeks once every four years.

I do not wish to appear either as an advocate or an apologist for the Maccabiah Village. I feel, however, that I must deal with the above arguments, which to a very large extent, show that those criticising the "Village" do so primarily out of a sense of uncertainty as they are also actuated by a sense of reluctance to commit themselves to a major enterprise despite the fact that, in the heart of their hearts, they know full well that the "Village" will become one of the greatest assets of the Maccabi World Movement, once the project has been successfully completed and made use of to the fullest extent in accordance with the original plans envisaged and decided upon.

MY ANSWERS.

Let me, therefore, deal with every one of the foregoing arguments:

a) The site of the "Village" is situated nearby the main road connecting Tel-Aviv and the Lydda airport. Good motor roads already exist and 'bus services will be added progressively as the area surrounding the "Village" (Ramat Chen) develops. There many thousands of houses are being built at great speed to accomodate the swelling population. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that in the course of the next two or three years 'bus services between Tel-Aviv, Ramat-Gan and the Maccabiah Village area will be frequent and cheap. The distance between Tel-Aviv and the Maccabiah Village will be covered in a matter of 20 to 25 minutes.

Conditions justifying it, 'bus companies will be prepared to provide additional transportation for athletes or persons using the "Village" for fixed periods of time.

b) In so far as the choice of the site is concerned it must be remembered that the Maccabi World Union had not much choice in the matter, for it endeavoured to obtain land either free of charge or at a nominal rent. The late Netanel has succeeded in the course of his negotiations to satisfy these requirements with hardly any cost. For this full praise is due to him and to his advisors.

As regards access to the sea, this would have proved a serious defect had a plan not already existed for the provision of a large sized swimming pool, complying with Olympic requirements, which dwellers of the "Village" can use either for refreshing themselves and/or for training. It is quite possible that the Ramat Chen Municipality will provide such a pool in the near future, conditional only upon it being available also for public use at times when the "Village" is not being occupied either by Maccabiah athletes or by authorised tenants. Should the Ramat Chen Municipality act upon its present intentions the disadvantage of the "Village" being at some distance from the sea will be removed and critics on this score silenced. Should the Ramat Chen Municipality fail to take the intended action provision in the Maccabiah Village project is made for such a pool being built as soon as funds will be forthcoming from

other sources.

c) When the project was originally studied alongside the estimates of cost, the promoters assumed, and not without good reason and justification, that the onus of raising money will not rest solely upon the World Executive in Israel. Support for it was to be sought and enlisted in many quarters including the Israel Government, the Jewish agency, as well as many overseas Jewish communal organisations, not to mention well-wishers and contributors known for their generosity towards every endeavour designed to benefit Jewish youth as well as the welfare of the Israeli population. No serious attempt has as yet been made to enlist such support and already critics proclaim that the "war has been lost". The magnificent gesture made by Mr. Copenhagen of Brazil who offered to contribute £2,000 towards the erection of part of the Maccabiah Village is best proof of the existence of potential resources from which contributions will be obtained. Mr. Romi Goldmuntz's contribution of £1,000 towards the Maccabiah Village made in 1956 is yet another proof. Great Britain has already contributed the best part of £10,000 without which money the first building - the dining room and offices - now proudly standing on the Maccabiah grounds, would not have come into being. During the Congress debates many delegates from overseas supported the project and promised to give assistance towards its realisation.

I am sure that given appropriate publicity further support will be forthcoming providing the Maccabi World Union Executive is itself fully determined to proceed with the project and not to abandon it, thereby adopting the line of least resistance, unbecoming to men and women claiming to love adventure and professing to live up to the fine tradition of ancient Maccabians.

d) An alternative to the Maccabiah Village has recently been the topic of frequent discussion. Our American friends declared that they would not be partners to the erection of the "Village" but they were first to recognise that it was essential to provide suitable accommodation for athletes coming to Israel to participate in a World Sports Festival. They, and some other English-speaking observers, thought that the Hebrew University in Jerusalem or the Wingate Institute, near Natanya, would serve our purposes admirably. Indeed, many of those who inspected the facilities of the Wingate Institute returned full of enthusiasm and praise for it. They no longer attached any importance to the distance which athletes would have to travel between the Wingate Institute and the Ramat Gan Stadium (to mention but one venue where Maccabiah sports events are being held). They recognised that sleeping accommodation at the Wingate Institute was not adequate for the present and yet they held the view that additional accommodation could be "created". They were impressed by the running track and other facilities available at the Wingate Institute and which, they rightly claimed, did not exist at the present Maccabiah Village - NOT YET!

In a word, they have all but "captured" the Wingate Institute, even before asking the Trustees of the Institute whether they too agreed to such a partnership being entered into, without the Maccabi World Union, or its supporters having to contribute large funds towards its further development and maintenance.

The "wise men" suggesting that athletes should be housed in the buildings of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem or at the Wingate Institute are guilty of cardinal oversights. They forget that Jerusalem is farther away from Tel-Aviv or from Ramat-Gan, that all Maccabiah organisers, without exception, happen to be residents of Tel-Aviv and that all of them are voluntary workers, devoting many hundreds of hours to ensure the success of every Maccabiah, held in Israel every four years. Those offering alternative suggestions do not happen to be the Israelis. The "wise men" do not happen to be committed to the vast amount of work entailed in the organisation of the Maccabiah games, engaged in the finding of voluntary workers and helpers, in the securing of venues for indoor and outdoor events, in the preparation of running tracks and seating accommodation for

spectators, in the distribution and sale of tickets, etc. The critics of the present Maccabiah Village would "settle" for a bad alternative rather than commit themselves to a few more years of honest work, so that the Maccabi World Union shall have its own Institute for Physical Education, its own hostel where sporting youth from all over the World can be accommodated, its own home and training ground.

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.

e) An argument which is capable of defeating even the greatest enthusiasts of the Maccabiah Village Scheme and which has scored many a debating point is that employed by those who put the simple question: "Is it really worth while spending a few hundred thousand pounds on the "Village" project merely to accommodate 1000 athletes for a period of two weeks once every four years?"

Those taking a short term view could not but agree with this argument. But those more familiar with the problems of Maccabiah organisation in the broadest sense, must try also to broaden their outlook and adopt the long term view:

We are either a World Movement, or we are going to be satisfied with acting as amateur-contractors to the Maccabiah games, improvising these as best and as cheaply as we can, disregarding completely, after each Maccabiah was held, the criticism and frustration which it produced, both in the ranks of the organisers as well as of the participants. We must come to the realisation that unless the Maccabiah is going to be held in Israel regularly once every four years, the whole idea of the Maccabiah may as well be abandoned here and now, and one of the main assets of the Maccabi Movement reduced to nil. The energy spent by veteran Maccabiah organisers - three such events in a matter of seven years - is not inexhaustible. We all grow older and more tired. Solid foundations must be laid to future Maccabians if we consider them important enough for the progress which the Movement is to make. There may never be another or a better opportunity than now to erect a monument to a man who gave his life to a cause to which we are all dedicated. There may never be a better time to find men and women ready and willing to work for the completion of the project which had already justified its existence - for it served us well, even in its primitive form, during the period of the 5th Maccabiah.

I know of no other country in the World which would be willing or capable of organising entirely games once every four years, by their own exclusive efforts. Our Maccabi friends in Israel are still willing to remain harnessed in this arduous task but, not unreasonably, they say that they cannot organise the games - as is expected of them - as well as to spend a lot of energy and money, to provide suitable provisional accommodation for about 1000 athletes.

It must also be remembered that in accordance with the original project the Maccabiah Village was to serve as a recreational centre, as a meeting ground as well as a training Institute for Maccabi members in Israel and that its facilities would be available, on easy terms, to groups of youth, Maccabi or other, touring Israel and who are afforded an opportunity to meet and to fraternise with Israeli youth, primarily with Maccabi youth. If for no other motives - the "Village" deserves our wholehearted support, and that of all others who participate in the Maccabiah Games.

THE WORK CONTINUES.

The Committee already working on the further development of the "Village" comprises such persons as Mrs. Aron Netanel, Mr. G. Gurewitz, Mr. Abraham Krinitzy and others, who understand our needs as do the many of the Maccabi leaders residing inside and outside Israel. They are determined to proceed with the development and

completion of the scheme and do not wish to see Maccabi athletes staying at Universities or Institutes as temporary tenants or as paying guests.

THE "INVISIBLE" ENEMY.

I do not share altogether the misgivings of some of our Maccabi friends in Israel who fear that unless the Maccabiah Village is completed and made to become a physical and spiritual centre of the Maccabi World Union, sooner or later other Israeli sports organisations far stronger numerically and financially than Maccabi, notably Hapoel, would erect such an edifice on the ruins of our frustrated hopes.

The Maccabiah and the Maccabiah Village are not the be-all and end-all of the Maccabi World Movement. Admittedly, they are very important assets in our otherwise poor inventory. In cases of this kind I favour co-operation rather than competition. I incline towards the belief that the Maccabiah Village as well as the Maccabiah can become the object of a free and voluntary partnership - in the achievement of the ultimate success of our objectives. This does not necessarily mean that the Maccabi World Union is prepared to divorce itself either from the responsibility which this enterprise entails or to deprive itself of one of the greatest factors of attraction which the Movement has to offer to World Jewish youth.

Only time and experience will show whether optimism and firm resolution for which our Maccabi friends in Israel are so well famous hold a better promise of success than the attitude displayed by some critics whose state of mind is primarily obscured by the prospects of failure.

The 13th World Maccabi World Union Congress.

Copies of a full report will shortly be sent to all delegates who attended this memorable Congress. Here, I wish to deal only with some of its principal highlights and features as seen by an active observer.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE.

In response to a request made by me during a personal interview with him, Mr. Ben Gurion was good enough to send a personal message, the full text of which will be published in the Congress report. It delighted the large gathering present at the opening session when it was read aloud by the Hon. General Secretary of the Executive, Mr. A. Tory. This is the first occasion upon which the Prime Minister of Israel has sent such a message to a Maccabi Congress, congratulating the World Executive on its achievements, in general, and on the 5th Maccabiah in particular.

Other messages included one from the Prime Minister of Canada and another from the Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, Honorary President of the European Regional Executive Headquarters.

The opening session of the Congress was also honoured by the presence of Mr. Sprintzak, the Speaker of the Knesset (the Israeli Parliament), the Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Mr. Levanon, Mr. Dolczyn, representing the Executive of the Jewish Agency, as well as by representatives of many Israeli Institutions and youth organisations, most notably among them being leaders of Hapoel.

A "HAPOEL" INCIDENT.

Mr. Pinsk, General Secretary of Hapoel, ventured to suggest,

in the course of his message of greetings and congratulations, that the future Maccabiahs be Government-sponsored. This proposal was considered ill-timed and I felt that it was rather a pity that it assumed the form of a challenge. Mr. Zysman, Chairman of Maccabi Israel, seized upon the opportunity and assured the delegates with some passion, that the Maccabiah shall never become a Government controlled enterprise - "Ours is not a totalitarian state where all organisations are subordinated to Government policy" - Mr. Zysman explained. Mr. Tory was even more fanatical in his opposition. In my closing remarks I tried to pour some oil upon the troubled waters having pleaded with the "Hapoel" not to insist upon the Maccabi World Union parting with one of its most cherished Institutions. "This was not the time or place to discuss so controversial a topic".

THE CONGRESS PRAESIDIUM.

The premature and very much lamented death of Aron Netanel left a painful vacuum which it will be very difficult to fill. Every one would have wished Aron Netanel to be present in our midst, to be guided by his wisdom and counsel and to see him preside at one of the most important Maccabi gatherings attended by delegates from practically every corner of the World. Alas, that was not to be.

When requested to preside at the Opening Session, and again to deliver the keynote speech at the first business session, I felt extremely embarrassed as well as unworthy of the honour conferred upon me. However, I had to subordinate personal feelings and timidity to a sense of duty and I realised that here was an opportunity to urge delegates to rise to the occasion, to raise the level of discussion above personal differences and to call upon them to dedicate themselves to the common cause which all of us serve selflessly and enthusiastically.

I believe that the Congress has achieved far more than could be expected under the difficult circumstances at present facing the Movement. I laid great emphasis upon our policy being revised in the light of changing conditions the World over. Accordingly, the Movement's written Constitution was equally to undergo various changes, but only after further practical experience has been gained. Consequently, I advocated that Congress instructs the incoming Executive to draw up a brief Constitution to be extended in future years as circumstances and conditions justify.

I underlined and insisted upon the incoming Executive distributing its tasks and responsibilities in a manner which would commit every one member during his term of office to perform specific functions, for the proper discharge of which he would be answerable to his fellow Executive members and that the Executive, as a whole, would be responsible to the World Congress - the supreme governing body.

I appealed for stricter control being exercised over Maccabi teams going overseas to play matches against far superior professional or amateur teams prior to having acquired far more training and experience. I drew also attention to great harm being caused to Maccabi organisations overseas as a result of the frequent involvements of the Maccabi organisation in Israel in political controversies.

Mr. Zysman, speaking on behalf of Maccabi, made an important declaration, soon after I concluded my speech, and which, in my humble opinion, has not received adequate publicity. He stated that Maccabi-Israel is determined not to allow itself to be drawn into

political controversy, that it will pursue a programme of sports and cultural activities free from party affiliations and that it will exercise powers vested in it with a view to bringing about closer co-operation between itself and Maccabi Territorial organisations in other lands.

Maccabi World Union Leadership.

THE NEWLY ELECTED WORLD EXECUTIVE.

One of the most outstanding features of the Executive elected by the World Congress on September 30th, 1957, was the inclusion of leading and active Maccabi personalities from South Africa and South America. The presence of the dynamic delegates from South America and South Africa was truly gratifying. Some did not realise the numerical strength of the Maccabi Movement in those parts of the World. They were equally pleased to hear Mr. Alan Ross of Australia speak of the future plans for the development of the Movement in a vast country where the Jewish population is on the increase. It was therefore, a happy thought to invite representatives from all these far distant countries to join the World Executive, to participate in its work and to share in the responsibilities of leadership and management.

ARDUOUS TASKS.

The main burden of work and administration will rest, as in previous years, upon the shoulders of Executive members in Israel. So far as is known most of them have cheerfully accepted office and the responsibility it entails, and some of our Israeli colleagues have even shown anxiety lest they would not be re-elected. It is much to be regretted that a few of our Maccabi veteran workers were not re-elected this time. It is to be hoped, however, that when invited to join the Executive as co-optees they will respond favourably.

JOINT RESPONSIBILITY.

Although it was agreed that members of the Executive residing in Israel shall set up and continue to "run" the Executive Headquarters thus being collectively responsible for the implementation of policy as well as for the major part of the Movement's administration and co-ordination, Congress delegates have been assured that no major decision bearing a departure from, or having a bearing on the Movement's policy, shall be arrived at before every member of the Executive, no matter where they reside, shall be consulted.

THE NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

As is well known to those with whom I conferred during my recent stay in Israel prior and during the Congress having met - and I must say that I have had conversations with scores of friends and advisors - I have accepted nomination of Chairman of the World Executive most reluctantly and with a heavy heart. Finally, I had to subordinate my reluctance - to take on additional responsibility - to a sense of duty, and I hope that I shall be judged not by my decision but by my future actions.

I have made it clear to all those who endeavoured to prevail upon me to accept nomination that I did not think that a Chairman of a World Executive could "perform" to his satisfaction or to that of his fellow-Executive-members unless he was able to work with them maintaining constant personal touch, meeting together and exchanging views by word of mouth. My advisors and those who wished me to become the leader of the Movement reminded me that I have proved it possible to exercise influence on the World Executive as well as on the European Movement by what is called "remote control". I am already well known as a prolific letter-writer which produced some good results in past years. I have been assured that my letters are being read very carefully by those who are interested in the Movement's progress and that in very many cases my advice tendered in the body of

such letters has been heeded as well as acted upon. It may sound immodest for me to quote some of the statements made by my colleagues. Nevertheless, I feel I ought to do that because I owe an explanation to those who were rather surprised at my final decision.

THE PRESIDENT

During my latest visit to Israel, this last September, I have frequently met many members of the Executive residing in Israel and in the course of intimate talks with them I was deeply impressed by their sincerity and devotion to Maccabi ideals. I thought, therefore, that if I proved able to harness their talents to specific and well defined functions, to which they are most adaptable, and given a clear-cut policy which the Executive is duty bound to pursue between now and the next Congress, to be held in two years time, an experiment was worth undertaking. The worst that could happen, I thought, was that the Movement will have made no progress, or very little, during my term of office, which may well come to an end in 24 months time from now.

On the other hand a new approach and a new outlook may well produce better results, not necessarily spectacular. I have been assured of fullest co-operation and I am particularly grateful to Mr. Nahum Het, who very kindly accepted office of President of the World Executive, and who undertook also to preside at periodical Executive meetings in my absence. At the time of writing these lines close contact has already been established between Nahum Het, A. Tory and myself as well as with S. Zysman, Chairman of Maccabi-Israel, who, in my opinion, is a very worthy and able Maccabi leader from whom we can expect even greater things in years to come.

As my nomination and election has been unanimous and by acclamation this encouraged me considerably and I sincerely hope that promises given me will be made good. Likewise I shall spare no efforts to justify the confidence placed in me. So help me God.

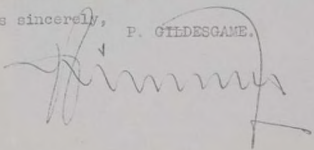
I cannot conclude this "Letter" without paying a sincere tribute to Nahum Het, the very much respected and beloved Honorary President of Maccabi Israel, who despite failing health, came out of his enforced retirement from active Maccabi work - reporting for duty at a time when the leadership of Maccabi needed him badly. I was deeply impressed by his arguments and sound reasoning, and I feel confident that under his wise guidance, and with his unequalled knowledge of Maccabi affairs and the Movement, the World Executive will find in him a trusted, able and inspiring President.

It will be noted that this, 60th, Newsletter, does not contain the usual "news items". I devoted all the space to comments and observations. I hope to be able to continue publication of this Newsletter at frequent intervals.

Meanwhile, I send my personal greetings to all my readers, colleagues, collaborators as well as to all friends of the Maccabi Movement from near and afar. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank all my friends who so kindly congratulated me on my election as Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive.

Yours sincerely,

P. GILDESGAME.



הסתדרות עולמית מכבי MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
P.C., T.D., O.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Roni Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

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CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 61.

DEC 1957

5th MACCABIAH PICTORIAL REMINISCENCES



Debra Turner (Gt. Britain) winning the 100 metres Finals in 12.1 seconds.



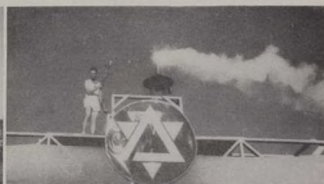
Pierre Gildesgame addressing the gathering at the laying of the foundation stone of a new Maccabi House in Ramat Gan.



An artist's impression of the 5th Maccabiah Village Camp.



The first permanent structure (Dining Hall) at the Maccabiah Village.



The 5th Maccabiah Torch Bearer

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 61. DECEMBER, 1957.

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment.

Criticism Invited.

The last issue of this "Newsletter" (No. 60) produced much gratifying comment from very many readers in all parts of the world. I feel I ought to make it clear, however, that I shall always be happy to publish readers' criticism on any controversial subject, whether of general or of particular interest. Accordingly, I have invited Colonel Henshel, the very much respected Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, to send me a note for publication in this "Newsletter", giving full and candid expression to his views on the future Maccabiah or the Maccabiah Village project, following upon personal letters exchanged with him on these subjects recently. His comment is awaited.

* * *

The official position I hold, that of Chairman of the World Executive, in no way renders me immune from criticism and, moreover, anyone tendering constructive comment on any aspect of Maccabi work will earn my sincere gratitude.

I will not publish any complimentary remarks so often received by me but I will be glad, if so requested, to publish comments or criticism on any matter which may at any time be raised on the pages of this "Newsletter".

* * *

FOOTBALL AND POLITICS.

The Organising Committee of the World Football Cup, meeting at Lausanne recently, decided that the countries classed second in each qualifying group would be included in a draw to find an opponent for Israel. This decision was necessitated because several teams in the Asia-Africa Group refused to play Israel.

Countries included in the so-called Asia-Africa Group, who refused to play Israel, comprised, among others, Turkey, Sudan, Egypt, Indonesia and all Arab countries in the Middle East.

It appears that the Organising Committee of the World Cup had no alternative but to declare Israel the "winner" against all these countries which decided to scratch. No sanctions can apparently be applied against countries refusing to play. Such is the state of affairs prevailing in the world of sports and affecting one of the Sports most competed for in this civilised world. So far, not a single protest has been heard and not a single objection raised. According to the rules of the World Cup, each country must play two matches - one at home and one away. All countries who so far scratched, refused to play Israel in Israel and would not welcome an Israel team to their own country.

It now remains to be seen whether some of Russia's satellites the "angel guardians" of the Arab countries will - as an act of solidarity with their Arab and Moslem 'brethren', likewise refuse to play Israel in the World Football Cup.

* * *

An ugly incident took place recently in Belfast, where the Northern Ireland team played an Italian team. The crowd became so excited at the alleged fouling by the Italian players, that they attacked the visitors causing them bodily harm. If friendly matches serve to rouse racial or national animosity, then it is high time for the F.I.F.A. to step in energetically to introduce enforceable measures designed to punish offenders, be it for bad conduct or found guilty of racial discrimination.

An International Maccabiah Association.

A TENTATIVE PROPOSAL.

I invite comment on the following proposal:

Considering that three Maccabiah Games have been successfully organised in Israel since the end of the Second World War and that the Maccabiah now ranks as an International Sports Meet, having earned full recognition by International Governing bodies of various branches of amateur sports; considering also that the Maccabiah has, by its character, fully earned the title of the World Jewish Sports Festival, I wonder whether you consider it a good idea to form an INTERNATIONAL MACCABIAH ASSOCIATION. The prime object of the Association would be to ensure the participation of national teams of selected Jewish athletes from all over the world, regardless whether such teams are formed by the local Maccabi Territorial Organisations or by independent sponsoring Committees of public-spirited promoters - where no organised Maccabi Territorial Organisations exist.

There are countries where no Jewish Sports Organisation is allowed (such as Turkey, Tunis, or Morocco) but where there are fairly large Jewish communities, with an impressive number of youth engaged in the pursuit of amateur sports, in which they often excel. There are other countries where no organised Maccabi Territorial Organisations exist, (such as the U.S.A. and Canada) but whose public spirited communal leaders have sponsored participation in previous Maccabihs and will do so again, if encouraged, and treated on a basis and in the spirit of a friendly partnership.

It is too much to expect from Israel, or for that matter, from the Maccabi World Union, - the chief sponsors of the Maccabioth - successfully to organise the Games once every 4 years and to play the part of generous hosts to all-comers willing to field a team, to participate in the various Maccabiah events, able to pay for their keep and accommodation during their stay in Israel.

Likewise, we cannot reasonably expect all participants to accept, without question, every condition laid down by the Maccabiah organisers, be it as regards the programme of events, matters affecting feeding, accommodation of athletes and, above all, appertaining to eligibility as to participation.

It can be reasonably assumed that all those who participated in previous Maccabihs were glad to do so, and would come back again to compete for highest honours in amateur sports, under the blue skies of Israel; I am convinced, however, that a far better 'esprit de corps' and a sense of collective responsibility for the successful outcome of the Games could be fostered providing all countries able to participate were fully consulted

in all matters, in good time, latest two years prior to the date of the next Maccabiah. By the adoption of this procedure the "sovereignty" of the Maccabi World Union, that of principal sponsors of the Games, will in no way be impinged. On the contrary, the Maccabi World Union would be assured of fullest international moral and material support in its undertakings, as well as of best endeavours from those keenly interested in enhancing the value of the Maccabiah and its prestige in the eyes of the Jewish and non-Jewish world.



"Yogi Mayer, Team Coach, being congratulated on successes of the British 5th Maccabiah athletes."

It is well known, even in countries where the Maccabiah Organising Committees are set up under the auspices of the Governing Bodies of the Maccabi Territorial Organisations, that a welcome development took place in recent years, resulting in non-Maccabi members being eligible for inclusion in Maccabiah teams. Thus, in a country like Great Britain, the Maccabiah Organising Committee comprised among its leaders individuals who owe their "allegiance" to other Jewish Sports Organisations, co-operating in a friendly spirit with their Maccabi counterparts. Co-operation between the Association for Jewish Youth, one of the oldest and leading Jewish Youth Organisations, and the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain has never been more harmonious, and the only competition being encouraged between these two bodies is on the field of sports.

I believe that the formation of an "INTERNATIONAL MACCABIAH ASSOCIATION" may well attract applications for membership from well over 40 countries and, in this manner, the coming World Jewish Sports Festival - the 6th Maccabiah - due to be held in 1961, may well deserve of its title and claim to uniqueness.

It is suggested that all participating countries, or those intending to participate, would be eligible for membership of the International Maccabiah Association, with 2 or 3 representatives sitting on the 'Grand Council' to advise and decide on all matters within the purview of that bodies' authority.

Providing the idea as such meets with favourable reaction, it will give me courage to draw up a Memorandum setting out in broad outline the aims and objects of the "Association", conditions of membership, etc. It goes without saying that this is my own idea and that, to implement it, it will require the formal approval of the Maccabi World Executive and of its constituent bodies.

Should the proposal be understood and well received, and should the memorandum to follow be considered as a basis for further discussion, the offer made by our good American and Canadian friends, to meet me in London during the Spring of 1958 will be more than welcome, and an opportunity afforded to them, as well as to representatives from many other countries, for fuller discussion.

MACCABI IN THE BELGIAN CONGO.

I am sure everyone will be pleased to learn of the formation of a Maccabi Sports Club in the heart of Africa. A letter, dated November, 1957, announces that a Maccabi Sports Club has been started in Elisabethville, operating several sections, comprising Basketball, Table Tennis and Athletics. Contact has been established with the President of the Club and, before long, we hope to be able to announce fuller details of this latest addition to our Maccabi family on the African Continent.

THE HISTORY OF THE MACCABIOTH.

A pamphlet has just reached me, printed in Israel by "Sports Publications" describing the history of the five Maccabioth, held in 1932, 1935, 1950, 1953 and 1957. The pamphlet comprises also the final results of each Maccabiah and is illustrated with action photographs. Subject to time permitting, I hope to have the pamphlet translated and published some time in 1958. So far as I know, this is the first attempt to record the history of the five Maccabioth, all of which were held in Israel.

A PERSONAL NOTE.

My colleagues, with whom I am in daily contact by means of an exchange of letters and cables, realise how difficult a task I undertook since I agreed to become Chairman of the World Executive. I was as conscious at the end of September, as I am today, that it is difficult, nay impossible, to do justice to this task by remote control, to advise, to guide, or to direct an Executive team from a distance of some thousands of miles. We are fortunate in that our President, Mr. Nahum Heth, has agreed to preside over Executive meetings and to take charge of day-to-day problems, the solution of which necessitates wisdom, experience and authority. Mr. Heth, like myself, undertook a task of great responsibility at a time when the Movement needed a firm hand and an alert brain, engaged, as it is at present, in the pursuit of yet greater accomplishments and impeded, as it will be, by shortcomings of an organisational and financial nature.

But having promised to do our utmost to fill the vacuum, created as a consequence of the untimely death of the late Aton Netanel, we are determined to persevere regardless of the sacrifice which the fulfilment of our commitments will entail.

It now appears to me that I shall have to make flying visits to Israel, once or twice each year, in order to acquaint myself, on the spot, with various situations arising from time to time, as well as to exchange notes and ideas with my Executive colleagues on problems of major policy.

With Maccabi Greetings,

Yours sincerely,

P. GILDESGAME.
Chairman.

1458.

NEWS FROM THE MACCABI WORLD UNION EXECUTIVE H.Q., ISRAEL.AFTERMATH OF THE MACCABIAH.

Meanwhile, the news reaching me from Israel clearly shows that our Executive colleagues were unable to take a well deserved rest after the arduous work done by them for several months prior to, and during, the Maccabiah. In fact, the aftermath of the Maccabiah left no breathing space at all.

It is difficult to describe to those who are not familiar with the vast organisation of a Maccabiah, how many detailed accounts there are which require close scrutiny before they are settled. Indeed - I have stated this on previous occasions, namely, to be sure that future Maccabiah Games will be well run, it will be necessary to engage professional experts, experienced in the organisation of indoor and outdoor competitions, in control and planning, in the handling of crowds of spectators, (involving several thousands of people, having adequate knowledge of catering, transportation, accommodation, etc. It is often being forgotten, particularly so by our overseas Maccabi friends, that all former Maccabihs were conceived, organised and run by a handful of enthusiastic amateurs. This must not happen again!

It is unfair to our own colleagues who have more than once broken down under the burden of the heavy assignments; nor is it fair to the participants, who have so often been given cause for disappointment, instead of being able to come away from the Games with a feeling of happiness and gratitude to those who made their stay in Israel so pleasant and memorable...

Inevitable losses.

No wonder, therefore, that we are now informed of the heavy losses sustained on the last Maccabiah venture. There just were not enough competent people able and willing to give their whole time and attention to a gigantic job which, however well-planned, lacked in the finishing touches. Preliminary reports, so far received, may appear alarming, although there is every reason to believe that the income from tickets sold to the public for the Opening and Closing ceremonies, as well as for the various events which were well attended (such as Swimming and Basketball) will have covered the expenses directly connected with the Maccabiah Games. The deficit, now estimated at some IL. 70,000, is attributable mainly to the amount of money spent on the site and buildings of the Maccabiah Village, and which exceeded even the most liberal estimates.

As a consequence of the deficiency some firms press their claims for the re-payment of monies due to them which is not a pleasant experience to endure, especially by persons who have hoped to relax after the strenuous efforts made by them.

Allegations denied.

Some sections of the Israeli Press thought fit to give publicity to unfounded rumours concerning alleged irregularities in the handling of the Maccabiah monies. A whispering campaign has persisted for a little while until a statement was recently issued by the President of the Supreme Court of the M.W.U. who, following upon a close investigation, denied all allegations, describing them as "being without foundation whatever".

Petty jealousies and unfriendly elements have worked overtime in an attempt to undermine the reputation and honour of highly respected and public-spirited Israeli citizens.

The Maccabiah Village - prospects of development.

Undeterred by the financial set-back, the Trustees of the Maccabiah Village have called several meetings and, judging by the Minutes, copies of which I regularly receive, it appears to me that the present financial difficulties will be overcome and those engaged in the unravelling of the complicated accounts, will soon get their reward. They wish for nothing better than to settle all outstanding dues with least delay and to complete the Maccabiah Village project before the Summer of 1958, by which time the "Village" may well be able to make a valuable contribution towards the problem now besetting the minds of the organisers of the 10th Anniversary of the State - that of accommodating tens of thousands of tourists due to visit Israel during 1958, not all of whom can afford the luxury of modern hotels, and who would welcome spending 2 or 3 weeks in the congenial surroundings of the Maccabiah Village.

I understand that an approach is contemplated to the Minister of Finance with a view to acquainting him with the existing situation. According to Mr. Krinitzky, Mayor of Ramat Gan, the grounds and structures already built on the site of the "Village" are worth nearly IL.7,000,000. Mr. Krinitzky knows better-and he is not at all worried!

ISRAELI SPORTS TEAMS OVERSEAS VISITS.

Last October, London weeklies, the well known "Jewish Chronicle" and "Jewish Observer and Middle East Review", published a letter which I wrote to the Editors in reply to articles which appeared in these newspapers a week earlier, levelling severe criticism at Israeli sports teams who have been badly defeated in England and elsewhere in the course of matches against professional football clubs.

I quote hereunder the full text of the letter published:

"Soccer Massacre".

One cannot help agreeing with the observations published on the above subject in your issue dated October 18th. May I be, therefore, permitted of some comments?

Quite recently I brought this matter to the notice of the Hapoel and Maccabi leaders in Israel pointing out that, instead of promoting goodwill, the mediocre teams challenging professional or better amateur teams to games in many overseas countries, these result in frustration and disappointment to all concerned.

One does not expect an Israeli team to win every game, whether played away or at home. But this problem must be looked upon from a rather different angle. Representative Israeli teams, whether playing basketball or football, have met with some success in the United States and elsewhere. This has whetted the appetite of several Israeli Club teams to go abroad, with the pretext that in so doing they will acquire invaluable experience in the course of competition such as is not readily available to them in Israel. Furthermore, the outing of a Maccabi Football team to the Continent immediately produces a request by a Hapoel team for the same privilege. As the Israel Football Association comprises representatives of Maccabi and Hapoel only, the two strongest

Israeli sports organisations, those in whose power it is to decide, dare not incur the displeasure of members of their own organisation which is sure to ensue should such a request be refused.

The Executive of the Maccabi World Union has no more jurisdiction over Maccabi Israel than it has over its other territorial organisations in other lands; if anything, Maccabi Israel have proved less co-operative as regards requests by the Maccabi World Union than is the case with other affiliated organisations, all of whom exercise their autonomous independence. The incessant conflict and strife between the Hapoel and Maccabi organisations in Israel has often proved destructive to the course of sports in Israel and the only occasion on which they join forces, on clear cut terms and conditions, is when an integrated national team has to be formed to compete in the Maccabiah games.

I recognise that this state of affairs is highly unsatisfactory and, speaking for the Maccabi World Executive, I can say that we are resolved to exercise what influence we can wield with a view to composing amicably existing differences.

Our sporting friends in Israel must be reminded - as they have been recently during the public sessions of the 13th Maccabi World Congress - that whilst teams of Israeli sportsmen are at all times welcome in Europe and elsewhere it is preferable for such teams to be representative of Israel rather than of individual clubs and organisations. They were also reminded that even the Israeli representative teams must first undergo hard training under competent instructors and coaches before they venture out abroad incurring the risk of being routed as well as of losing the support of the many thousands of Jewish spectators who, not unnaturally, prefer to witness an Israeli victory instead of an utter and ridiculous defeat.

I should also like to make it clear that Israeli teams visiting this country do so normally under the auspices of semi or professional promoters and not with the co-operation of the British Maccabi Union. These promoters offer attractive terms to the Israeli teams which the latter find difficult to resist. The promoters should be warned against this practice for sooner or later they will find themselves losing money as well as large numbers of spectators, mainly comprising Jews."

Some Israeli newspapers quoted the above letter in full accompanied by an Editorial Comment.

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SPORTS DISCUSSED IN THE KNESSET.

A few days ago, I received copies of Israeli newspapers reporting on a recent discussion in the Knesset, arising from

a motion submitted by a Member of Parliament to assist Israeli sportsmen to participate in the forthcoming Asian Games. Sports Editors commented editorially expressing agreement with the views I expressed in the London newspapers as to the undesirability of sending Israeli teams abroad unless they are properly trained and have a reasonable chance of acquitting themselves in the course of international competitions. The views expressed by me in print, as well as in the course of the last Congress, are beginning to gain ground and support, and I hope that it will lead to what the Editor of the "Haaretz" advocates, namely, the engagement by Israeli Sports Federations, with the assistance of the Government, of first-class Tutors, Instructors and Trainers, whose task it will be to pick best Israeli sportsmen and to train them for individual, as well as team contests, with a reasonable chance of success.

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World Executive Policy - The Future.

Much thought has already been given to the policy which is to be pursued by the recently-elected Executive. I shall be the last man to be pressed into making hasty decisions before we are very clear as to the practical and ideological role which the World Executive is to play. Let us, therefore, analyse the position, both in retrospect, as well as regards the future.

By way of explanation, it should be stated that all voluntary welfare organisations, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, with very few exceptions, suffer from one major drawback: lack of financial means to implement its aims and objects. The same situation affects even small youth clubs, whose handful of leaders struggle continually under the burden of a deep-felt sense of duty, ending with frustration, because they are unable to organise and to run their clubs, to ensure the convenience and happiness of their members; all this because of a lack of funds! Those who are more stout-hearted and who do not tire prematurely, have to combine the dual role of club-leader and of fund-raiser. In most cases, fund-raising efforts end in frustration which undermines morale and a will to carry on.

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THE PRE-1957 EXECUTIVES - THE PAST.

Reverting to the World Executives, such as we have known to exist for the past decade or so, let it be admitted that they were unable to exercise the authority vested in them by the Supreme Governing Body of the Movement - the World Congress, not because the members were unwilling or incompetent individually and collectively, but primarily because they did not have sufficient funds at their disposal to carry planned action into effect. They have been severely criticised even by those treating the Movement in earnest. I must confess that I was one of the most persistent critics. When we were told that there were no funds available, even to defray the cost of postage or telegrams, we simply did not believe it possible. When publications appeared in poor form, we rejected them, out of hand, because we refused to believe (in fact we refused to give it even any thought) that the World Executive H.Q. could not afford the expense.

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THE NETANEL PERIOD.

Ever since the late Netanel assumed the Chairmanship of the World Executive, things began to look up and I think it is true to say that the major portion of the general overheads incurred in Tel-Aviv, was derived from personal contributions made by the

late Netanel, or from some of his business associates. Until 4 years ago, the World Executive did not even possess an office, let alone a suite of offices. General Secretaries came and went because there was not enough money to pay their meagre salaries. With such a state of affairs prevailing over many years, one should not be surprised if members of the Executive, willing to devote energy, time and thought to their work, became disappointed and embittered, merely because no machinery existed to give substance to their initiative and planning.

Even some of our best known Maccabi leaders in Europe, and elsewhere, did not hesitate severely to criticise the World Executive for its inactivity, or for a lack of imagination in their daily work. Contact with some overseas Maccabi Territorial Organisations was confined to casual visits or letters exchanged between members of the Executive in Tel-Aviv and overseas.

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PEAK ACTIVITY STIMULATED BY MACCABIAH.

Feverish activity became more evident on the eve of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Maccabiahs, and many members of the Executive who emerged from their "retirement", were said - by malicious tongues - to be seeking the limelight and publicity. They were nicknamed "The Photogenics". Upon closer analysis, it will be found that these outbursts of sudden activity were not actuated merely by a desire to "jump on the Band-waggon"; they were rather the outcome of a simple psychological reaction: the prospect of a successful enterprise stimulated mind and body into action! Only 6 or 8 people became the main pillars on which the Maccabiah structures were erected, from pious hope into a magnificent and most impressive spectacle, a spectacle of which we were all proud and to which we paid unstinting tribute and praise. Many hundreds volunteered their services during the period of the Maccabiah's duration.

We are told that a month or so after the Maccabiah took place, members of the Executive returned to their homes and offices, completely oblivious to the day-to-day problems affecting the World Movement.

How much truth is there in the last statement? No-one following the day-to-day activities of the Executive H.Q. in Israel, for the past few years, can plead ignorance of such names as the late Netanel, Joshua Alouf, Abraham Tory, Robert Atlasz, Z. Rusecki, Mrs. G. Singer, Y. Hadari, Walter Feuchtwanger, Marcus and others. They were all well known names, whether uttered in the course of criticism or praise. We were also familiar with other names, such as those of Fritz Lewinsohn, Dr. Justic, Alexandroni, etc.

LET US BE FAIR: Did we consider these men as being completely devoid of a desire to look after the business of the World Executive, or did we elect them even though we considered them incompetent? Strange to relate that those who criticised the Executive members in Israel more frequently and assiduously count among some of the most capable and most devoted Maccabi leaders, alive today, both in Israel and overseas. They happen to be men able to exercise beneficial influence, whose voices would be heard with attention and their opinions heeded, if only they bothered to express such opinions, coupled with constructive proposals intended to correct mistakes, at the same time submitting plans and projects to ensure a better future for the Movement under the leadership of a better, more competent and more able team of Executive members.

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THE MACCABIAH "CONTRACTORS".

With the added knowledge I have acquired in the course of the past 2 or 3 years - the years during which I have maintained a very close contact with the late Netanel and with most Executive colleagues - I can state today, without fear of contradiction, that the main reason for the failure of the World Executive to play its part as the parent and policy-making body of the Movement, is attributable almost entirely to a lack of funds, without which no organisation can exist, let alone progress.

There is yet another reason which must be mentioned in connection therewith: Maccabiah preparations have sapped much energy, and those engaged in this ambitious and substantial enterprise could not really be expected to devote simultaneously time to anything else. Thus, it has become almost proverbial - cynical as it may sound - that the World Executive has, for the past 12 years or so, been acting in capacity of glorified "MACCABIAH CONTRACTORS". Instead of paying praise or tribute, this statement was usually coupled with words of contempt or derision. I said many a time to those unaware of the vast amount of work which the organisation of the Maccabiah entails, that if the Maccabiah is considered an important instrument in the fulfilment of the Maccabi World Union's aims and objects, then it is also worthwhile working and fighting for it. Those remaining aloof, or playing the part of critical observers, have the least right to "run down" the few brave men who risk their health and, at times, also their livelihood, so that you and I may ultimately be able to say, with pride: "I too am a member of the World Executive, the organisers of the splendid World Jewish Sports Festival. Isn't it wonderful?"...

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A SMALL OR LARGE EXECUTIVE?

Let it also be stated that some of the past critics, not excluding myself, held the view that the World Executive should comprise only about 6 or 8 members at the most, as the rest are known to be superfluous, redundant, incompetent and, at the best, seeking opportunities for self-aggrandizement and the limelight of publicity. Childish talk? Yes, I think so, but as we know most "free" criticism springs usually from ignorance rather than from reliable knowledge. I am not suggesting that it is far better to have an Executive body in Israel, comprising 30 men, whilst all the work be done only by few. Considering, however, that the World Executive's programme, not such as we have known in the past, but such as we wish to see implemented in the future requires many brains and "all hands on deck", an attempt to restrict its number to a fixed figure, without regard to tasks and assignments requiring daily attention amounts to plain defeatism. One cannot expect voluntary workers to remain in office for a period of 4 years, assailed by critics and denied elementary facilities, to give their services untiringly, regardless of their domestic business or professional commitments. On the other hand, I always held the view that there was no place on any Executive Committee for men who do not wish to give of their best.

Anyone who can suggest to me 6 or 8 names of experienced Maccabi voluntary workers residing in Israel, willing and able to do all such work such as the conduct of the affairs of the M.W.U. requires, will earn my everlasting gratitude.

It is my considered opinion that the composition of the Executive be determined, not by the number of its members, but rather by the number of assignments and tasks to be accomplished.

This, therefore, means that we must be clear, in the first place, as to what the duties of the World Executive H.Q. of the Maccabi Movement are. Once we have agreed on that, after very careful consideration, we can then say that the World Executive membership would be confined to X persons and, if there are any more willing to render services in an advisory capacity, by consistently attending Executive meetings, their presence will also be welcome.

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A POLICY FOR THE FUTURE.

With all these considerations in mind, I am now endeavouring to define, in clear and concise form, the policy which is to be pursued by the incoming Executive, elected by the 13th World Congress, assigning to each member elected a specific task, for which he would be responsible and answerable to the Executive body and to the Movement as a whole. This is, I believe, the way to go about it and, if the reform should entail delays required for further thought and deliberation, I feel that such delays will do no harm and that only good can ultimately come from it; additional time at our disposal will afford us an opportunity to acquire additional experience and knowledge. No plan is much good unless it is based on full knowledge, realistically and soberly digested.

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The 14th World Congress is due to meet in 2 years' time. I hope and pray that, when the World Executive presents itself before elected delegates from every part of the Universe where Maccabi organisations exist, it will be able to give a good account of itself and elections of Executive members, in future, will be decided upon individual merit, and not upon expressed hopes and promises only.

To enable the Executive to plan, as well as to act, it will require adequate funds. In the first place, such funds will have to be contributed by Territorial Organisations in the form of fixed membership fees, or voluntary donations, in regard to which they will be advised in due course.

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The Executive is also considering how to implement the various resolutions adopted at the last 13th World Congress, urging it to obtain more generous grants from the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency, as well as from any other Institutions whose declared policy it is to look after the welfare of Jewish youth. The World Executive budget is now under review, and Executive members, residing abroad, as well as heads of Territorial Organisations, will be kept fully informed of our plans and requirements.

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Among the various recommendations I propose putting forward will be also one to make greater and better use of World Council members residing in Israel, some of whom were so vocal, both in their criticism, as well as in praise, during the plenary sessions at the last and previous Congresses. I am sure that their talents and keen desire to promote Maccabi on a universal basis can be put to good use. I am suggesting to several members of the World Executive, entrusted with the principal tasks such as Sports, Youth Education, Financial matters, etc., to set up Advisory Boards by inviting well experienced Israeli friends, preferably members of the World Council, to join such Boards and to serve upon them. Thus, I visualise the formation of a SPORTS

DIRECTORATE, of a MACCABIAH MANAGEMENT BOARD, of a BOARD OF TREASURERS and of subsidiary FINANCIAL SUB-COMMITTEES, a BOARD OF YOUTH EDUCATION (in the general Maccabi sense) a PRESS PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT, etc.

I realise that some of my close colleagues and collaborators reading these lines, will raise their brows, shrug their shoulders and say: "That's yet another pious hope!" I think I ought to issue a warning at once, to those suffering from mental inertia, that I am not going to be discouraged by doubters! I stand, however, corrected, and I will value the advice of those who, sharing the same ideals, will be good enough to put forward their own suggestions, aimed at improving the state of affairs in future and not allowing them to deteriorate.

News from Territorial Organisations.

Little news has been received from my correspondents in various parts of the world during this last month or so. This silence cannot be attributed to non-activity in various Territorial branches. I have reason to believe that the Maccabiah has stimulated more intensified training in sports as well as a better understanding of Maccabi's aims and objects. My friends in SOUTH AFRICA, who led their Maccabiah team last September, continue to write enthusiastically and with satisfaction of their experiences, and they assure me that members of their team felt greatly uplifted and inspired by their short stay in Israel. Another report reached me from SWITZERLAND Oskar Wessely, who led the Swiss team, says:

"Our Swiss Maccabiah participants and officials will, for a long time to come, retain pleasant memories of the 5th Maccabiah. Our Handball team was rather disappointed in that they have not emerged victorious. But they are not despondent, nor do they regret having gone to Israel, where most of them say climatic conditions affected the standard of their play. It was just too hot!"

Our Swiss friends also complain that the problem of competent referees has not been solved to the satisfaction of all. This was particularly true of those refereeing Handball. The Swiss team felt that, International Referees were secured for Basketball, Football and Athletics and that more importance should be paid, in future, to the provision of International Referees for other team competitors.

Our Swiss friends would not have lived up to their reputation had they not complained from time to time. Which is just as well...! For my friend, Wessely, proceeds by saying that it would have been a nice gesture, on the part of European delegates, who occupied seats of honour in the Maccabiah Stadium, if they had found some spare time to visit the teams of the "small nations" in the Maccabiah Village. Wessely pays a tribute to the Israelis and to the friendly hospitality shown by them to all overseas Maccabiah participants. The spirit of comradeship in the Maccabiah Village was splendid and many of those who competed in the Handball Tournaments have become close friends, now exchanging cordial letters which, Wessely adds, will mark the beginning of a lasting International Maccabi friendship.

Swiss Maccabi clubs have resumed activities, their Soccer, indoor Handball, Volleyball and Basketball teams reporting good results in the course of matches played away and at home.

The regular annual convention of Chairmen of all Swiss Clubs was, once again, held in Zurich on November 17th, presided over by David Neufeld, President of Maccabi-Switzerland. Some criticism was heard as regards the organisation of Switzerland's participation in the 5th Maccabiah. The Conference has, therefore, decided that a Maccabiah Fund is to be inaugurated immediately, and that it should not be left to hasty improvisation at the last minute. A Delegates' Conference, representing members of all Maccabi Clubs in Switzerland will be convened next Spring and will consider this matter in greater detail.

Meanwhile, arrangements for the Swiss Maccabi Skiing Competitions are well advanced and are due to be held next February, with the participation of skiers from other European countries.

Readers of this "Newsletter" will well remember Erich Burgheimer, at one time President of Maccabi Switzerland. I am informed that, at 67, he still keeps fit and behaves like a youngster. On November 17th, he took part in a Walking Test over 10 kilometres (about 6 miles). The walk covered a hard road which many young men would find difficult to negotiate. Erich Burgheimer covered the distance in less than 78 minutes. He was awarded the Bronze "Marching Badge" and Diploma.

This is what Maccabi training does to you !

From Belgium, H. Bochner reports: that satisfactory progress has been made in connection with the project of building a "Maccabi House" in Antwerp. A Site, covering 5,000 square metres has just been purchased from the city of Antwerp, upon which the structure is to be erected. Bochner comments: "This beautiful dream will come true." Bochner concludes his letter with a prayer for, and a tribute to, our good friend, Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, who recently celebrated his 75th anniversary: "May God keep and protect our Romi. May He preserve him in good health and may the day be close at hand when Romi Goldmuntz will be present, personally, to inaugurate a "Maccabi House" in Antwerp, towards the realisation of which he has done so much. May the Maccabi House in Antwerp become a monument to Romi Goldmuntz' achievements, as well as an invaluable Home, which members of Maccabi in Antwerp well deserve."

There is no need for me to offer any comments for, anyone who knows Bochner, and who has been following his pro-Maccabi activities for the past 25 or 30 years, will know the motives prompting him to feel so deeply, and to care so much for the future of Maccabi in Antwerp, which he helped build and sustain.

Bochner tells me also that he is quite pleased at Belgium's participation in the 5th Maccabiah, although the results, in the course of competitions, have not proved as good as expected. However, Maccabi-Belgium need no word of encouragement from me. So long as they have such leaders as Herman Bochner, Sally Beck and others, they are sure to go from strength to strength, and be the object of our everlasting pride and satisfaction.

In Great Britain, the successful emergence of the Maccabiah team has done much to add to the reputation which the Movement in this country has been enjoying for the past 30 years. Clubs up and down the country continue to struggle against many difficulties, primarily connected with lack of premises and, therefore, lack of indoor and outdoor facilities for normal activities. Nevertheless, sports activities, under the leadership of Harry Shapiro, who has returned from the last Maccabiah highly satisfied and greatly encouraged, continue to make good progress. New sections are being created in many clubs and inter-club competitions and championships are organised at regular intervals.

One of the leading Maccabi clubs in Great Britain, Maccabi Association in North-West London, has sponsored a Pentathlon competition, in which each competitor will be required to take part in 5 sports and 2 cultural activities, or vice versa. The sporting activities included in the Pentathlon were: Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Fencing, Football, Ladies' Gymnastics, Sailing, Tabletennis, Weightlifting and Wrestling. The Cultural events include Art, Dramatics, Jewish Affairs, Literary, Music and Photography.

The winner of the competition will receive a prize and will also be the club's nominee as a candidate for the "Pierre Gildesgame Annual Scholarship".

Maccabi Chanukah Parades are being organised in many clubs up and down the country and this is now becoming an annual event.

News has also reached me from France that the plans for the acquisition of a Maccabi Home in Paris are progressing satisfactorily.

Mr. Lionel Schalit has recently conferred with Mr. Theo Haas and is shortly to visit other European Maccabi centres.

Mrs. Gusta Singer, member of the World Executive, is at present in New York. She met Colonel Henshel and his colleagues and had also talks with other Maccabi friends. She will be returning to Israel in time for Pesach.

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
P.C., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.

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January, 1958.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 62.

Editorial Comment.

Dear Friends,

DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTORS.

In this issue I am glad to be able to publish contributions from two distinguished readers of this "Newsletter", each one of whom continues to play a leading part in the World Maccabi Movement: The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, P.C., T.D., Hon. President of the Union of Maccabi Associations of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, deals with "The problem of Youth Leaders". Dr. W.W. Meisl is Foreign Editor of "World Sports" - the premier European monthly sports magazine and the official organ of the British Olympic Committee. He analyses objectively the issue affecting "Israel and the World Football Cup". I should add that Dr. W.W. Meisl has, for many years, been Hon. Secretary of the Maccabi World Union Executive, also principal technical advisor to the British Maccabiah Organising Committee. He continues to take a keen interest in the promotion of amateur sports for the benefit of Jewish Youth.

THE MACCABI WORLD UNION "CABINET" COMPLETED.

Since Dr. Eliezer Justic-Dyan, a very experienced member of the World Executive for many years past, has accepted nomination of Vice-Chairman of the present Executive and now that Y. Hadari has agreed to act as Public Relations Officer, having for the past four years acted in capacity of Head of the Organisational Department, functions of individual members of the World Executive elected at the last Congress have been clearly defined and all offices filled. Thus, I am able to announce, with a sense of gratification, the full list of the World Maccabi "Cabinet". I am particularly happy with the present composition of the World Executive, because Mr. N. Heth, the President, will continue to take an active interest in Executive affairs and will also preside over as many meetings as will be found convenient. Moreover, Dr. Justic-Dyan will be able to direct the day-to-day activities of the World Executive in his capacity of Vice-Chairman, in addition to which he undertook full responsibility for the Organisational Department of which he now becomes the nominal Head. Thus, the problem which beset my mind ever since I returned from Israel has been happily solved because, residing in England, I am obviously unable to preside over Executive H.Q. meetings held in Israel, having to exercise my leadership over that important body by remote control.

CLOSE CO-OPERATION.

The experiment, which at one time appeared to be very hazardous, has not proved to be so after all. My daily contact with Tel-Aviv by letter and cable, with practically every member of the Executive, has proved constructive and beneficial. Co-operation with my colleagues by means of an exchange of letters and cables has produced a considerable measure of mutual understanding and resulted in close and harmonious co-operation. Every letter that reaches me daily provides ample proof to this effect. Every member of the Executive is already hard at work preparing plans for future action, setting up various departments, giving effect to a number of resolutions adopted by the last Congress

and to decisions recently taken at the periodical Executive meetings of which I receive very full reports. On my advice, the various departments are being assisted by Israeli members of the World Council, all of whom have had considerable experience in the many spheres of practical Maccabi activities.

Difficulties that remain to be solved as a result of the last Maccabiah are being tackled courageously and imaginatively. There is reason to hope that even the substantial financial deficit suffered as a result of the excess expenditure on the "Maccabiah Village" will shortly be made good with the help of grants and loans which are being negotiated. Under the dynamic leadership of Mr. G. Gurewitz, assisted by a team of serious-minded enthusiasts, the problems of the "Maccabiah Village" and its future development are also being tackled courageously and efficiently.

CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM.

I am not given to optimism just for the sake of alleviating my anxieties or those of my colleagues who share them. But I am confident that the present World Executive realises that to assert its authority and to earn for it the respect and support of Territorial Organisations the world over it will have to produce evidence of its strenuous endeavours and not just try to enlist sympathy for the hard work which is being done and which, despite everything, may not produce tangible results.

Notwithstanding the confidence which I have in my colleagues and because I appreciate the magnitude of the tasks confronting us during the next two years, I have decided to proceed to Israel this coming April, to acquaint myself on the spot with the various plans now being worked out and to preside at as many Executive meetings as time will permit, thus making what modest contribution I can towards the excellent team-spirit being fostered at present.

EUROPEAN INITIATIVE.

Simultaneously with the work being done at the Executive Headquarters in Tel-Aviv, plans are now being prepared for the Annual European Conference which is to be held in London this coming May. This is to be preceded by a meeting of European Executive and Council members which, it is hoped, will be held in London in a month's time. Congress resolutions, in so far as they affect Europe or European Executive members, will be the subject of careful study and the activation of Maccabi work throughout the European Continent will receive prior attention.

The project of the International Maccabiah Association will also be carefully studied from the European point of view, so that World Executive members in Israel and Europe should be able to subscribe to this scheme unanimously prior to the matter being considered at a Conference to be held in London towards the end of May with the participation of Maccabi Territorial Organisations from other parts of the world as well as with representatives of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel and the Canadian Committee sponsoring participation in the Maccabiah.

No-one can be left in any doubt that the World Executive members everywhere are keen to go into action and sincere in their intention to rededicate themselves to the cause of the Maccabi Movement, the continued existence of which must be assured not only from one Congress to another but placed on sound foundations for very many years to come.

AN IMPORTANT PRESS CONFERENCE.

A full report will appear in the next issue of a Press Conference being held on the 27th January at Maccabi House in London over which the Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan will preside. At this Conference, which will be attended by representatives of practically every Israel newspaper in London as well as of the Anglo Jewish Press, will also be attended by Mr. Kidron, the Press Attache of the Israeli Embassy in London. As sole spokesman, I will deal with current problems affecting the Maccabi World Movement, and will endeavour to acquaint the journalists with our plans for the future.

This is the first experiment of this nature which, I hope, will prove successful in many ways. It is my intention to acquaint the Israeli Press,

through their accredited representatives in England, with the many problems besetting the Maccabi World Union and which could be solved in a large measure with the assistance of the Israeli Government as well as through closer co-operation among the various youth movements in Israel.

THE ARAB WORLD TO LEAD IN SPORTS (?).

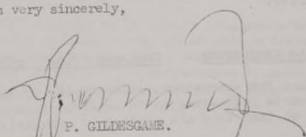
I draw my readers' attention to a report published in this issue on the 2nd Pan Arab Games, held last October in Beirut, as well as to giant stadiums built, or in the process of erection, in Beirut and in Cairo respectively. Knowing the mentality of our Arab cousins, there can be no doubt that they are determined to emulate Israel in every sphere of endeavour and that they have come to realise that the World's attention is focussed as much on sporting achievements as it is on some economic or scientific successes.

We all know that Israel's economy and economic structure bear no comparison to the vast financial resources available to some of their Arab neighbours. We are aware that Israel's uppermost need is connected with defence and increased emigration. The Israel Government can at all times offer a perfectly justifiable excuse for not spending money on youth welfare in such a manner or measure as we would like the Government to do. But the Israel Government must recognise that it cannot much longer afford to overlook the elementary needs of the growing number of 'Sabras' keenly interested in sports and games for which there are practically no facilities at all worthy of a generation brought up in an atmosphere of Western civilisation. There is much evidence already of a growing sense of frustration in the ranks of Israeli youth, steadily giving in to leisurely pursuits, betraying a tendency towards escapism. Apart from the Ramat-Gan Stadium which does not provide proper facilities for track and field events, there is hardly any other venue throughout Israel fit for international sports events or good enough for normal everyday training. A crack Israeli team, be it of footballers, basket ball players or sprinters, good enough to compete in international events, can earn a great deal more publicity for Israel in the outside World than would a discovery or sensational scientific invention. I am sure that the Prime Minister of Israel, whose athletic prowess is not, as well known as his political attributes, would welcome the advent of an Israeli team of athletes competing and defeating, on occasions, some well known foreign teams, at home or away. Large fortunes are not required to finance progressive additions to the non-existent facilities in Israel for training and competition in sports. The initiative must come, in the first place, from the Israeli Sports Organisations and, providing they are at one mind as to the vital necessity to promote physical education in the ranks of Israeli youth, the Government, regardless of party, will, sooner or later, heed such demands and, in the course of time, find the means to satisfy them.

Israel has shown itself superior and farseeing in so many ways thereby having earned for itself the reputation of the most civilised nation in the Near East. Let us, therefore, not lag behind the Arabs in so far as the provision of facilities for physical education is concerned. Let every town and settlement in Israel include in its planning the indispensable addition of playing fields, of running tracks and of pitches for football, basket ball, volley ball, etc. Let there be more open air swimming pools everywhere and let Israel have more than one giant stadium of which it can be truly proud and which can become the training ground for a young generation fit to enjoy life and strong to defend its Fatherland in case of need.

With Maccabi greetings,

Yours very sincerely,


P. GILDESGAME.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORLD EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS.

WHO IS WHO?

I am pleased to publish the full list of the "CABINET" of the Maccabi World Union Executive Headquarters with some pertinent details about each individual:-

NAHUM HETH. President, Hon. President Maccabi-Israel, at one time member of the Knesset, a Haifa lawyer.

P. GILDESGAME. Chairman, also Chairman European Regional Executive Headquarters and of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain. Managing Director of the Gildesgame Group of Companies. (United Kingdom).

DR. E. JUSTIC-DAYAN. Vice-Chairman, has been member of the World Executive for many years past, active in Maccabi-Israel affairs. At present General Manager of the Israel Corporation for Fairs and Exhibitions.

ABRAHAM TORY. Hon. General Secretary, has been acting in the same capacity for the past ten years, a veteran Maccabi leader, a Tel-Aviv lawyer.

DR. R. ATLASZ. Hon. Sports Director, renowned sports expert and veteran Maccabi leader, a Tel-Aviv dental surgeon.

BOARD OF TREASURERS.

* M. BEN-DROR, until recently Chairman of Maccabi-Israel, and for over two decades Chairman of Maccabi-Petah-Tikvah, an expert citrus grower.

* MAX SPITZ. Head of Peltours Head Office in Tel-Aviv and for many years past associated with the South African Maccabi Council. He is also President of the Israel Bowling Association.

* C. CASPI, a well known Maccabi worker in Tel-Aviv and member of the Merkaz Ha'Maccabi in Israel.

Y. ALOOF, Hon. Officer in charge of Maccabiah organisation, a Maccabi veteran leader, Israel's foremost expert in physical education and training. Works for the Ministry of Education as an Inspector of Schools' physical training and education.

A. ALEXANDROWI. Connected for many years with Maccabi work in Israel, a sports editor of Israeli radio and sports columnist of daily newspapers. Hon. Officer in charge of Press, Radio and Publications.

Y. HADARI. Until recently Head of the Organisational Department of the World Executive and now in charge of Public Relations. Is Manager of a Petroleum Company in Israel.

Z. RUSECKI, Hon. Officer in charge of Maccabiah Village affairs. At one time President of Maccabi-Warsaw, a veteran Maccabi leader in Israel. At present occupying an important position at the Ministry of Defence.

MRS. G. SINGER, Hon. Officer in charge of the Youth Department, experienced Maccabi worker, was in charge of Maccabiah Village arrangements in 1950, 1953 and 1957. Is employed by Ministry of Education as an Inspector of physical training for girls.

S. ZYSMAN. Hon. Liaison Officer (with other Israel Sports Organisations). At present Chairman of Maccabi-Israel. Is Deputy Mayor of the Ramat Gan Municipality.

* * *
CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER.- Comments from readers.

With a few exceptions, all readers, in many parts of the world, returned the postcards requesting me to continue sending them the "Newsletter" and assuring me that they are reading it regularly. Some of them deemed fit

to write letters containing warm tributes, or humorous remarks, which are much appreciated.

I quote just a few:

Herman Bochner (Antwerp) writes: "Youth leaders nowadays have turned into stubborn realists and do not easily become inspired by ideals. This is yet one other reason why I think your "Chairman's Newsletter" must not only continue to appear, but it must also become a link so necessary among the leaders of Maccabi the world over. The Maccabi Movement will never be able to thank you enough for your initiative."

Alexander Alexandroni (Tel-Aviv) writes: "As a journalist I must compliment you on the interesting and thorough comments appearing in your publication."

Louis J. Mintz (London) writes: "When do you have time for business?..."

Barney Ain (New York) writes: "Do I wish you to continue sending me your "Newsletter"? Definitely! This aids me in having a world-wide Maccabi picture."

Dr. W.W.Meisl (Foreign Editor of "World Sports") writes: "Your Maccabi Newsletters are excellent in every respect. If we had half a dozen Pierre's in strategic positions, all over the globe, we would really be a magnificent Movement. As it is - we might still become that, but it will take much time - particularly much of your time!..."

Fred S.Worms (Hayes, Middx) In reply to the question whether he reads the "Newsletter" regularly, he writes: "100%" and, to the second question, whether he wishes me to continue to send it, he observes: "I couldn't stop you if I tried... A marvellous tour de force!"

Lionel Schalit (London) writes. In reply to question 1 he says: "Sure, I read your "Newsletter" twice at least" and, in reply to question 2, he simply says, "You dare not to!"

Fred Oberlander (Montreal) writes: "I look out every day for your "Newsletter". My boys and I read it regularly. We want more and more!"

* * *

"ISRAEL YOUTH HORIZON" - a splendid publication.

Under this title the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Zionist Organisation in Jerusalem is publishing an illustrated periodical edited by Shlomo Ketko. The November issue, copy of which I have just received, provides full and comprehensive coverage of the 5th Maccabiah. The author of the article - illustrated by many action photographs - is Mr. Keith Beecher, whom I wish to congratulate upon an expert and objective report of the Games. In his opening remarks, Mr.Beecher states: "The Maccabiah was created by the Maccabi Movement as a Jewish Sports Festival to be held regularly, similar to the Olympic Games." After describing the opening ceremony, Mr.Beecher deals with the achievements of every participating team, highlighting their best performances. The 12-page Maccabiah report contains also a classified list of Maccabiah records and results at a glance - the best so far produced. Mr.Beecher's survey would be incomplete without drawing the attention of the readers to some of the outstanding Maccabiah gold medallists whilst, at the same time, he pays a tribute to the International Referees, thanks to whose presence, the Games were conducted along International rules. Individual "portraits" of outstanding athletes were contributed also by Mark Segal, Paul Cohen and Dinah Lerner.

* * *

The "Israel Youth Horizon" deserves to be warmly congratulated on its splendid publication. I only wonder whether it enjoys as wide a distribution among members of Jewish Youth Organisations the world over, as it rightly deserves. Its popularity would be enhanced if it endeavoured to print news and pictures of Sports in Israel, as well as of the every-day life of Israeli

children and youth, in town and country, at work and play. Speaking personally, I confess that I was not aware of the existence of this publication until a copy has been sent to me a few weeks ago.

ISRAEL'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

A number of representatives of Jewish Youth Organisations in Great Britain met, at the offices of the Board of Deputies, to form the "Israel 10th Anniversary Youth Organisations Committee". The Committee will be presided over by Mrs. B. Jenner, Head of the Board of Deputies Educational Department. The celebrations of Yom Ha'atzmaut will comprise a programme of activities centred around the Cultural achievements of its 10 years of existence, with the participation of children and youth up to the age of 25. It is also hoped that large numbers of Anglo-Jewish Youth will participate in the World Jewish Youth Conference, and in the Jewish Youth Festival, which will take place in Jerusalem, under the auspices of the Jewish Agency, next July and August.

Maccabi Territorial Organisations everywhere are requested to make early arrangements in order to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the State of Israel, either in co-operation with local communities or at their own initiative. Enquiries should also be made concerning special group visits to Israel being organised everywhere at reduced prices.

MACCABI SPORTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

An example worth following.

Harry Shapiro, National Honorary Sports Director, has recently formed a Sports Directorate, comprising representatives of Maccabi Clubs situated in the North and South. A very full programme was drawn up, providing for training and competitions. With the object of improving the standard of Swimming, a Training Centre has been formed, under the supervision of International Swimmers and Coaches. Mr. Roy Romsine, a former British Swimming Champion and Olympic participant, will be in charge of the advanced Swimmers. Training will be held every Wednesday at the Marshall Street Baths in the West End of London. Mr. Adrian Ross, Coach of the Polytechnic Swimming Club, who has coached British Waterpolo teams, will give tuition in Waterpolo, whereas Peter Elliott, former British International Diver, will be the Diving Coach.

In accordance with a decision made by the National Executive of Maccabi in Great Britain, every Swimmer will be welcome at the Centre, whether a member of a Maccabi club or not, and those who belong to other clubs will not be asked to give up their membership to join the Swimming Centre.

A Cycling Club is also being formed, to be inaugurated at the Maccabi offices in London on January 30th. Jewish Cyclists from all over the country have been invited to attend and Mr. Stanley Rose, Manager of the British Cycling team at the 5th Maccabiah and Peter Sheldon, the winner of the Maccabiah Cycling event, will be members of the club.

The programme of Team Championships for 1957/1958 will include Football, Netball and Table Tennis. Individual championships will also be held for Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Swimming, Athletics and Cross-country.

The competition for The Best Maccabi Sports Club Of The Year is still proceeding, and the club gaining the maximum points will be awarded the title of "Champion". Simultaneously with that, another competition will be keenly

contested for the "Pierre Gildesgame Scholarship". This will be awarded to the most promising individual Maccabi athlete, boy or girl, whose standard of performance would warrant sending him or her for a specialised course of training at one of the best known English Physical Training Colleges. "The Pierre Gildesgame Scholarship" may, on the other hand, be awarded to a promising member excelling in Drama, Art, or another Cultural pursuit.

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Copies of the Annual Handbook of the Sports Directorate of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain have been distributed to Territorial Organisations all over the world, at the initiative of Lionel Schalit, member of the World Executive in London. It was accompanied by a personal letter from him, stressing the initiative shown, and excellent progress made in England, under the leadership of Britain's Honorary Sports Director.

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THE INTERNATIONAL MACCABIAH ASSOCIATION.

Letters have reached me from many parts of the world commenting (as requested in the "Newsletter" No. 61) on this project. On the whole, the project was favourably received and many leaders of Maccabi are of the opinion that it should be pursued further. Some of my readers, zealous Maccabi supporters, adopted a more cautious attitude, mainly due to a fear lest the Maccabi World Union may lose control over the Maccabiah Games by passing it over to an International Body, who may adopt an attitude of indifference to the vast amount of work entailed in the preparations, as well as in the running of the Games, which must be maintained on as high standard as in years gone by. The London "Jewish Chronicle", whose Sports Editor learned of the proposal, and who attended the last 3 Maccabioth, welcomed it, and an editorial appeared in that paper on December 27th, dealing with the general tendency, now becoming evident in the ranks of Jewish Youth Leaders, to bring about closer ties between World Youth by a variety of means. The Editorial proceeds by saying:

"A like outlook evidently inspires the proposal to establish an International Maccabiah Association, put forward by Pierre Gildesgame, Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive. This proposal has the aim of inducing a greater sense of collective responsibility and better "esprit de corps" among all participating national teams."

Colonel Harry D. Henshel, Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, writes from New York:...

"It sounds good if, as I assume, it does include as eligibles non-Maccabi groups, in and out of Israel, as well as Canada and the United States, who seem to be the only non-Maccabi countries. It would be helpful in learning how broadly, or should I say how broad-minded, you and your organisation might be in inviting other groups to join in the proposed Association."

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The whole proposal is now receiving the careful consideration of the Maccabi World Executive. It is hoped to work out further details during the next 3 months. The project will be the subject of a full discussion at one of several meetings during my forthcoming visit to Israel and, later on, it will be submitted to a Conference to be held in London which, it is sincerely hoped, will be attended by our good friends from the U.S.A. and Canada.

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IMPACT OF SPORT ON YOUTH.

(London). Addressing a well-attended meeting, organised by London Jewish University Graduates Association, last December, Pierre Gildesgame stressed that one of the best means of eradicating ^{the} inferiority complex, in the ranks of Jewish Youth, was the promotion of greater interest in sport. He also expressed the view that a fine display of sport and sportsmanship, by Jewish athletes and teams, was a good weapon to counter Anti-Semitism. He was of the opinion that, in the past, lack of physical education in Jewry had resulted in many moral shortcomings. This was particularly apparent in the days of the pogroms in

Eastern Europe when, because of their timidity and fear - Jews were an easier target for physical attack and persecution. Nowadays, Jews were no longer afraid to retaliate against their attackers, if they have to do so. The gallant achievements of the present Israeli Army, off and on the field of battle, has proved this amply.

Mr. Gildesgame has shown a colour film of the 5th Maccabiah, made by him in Israel last September.

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THE NEW MACCABIAH STAMP.

(ISRAEL). To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Maccabiah Games, a stamp is being issued by the Israel Post Office on January 20th of a 500-prutot denomination. Designed by a London artist, Mr. Abram Games, it shows the figure of a Hammer-thrower, standing over the now well known Maccabiah symbol. Photographs of the new stamp have appeared in many London and Provincial newspapers, including the London (Sunday) Observer.

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Pan-Arab Games.

Little has been heard about the 2nd Pan-Arab Games, held last October in Beirut (shortly after the 5th Maccabiah Games) honoured by the presence of the President of the Lebanon, M. Camille Chamoun, and of the King of Saudi Arabia.

According to some reports, 1500 athletes, representing 9 states participated: Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Note one conspicuous absence, that of Egypt. Their non-participation was never adequately explained, although inspired Cairo radio broadcasts said that the "Egyptian athletes were exhausted after competing in the Moscow Games this Summer". Political observers attributed Egypt's absence to bad blood between Egypt and pro-West Lebanon, as well as to the unfortunate behaviour of the Egyptian team "unbecoming to gentlemen and positive neutralists" during their stay in Moscow.

The 2nd Pan-Arab Games were described by one American Newspaper as "A non-too-stately ethnic replica of the Olympics". The Games opened at night, in the giant Chamoun Stadium-City, said to be occupied by 60,000 spectators. Lebanese Boy Scouts ranged on the field open crates containing 200 birds, which some papers described as "Doves of peace" and others as "White Carrier Pigeons". Unfortunately, the pigeons remained on the grass and have never succeeded in carrying "The message of the Games" to the Arab Nations. Ardent Scouts flung the birds into the balmy night with such vigour that half of them were dead, or dying, within a few minutes. When the rest still refused to take wing, the Scouts began stuffing them into their Shirts and pockets as souvenirs and for eventual consumption. The Army intervened when a horde of youngsters charged onto the field, crossed an 8 foot ditch, and made for the pigeons.

After the opening night, which was given over largely to pageantry, attendance at the competitions slumped altogether. The stands were empty when the Track and Field events started the following morning, and the average Arab was bored and bewildered by Western sport.

One American Observer commented, after the Games, that Arab Youth is far too concerned with politics and "If young Arabs can be kept busy putting the shot, or running the 1500 metres, they might not be so ready to engage in such patriotic exercises as heaving bricks at embassies or overturning cars bearing diplomatic plates."

Leading personalities of the International Sports Federations who witnessed the Games, were unfavourably impressed by what they saw. Never

before have they seen such animosity among competing athletes. Every opportunity was taken to start a fight, with both athletes and spectators involved. The Games were once interrupted for a whole day. Six of the athletes had to be taken to Hospital, bleeding and bruised. An Arab official commented: "Sportsmanship will in time follow." An argument between a Lebanese and Iraqi long-jumper was started as to who won that event. When the dispute became known to the spectators, an Iraqi supporter stood up and shouted aloud "The Lebanese are slaves to the dollar", whereupon, an indignant Lebanese Army Officer knocked the shouter down and a free-for-all ensued. When the Games were postponed for a whole day, the organisers attributed this to "technical reasons."

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In the sphere of sports and sportsmanship, our Arab contemporaries have still a great deal to learn.

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The Problem of Youth Leaders.

The Right Hon. Lord Nathan, who recently returned from a visit to New York, was very much impressed by the 'Y' building situated at 92nd Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City, where to he was taken on a tour of inspection by Colonel Henshel. As is probably known to most readers, the 'Y' is the Young Mens' and Young Womens' Hebrew Association - a beneficiary society of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. The 'Y' building is an 11 storey edifice designed for community living; it is the largest and best equipped Jewish centre in the United States, a meeting centre for young and old from all boroughs of the city of New York, where over 10,000 members, boys and girls, men and women, engage in many different social, cultural and sports activities.

Lord Nathan was told that the 'Y' is run by a paid leader and I asked Lord Nathan to state his views in favour, or against, the employment of paid leaders in youth clubs.

Hereunder are summarised the views expressed by Lord Nathan and which I feel will be of immense interest to all those dedicated to the welfare of Jewish youth. Lord Nathan's views were contained in a personal letter to me, extracts of which are published with his kind permission.

Anyone wishing to express an opinion on the subject will be welcome and I will be glad to publish their contributions in one of the forthcoming issues:

"In my young days there was no such thing as a paid Youth Leaders. I used myself, when I ran Brady, to wish I could at least have a stenographer, but that was out of the question, for financial reasons in those days. One had to do everything oneself. Whilst there is no doubt a great advantage, which I readily admit, in having some paid official to look after the purely office work of an administrative character, I doubt, however, from my observation, either in this Country or in New York, whether the paid Youth Leader is a good idea. He creates a type of professional philanthropist likely to increase in number, and thus to enlarge the burdens on the community, if he is also to take a share of the responsibility he will, for that reason, frighten off those who might come as voluntary workers. I dare say that from a purely objective standpoint the paid Youth Leader can do various things including giving time, which presents difficulties to the voluntary worker. Moreover, the voluntary worker is nowadays in youth work becoming something of a rare bird actually perhaps because of the existence of the professional Youth Leader. In my view the voluntary worker in Youth Clubs has overwhelming advantages as far as the youngsters themselves are concerned over the paid Youth Leader,

"while, at the same time, the voluntary worker can provide outside contacts for the members and, at the same time, gain for himself experience which he would be the poorer for lacking in after life and which is all very difficult to get except as a voluntary worker in the Youth Organisation.

"What, however, both in this Country and in New York has impressed me most as regards the relative usefulness of the voluntary youth worker and the paid Youth Leader is, as regards the latter, that he does, and is known to do what he does, as a purely professional job, bringing to it, no doubt, the knowledge and attitude derived from a course of training and a period of experience in that line of work, but it has seemed to me to lack something which is, to my mind, the special value of the Youth Movement - that is the spontaneity and feeling of mutual confidence between the club leader and the members, and the ability of the voluntary club leader to call aid a wide, sometimes a very wide, experience of the outside world; and his value is also greatly increased by the fact that he is, and is known to be, doing all this in a voluntary capacity and in a spirit of benevolence towards his fellow men.

"These reflections I place upon paper as a sort of reminder to myself and with a view to getting your reaction in the light of your experience; but I also have it in mind that we ought to make a formidable effort to get people, as in the older generation, to play their part as voluntary workers in the Youth Movement and to discourage the idea that this is a kind of work that should be done, and can properly be left to people who make it their profession.

"While I have a great respect for those who adopt this profession I think it is intrinsically an occupation which we ought to do our best to get rid of from amongst us as soon as we can. I doubt whether otherwise the Youth Movement is worth pursuing.

"I ought to add finally this is not a diatribe against the paid Youth Worker who is an honourable man pursuing an honourable profession; it is to suggest that he should not need to exist at all because his work should be done in a voluntary capacity by others; and I believe it is voluntary work that is most worth doing, and perhaps the work is not worth encouraging unless the club leaders are, in fact, volunteers."

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NEWS FROM THE U.S.A.

A MACCABI CLUB ORGANISED IN PHILADELPHIA, U.S.A.

SAMUEL N. GERSON is a well known personality in the circles of amateur sportsmen in the U.S.A. Residing in Philadelphia, Gerson is a middle-aged man to whom the Olympic ideals are sacrosanct. He was a member of the American Olympic Wrestling Team 1920 and is leader of the United States Olympians whose motto is "Sportsmanship and World Peace".

Some time during 1957, Samuel Gerson wrote to me asking whether I would like him to form a Maccabi Club in Philadelphia. I must confess that I was dubious about this idea and that, in my humble capacity of a member of the World Executive, I did not think I had any right to say to Gerson "Go ahead and do it". But a persistent Olympian as Gerson is, he renewed contact with me after I have been elected Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive. In December, 1957, the local newspapers in Philadelphia announced: "A Hebrew Maccabi Sports Club will be organised this Monday at 8 p.m. by Samuel N. Gerson of 5306, Lebanon Avenue, a city employee and a member of the American Olympic Wrestling Team of 1920. Gerson, who has been trying to organise such a Club for several years, has been granted permission to form such a Unit by Pierre Gildesgame of England, Chairman of the World Maccabi Union, and Dr. Atlasz of Tel-Aviv, Sports Director of the Union. Gerson believes that one Philadelphia Club will be the forerunner of similar Clubs all over the country. Purpose of the Clubs, Gerson adds, will be to promote top athletes for competition among various communities in the United States and to train for Maccabiah Games in the future."

The Philadelphia Maccabi Club will be made up of six groups, boxing, wrestling, fencing, weight-lifting, swimming and gymnastics, each unit having its own leader and coach. Early in January, Samuel Gerson reported again: "Maccabi in Philadelphia is on its way" and a newspaper clipping, which he attached to his letter, stated:

"A new sports clubs, the U.S.Maccabi A.A. Philadelphia Group, has been organised to promote sports that will be contained in the 1961 Maccabiah programme."

Samuel Gerson, founder of the Philadelphia Olympians, was elected president of the new club. Vice-Presidents are: Jack Linshaw, Steven Saltzman, Art Landy, Dave Mayer and Harry Litwack. Secretary is Joel Rubin, former Franklin and Marshall heavyweight-wrestler.

Gerson will manage and coach the wrestling team. Litwack, Temple Basketball coach, will guide the court team: Mayer, a 1936 Olympic weightlifter, will coach the weightlifters.

Jack Lesser, 1920 Olympic boxer, will tutor the pugilists. Harry Rosetsky, former Southern High football player, will organise a football team. Members of the Philadelphia Olympians will coach other sports, such as fencing, swimming, gymnastics, etc.

* * *
To Samuel N. Gerson we all say "For he is a jolly good fellow and may his efforts in Philadelphia be crowned with lasting success."
* * *

NEWS FROM BELGIAN CONGO.

Maccabi-Elisabethville reports in reply to a number of questions put to them:

- "a). We have no facilities and we depend on the financial good will of the Jewish Congregation of the Belgian Congo. They are helping us and will continue to do so.
- b) We have only been in operation some two months and having prepared the way, we are now campaigning for members. So far we have 30. We estimate to have some 100 members within six months.
- c) We have commenced basket ball and table tennis sections and will participate in the "Katanga" (Provincial) championships.
- d) Shortly, we hope to add volley ball and swimming to our activities and later tennis. A cultural section will also be in operation shortly.
- e) The Jewish population of Elisabethville consists of about 500 families.
- f) We have not, as yet, made any distinction as to age groups but committee members will take care of senior and junior members separately."

Maccabi-Elisabethville has now been officially affiliated to the Maccabi World Union and I take this opportunity of appealing to our Maccabi friends in South Africa and Rhodesia to maintain close contact with our friends in Elisabethville by letter or by personal visits, whichever is more opportune.

Israel and the World Football Cup

Readers will remember the comments I made on this subject in the last issue of this Newsletter. Since then, Wales played Israel at Ramat-Gan Stadium, the score being 2:11. The World Press praised the Israel Amateurs for their gallantry. Israel is due to play Wales on February 5th at Cardiff.

I have asked our friend, Dr. Willy Meisl, one of the world's foremost sports and, above all, football authorities, for his comments on the fact that Israel, though qualified, has not been admitted to join the last sixteen in the Final Competition of the World Cup:-

DR. MEISL WRITES:

"Israel has, so to speak, become the first prize in a lottery, though the real first prize is a place amongst the last sixteen soccer nations to contest in the final stages of the Vith. Football World Championship in Sweden next June.

"As some of you will know, the Qualifying Competition for this quadrennial event is arranged regionally. Europe has been divided into 9 groups, South America into 3 plus 1 for the other Americas; the holder (Germany) and the host country (Sweden) qualify automatically. That leaves us one to make up the 16, and this one had to come from the Afro-Asian group which happens to be geographically by far the biggest and footballistically by far the weakest. So there is no complaint that this mighty double contingent only gets a 1/16th share in the final line-up for the world title.

"One may remember that the European sub-section of the F.I.F.A. (the World Soccer Federation), the U.E.F.A. (European Soccer Union) had rejected Israel's request to compete in European competitions. Israel does not happen to belong to Europe. There is no geographical doubt about that.

"Now, suddenly, it appears as if Wales would have to establish an option to be considered an Asian power, though in soccer only, I presume.

"In the correct set up for the qualifying competition, the Afro-Asian sector looked thus:

Group 1.: Indonesia, Communist China.
Group 2.: Turkey, Israel.
Group 3.: Egypt, Cyprus.
Group 4.: Syria, Sudan.

"Turkey withdrew, I cannot say exactly whether this happened the prescribed 30 days before the competition was to begin. Indonesia and Red China played 3 times until the Indonesians won on goal average and qualified for the next round against Israel, who had won by a walk-over. The Sudan eliminated Syria, whilst Cyprus withdrew. Indonesia, after months of negotiations with Israel, also withdrew not wanting to upset some "friends" by meeting the Israelis. The Sudan followed suit; so did Egypt. Israel became the only survivor, i.e. winner of the Afro-Asia Sector by a string of walks-over.

"This was a highly unsatisfactory result, but nobody can possibly blame Israel's F.A. or national team for it. They were ready to meet everyone of their scheduled opponents.

"Israel had advanced to the last 16 without kicking a ball.

"According to press reports, the Organising Committee of the F.I.F.A. had, "in accordance with the regulations which only admit holder and host nation to reach the final stage without having won at least one game", prescribed that a lottery would be made. In other words, the 9 runners-up of the European zone, would get into a draw, and the lucky winner would have to play two, if necessary, three matches, against Israel, for the right to travel to Sweden in June.

"Having become a Doctor of Laws in my youth, I set about to study the F.I.F.A. "Regulations for the World Championship 1958" to find the above quoted rule. I was unlucky. It does not exist. The nearest I got to is Article 4 which, however, has no bearing - even at the most tolerantly wide interpretation - on the case in question. Subparagraph 3 states: "The national representative team of the Association holding the Cup and the team of the Association organising the Final Competition shall be exempt from the Qualifying Competition"

"It is also stated in Subparagraph 4: "The organising Committee shall form groups and (or) sub-groups for the Qualifying Competition... taking into consideration, as far as possible, the sporting, geographical and economic conditions."

"Furthermore, sub-paragraph 5 says that the decisions of the Organising Committee shall be final. The lottery might have been based on the paragraph which follows: "The O.C. may modify the groups and sub-groups in case of withdrawals, in accordance with the provisions in para. 4." But if you re-read para.4, you will see that it deals obviously with existing groups for re-grouping and never thought of arranging lotteries fusing Western-Europe with Afro-Asia. At any rate, deplorable as a walk-over "victory always must appear from the sporting point of view, it is not improved by the fact that a lottery which gives a team who have had their fair chance in their own group, another chance, certainly not foreseen by any regulation.

"I take it for granted that Wales' skill - and powerful professionals will beat Israel by a big margin which will have the consequence that Europe will be represented by 12 teams in the Final Competition, all the Americas by 4 teams, with the rest of the world nowhere.

"Apart from the disproportion between Europe and South America (12:3 finalists) this is sportingly correct. It only appears to be against the regulations which make geography the main basis of the entire competition and its organisation.

"However, we shall see the absolute impartiality of F.I.F.A. when it comes to implement what is not laid down in the World Cup Regulations (i.e. that there is no walk-over qualification), but which is laid down "expressis verbis" under the heading "Withdrawal and Replacement".

"Here it says that a nation which does not withdraw at least 30 days before the Qualifying Competition starts forfeits the entry fee (700 Swiss francs). It also states decisively: "An Association withdrawing whilst the matches of the Qualifying Competition are being played shall be subject to a fine of Sw.Frs. 5,000 in addition to the forfeiture of the entry fee."

"I shall watch with great interest - although there is so very little hope - to see these penalties (put down in the Regulations with any possibility of misinterpretation) extracted to restore the somewhat distorted balance of justice and fairness.

"It would be too bad if the boycotted would be "executed" as it were whilst the boycotters would escape scotfree - both against the letter and spirit of the law.

I am not at all sorry that Israel's amateurs do not reach the final stage, where they would have been the weakest side amongst 15 very skilled and experienced professional formations. I only maintain that they would have had a 50:50 chance to qualify against their Afro-Asian competitors. They have no chance now against the winner of the European runners-up lottery."

* * *

NEWS FROM THE ARAB WORLD.

SPORTS STADIUMS.

Elsewhere in this issue a report appears on the Second Pan-Arab Games, held in Beirut, last October. I have now received some details concerning the Camille Chamoun Sports Stadium in Beirut. I publish this news, for it may be of general interest to sports fans and, particularly, to promoters of Sports in Israel.

The Beirut Stadium is ideally situated between the sea and a wooded area with a splendid view of the mountains from any of the grandstands. The "Sports-City" has five main buildings. The main stadium is an immense concrete oval building, accommodating 65,000 spectators. Around an infield laid out for soccer, there is a clay running-track ringed by a 500 metre banked cycling track. This construction is flanked by an Olympic-type swimming stadium with two swimming pools. One pool is 50 metres by 20 metres and the other is 25 by 20 metres, and is set up also for diving. There are also two concrete arenas, each holding 400 persons. One of these will be roofed to provide an indoors sports stadium. Both will serve for boxing, wrestling and weight-

-lifting on the one hand, and basketball and volleyball on the other.

The rifle and pistol shooting stand is specially built to provide absolute protection against stray bullets.

Equestrian events will be held close to the main stadium in a special arena.

(For the information concerning the Arab Games and the Sports Stadiums, I am indebted to my friend, Barney Ain, of New York.)

Funds for the construction of this new Sports City in Beirut have been donated by the Arab League and the Lebanese Government.

The Cairo Stadium. Here is a pattern an example to be followed by the Israeli Government, by the Jewish Agency, and by any other pro-Israeli Fund-raising Institutions, having at heart the welfare of Israeli youth and the promotion of friendship between world and Israeli Youth by means of sport and games.

In addition to Beirut a similar Giant Sports Stadium is under construction in Abbassia, Near Cairo, capable of seating 100,000 spectators, modelled after the famous Berlin and Helsinki Stadiums. I am told that the Egyptian Government intends offering its Stadium for one of the forthcoming World Olympic Games. The sports arenas of the Stadium will cover over 800 acres of land. The Swimming Stadium alone, which is incorporated in the plan, will have seating accommodation for 10,000 spectators. There will also be public pools for beginners and very young children, as well as playgrounds for ordinary training. The covered hall will seat 10,000 for basketball, volleyball, indoor tennis and other games. The whole project is sponsored by the Ministry of Education, who propose setting up there a National Institute for Physical Culture on the site of the Stadium to cater for 400 students. The Egyptian Ministry of Commerce and Industry will support the venture because it proposes using a big area of the stadium on which to hold International Trade Fairs.

"S.A. MACCABI NEWS". (JOHANNESBURG)

Copy of the "South African Maccabi News", November issue, has reached me a few days ago; I was greatly impressed by its contents. It carries a large number of photographs of the South African Maccabiah team, of its individual athletes, featuring prominently Harold Bromberg "the hero of the 5th Maccabiah Games." The Editor of the "Maccabi News", Mr. Arthur Goldman, pays a warm and well-deserved tribute to the South African team, and its managers. The paper reports on an address delivered by Mr. Louis Zinn, Head of the South African team, from which a few extracts deserve to be quoted:

"The absence of formality in sport during the Maccabiah allows the newcomer to Israel the chance to identify himself with his fellow-citizens. The good work done by fostering sport in the Jewish State cannot possibly be measured in terms of money ... South African Sportsmen are particularly well-liked and respected in Israel and the sending of a large team is perhaps even more important an obligation for us than it is for many other countries."

Mr. Zinn stressed also that: "If political Zionism is ever to be abolished in Israel, it will be through the medium of sport - which is a healthier and more wholesome outlet for that vitality which is so necessary for a young nation like Israel.... The Israelis made us feel that they needed us more as sportsmen than merely as tourists."

(To Mr. Zinn I would say "I couldn't agree more"!)

In an article signed by Mr. Louis Zinn, Manager of the South African 5th Maccabiah team, he appeals to the World Union to embark much earlier upon preparations for the 6th Maccabiah.

The "South African Maccabi News" welcomes also the election to the World Executive of some of its prominent leaders: Mr. Ian Maltz, Abe Heyman and Barney Kellen.

As readers of this "Newsletter" have already heard, Mr. Ian Maltz was recently elected Deputy Mayor of Johannesburg, a great honour, conferred upon one of Johannesburg's most deserving citizens and a highly-respected member of the Jewish community. Ian Maltz is Chairman of the South African Maccabi Council and has been a member of the World Executive for the past 5 years. I congratulated Mr. Ian Maltz on behalf of the World Executive, as soon as the news has reached me of his election as Deputy Mayor of Johannesburg.

Harold Bromberg, the 18 year old Maccabiah Games Sprint Champion was beaten recently in the 100 yards, by one of his compatriots. Gordon Day clocked 9.9 seconds, whereas Bromberg's Maccabiah time was 10.4 seconds.

In another race held in Johannesburg last October, Bromberg ran 100 yards in 9.5 seconds, having had the advantage of a following wind. He also won the 220 yards in 22.3 seconds.

G. Traub, winner of the 800 and 1500 metres events at the recent Maccabiah Games, made his first appearance in a South African Court, soon after his return from Israel. Not as a witness, nor as the accused, but as an Advocate, having successfully conducted a Divorce Action.

CRICKET AND ISRAEL.

The "Cricketer", the leading magazine of Cricket fans in Great Britain and elsewhere, published in its Winter Annual a two-column article entitled "Opportunity in Israel". It describes the Invitation Tournament held during the Maccabiah Games in Israel, in which the British team participated under the Captaincy of Mr. J.W. Levy. The matches were played on matting placed over concrete on the bare outfield in a heat of 100 degrees on an average. Play was from 10 to 12.30 a.m. and from 2.0 until 5.30 p.m., with 20 minutes for tea. Apart from the one-day game with South Africa, other matches were played on the Iraq Petroleum ground at Haifa. The author of the article speaks of the evidence of keenness for Cricket among Israeli youth. To his delight, "the Captain of the British team saw a party of some 16 Yemenite boys taking part in a pick-up game, just like youngsters in England. One of them passed even a pair of pads". Tourists from Great Britain were so impressed by the enthusiasm evinced for Cricket that they decided to leave their Cricket gear and equipment behind, having expressed the hope that South Africans, at present residing in Israel, will continue to do their "splendid missionary work for the game". There is already an Israel Cricket Association, whose Honorary Secretary is a Yorkshireman, Mr. H. Beech.

The article concludes with the following interesting observations: "Apart from Association Football, Israel is largely starved of sport. Cricket can fill the gap if the right kind of encouragement and assistance is given to the Israelis, whose country, after all, bears great resemblance to Great Britain in its set up. Above all, there is an intoxicating enthusiasm about everything they undertake. Cannot some of that enthusiasm be diverted to Cricket?"...

A GREAT SPORTSMAN PASSED AWAY.

Lord Aberdare, who was killed in a motor accident in Yugoslavia on October 4th, was one of the outstanding ball-players of his generation. Apart from Cricket, Lord Aberdare won also honours in Tennis and Golf. He was twice the winner of the Amateur Singles and 10 times winner of the Amateur Doubles Championship in rackets and, in 1931, Open Champion of the British Isles. In Tennis, he held the Championship of both the British Isles. In Tennis, he held the Championship of both the British Isles and America and, in 9 years won the M.C.C. Gold Racket, of which his Son, who now succeeds him, is now the holder.

It is not, however, for his athletic triumph that he would have hoped to be chiefly remembered, but for his long and devoted work for the welfare of others, especially the very young. This work extended over many fields but it

was as Chairman of the National Association of Boys' Clubs that his wisdom as an administrator and his kindness of heart made themselves most widely felt.

The Maccabi Movement in Great Britain owes a debt of gratitude to the late Lord Aberdare. In 1937, Lord Aberdare was Chairman of the National Fitness Council, set up by the Ministry of Education, and in that capacity he presided over the Opening Ceremony of "Maccabi House" in Hampstead, London - one of England's most successful Maccabi clubs. Lord Aberdare was also Vice President of the Maccabiah Organising Committees, set up in 1950, 1953 and 1957. He took a keen interest in Maccabi's work, wishing the Maccabiah Games well.

DUBLIN MACCABI.

Dublin Maccabi had a well-merited win over Birmingham Maccabi on their annual Rugby Inter-visit to Birmingham this month. Dublin scored 9 points, Birmingham 6 points.

MACCABI BELGIUM.

An unconfirmed report reaches me that Mr. Roger Katz, Chairman of Maccabi Brussels, has recently resigned. The matter has been referred to Mr. Herman Bochner, Chairman of the Belgian Maccabi Federation, with a request to take early steps for the election of a successor, should Mr. Katz be unable to continue in office.

A copy of the "Maccabi Review", dated December, 1957, published in Belgium by the Royal Maccabi Club, Antwerp, features a photograph of the 5th Maccabiah Belgian team. It will be recalled that members of the Belgian team attracted much attention by their smart uniforms, as well as by their deportment throughout the Games. The "Review" carries a report of the 5th Maccabiah, as well as details of regular activities by the various sections of the Antwerp Club, comprising Table Tennis, Gymnastics, Football, Swimming, etc.; A brief report about the 13th Maccabi World Congress at which Belgium was represented by Sally Beck and Roger Katz completes a 12 page publication, of which we would like to see many more during 1958.

I am grateful to the Editor of the "Maccabi Review" of Antwerp for the good wishes extended to me on behalf of his club, on the occasion of my election as Chairman of the World Executive.

WORLD CONGRESS REPORT.

In reply to several enquiries, I am pleased to advise all concerned that the English version of a full report of the Congress deliberations, Resolutions and Elections, is now being printed in London, and will be available for distribution during February.

MACCABI FRANCE. (Paris).

I am informed by my good friend, Leo Kaminski, that his Committee have now sufficient money in hand with which to inaugurate a "Maccabi Home" for our numerous members in Paris. It is hoped that suitable premises will be found before very long.

Territorial Organisations and readers of the "Newsletter" please note that the new address of the European Regional Headquarters is:

357, Euston Road, LONDON, N.W.1. Cable Address: EMATZ, LONDON.

No letters or communications are to be sent to the old address: (9a, Bedford Place, London, W.C.1.)

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי
MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT
 The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
 P.C., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT
 Romi Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN
 P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.
 V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.
 A. A. Scott



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 Please reply to XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

February/March, 1958.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 63.

Owing to pressure of work, I was unable to publish this Newsletter" before now. Consequently, this issue covers the period of February and March.

As my readers already know, I am due to proceed to Israel towards the middle of April. I will, therefore, be unable to publish the next number of this "Newsletter" until my return to England. I hope to publish a full report on my trip to Israel, an eye-witness report on the 10th Anniversary celebrations of the State, as well as a survey of my activities on behalf of the Maccabi World Union.

In this issue are published the following features:

Editorial Comment. Pages 1 - 3.

The Maccabiah Recognised as
 a World Sports Event. Pages 3 & 4.

World Football Cup. Pages 5 - 8.

London Press Conference. Pages 9 - 13.

News from Terr. Organisations. Pages 14 - 22.

News from Exec. H.Q. Israel. Pages 23 & 24.

Hapoel's 'Congress'. Pages 24 & 25.



P. GILDESGAME addressing Press Conference.
 On his immediate right are: F.S. WORMS and Mr. KIDRON, Israel Press Attaché.

Dear Friends,

Editorial Comment

Hapoel's hopes and tasks.

I am glad to be able to publish in this issue a brief report from which it will be seen that our 'Hapoel' friends labour under the same difficulties and harbour the same hopes as does the Maccabi organisation in Israel. We are told that 'Hapoel', whose branches are set up in every town, village and kibbutz throughout Israel, have 50,000 active members; that their potential numerical strength could be raised to 100,000 members by 1961.

According to the Israel Government Year Book (1957) a copy of which has reached me recently, the first branch of 'Hapoel' was established in Haifa in the year 1924, and the National Association in 1926. "The Aim of 'Hapoel' was to acquire bodily fitness for work and defence through sport"... It began with a football team that expanded its programme by setting up Nautical Sections which comprised, in the course of time, sections for training Seamen, a Training School for organisers of immigration, Sailors and Officers for the Israeli Fleet. We are also informed that "In 1927, 'Hapoel' joined the Socialist International and Worker-Sportsmen Organisation. In 1931 a large contingent of sportsmen went to the Worker's Olympiad in Vienna.

At no time has the 'Hapoel' Organisation sponsored or organised an International Sports event with the participation of Jewish athletes from overseas. On the other hand "In 1950, 'Hapoel' took part (for the first time) in the 3rd Maccabiah, and its members won 56 of the 85 medals won by Israeli sportsmen..." 'Hapoel' participated again in the 1953 and 1957 Maccabiah Games.

Physical Culture in Israel.

A special chapter in the Israel Government Year Book devoted to physical culture and sport in Israel covers several columns describing Maccabi and the Maccabiahs in Israel. We are informed that, ever since 1906 the Maccabi Movement in Palestine was the "moving spirit" in the great popular festivities which became annual events since 1908. During the British occupation of Israel, Maccabi promoted football and other sports and a tribute is paid to Joshua Alouf, who has organised extensive Maccabi activities in Tel Aviv. The history of the pre-war and post-war Maccabiah Games is faithfully described and mention is also made of the fact that in 1941 a "Maccabi Company" was formed which served in the British Army. It was again the Maccabi Movement in Israel that introduced in 1944, for the first time, the Torch Race from Modiin - birthplace of the Maccabees - and that since then this annual event was being observed in conjunction with Chanukah - The Festival of Lights.

Of the Maccabiah, the Israel Government Year Book says: "The Maccabiah has been a most effective means of expanding Jewish sport on a world scale."

I think it is right for me to say - as the President of Israel, Mr. Ben Zvi stated, in reference to Hapoel's past history - that we need not be ashamed of Maccabi's record, that of a leading world Jewish Sports Organisation which has made a considerable impact on Israeli youth since 1906, and which continues to do so, despite all difficulties, and without the same support from the Histadrut and Government which is being enjoyed by the 'Hapoel' organisation.

My forthcoming trip to Israel.

I am due to arrive in Israel on April 17th, ostensibly to attend the 10th anniversary celebrations - events to which I am looking forward very eagerly. In fact, I will be allowed very little time for leisure because my Executive colleagues in Tel Aviv have already drawn up a very full programme of engagements for me, consisting, in the main, of several Executive and World Council Meetings. I realise that my short stay in Israel will be a very strenuous one, physically, as well as mentally; I look forward to it, nevertheless.

Since I returned from Israel last October, I kept in regular touch with practically every member of the Executive in Tel Aviv, having exchanged a large number of letters with them on most urgent topics. I am glad to be able to say that considerable understanding has been fostered in the course of this exchange of views. I will also attend meetings of the Maccabiah Village Board of Trustees and expect to have talks with members of the Government and of the Jewish Agency. Last, but not least, a Conference will also be held with representatives of the Central Committee of 'Hapoel'.

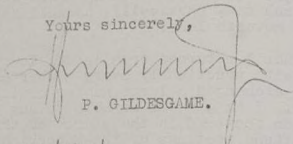
Here I wish to relate that correspondence with the General Secretary of Hapoel has, so far, not proved useless, for many points have been made clearer to me, insofar as their attitude towards the M.W.U. is concerned. I have no doubt in my mind that their main object is not so much closer co-operation with other Sports Organisations in Israel, and notably with Maccabi, as it is to find ways and means for more prominent participation in the organisation of the future Maccabioth. Our 'Hapoel' friends will be wise if they will not endeavour to exclude from our conversations any topics, however controversial, having a bearing upon the mutual relationship between themselves and Maccabi in Israel; This, more so than anything else, has constituted a bone of contention over many years past. In their opinion, this is an "internal affair" - an opinion with which we do not agree, for Maccabi Israel happens to be the most important Territorial Organisation of the Maccabi World Union and, because it is so, its future welfare and development are very much our concern. Our 'Hapoel' friends must also acknowledge yet another stern reality: The Maccabiah is a Maccabi World Union World promotion. It is not our intention to part with it, as, without it, the stimulus and incentive to training in sports and the prospects of achieving highest honours afforded to tens of thousands of Maccabi members, the world over, would be lost. The Maccabi World Union has already provided ample proof of its desire to make the Maccabiah available to Jewish athletes, regardless of nationality or club affiliation, when it issued a declaration, way back in 1950, that participation in the Maccabiah was open to all, and was not confined exclusively to members of Maccabi clubs. Thus, the Maccabiah became the "World Jewish Sports Festival" in the fullest meaning of the word, run and organised along these lines and accordingly recognised by the Government of Israel, Jewish communities sports-minded youth leaders, and the Governing Bodies of International Amateur Sports Federations. We will continue to insist on each country being represented by one integrated national team only, and that the conception and implementation of the Maccabiah Games be in no way influenced by politics of any kind or colour.

As heretofore, we will welcome bona fide help coming from any quarter, any country, or any organisation, wishing to help us ensure the organisational and financial success of the Maccabioth. More than this; we will encourage such help in a spirit of partnership and of friendly co-operation. Thus, as the main burden of the organisation of the Maccabiah - so long as we will continue to hold it in Israel - will rest upon the organisers in Israel, Hapoel's help, within the framework of existing Sports Federations in Israel, will be greatly welcome, as it will also be appreciated. Providing we can be reasonably assured that such participation on their part is inspired by

a desire to enhance the success and the reputation of the Maccabioth, they will be treated with all respect and consideration due to do important an organisation as is theirs.

With Maccabi greetings,

Yours sincerely,



P. GILDESGAME.

The Maccabiah, Recognised as a World Sports Event.

Mr. A. Paulen, the appointed representative of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (I.A.A.F.) to "observe" the 5th Maccabiah, was good enough to write to me recently, at some length, giving his impressions and expressing opinions, which I consider of considerable interest. I have much pleasure, therefore, in quoting extracts of his letter, which may be re-produced in Maccabi Territorial Organisations' magazines.

"Although 5 months have elapsed since the memorable days of September, 1957, the impressions of the Maccabiah are still fresh in my mind. When I was appointed I.A.A.F. representative, I knew very little about the Maccabi Movement. And so I contacted the Maccabi Organisation in Amsterdam and a number of their dedicated people provided me with some advance information, which I have found useful. I was greatly impressed, not merely by the sporting event, but because it was so very different from similar sporting meetings. It was marked by a far higher standard of spiritual understanding and mutual friendship. This remarkable impression is unforgettable.

"THE MOST OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF THE MACCABIAH IS THE FEELING OF FRIENDSHIP AND JOY AMONG THE COMPETITORS AND OFFICIALS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE SINCE BECOME MY DEAR PERSONAL FRIENDS. I HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL TOKENS OF APPRECIATION FROM ISRAELIS, AS WELL AS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, WHEREAS MY CONNECTIONS WITH THE OFFICIALS OF THE DUTCH CONTINGENT HAVE DEVELOPED INTO A PERMANENT FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP.

"I now realise that Maccabi is a strong Movement, inspired by the ideology which gives the youth of the World of the Jewish faith something to look forward to. I was aware of, as indeed, I have also witnessed the many technical difficulties that had to be overcome. The Running Track in Tel Aviv was in a rather poor condition and a serious handicap for athletes and officials alike. Nevertheless, the athletic games were an outstanding success as the technical deficiencies were amply made up by the efforts of the officials and the fighting spirit of athletes.

"It is my firm belief that the ultimate goal of such games is participation, and not achievements and records. The spiritual uplift which it gives to participants and the clean competition with friendly opponents, should serve as a reward for all the labour that has gone into the organisation of the Games. The Israeli officials were very active and, moreover, quite willing to accept good advice and, if necessary, an unpopular decision.

"Israel is a member of the I.A.A.F. and all games held there, including the Maccabiah, are run under the rules and regulations of the I.A.A.F. CONSEQUENTLY PERFORMANCES AND RECORDS OBTAINED UNDER THE I.A.A.F. RULES WILL BE DULY RECOGNISED BY THE I.A.A.F. The I.A.A.F. notes World Records only. Regional records, such as European records, Scandinavian records, are only kept by the organisation organising such championships. Thus the I.A.A.F. is ready to accept any World Records achieved during the Maccabiah Games. The Maccabi World Union should continue to register its own athletic records serving as a standard for its own games.

Having regard to the fact that the I.A.A.F. have sent a representative to the Maccabiah Games, this in itself signifies that the Games are fully recognised by the I.A.A.F. and, as such, will constitute a feature of the International programme, wherever they may be held.



F. S. WORMS, Presiding at Press Conference,
held at Maccabi House, on January 27th, 1958.

World Football Cup.

WALES - ISRAEL. 2:0.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS AND OPINIONS.

No football match has aroused in recent years as much interest in Great Britain as did the one played at the Ninian Park Stadium at Cardiff (Wales) on February 5th. Several days earlier National and provincial newspapers carried sensational headlines and expressed opinions as to the strength and chances of the respective teams. Some Welsh newspapers warned their National Team against complacency. The Charles brothers were their great hope but they were also, according to some reporters, the object of the crowd's disappointment.

The "DAILY MAIL" headlined its full page report with the following caption: "Unknown dims Welsh stars". "Injured goal keeper holds all at bay till closing minutes"... "It was the unknown Israeli goal keeper who stole the Cardiff limelight from £65,000 John Charles and £35,000 professional Jones. The name of the unknown is Jacob Chodoroff"... He stood firm when Wales were so completely on top that they could have turned the game into a rout had a lesser goal keeper been in the Israel goal".

"THE LONDON TIMES" commented soberly on the match in the following words: "Unless they (the Welsh team) improve vastly on yesterday's performance when they dismally completed the second 'leg' of their tie with Israel, they will do little more than make the journey to Scandinavia. Wales won... but there was little honour and no glory in their victory. On this day it was the 'Star of David' that shone more bravely. Here indeed were 11 men apparently playing for themselves against 11 who were fighting courageously for their country". The "Times" correspondent continues: "What little combined football there was came from Israel. In their light blue attire they looked fragile by comparison. But they knew their limitations; they knew also their strength, and that their one salvation lay in co-operative teamwork. From that point of view they earned more marks than their more highly renowned and talented opponents. Israel are still, as yet, football undergraduates in a world sense. There is much for them to learn in control and tactics; but they have the wit and the courage and one day they may make their presence felt."

The London "DAILY TELEGRAPH" described the Welsh players as: "Lacking in skill and understanding... Indeed, what glory was won on this pitch belongs unquestionably to Israel's goalkeeper and captain, Chodoroff. He paid for his bravery with a broken nose and concussion. Both injuries were the result of a collision with John Charles... The Welsh defence had comparatively little to do after the interval but in the first half the neat ball-playing Israeli forwards often caught them in a tangle".

The London "NEWS CHRONICLE" described Chodoroff's play as follows: "His brilliant saves kept Wales waiting until the final eleven minutes for the goals that take them to Stockholm... Chodoroff, Israel's amateur captain and veteran, overshadowed not only Charles, but also Cliff Jones, Ivor Allchurch and Terry Medwin, the £150,000 of Welsh forward talent. He was never more outstanding than in the first 20 minutes - the only period when Wales looked formidable".

The London "DAILY HERALD" referred to Chodoroff as: "The hero of the game" and as to the match itself its sports correspondent writes, inter alia: "A shambling, unimpressive victory for Wales... the only consolation for disappointing Wales is that they are through with England, Scotland and Ireland to the World Cup finals at Stockholm... They had chances galore. They were given ample room to work the ball... They had the know-how to have given Chodoroff the unhappiest afternoon of his Soccer life... Instead, the knockout apart, the leaping, bounding, fearless Chodoroff enjoyed his happiest and busiest 90 minutes".

Chairman's Newsletter

The "LONDON EVENING NEWS" reported: "Wales had the play, but couldn't get the goals... Israel's defence accomplished a great performance in preventing a goal up to half time, but Wales wasted many chances... Israel grew confident but their clever interpassing was wasted because no one would shoot."

London's "DAILY WORKER" said: "Wales stroll on to Sweden despite bad luck and poor finishing... The Israel defenders were guilty of one or two flying and reckless tackles which the Dutch referee, Klas Schipper, was not prepared to let pass... Israel produced one good movement before the end but Gegosian (the only non-Jewish Israeli player, an Armenian by birth) rushed in with a header when his winger, Glazer, was better placed."

The "GLASGOW HERALD" reported: "On this form Wales can have little chance of qualifying for the later rounds of the competition. Israel, a moderate amateur side, held out for 76 minutes against repeated Welsh onslaughts. The crowd despaired of seeing a goal..."

Of Chodoroff, the Glasgow Herald writes: "Never afraid to fling himself at the onrushing forwards, he was twice hurt, the second time badly and later retained in hospital... The biggest surprise for Wales was the disappointing form of John Charles. The other outstanding Israeli players were Glazer and Reznik."

The London "DAILY EXPRESS" had this to say: "Cliff Jones flops at the auction... The big boys see the £37,000 star fail... On their showing here against a distinctly amateur side from Israel, it looks as though it will be better if Wales decided to stop home rather than push on to Stockholm... The boy soldier Cliff Jones, still a part-time Soccer player, was quite capably repelled by Israel's 20 year old soldier right half, Aharon Amar... Noah Reznik was equally lucky in respect of the £75,000 Soccer merchandise represented by John Charles... In the end, it was not the golden boys of Wales who were the cheer targets but a sturdy, truck-driver goalkeeper, Yaacov Chodoroff, who finished up his day of glory in St. David's Hospital in Cardiff... "Captain Courageous Chodoroff" collapsed outside his dressing room suffering from exhaustion, a damaged shoulder, and a suspected nose fracture... After this injury to Chodoroff even the Welsh fans were cheering for Israel who gave the pluckiest display I have seen from a small-time team".

The "SHIELDS GAZETTE AND SHIPPING TELEGRAPH" sportswriter commented: "The Welsh defence was all at sea when the Israel forwards broke clear and Glazer, left with a wonderful chance, struck the advancing Kelsey on the knees... Wales were beginning to over-elaborate and several players tried long, fruitless dribbles."

The "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" had this to say: "Israel, a team of amateur players, who did not look better than that, held out for 76 minutes against repeated Welsh onslaughts... but the Welsh forwards partially saved their faces by scoring twice in the last fourteen minutes. Chodoroff received gallant support from his overworked half-backs and backs, but the tactics these employed to check many of the Welsh attacks were not pretty... Frequent use was made of the late tackle, of body checking and other obstructionist methods... Wales received numerous free kicks, but the Israeli tactics still continued. This was unfortunate, for Reznik looked a solid centre half and Lefkovitz and Mordechovitz could not have worked harder at back."

The "SOUTH WALES EVENING POST" commented: "Wonder saves held up Wales... Forwards unable to find their way past Chodoroff... Although bombarded with shots from every angle, he proved unbeatable, and his superb saves frequently brought the crowd to their feet... Seldom has a crowd for a big game of this kind been so silent. The red shirts of Wales and the blue shirts of Israel provided an attractive clash of colours as the teams came on to the field and stood to attention while the national anthems were played by the R.A.F. band... The Israel defence was taking a pounding and only the brilliance of Chodoroff prevented Wales from establishing a useful lead. When the Israel

forwards did get out of their half, they persisted in keeping the ball close, - tactics which were fatal against a quick tackling Welsh defence. Israel should have taken the lead when Glazer snapped up a loose ball in the goalmouth and his shot struck Kelsey on the knee to rebound back to Nahamias."

The London "JEWISH CHRONICLE" described the match at some length extracts of which read: "With the Israeli flag fluttering proudly from the grandstand and spurred on by the playing of Hatikvah by a Royal Air Force band, the Israeli football team struggled gamely against Wales in the second "leg" of the World Football Cup but was eventually beaten 2-0... The Israeli team need not be disheartened by the defeat for they played a fast, clean game, although lacking in drive and finish at vital moments. But for Chodoroff's brilliance Israel might have been at least seven goals down in the first half. From the start Israel was in constant danger from the relentless attacks of the Welsh forwards. Within 20 seconds, John Charles, at centre forward, missed a certain goal with Chodoroff out of position. Israel had a great chance to score when Stelmach shot hard at goal which hit Kelsey in the chest and rebounded. The score at half time was 0-0 but the Welsh team pressed on during the second half to score two goals... A banquet in honour of the Israeli team was given by the Welsh Football Association. Before the match the Israeli team and officials were received by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Alderman J.H. Morgan. Colonel Socher (Manager of the Israeli team) presented the Lord Mayor with a case of oranges. A reception in honour of the Israeli and Welsh teams was given by the Cardiff Jewish community and was attended by 500 people."

The "SPORTING LIFE", London, commented: "Wales became the fourth home country to reach the finals of the World Cup. They went through the formality of winning the second leg, but were a sadly disappointing side winning 2:0, the same score as at Tel-Aviv in the first leg."

The "MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS" stated "Having won 2:0 in Tel-Aviv on January 15th, Wales expected to have an easy game under their own familiar conditions, whereas Israel had to play on soft ground unusual to them."

It is interesting to add that the "WESTERN MAIL" of Cardiff wrote on the eve of the game: "Wales should have a comfortable win... Ground conditions will beat the Israelis... The anticipation of a Welsh victory has been strengthened by the present weather conditions which the Israelis will dislike. They are more used to playing on harder going. A really soft or greasy pitch is something they rarely come across and the Welshmen must start with a big advantage... Every (Welsh) player has been instructed to go all out from the start. They will surely do so with a glittering prize of a fortnight in Sweden if they win today... The Welsh have only to draw to qualify for the Cup finals... The Welsh team fielding this afternoon is infinitely stronger in attack than it was at Tel-Aviv."

The "LONDON MORNING ADVERTISER", the "NEWCASTLE JOURNAL" and "THE SCOTSMAN" referred to Chodoroff as "Jacob the Great". The "LIVERPOOL DAILY POST" states that the Welsh spectators were very disappointed with their national team. The (B.B.C.) British Broadcasting Corporation commentator, in the course of a live broadcast, repeatedly praised Chodoroff, Renznik, Glazer and Goldstein, referring to them as "these brave Israelis" and "these tough lads". In the second half of the match, the B.B.C. commentator changed the theme by praising the Welsh attack, as well as by describing the "collapse of the Israel defence."

Aubrey A. Scott, member of the World Executive who was present at the match, commented... "All concerned with Israeli soccer can be full of pride with the achievements of the Israel team. They have performed an amazing feat in holding the Welsh team to a 2 - Nil victory, and above all, in preventing any score until 12 minutes before the end of the game. The Anglo-Jewish community is bubbling over with

Chairman's Newsletter

joy at the result, and the British press has given the Israel team wonderful write-ups... There is no doubt that the Israel team was outplayed and outclassed throughout the game... Israel never really looked like scoring at any time, and their biggest weakness was in the Forward Line where all the players were much too slow on the ball, and were playing "too close". I also think the team was badly advised in wearing short studs, as with the prevalent ground conditions, long studs were required, and as a result of not wearing these, the Israeli team could not hold their feet... The team displayed good sportsmanship on the field and were, I think, unjustly dealt with by many decisions given by the Referees... The Israeli players were much smaller and lighter than the towering giants of the Welsh team... they surprised us all by their fitness which enabled them to stand up to 90 minutes hard play and emerge fresher than the team of Welsh professionals!"

As is usual on such occasions, the press seized upon a little sensational story concerning a Tel-Aviv cabaret star, Aviva Ravee who, according to the "London Evening News" flew to England with the Israeli Football team. First it was suggested that a Welshman paid for her fare, then someone said it was an Italian. The truth is it was neither. Her fare was paid by an Israeli businessman, so the press was assured by Aviva's husband, who refused to disclose the name of the businessman.

The "LONDON DAILY SKETCH" and the "CARDIFF WESTERN MAIL" also dealt with the Aviva Ravee mystery, who is said to have arrived by air from Tel-Aviv with the Israeli team and, thereafter, disappeared.

Pictures appeared in several newspapers showing Shoshana Ahud, an Israeli student of English at the London University, distributing oranges to the Welsh players during practice.

VERY BRIEF NEWSPAPER COMMENTS ABOUT THE WALES-ISRAEL WORLD CUP FOOTBALL MATCH.

The "Northern Echo", Darlington: "Wales will not get very far on this form."

"Birmingham Post": "Wales unimpressive in beating Israel."

"Leicester Mercury": "Wales press in the early stages but collapse later."

"Yorkshire Post", Leeds: "Mediocre display by Wales. Israel has a brilliant goalkeeper."

"Liverpool Daily Post": "Welsh goals were not worth a leek" (Leek is the Welsh symbol).

"Belfast Newsletter": "Wales reach final but disappoint".

"Irish Independent": "Poor Welsh form against Israel".

"Jewish Observer and Middle East Review" (London): "Wednesday, February 5th, was a big day for the B.B.C. Hebrew section. It has undertaken the most complicated task since its foundation: to give live transmission of the Wales v. Israel soccer game from Cardiff, simultaneously on three B.B.C. short wave bands and on Kol-Israel medium wave. The B.B.C. arranged for direct radio-telephone lines from Cardiff to Israel just in case reception through the B.B.C.'s London Studios proved bad..... The whole transmission was offered to Kol-Israel free as an act of goodwill from the B.B.C."

Judging by the 155 newspaper clippings I have received so far, containing reports on the Wales v Israel match, I can see that publicity was, on the whole, favourable, although to quote the "Manchester Guardian": "The Israeli Soccer Team have still a great deal to learn and to train hard before they will be able to take a place among the more spectacular exponents of the Football Game."

London Press Conference.

The Press Conference, held at Maccabi House in London, on 3rd February (postponed from 27th January) had fulfilled my expectations. Presided over, in the unavoidable absence of Lord Nathan, by Fred S. Worme, Hon. Secretary of the European Regional Executive H.Q., it was attended by practically every Israeli newspaperman in London. The importance of the gathering was enhanced by the presence of Mr. A. Kidron, Press Attaché to the Embassy of Israel in London. So as to enable me to deal with a number of important topics in the shortest possible time, a prepared "Press Hand-out" was distributed among all those present, and which dealt with the organisational pattern of the Maccabi World Movement in Europe, Africa, Australia, North America and Asia. It contained also some statistics about the numerical strength of the Movement in various parts of the world, pre-war and post-war, and it also outlined Maccabi's principal aims and objects. Stress was laid upon the Maccabiah Games, emphasising its character of a "World Jewish Sports Festival" and details of the Maccabiah Village project were summarised briefly, paying a tribute to its initiator, the late Aron Netanel.

The names of all active members of the World Executive H.Q., in Israel were listed, accompanied by brief notes as to "Who is Who".

In the course of my address I made some of the following points:

The Present World Executive. In Israel, the Executive H.Q. are in charge of about 15 members giving their services voluntarily in various capacities. But membership of the World Executive is not confined to Israelis only. Leaders of Maccabi Territorial Organisations in South Africa, Australia, India, South America and Europe, all of whom were elected at the last Congress, help in the shaping of a policy which is being forged on the basis of experience gained, and which will be implemented in accordance with conditions prevailing in various lands.

Although a "by-product" of World Zionist Congresses, the Maccabi World Union, as it is known today, aims at educating the masses of Jewish Youth in various countries in the spirit and ideals of Zionism, without in any way being committed to any Zionist Party doctrine. It is for this reason, as well as because of the character of its activities, that Maccabi has for the past 50 years attracted and retained large numbers of Jewish youth in its ranks, resulting in the Movement making a valuable practical contribution to Jewish communal and national renaissance. In Israel, as well as in the Diaspora, a Maccabi club has become an indispensable Institution - a training ground for Communal leaders and Cholim.

The fortunes of World Jewry in oppressed countries have inevitably also affected the fortunes of our Movement. In 1939, our total World membership was 200,000; now it is estimated at 58,000. The mainstay of the European clubs, re-organised after the war is the British Territorial Organisation, with branches in London and in the provinces. Satisfactory progress has been made also elsewhere in Europe, where clubs labour under extremely difficult financial conditions, with very little support, other than "lip service" - coming from leaders of the Community.

YOUTH EDUCATION - A SPIRITUAL LEAD NEEDED.

In the absence of a clear-cut and simple definition of Zionism, as it would be understood in the years following 1948, the problem of educating Jewish Youth, entailing a great deal of moral responsibility, has been rendered more difficult in recent years. A spiritual lead is awaited from the leaders of Zionism and the Government of Israel, which would be understood and accepted by all those desirous of fostering a sense of belonging to the Jewish people and to the State. The lack of a recognition of new Jewish values will be felt for some time to come, and Jewry living in the Diaspora, conscious of this,

must be able to convert this weakness into strength. The main cause of this weakness is the absence of a sense of identity with the Yishuv. For this, and for many other reasons, the Maccabi Movement's ideology was undergoing a process of reorientation, which is bound to be slow before clearer results become evident.

Whilst much emphasis is laid by world youth organisations on training and competitive sports, a Jewish Youth Movement would be failing in its duty if it did not endeavour to provide for its members, activities of a general Jewish and Zionist content. There was a far greater need today for such cultural education than ever before. The danger of assimilation and the lack of a sense of identity with the Jewish people in general, and with Israel in particular, must be forestalled before a situation beyond remedy has been reached.

THE DANGER OF APATHY

Apart from the general apathy and escapism, prevalent among modern youth, and against which few remedies have so far been devised by educationalists, Jewish youth face also the danger of becoming completely indifferent to the fate of World Jewry which, not many years ago, was exposed to mass annihilation - a sad chapter in our history, which is almost forgotten.

Closer and objective observation of youth in Israel, of the "Sabra", led me to conclude that there too frustration is rapidly gaining ground. Israel youth have a great love for exercise and are extremely fond of sports, but they are not given a chance. The Ramat Gan Stadium, hurriedly built in 1950, lacks elementary amenities for competitors, nor does it afford adequate seating accommodation for some 58,000 spectators. Football pitches throughout Israel, or running tracks, are not worthy of the name, and yet they are being used for International matches. Facilities for training are lamentably meagre and far too many young men and women who should be limbering their muscles, queue up at mid-day or in the evening for the Cinemas.

This noticeable lack of interest by Israeli authorities in the promotion of sports is contrasted by what is being done in the neighbouring Arab countries. The Giant Stadiums of Beirut and Cairo emphasise the case in point without there being any need for further comment.

Israel is famous for the care and attention, as well as for its institutions taking care of the baby and infant. And yet comparatively little is being done to take care of the adolescent youth.

ISRAEL AND WORLD SPORTS - THE MACCABIAH

Insofar as the part which Israel plays in the world of sports is concerned, I emphasised the tendency, so very much in evidence in recent years, in favour of participation in International events. The Israeli's motto ought to be: "Train to win, but don't play against superior teams to acquire training".

Much of the world's attention is focussed on sports and, whether right or wrong, the forthcoming Football match, between Wales and Israel, has provoked far more interest in the British press than the frequent reports of border incidents taking place on the frontiers of Israel. Indeed, an outstanding Israeli sportsman or sportsteam can earn more and better goodwill for Israel than a sensational invention or scientific discovery. This is something which the people and leaders of Israel, as indeed Jewish communal leaders everywhere must come to realise if they don't wish to lose the multitude of the young people who will form the future Jewish generation.

The Maccabiah was one of the greatest gifts which the Maccabi Movement could make to World Jewry and, particularly so, to Jewish youth. A gift which has, as yet, to be appreciated on its true merits.

It is, therefore, very much to be regretted that those responsible for the formation of teams of athletes in many countries have found it so difficult to enlist support, to raise funds without which teams of sportsmen and sportswomen could not be sent to Israel to compete in the "World Jewish Sports Festival". But for the courage and tenacity of Maccabi leaders in various lands, but for their self-sacrifice and devotion to an ideal, none of the 3 Maccabiahs held since the war would have been possible. By far the greatest sacrifice was made by the organisers of the Maccabioth - our good friends, members of the World Executive in Israel. Having regard to the fact that the Maccabioth would have lost much of their significance had they not been held in Israel once every 4 years, and to our resolve to continue organising them regularly, some of my close Maccabi friends and myself have reached the conclusion that a basis must be formed to ensure the organisational and financial structure of future Maccabiah Games. Hence the project to set up an International Maccabiah Association.

THE INTERNATIONAL MACCABIAH ASSOCIATION.

It should be clearly understood that the main motive prompting me to promote the "International Maccabiah Association" project was to form a basis of a permanent partnership among all those interested to see the Maccabiah become a factor uniting Jewish youth in the Diaspora and in Israel, as well as being able to make a valuable contribution towards unity in the ranks of all Israeli youth. With the slender resources, human and financial, available to the M.W.U. they cannot be expected to perform the "Maccabiah miracle" once every 4 years! We can no longer tolerate everyone coming to Israel expecting everything readymade, providing for the athletes comfortable accommodation, adequate catering, etc.

It is my belief that the "International Maccabiah Association" can form the basis to a practical partnership between the Maccabi World Union and its Territorial Organisations on the one hand, and such other Jewish organisations who are not affiliated to the Maccabi World Union on the other. The Maccabi World Union can well continue to be the organisers of the Maccabiah on the spot, aided by the permanent staff, supported by a budget to which every member of the Association shall be in duty bound to contribute. I see no reason why Jewish Youth Organisations in America or Canada, or in any other country where no strong Maccabi organisation exists, could not get together with us, forming a partnership to promote the Maccabiah and to see it go from success to success, thus becoming one of the most outstanding events in the world of sports, earning glory for Jewry and credit for those who made this event possible.

A YOUTH "JAMBOREE".

It has been suggested, during the last Congress in Israel, that the Maccabiah be combined with the ingathering of thousands of Jewish children from all over the world - a kind of "jamboree" - who would travel to Israel by air, by land and by sea, accompanying their national teams supporting them and cheering them to victory. Let these children wave their own national flags in one hand and the Israeli flag in the other! During the Games, they could be accommodated in the Maccabiah Village, in camps or in private homes. Before or after the Games, bus-loads of these children would be taken around the Kibbutzim, towns and villages, under the supervision of multi-lingual guides, visiting schools and institutions and fraternising with Israeli children wherever they may find them.

A scheme of this kind should meet with the wholehearted support of the Israeli Government, of the Jewish Agency, as well as of the Territorial Zionist Federations. This would be the finest way of practising Zionism without having to engage in unconvincing verbal propaganda. This, more so than anything else, would attract Jewish children to Israel. Children are interested in sports and in competitions; they would not be interested to go to Israel just for the sake of touring a land of which they knew little and the significance of which they understood even less.

ISRAEL - MACCABI'S SPIRITUAL HOME.

The universal character of the Maccabi Movement is now well known; so are its Territorial Organisations wherever an organised Jewish community exists. It is also natural that its headquarters be set up in Israel and when I accepted the Chairmanship of the World Executive, I insisted upon the Executive Headquarters remaining in Israel regardless of the difficulties of intercommunication and co-ordination were concerned. The spiritual lead of the Maccabi movement must come from Israel. Consequently, the Government of Israel is in honour bound to give us more generous moral and mutual support. Although the relationship with Government Agencies appears friendly, support from these sources has been insignificant and at times, tendered reluctantly. In the course of my conversations with the Prime Minister, he has shown considerable understanding for the value of Jewish youth education by means of sport and he emphasised the importance of the Maccabiah thanks to which so many thousands of young Jewish men and women will continue to come to Israel, to get to know the people of Israel and thus, may wish to settle in Israel and to share in the fate and fortunes of the State. The Prime Minister has shown also considerable understanding for the value of sports as a means of raising the prestige of Israel in the eyes of the world. And yet, Government departments have shown little understanding for and interest in Maccabi's work, inside or outside Israel. But for the enterprise shown by municipal authorities, facilities for training and competition in Israel are almost non-existent; playing fields and pitches at present in use are hardly worthy of that name; they defy description.

Progress achieved by Israeli sportsmen and their prowess displayed at home and abroad could do much to encourage training and competition in the ranks of Jewish youth in all other lands. It is for this reason that the Maccabi movement attaches so much importance to the promotion of sports and sportsmanship in Israel, for the Israelis can set an illustrious example to World Jewish youth, their example would serve as an inspiration and as a pattern to be emulated.

"POLITICAL" SPORTS IN ISRAEL.

I deprecated the conflict still in evidence between the leading sports organisations in Israel, Hapoel and Maccabi. Without wishing to go into the merits or demerits of those involved I felt that a warning must be sounded. The standard of sports can be raised by means of friendly competition but once such competition resolves itself into an angry conflict involving party politics - sport ceases to exist, confusion and hostility follow. Israeli sports fans have witnessed some ugly scenes and angry quarrels, many of which were taken almost for granted. The Israelis are beginning to adopt an attitude of indifference and complacency. The same cannot be said of lovers of sports and of those who, like ourselves, wish to see clean sports in Israel free from hostilities and conflicts for whatever reason. Reports appearing in the World press on the subject of quarrels among Israeli sports organisations and the lack of order and co-ordination in the Israeli Sports Federations overshadow the favourable publicity which the participation of Israeli sportsmen in international matches earns for them.

I was, therefore, firmly resolved to make what modest contribution I could in an endeavour to compose the differences between the principal sports and youth organisations in Israel. With this in mind, I took the initiative and have engaged in some correspondence with the Central Committee of "Hapoel", intended to lead to a round-table conference during my forthcoming visit in Israel. At the same time I will try to prevail upon leaders of Maccabi in Israel to make their contribution towards a peaceful solution of the existing differences. If Hapoel's attitude should prove conciliatory, I can see no reason why a more constructive contribution could not be made by their organisation towards many enterprises intended to benefit Jewish youth generally and the Israel sporting organisations in particular.

After giving the newspapermen a brief outline of the "Village" Scheme, I added the following observations:

The Maccabiah Village has become an indispensable factor in the organisation of future Maccabioth. Without it, participating athletes would be denied the accommodation and facilities so essential to foster the "camp spirit". By being able to "house" 1,000 athletes of 20 or 30 nationalities, living under the same conditions and experiences, and afforded an opportunity to get to know Israeli youth, the "Village" would fully justify its existence and, therefore, deserve of wholehearted support by all those who, like ourselves, believe that the Maccabiah can play an important part in the promotion of closer friendship and fraternal ties in the ranks of World Jewish youth coming to Israel once every 4 years to compete for highest honours in sport. The cost of the project, though considerable, would not be possible of realisation. In years gone by, every competing team had been requested to make a contribution towards the cost needed to provide temporary accommodation. Such contributions will not be necessary in 8 or 10 years from now, because the "Village", once completed, will be a self-supporting venture, the ownership of which would be vested in a Board of Trustees, acting on behalf of the Maccabi World Union - its rightful owners. Between the Maccabioth, the Village would become a centre for training your Israeli athletes, as it would also be able to accommodate groups of Youth coming from all over the world on short visits to Israel. It was thought that the Maccabiah Village will thus become one of the most needed World Youth Centres in Israel - making a valuable contribution towards the problem of accommodation for groups of tourists, at a cost far lower than hotels or boarding houses.

The newspapermen asked a number of questions, from which it was evident that they were very much impressed by three features emphasized during the Conference.

- a) The "International Maccabiah Association", which they thought had immense prospects.
- b) The World Jewish "Youth Jamboree".
- c) The "Maccabiah Village" Project.

I continue to receive newspaper reports which appeared in the Israeli Press, as well as interesting Editorial comments. From these it appears that the Conference has produced considerable interest and, so far - little controversy.

Mr. A. Kidron, Press Attache, Embassy of Israel in London, who attended the Press Conference, was good enough to address to me a letter, extract of which reads:

"As to your talk at the Press Conference, permit me to make one personal comment:

You mentioned briefly two plans:

- 1) The International Association for "Maccabiah".
- 2) During the time of the "Maccabiah" to have a sort of 'Jamboree' of Jewish Children (I presume you had in mind the age groups of 14 - 16) from all parts of the world, to be held in Israel.

"I find both these ideas most interesting, and if they could be realised, something of great importance would have been achieved.

"May I wish you every success in this venture, and I do hope that you will not be discouraged by the difficulties you are going to encounter, at least, in the initial stages."

News from Terr. Organisations

MACCABI FINLAND (Helsinki).

In a letter recently received from Mr. A. Livson we are informed that he was no longer able to be active in Maccabi work, due to illhealth. He offered to resign from the membership of the World Council - a resignation which has, so far, not been accepted.

We were also informed that Maccabi Helsinki have recently held their Annual General Meeting and that the club has elected a new Executive, which took office on 20th January, 1958. The Chairman of the Executive is Mr. Kai Ancker, The Vice Chairman, Mauritz Schick Hon. Secretary, Leo Jarden, and Hon. Treasurer, M. Feinik. Three other members were also elected, in addition to two substitute members. Mr. Abraham Baran will act as full-time Secretary. Mr. Ancker is expected to visit London during March.

Correspondence to the Chairman of the Helsinki Club can be addressed, either to his firm, c/o. Oy I.W. Ancker A.B. Kalevankatu 4, Helsinki or to his private address: Munkkiniemen Puistotie 11 A 20, Helsinki.

The recently elected Chairman of Maccabi Helsinki was kind enough to send me a report, extract of which I am glad to publish hereunder:

"As your knowledge of our activities here is rather limited, we wish you to know the following:

"In Finland there are only about 2,000 Jews. There are two Jewish Athletic clubs, both bearing the name Maccabi, one in Helsinki and the other one in Turku. Maccabi Helsinki has its own club premises. We have 300 members, although not all of them are active. Many of them are supporters and sponsors. Our programme of activities consists of sports and cultural pursuits. In sports, Track and Field athletics must be mentioned first. Although few of our members are actively engaged in athletics, one of them is most outstanding: Israel Baran, who represented Finland in several International Meets having also been a member of the Finnish Olympic team in 1952. Baran is a sprinter and his best time is 10.8 seconds. Last Autumn he participated in the Maccabiah, coming 4th in the 100 metres finals.

"Wrestling has been a popular sport here and the most prominent representative at the present time is Ruben Rubin. He too participated in the Maccabiah and distinguished himself in the Greek-Roman Contest. He came second in the catch-as-catch-can competitions in the under 73 kilo weight.

"Our members have always taken a lively interest in Football. We have 3 teams in several leagues. Our Football team participated in the 1953 Maccabiah and when it played in a Football Tournament in Haifa we were defeated 5-Nil.

"Table-tennis and Bowling are still very popular sections. So are Skiing and Skating and representatives of these have represented Finland in International matches.

"We spend time and funds on the education of our young people. Our junior members, numbering 40 are making excellent progress in all their activities.

all their activities.

"In co-operation with Maccabi in Turku, we arrange every year a Winter Camp, where participants can spend one week skiing and skating in the country-side. This year the Camp was opened on March 2nd."

SWITZERLAND.

Oskar Wessely (Zurich) reports:

"Our friend, Erich Burghoimer, formerly President of Maccabi Switzerland, has been elected an Honorary member of the "Juedischer Turnverein Zuerich" at the last Jubilee General Meeting, held here recently. Thus Mr. Erich Burghoimer is once again returning to the fold of the Maccabi Movement - to which he is most welcome!" (As requested, I will continue to send him copies of the "Chairman's Newsletter".)

Swiss Maccabi is celebrating this year several events; the Lausanne branch celebrated its 40th anniversary a few weeks ago; Maccabi Switzerland has been in existence for almost 40 years - an event which Mr. D. Neufeld, President of the Territorial Organisation in Switzerland, will refer to in the course of the Annual Convention to be held in Zurich on March 23rd. The oldest Jewish Gymnast and Sports Club in Switzerland - Maccabi Zurich - have celebrated their 50th anniversary this year.

During this last Winter season, Maccabi Switzerland athletes were not idle for, despite the very bad weather and snow conditions, the fifth Swiss Maccabi Ski races were held on the Rigi mountain with a record attendance. Sylvia Bloch became champion for the third consecutive time thus definitely winning the Maccabi Challenge Cup. Fredy Weiss, junior member of Maccabi Zurich, became the new Maccabi champion in the combination race for speed and slalom.

Maccabi Basle achieved a splendid success in indoor Handball competitions winning not only the group championships but also having been promoted to a high league. The Handball team of Maccabi Zurich were runners-up.

U.S.A.

MACCABI PHILADELPHIA.

Sam Gerson, President, writing on his new stationery, displaying the Maccabi emblem, as well as the "Stars and Stripes" reports on a meeting held at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York, on 13th February, attended by Mr. Joshua Torczyner, President of Maccabi San Francisco, Henry Nesselroth, President of New York Maccabi, Sam Gerson representing Philadelphia Maccabi, and Mrs. Gusta Singer, representing the M.W.U. Executive. Gerson reported that those helping him in the development of the Maccabi club in Philadelphia are past Olympic competitors, best in the field, and that, with their help, many outstanding athletes will be developed. For the present, the fully organised sport was Wrestling and the name of Maccabi will be displayed on their Jerseys when they enter the Middle Atlantic A.A.U. Tournament on March 21 - 22 in Philadelphia. The prominent Chess

players, members of Maccabi Philadelphia, will engage the City of Woodbury in a Chess Contest.

Gerson promised those assembled that he will do all he can to develop a club which will set an example for other cities to follow. Gerson also reported that he will ask the creators of the Philadelphia Chanukah Festival, which normally attracts 15,000 or more spectators, to make this a great Sports Parade, to show the Athletic prowess of the Philadelphia Maccabi Club.

Barney Ain, the well known Sports Commentator, nicknamed throughout the U.S.A. as "Mister Basketball" has, once again, been invited to supervise the Jewish Welfare Board Basketball Tournaments, an assignment he handled for more than 20 years. Barney Ain has also been elected to join the Board of Directors of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel.

Mike Herman, a 5th Maccabiah gold medallist, winner of the Decathlon, harbours a great ambition: To win the 1960 Olympic Decathlon. He is currently training towards that end and will compete in the national United States Decathlon in July. Mike, who is 20 years old, was born in Brooklyn, New York.

Zach Offri, the well known Basketball player and member of Maccabi in Israel, is going to the U.S.A. to complete his athletic education, before returning to his country as a teacher. 6 feet 2 inches tall, weighing 185 lb, Offri was one of Israel's greatest Basketball stars and Captain of the Maccabi team which toured the U.S.A. last year. Now 25 years old, Offri is enrolled in the New York School of Education. He hopes eventually to play in the N.Y.U. Five, although he must sit out at least one year as transfer student. The main thing, so far as Offri is concerned, is to learn the American technique on the sports field so that he can make things a little easier for the next generation in Israel. Offri declared, in the course of a newspaper interview "Basketball is growing in Israel and I want to go back to help promote it". He started playing Basketball when 15. He recalls that when he was first taught Basketball, his Coach told him to "get the ball and shoot". None of the fundamentals of technique in the sport were explained. This was, in fact, the birth of the sport in Israel and no-one knew much about it. But, in recent years, all has changed, under the influence, and with the help of, coaches from the United States. The first of such Coaches was Nat Holman.

Congratulations to Martin Jeffrey Ain, (son of our good friend, Barney Ain) Senior Student at the Adelphi Academy who, after scoring 20 markers for his quintet against Trinity, was named co-captain of the school's cage aggregation.

Isaac Berger, Olympic and 5th Maccabiah Weightlifting Champion, is looking forward to September when he will compete in Stockholm. He will also participate in an International Meeting to be held in Bombay in 1959. Three months ago, he distinguished himself in Iran.

Another Maccabiah Champion Gold Medallist, the well known Gymnast, Abe Grosfeld, is shortly to proceed to Moscow where he is to participate in important competitions.

Mrs. Gusta Singer, member of the Maccabi World Executive, is to leave the U.S.A., early in April, arriving in London on April 7th. She is returning to Israel on April 12th where she is to resume activities. Whilst in New York, she attended several meetings with members of the U.S. Committee, as well as with our Maccabi friends in New York, San Francisco and Philadelphia.

SWEDEN. (Stockholm)

Joel Haskel, for many years past, staunch Maccabi leader in Sweden, has been elected to the Executive of the Swedish Table Tennis Association.

SOUTH AFRICAN MACCABI COUNCIL.

JOHANNESBURG.

During February, the Biennial General Meeting of the South African Maccabi Council was held in Johannesburg when a new Executive was elected.

Honorary President	- Mr. Harry Lourie.
President.	- Mr. Ian Maltz.
Chairman	- Mr. Alf Blumberg.
Vice-Chairman.	- Mr. B.L. Kellen.
Executive Members.	- Messrs. A. Treisman, P. Abro, K. Abro, D. Sandler, H. Nathan, M. Hack, L. Matus, A. Goldman, L. Gecelter, J.S. Harris.

Anyone wishing to communicate with the principal Executive Officers of the South African Maccabi Council may mail letters to the following addresses:

Mr. I. Maltz, P.O.Box. 4665, Johannesburg.
Mr. Alf. Blumberg, P.O.Box. 3714, Johannesburg.
Mr. A. Hyman, P.O.Box. 5993, Johannesburg.
Mr. B.L. Kellen, P.O.Box. 18, Johannesburg.

Shalom Zysman now in South Africa. Mr. Zysman, Chairman of Maccabi Israel, and member of the World Executive, is now in South Africa, touring the country at the invitation of the South African Zionist Federation. He met the South African Maccabi Executive on his arrival and a luncheon was organised by them in his honour. Zysman will be taken around to see the various sports clubs in South Africa and, wherever possible, will meet Maccabi committees in the provinces. It will be remembered that Shalom Zysman is also Deputy Mayor of the Ramat Gan municipality.

South Africa supports "Village" Project - £25,000 promised.

Barney Kellen (Johannesburg) reports: "The South African Maccabi Council decided unanimously to support the project of the "International Maccabiah Association." We feel that, in this way, the Maccabiah will be made attractive to more countries".

"I also have pleasure in advising you that my Council has agreed to identify itself with, and participate actively in the erection of the Maccabiah Village. WE HAVE DECIDED AT THIS STAGE TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO AN AMOUNT OF \$5000 STERLING, WHICH AMOUNT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MACCABI EXECUTIVE FOR THIS PROJECT PRIOR TO THE 1961 MACCABIAH GAMES."

A goodwill Sports Project.

Once again the South African Maccabi Council shows courageous initiative and a spirit of enterprise. This is illustrated by the following statement contained in the report on the Biennial Annual Conference.

"On the assumption that the 14th World Maccabi Congress will take place in Israel during October, 1959, we have started organising a Tour to Israel of South African Sportsmen and Sportswomen who are members of the South African Maccabi Association. It is our intention to send bowlers, cricketers, tennis players, swimmers, hockey players, etc., on the basis of a goodwill sports tour.

Maccabi World Union
Chairman's Newsletter

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My Executive has asked me to inform you of this project and to consider whether it would be possible for the British Maccabi Association to organise a similar tour at the same time so that all sports played could be on a triangular basis between yourselves, Israel and South Africa. It must, of course, be understood very clearly that this is merely a sporting and a goodwill tour and no prizes, titles or championships whatsoever, will be involved. Each participant from South Africa will be required to pay his or her own expenses. Touring of the country will also enable British Maccabeans and South Africans to meet and exchange ideas and all in all we visualize a first class Maccabi Goodwill Tour, resulting from this effort. It is our intention too, to ask the Rhodesian Maccabi Association to participate."

Another "Maccabi Corner".

A weekly paper appearing in South Africa, the "Zionist Record", has agreed to set aside regular special space for Maccabi news, to be headlined "Maccabi Corner". I have just received the first copy of the "Maccabi Corner", featuring interesting items of news. Among them the following are prominent: Wesley Perkes, Maccabiah competitor and S.African National 220 metres Champion, ran 440 metres at the Caledonian meeting on the East Rand in 49.1 seconds.

Southern Transvaal Maccabi took the opportunity of the presence in Johannesburg of delegates from various provinces for the Biennial Council Meeting to stage a most successful Reunion Dinner for members of the various Maccabiah teams. It drew an attendance of about 150, comprising members of the 1935, 1950, 1953 and 1957 teams. The newly-elected Chairman of the S. African Maccabi Council, Mr. Alf Blumberg gave a brief and interesting survey of the Maccabi programme adopted at the Biennial Meeting, having appealed, at the same time to all past members to throw their full weight into Maccabi work.

Barney Kellen draws my attention to an error that crept into my Newsletter No. 62 and which I am pleased to correct. South African members of the World Executive are Mr. Ian Maltz, Mr. Alf Blumberg and Mr. B.L. Kellen, whereas Mr. Abe Hyman was elected to the Maccabi Supreme Court and Management Committee.

Mr. Alf Blumberg recently elected Chairman of the South African Maccabi Council has been selected to represent South Africa at the forthcoming Empire Games at Cardiff, England, as the Manager of the South African Bowls team. Mr. Blumberg is due to arrive in London by boat on July 4th. He will stay in Cardiff until 28th July and then return to London where he will spend a week, commencing July 28th. We all look forward to seeing Mr. Blumberg, as well as congratulating him personally on his election to the high office of Chairman of the South African Maccabi Council. I am informed that Mr. Blumberg "is really one of the most powerful and influential stalwarts of the Maccabi Movement in South Africa. Not only is he a pillar of strength to that organisation but generally he holds high office in sports organisations in South Africa and is greatly respected by all who know him and who enjoy his friendship."

MACCABI NETHERLANDS.

Benno Hess (Amsterdam) reports:

"Our Maccabi clubs are now quite well established in Amsterdam and The Hague. During February, there was a Gymnastic Tournament in The Hague, in which 50 children participated. On 2nd March,

a Swimming Tournament will be held in Amsterdam, in which members from various Maccabi clubs will take part. The Swimming Section has grown to be one of the biggest and best and, on Wednesday evening, we normally have more than 60 children in the Swimming Bath. A Basketball Tournament will be held in Amsterdam on 9th March. The Annual General Meeting of Maccabi Amsterdam will be held on 4th March. We are more or less satisfied with the normal running of our clubs and are busy founding a new club in Bussum, for which we already have about 70 applications. We do not wish to start this club before we have been able to find a suitable Chairman.

MACCABI IN INDIA (BOMBAY)

Mr. S.J. Marshall (of Jaiji Mansions, Moreweather Road) Bombay, 1 (10th February).

"I wish to congratulate you and the World Executive on the excellent results of the Maccabiah. Due to personal problems I was unable to present to you my respects before my departure. Despite the bad luck which befell me, during the last Maccabiah (family bereavement) I don't regret having gone to Israel and, what is more, I hope to lead the Indian Team to the 6th Maccabiah.

"I am rather concerned about the transportation between the Maccabiah Village and the various venues where competitions took place, and which cause my boys often to take taxis, which proved costly, as well as inconvenient.

"The Jewish community in Bombay seem to have appreciated that their representatives have shown so much prowess. I expect that when we field the next team it will be bigger. I take this opportunity of thanking you and Sass Moses for the help received.

"What are the prospects of holding a Badminton Tournament at the next Maccabiah? When recently in London I was present at the Maccabi Badminton Contest which aroused considerable enthusiasm and has shown a very good standard of play. Surely, this game could be developed and further promoted. Of course, I realise it will require the provision of Badminton Courts. Here in Bombay, Sir Victor Sassoon might help us in this connection and, if so, India would be prepared to field a team at the next Maccabiah".

GREAT BRITAIN.

Four well known sporting personalities participated in a "Brain's Trust", organised early in February at Maccabi House in London. They were Miss Angela Buxton, a Wimbledon Semi-Finalist, Mr. J.R. Witty, the official lecturer of the Football Association, Dr. W.W. Meisl, Foreign Editor of the "World Sports", Mr. Jack Crump Hon. Secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Board and Mr. Ken Gradon, member of British Maccabi in the Chair.

Another Medal for Debra.

At the Annual Dinner and Ball of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, held at the Dorchester Hotel on 15th February, the Harriet Cohen Medal for the Best Girl Athlete of the British Maccabiah team was presented to 16 year-old 5th Maccabiah gold medallist, Debra Turner. About 600 guests who attended the Dinner witnessed a simple but impressive ceremony when the medal was handed over to Miss Turner on behalf of Miss Cohen, the world renowned pianist and Vice President of the Maccabi Associations in Great Britain, by Mrs. P. Gildesgame.

Maccabi Cycling Centre.

Many cyclists attended the inaugural meeting of the Maccabi Cycling Centre, held in London recently. The Centre will cater for all branches of cycling, both as a pastime and as a competitive sport. Mr. Stan Rose, Chairman of the Centre, said that one of the main objects would be to provide a team for the Maccabi European Games in Denmark in 1959, and the promotion of national Maccabi championships. The racing jerseys of the Centre are to be royal blue and white with "Maccabi" in white letters on the back. The Maccabi emblem will also be worn. It is hoped that the centre will also provide a track team to compete regularly in evening meetings. A "Best All-rounder" championship will also be held. This new cycling group is open to Jewish cyclists of both sexes, regardless of club affiliation.

Cultural Promotions.

An Oratory Contest is being held this month in London, in which members of various Maccabi clubs will participate. This, as well as a Drum Festival and Essay Competition, constitute three of the main National Cultural Contests in which many youngsters and teams compete eagerly for highest honours.

Recently the Gildesgame Coloured 5th Maccabiah Film has been shown to various London clubs and is due to be projected also in some of the provincial clubs.

A Maccabi Friend honoured.

A Testimonial Dinner is being arranged by the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain in honour of Mr. Jack Steinberg, Chairman of the Central Maccabi Fund, on March 17th. Mr. Jack Steinberg is a well known communal and Zionist worker and a highly respected member of our Anglo-Jewish community. Since he took over the Chairmanship of the Central Maccabi Fund, substantial revenue accrued to it under his able leadership. Thanks to that, Maccabi clubs in Great Britain were able to carry on with their work and the Maccabi Stadium at Hendon benefited from substantial annual subsidies. The Central Maccabi Fund helped also Maccabi in Great Britain to make its contribution to the Maccabi World Union, in the form of an annual subscription of £300. The Testimonial Dinner will be attended by members of the National Executive of Maccabi in Great Britain, as well as by members of the National Council of the Central Maccabi Fund. The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan will preside.

BELGIUM.

Maccabi Antwerp - Table Tennis Champions.

Belgian national newspapers gave great prominence to the Belgian Table Tennis Championships held there at the end of February. The Royal Maccabi Sportclub Antwerp have been declared National champions.

The most outstanding Maccabi players were Benny Katznelson, Stephen Jaffe, Vojin Djordjevic and Sam Blonder.

NEWS FROM BRAZIL.

Our good friend, David Kopenhagen, President of Maccabi-Brazil and a member of the World Executive, elected at the 13th Congress, writes:

"It has been a real pleasure and a satisfaction, when in Israel, to move in the atmosphere of Maccabi Friends. I look forward to meeting my friends in Israel again at the next Congress."

On the subject of Maccabi activities in Brazil, Mr. Kopenhagen writes:

"I am glad to inform you that our sporting activity is quite lively. Maccabi in Sao Paulo has now a division for "de salao" (drawing room) Football, invented by a Uruguayan, which is very much en vogue and every sporting club considers this as an indispensable activity. We have re-organised our Volleyball Division. Our strongest Basketball team is playing regular games, not only in Sau Paulo, but also in other cities..."

"We are about to re-organise our Maccabi clubs and to expand their sphere of activity. We are stimulated by prospects of coming into possession of playing fields, situated in nice surroundings allocated by the municipality of Sau Paulo. It is not an easy task to carry this plan into effect but, owing to connections we have with influential personalities in the municipal government and political circles connected with the town council, we do hope to succeed in our endeavours before long and to have a stadium of our own."

"Should we be successful in accomplishing this project, its advantages will benefit many generations to come. It will also considerably invigorate the standing of Maccabi, as it would also be able to exercise greater influence in the world of sports. We will spare neither effort nor expense to achieve our purpose."

"Never before has the name of Maccabi been so often mentioned and held in such favour. The participation of our sportsmen in the 5th Maccabiah has greatly contributed to this."

"I will comply with my personal obligations towards the Maccabiah Village and will redeem my promise without fail".

BELGIUM.

Bernard Guttman, the former Honorary Secretary of Maccabi-Brussels, has recently been elected Chairman of the Club.

THE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH LEADERS.

Eugene Rakower, an active Maccabi worker in Great Britain, formerly associated with Maccabi in Antwerp, a great swimming enthusiast and Captain of many Maccabi swimming and waterpolo teams, commented on Lord Nathan's views published in my previous letter. I quote a few extracts of his comments which I consider very interesting.

"Basing myself on past personal experience, and experiences of many Sports clubs in this country and on the Continent, I would say that the great majority of these, especially the well known and most successful ones, invariably had among their leaders professional men who were either running the administration of the club or helping as coaches to one or more Sports sections. It is difficult to say how any Sports club can attain a high standard without the aid of professionals with specialised experience and able to devote all their time, or a great deal of it, to their job. I do not agree, therefore, with Lord Nathan's view that the voluntary worker has overwhelming advantages over the paid worker. It is a known fact that young sportsmen will have far more respect for, and will be far more eager to follow professional coaching than an amateur one. The good professional will undoubtedly attract amateurs to follow him and improve the standard all round."

"It would be an ideal state of affairs if only voluntary workers were to run the club. But surely experience has shown that, in

practise, this is not possible, and the results have not proved successful."

"In Jewish clubs in Great Britain, there does not appear to be a lack of voluntary workers. If anything, I would say there are too many of them. Too many to do too much talking and too little work. When it comes to taking on responsibilities and do some real organisational and effective work, one would find there may be one or two in the club willing to do this job, but the rest will go on talking... These so-called enthusiasts are mainly comprised in the following categories:

- a) The ambitious young man; very keen, ready to jump all obstacles. After a few months, perhaps six, perhaps a year, maximum two (which is very unusual) this enthusiasm suddenly dwindles. His attendance at meetings becomes rare, or is confined to short stays. His excuses for work not done multiply. Thus, he becomes useless. One of the usual causes is not unnatural: the girlfriend. Sometimes the latter becomes engaged, which only makes matters worse, insofar as the club is concerned.
- b) The married young man (less than 5 years); work, worries, searching for a flat or house, care of children, the wife, the garden, etc., etc., cause an inevitable decline in his club work.
- c) The wealthy young sports enthusiast who always has plenty of time, very keen to do the job. However, this is one such rare bird that, so far as we are concerned, we may as well pass him by.
- d) The keen young man, eager to do some club work but has either no regular income or, worse still, no job. Such a young man, normally frustrated, is not a desirable type."

Comment.

I am grateful to Mr. Rakower for his comments, coming as they do from an experienced club worker. I pointed out to him, however, that Lord Nathan's comments dealt mainly with the Club Organiser, and not with coaches and trainers who, to be of any use, must, of necessity, be full-time experienced professionals. Nevertheless, much of what Mr. Rakower says on the subject of club work must be as true in this country as it is elsewhere.

Any suggestions for remedies, or does anyone know of a good cure? I will be interested in further comments.

P.G.

STOP PRESS.

Mr. L. Lowenthal, Chairman of Maccabi's most successful Junior Club (N.W.) London, and a member of the National Executive of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain, has just returned from a European trip, in the course of which he visited several countries and interviewed leaders of Maccabi clubs in Scandinavia, as well as in Central Europe. A report on Mr. Lowenthal's observations will be published in the next issue.

Mr. Jack Shulman, until recently National Organiser of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain, has resigned to enable him to accept an appointment with the Youth Department of the Zionist Federation in Great Britain.

Mr. Max Berman, three times Commandant and Captain of the British Maccabiah team, has been authorised by the National Executive of Maccabi Great Britain to form a "Maccabiah Fellowship", the object of the "Fellowship" being to maintain regular contact with all those who have, at one time or another, been members or officials of the British Maccabiah team. It is proposed to hold annual Reunion Dinners, or to arrange other functions of a similar nature, at the discretion of Mr. Max Berman.

The Annual General Meeting of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain is due to be held at the premises of Leytonstone Maccabi (London) on May 15th next.

News from Exec. H.Q. Israel.

MACCABIAH VILLAGE PROJECT - Progress report.

Mr. Z. Rusecki, member of the World Executive in charge of the Maccabiah Village affairs, reports:

"(a) The "Maccabiah Village" Trustees Committee, headed by Mr. Gurewitz, have convened several times and have decided to confirm on principle the scheme elaborated by a Sub-Committee headed by Mrs. Netanel.

"(b) The Trustees' Sub-Committee has decided to work out a new plan of the area based upon the experience gained in the last Maccabiah. Particular attention will be paid to providing Football, Basketball and Volleyball facilities within the "Maccabiah Village" boundaries so as to spare the athletes the time and money that are required when training grounds are distant from the "Village".

"At the same time it has been decided to complete the existing building and construct another building, thus increasing the capacity of the "Village" and enabling it to provide accommodation for 120 men. It is intended that the kitchen be modified into a dining room large enough to serve 120 men. The required kitchen will be built of blocks.

"The preparation of the new plan is about to be completed by architect Robinson. Upon completion, the plan will be put before the Trustees for final approval. Planting in the area will be resumed immediately after approval is given.

"(c) The expenditure required for the realisation of this modest plan which will form the "scheme "B" of the whole project, will amount to £2,150,000.

"(d) A few weeks ago, the "Maccabiah Village" Trustees held a meeting at which Mr. Moshe Meir, one of the good friends of the late Netanel and a wealthy man, participated. It was proposed at that meeting that the Trustees should appeal to 40 to 50 rich men - good friends of the late Chairman, to mobilise an amount of some tens of thousands of pounds to serve as the initial amount for the realisation of the new plan. The campaign is to be carried on without publicity and only after it succeeds will the official fund-raising campaign start. After this, we will make an appeal abroad.

"To my regret, I am, so far, unable to report about any success of the Trustees Committee although I am confident that their first steps will be taken soon and that they will bring fruitful results."

The Maccabi Stadium in Tel Aviv.

Negotiations are taking place between Maccabi World Union Executive and representatives of Maccabi Tel Aviv, concerning the use of the Stadium by the Tel Aviv Club. A draft agreement, setting out terms and conditions, is now under careful consideration. Maccabiah Village Trustees.

Several meetings were held, at which future development of the Maccabiah Village has been discussed. The Trustees have now decided to incorporate a Limited Company on the basis of a Memorandum and Articles of Association drafted by Mr. A. Tory, Adv.

Jewish Agency.

Representations have been made to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem to obtain an increased grant for Maccabi World Union work. A delegation, consisting of Dr. E. Justice-Dayan, Mr. Max Spitz interviewed Mr. Dov Joseph, Treasurer. The outcome of the interview

has not proved satisfactory and renewed representations are to be made to the Jewish Agency in the near future.

World Executive Meetings.

Meetings of the World Executive have been held regularly and Executive members residing abroad have received copies of Minutes translated into English.

The World Executive have set up a number of sub-Committees already actively engaged in strenuous work: The Finance Sub-Committee, comprising the three Hon. Treasurers: Ben-Dror, Spitz and Caspi. A budget of income and expenditure for 1956/1959 is in the course of preparation. They are also dealing with the manifold problems relating to the settlement of the 5th Maccabiah accounts.

A Sports Directorate has been set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Atlasz. Their main tasks are to prepare a revised schedule for the Maccabi Proficiency Standard of Fitness. When this work is completed, new rules will be issued relating to the award of the Maccabi Proficiency Medal. The Sports Directorate is also dealing now with a revised programme of events for the 6th Maccabiah.

Dr. R. Atlasz is assisted in his work by several members of the Executive and of the World Council residing in Israel.

The 6th Maccabiah Sub-Committee, consisting of Yeshua Aleuf, Dr. Atlasz and Ben-Dror, are preparing a "blue-print" for the 6th Maccabiah. It is intended to work out tentative plans for a very much revised programme of pageantry and sports events to take place during the Opening and Closing ceremonies at the next Maccabiah. Discussions will soon be initiated with Territorial Organisations and Maccabiah Organising Committees the world over, to fix a date for the 6th Maccabiah to suit the convenience of the majority of participants.

A Policy Sub-Committee, comprising leading members of the Executive in Israel, has also been set up to deal with major internal and external problems. From time to time, the Executive will consider proposals submitted by the Sub-Committee and, when approved, these will be published for the information of Territorial Organisations overseas.

H A P O E L ' S ' C O N G R E S S '

Several newspapers in Israel reported and commented on the Hapoel Convention, held in Jerusalem, lasting 3 days, and which reached its climax on 19th January. The President of Israel attended the Inaugural Session at which several members of the Government were also present. Mr. Ben Zvi recalled the early days of the development of Sports in Palestine when the first club, named Shimshon, was formed in 1909. He added that 'Hapoel' need not be ashamed of the record of its activities, as indeed they were the organisation who promoted sports in the ranks of the working class in Israel, and who are today largely responsible for the physical preparedness of the Army of Defence. He appealed to leaders of 'Hapoel' to change their surnames and indeed, the General Secretary, known until now as Pinski, will henceforth answer to the name of Panai.

Representatives of 480 Hapoel groups attended the Convention and voted unanimously in favour of a number of resolutions, among them:

- (1) To engage in a membership drive aimed at raising the numerical strength of 'Hapoel' in Israel to 100,000 members.

- (2) To appeal to the Government of Israel to increase its financial support as the organisation considers itself morally obliged to promote sports "throughout World Jewish communities" (sic!) (It is admitted in the body of the resolution that 'Hapoel' branches outside Israel have not played their part efficiently.)
 - (3) To raise the standard of sports and sportsmanship as well as to promote Maritime sports.
- To intensify relations with World Sports Organisations and to promote World sports events in Israel.
- (4) To use all means necessary to ensure the amateur status of Israeli sportsmen.
 - (5) To organise in 1961 a 'Hapoel' International Sports Festival.

An Executive Committee has been elected comprising 41 members, as well as a Council, comprising 125 members.

Several leading members of the previous Central Committee of 'Hapoel' have not been re-elected, among them Gilist, Globinsky and Ben-Zvi. A statement has been issued on their behalf, deploring the fact that, due to some Party differences, some of the more experienced colleagues will no longer be serving the cause of 'Hapoel'. The Hapoel Convention dealt also with the necessity to provide a giant Stadium for training and International competitions.

FRANCE.

The March Bulletin of the Sporting Club of Maccabi Paris has just reached me, from which I learned that some of their sports activities are again being resumed, including Tennis Football, Athletics and Basketball.

An up-to-date report is awaited from Maccabi Metz.

The Junior Football team (aged under 18½) of the Association of Jewish Youth, beat Maccabi Juniors 7 - Nil in a match played in London early in March.

At the Paisley Ice Rink in Glasgow, David Oved, Israeli Feather-weight Boxer outpointed Dave Croll of Dundee in an 8 round Contest. The Press described the Contest as disappointing and the crowd expressed their boredom.

The finals of the Southern Area Maccabi Chess Tournament took place in London early this month. Three County players, L. Winter, Sussex, S. Golding, Essex, D. Sherman, Essex, were among the competitors. D. Sherman, who represented Leytonstone Maccabi took first place. S. Golding, also Leytonstone Maccabi and L. Winter, Brighton & Hove Maccabi, shared second place. Grunis and Blanket, of Brixton Juniors were commended for their efforts. A Southern Maccabi Chess team is being formed as a result of this Championship.

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי
MACCABI WORLD UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
 P.C., T.D., D.L.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Roni Goldmuntz

CHAIRMAN

P. Gildesgame

HON. SEC.

V. V. Rosenfeld

HON. TREAS.

A. A. Scott



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Please reply to:

SPECIAL ISSUE:

APRIL/JULY, 1958

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 64

12th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
 held in London on June 15th, 1958.



From left to right -

1st Row: Shapiro (Gt.Britain), Mermur (Sweden), Beck (Belgium), Neufeld (Switzerland), Robinson (Gt.Britain), Gildesgame (Gt.Britain), Mosguich (France), Davis (Ireland)

2nd Row: Schalit and Worms (Gt.Britain), Pollak (Holland), Rudaizky (Denmark), Hess (Holland), Lohrfound and Dr. Rosenfeld (Gt.Britain)

3rd Row: Standing: Blausten (Gt.Britain), Haas, Kaminski and Zass (France), Scott (Gt.Britain)



Fred S. Worms, Hon. Secretary, Lionel Schalit, newly-elected Chairman of the European Executive, Pierre Gildesgame, Chairman of the World Executive.

In this special issue I publish the following
features:

- Page 1. Editorial Comment.
- Page 2. The Jewish Agency and ourselves.
- Page 4. Co-operation with Hapoel.
- Page 6. Maccabiah Village Development.
- Page 7. Wingate Institute.
- Page 9. 12th European Conference.
- Page 11. A Reception to Mr. Dobkin.
- Page 12. Maccabi's Reputation.
- Page 13. Conference Debate.
- Page 15. Delegates' Reports.
- Page 17. European Maccabi Games, 1959.
- Page 18. Empire Games.
- Page 19. News from Great Britain.
- Page 21. Sports and Sportsmen.

Editorial Comment.

AN APOLOGY.

I hope that readers will forgive me for not having kept my promise to publish a further edition of this "Newsletter" soon after the return from my last visit to Israel. Unfortunately, pressure of work and numerous Maccabi engagements prevented me from acting upon my promise. I intend continuing with the publication of this "Newsletter" periodically, not only because its numerous readers await to receive it, but also because I feel that I am in duty-bound to impart to Maccabi leaders and sympathisers, in various parts of the world, news of topical interest.

THE WORLD EXECUTIVE AT WORK.

In this issue, I deal with a number of matters reflecting Executive deliberations at meetings held in Israel during April and May. The report on discussions, followed by some decisions of considerable importance, are not to be read as "Minutes of Meetings". Many of the items that follow are but a narrative, accompanied by comments, for the benefit of those who take an intelligent interest in our uphill struggle and who, I am sure, do not wish to hear of our successes only. It is comprehensible that, in the course of the work upon which we are engaged, many pitfalls and difficulties are inevitable. This entails long-term planning, protracted negotiations and patient labour. If ever we fail in our endeavours, it is certainly not due to a lack of self-dedication and hard work. The time has come for the Maccabi Movement to be given a lead, not only in the many spheres of practical endeavour, but also in an ideological direction.

THE 5TH MACCABIAH'S FINANCIAL DEFICIT.

Some publicity has already been given in Israeli and in overseas newspapers to the loss incurred in connection with the 5th Maccabiah. On the face of it, such an item of news immediately conjures up a vision of mismanagement, a lack of foresight, of non-co-operation in the ranks of the Maccabiah organisers, etc., etc. Nothing is farther from the truth! The unstinted services rendered by every member of the World Executive, to ensure the success of the Maccabiah have set, to my mind, an illustrious example of inconspicuous and unobtrusive self-sacrifice, rarely to be seen nowadays, among voluntary workers dedicated to a common ideal. The financial deficit, substantial as it was, was due entirely to the excess capital expenditure connected with the construction of the Maccabiah Village. The premature death of the founder and principal architect of the Maccabiah Village - that of the late Chairman of the World Executive, Aron Netanel - and the hasty re-organisation of the Management Board of the Maccabiah, which took place soon after his death almost on the eve of the Maccabiah, created somewhat chaotic conditions, with which the late Netanel's successors had to grapple, against very many odds. A large portion of our indebtedness has been reduced, and it is hoped that all creditors will be paid in full, providing they can exercise their patience for a little while longer.

Maccabiah organisers have no cause to be ashamed of this adverse turn of events. Far greater financial losses have been incurred by sponsors of Olympic Games, in many Capitals of the world, where powerful Governments were responsible for the financial promotion of such enterprises. Far be it from my mind to minimise, or to under-rate the gravity of the situation, insofar as the finances of the Maccabiah Village are concerned. But it must be stated, for the sake of truth, that the Maccabiah grounds, and the capital already invested in its initial installations, are now estimated to be worth not less than £ 600,000. Such is the considered opinion of Mr. Abraham Krinitzy, Mayor of Ramat Gan, and a prominent member of the Board of Trustees of the Maccabiah Village Company. He ought to know!

12TH MACCABI EUROPEAN CONFERENCE.

All those who attended the Conference, held in London on June 15th last,

are agreed that it has been one of the most fruitful and constructive meetings of Maccabi leaders in Europe. As it will be seen from a more extended report of the Conference, its highlights were my resignation from the Chairmanship of the European Executive - an office held since 1946 - and the unanimous election of Lionel Schalit, whom I nominated as my successor. The decision to organise Maccabi European Games, during August 1959 in Copenhagen, was very favourably received and although only the second event of this kind to be held in Europe since the last war, - the first having been held in Switzerland three years ago - it promises to become a "miniature Maccabiah" and a forerunner to similar two-yearly or three-yearly European Maccabi Sports meetings. Thus, having created a European Regional Council and Executive in 1946, then considered an abstract body to help create practical co-operation and spiritual links in the ranks of Maccabi leaders in Europe for the past 12 years - I have now vacated this office, and entrusted my good friend, Lionel Schalit, to fill it. I am sure that his life-long association with the Maccabi Movement, and the experience he acquired during those years, will stand him in good stead; European Maccabi clubs will co-operate with him in the same way as I was fortunate in enjoying their co-operation and friendship. It is my intention and resolve to devote more time to the affairs of the World Executive, whilst maintaining close links and regular contact with Lionel, so long as he requires my advice and guidance in European Maccabi affairs.

I am glad to announce that Fred S. Worms will continue as Honorary Secretary. His business acumen and organising ability are a sure guarantee that Maccabi affairs in the European region will be in the hands of an able team, now joined also by Ken Gradon, a prominent member of Maccabi in Great Britain, who has agreed to succeed Aubrey Scott as Honorary Treasurer.

* * * MACCABI WORLD UNION BUDGET. * * *

Inevitably, financial problems affecting the present and future work of the World Executive were the subject of earnest deliberation at Executive meetings, held in Israel during April and May. Our financial experts, Spitz and Caspi, drew up a Budget of estimated expenditure and income, from which one clear conclusion had emerged, namely, that the World Executive cannot carry out a programme of activities, nor can it implement any of its short-term or long-term plans without an annual income estimated at about £ 70,000. We are all agreed that financial support should come, in the first place, from Territorial Organisations, in the form of affiliation dues. The response to the requests addressed by the Treasurers of Territorial Organisations has not produced immediate results. As usual, Great Britain remitted its annual contribution of £300 even before an application has been received. This was followed by a few other Territorial Organisations. But the majority of Territorial Organisations have, as yet, to redeem their commitments, and I take this opportunity of appealing to them to do so without further delay.

* * * THE JEWISH AGENCY AND OURSELVES. * * *

The 13th World Congress, held in Tel-Aviv in September, 1957, strongly urged the incoming Executive to reject the previous annual grants of £ 2,500, received from the Jewish Agency and, in the words of the resolution passed at the time, the smallness of the grant, in relation to the invaluable services rendered by the Maccabi Movement to the welfare of Jewish Youth, and to their Zionist education, "amounted to an insult, rather than to a token of appreciation". And so, with the full blessing of my Executive colleagues, we went to see Dr. Nahum Goldman, President of the Jewish Agency; Mr. Joseph Sprintzak, Speaker of the Knesset and Chairman of the Actions Committee; Dr. Forder, Chairman of the Jewish Agency's Finance Committee. Several other members of the Jewish Agency's Executive were also approached, with whom we pleaded for a substantial increase in the annual grant to not less than £ 30,000. Whilst received with courtesy by the aforementioned gentlemen, not one of them seemed willing to commit himself to a definite promise. At the suggestion of Dr. Forder, a letter setting out details of our budgetary requirements was addressed to him, and to other members of the Jewish Agency Executive, in response to which we were informed some weeks later that, whereas the annual grant of £ 2,500 has actually been suspended for the year 1958, the Agency had now agreed to reinstate it. Whereupon, I addressed a letter to Dr. Dov Joseph, Treasurer of the Agency, who was, at that time, touring America. In reply to my comprehensive explanations, in support of our application, Dr. Joseph referred me to the Head of the Youth Department of

Maccabi World Union

Chairman's Newsletter

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the Jewish Agency who, I have been assured by Dr. Joseph, has a Budget of £4 million for the purposes such as we applied for. Fortunately, Mr. Eliyahu Dobkin, Head of the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency, was in London at the time of the receipt of Dr. Joseph's reply. I was, therefore, able to discuss this with him personally, in the course of several interviews. Mr. Dobkin - in a forthright statement, declared that, whilst like the rest of his colleagues, he greatly sympathises with the aims and objects of the Maccabi Movement, whose work has made a noticeable contribution to Jewish Youth Education in many parts of the world, it would be contrary to his Department's policy to make annual grants to any Youth Organisation requiring funds for administrative and organisational purposes. Mr. Dobkin went some way towards offering help under the various existing schemes operated by the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Agency, for which he is responsible. I accepted his offers with a sense of gratitude, and fuller particulars of close-co-operation between the Maccabi World Union and the Jewish Agency's Youth Department will be announced as soon as our negotiations with Mr. Dobkin have been satisfactorily concluded.

* * *

This latter development, however satisfactory, is not likely to solve the immediate problem facing the World Executive in the pursuit of its day-to-day activities. Consequently, I felt it necessary to address a further communication to Dr. Joseph, asking him not to refer the Maccabi World Union from one Jewish Agency Department to another, endeavouring to evade the real issue. I emphasized that the World Executive would, under no circumstances, accept a puny grant of £2,500 only, and I appealed to Dr. Joseph to revise his previous decision and to consider favourably our application for a grant in the amount of £30,000 annually. It is a well known fact that the Treasurer of the Agency and a small Sub-Committee, over which he presides, are vested with full powers to make grants to deserving organisations outside the normal Agency's annual budget. It is to be hoped, therefore, that Dr. Joseph's reply, which is still awaited, will prove more favourable to us than the previous disappointing communications.

* * *

MACCABI AND POLITICS.

This subject continues to be the topic of discussion, both to Israel and outside it. Much of the misapprehension is due to the absence of clear-cut statements by leaders of Maccabi-Israel. It is still being wrongly thought in many quarters that the Maccabi World Movement is a branch of the World Confederation of General Zionists and that, insofar as Maccabi-Israel is concerned, even leaders in Zionism seem convinced that Maccabi-Israel has strong political connections with the party of General Zionists. (To my surprise, even Dr. Goldman and others pointed out to me that the Maccabi World Union is said to be subsidized by the General Zionist Party, and he was, therefore, astonished at our persistent approaches to the Jewish Agency.)

* * *

Mr. Shalom Zysman, in his eloquent and well-balanced Chairman's Address, delivered at the Opening Session of the Annual Convention of Maccabi-Israel, held in Tel-Aviv, last April, solemnly declared that whilst the General Zionist Party in Israel sympathised with Maccabi and regularly gives tangible proof of its desire to see Maccabi-Israel prosper and flourish - Maccabi-Israel, as an organisation, is in no way committed to any party, and its Executive, Council and members, are in no way influenced in the pursuit of their policy by political dictates of the General Zionists. "The ranks of Maccabi in Israel are open to Youth from all walks of life" - Mr. Zysman declared, and Maccabi-Israel wishes to live in peace and harmony with other Israeli Youth Sports Organisations with whom it is willing to co-operate, for the future happiness and welfare of the young Israeli generation.

With the exception of one or two "right wing" newspapers, the Israeli Press gave little publicity to Mr. Zysman's first important declaration. It will be recalled that Mr. Zysman made a similar statement on behalf of Maccabi-Israel in the course of the address he delivered at the 13th World Congress. Then, as recently, Israeli public opinion remained unimpressed and, although it is true to say that the Maccabi Organisation in Israel benefits from the help it receives from the Israeli section of the General Zionist party, I am assured by those in authority, on both sides, that there are "no strings attached".

* * *

"DEPOLITIZATION" OF SPORTS.

When addressing a Press Conference in Tel-Aviv recently, and again when Sports Editors of the Israeli Press were good enough to hold a Reception in my honour, I emphasized not only the harm done to the promotion of sports and sportsmanship in Israel, but also of the urgent need for a remedy for the unhealthy situation created by some Sports Organisations in Israel, known to be directly allied to political parties, and who, consequently, allow political strife and quarrels to pollute and poison the atmosphere of friendship in the ranks of Israeli youth. I appealed to the leaders of Maccabi and of the Hapoel alike to compose their differences and to pave the way towards closer and more friendly co-operation, aimed at raising the standard of sports in Israel, at making joint representations to the Government and to local authorities, for the provision of better facilities for training and competition. I have also stressed the importance Jewish public opinion abroad attaches to the good reputation of the young Israeli generation, whose representatives touring the world, be they students, sportsmen, or tourists, should act as ambassadors of goodwill for Israel. I quoted a number of incidents that took place in recent months or years, illustrating the evil consequences resulting from allowing adolescent youth to become involved in political strife, to engage in political controversy often finishing up in fights or, at the best, in deep-rooted animosity, none of which can rank as a contribution towards an improvement in the civilized formation of the character of the Israeli generation of tomorrow.

RADIO BROADCASTS.

I have repeated some of these points in the course of Radio interviews and have again reminded my hearers of the importance the world attaches today to sporting prowess. A team of Israeli sportsmen, acquitting itself creditably in the course of an international competition, will do far more good in terms of pro-Israeli propaganda than thousands of printed words in newspapers and pamphlets or hundreds of speeches by some of our most eloquent Israeli propagandists.

Because some of my remarks have been misinterpreted by certain sections of the Press, alleging that I suggested that "all sports organisations in Israel be disbanded, that they become severed from political parties who subsidise them, that the Government take the matter in hand with a view to uniting all sports organisations under one roof," I had to issue a strong denial to the Press (which I am glad to say had been printed in full) emphasizing that whilst I recognised the need for independent sports organisations in Israel, the existence of which affords better opportunities for competition, I advocated that sportsmen and sportswomen should not compete for a political victory, but rather for highest honours in sport. The Press Conferences, as well as the broadcasts have, as I stated earlier, been followed by Press comments and editorials, most of which were friendly. Even the "left-wing" papers quoted much of the criticism expressed in the course of the Press Conferences, and many overseas papers published extended reports from their Tel-Aviv correspondents.

CO-OPERATION WITH HAPOEL.-IS IT POSSIBLE?

One of the many tasks absorbing my attention during the last trip to Israel, was to bring about better mutual understanding and a more friendly attitude between Maccabi-Israel and the Hapoel Organisations; Thus I hoped to pave the way towards an agreement with Hapoel concerning their co-operation in the organisation of the 6th Maccabiah to be held in 1961.

At the time of writing, no conclusive agreement has been reached, because a reply is still awaited from the Hapoel General Secretary to proposals which I submitted on behalf of the World Executive, inspired by a desire to enlist Hapoel's close co-operation in a friendly atmosphere, and with a sense of responsibility. Briefly, our proposals can be summed up as follows:

- (1). The Maccabi World Union is prepared to set up a Maccabiah Organising Committee in Israel whose task

shall be to prepare, put into action, co-ordinate and supervise the organisation, administration and technical machinery of the 6th Maccabiah.

- (2). The World Executive will appoint 3 of its members, in all probability the Sports Director, Treasurer, and the Manager of the 5th Maccabiah who will, together with 3 or 4 members of Maccabi-Israel and as many from Hapoel, in addition to one representative each of the two other Israeli Sports Organisations, Elizur and Betar, form the Committee (thus maintaining the "principle of parity"). At the suggestion of the Hapoel representatives, the Organising Committee is to be presided over by the Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive, (or by his nominee).
- (3). Every member of the Maccabiah Organising Committee is to be selected on individual merit, providing he or she is possessed of the necessary qualifications to fulfil a specific task involved in the organisation of the Maccabiah.
- (4). The Organising Committee would set up a number of Sub-Committees, headed by members of the main Committee comprising technicians, experts, controllers, accountants, etc., as required.
- (5). The Organising Committee to be called into being as soon as possible and for activities to start not later than by October, 1959.

* * *

My colleagues and I thought the above proposals to be fair and equitable; we were guided in our considerations by the need for the Maccabiah Organising Committee to be representative of all sections of Youth Organisations in Israel. We believe that if our Hapoel friends really share our view that the Maccabiah Games are a good thing for Israel, that they help promote competition of the highest order in many branches of sport on the soil of Israel, that the Maccabiah stimulates training, and that because it is being held in Israel, it will help attract many thousands of spectators and supporters of the Games - they will agree to our proposals and will - if only for the sake of Israel - lend us their fullest and sincerest co-operation "For the honour of Jewry and the glory of sport."

HAPOEL TO AFFILIATE TO THE MACCABI WORLD UNION?

I must reveal that the aforementioned proposals, whilst not rejected by Hapoel, were not received with great enthusiasm, because their line of thought was rather different from ours. They wanted the Maccabiah Games to become a Joint venture of the Maccabi World Union and of the Hapoel, thereby by-passing all other Jewish Youth and Sports Organisations in Israel and abroad. They went so far as to declare that Hapoel would be willing to apply to the Maccabi World Union for affiliation and thus become an integral part of the Maccabi Movement. This, we explained, was impossible of realisation for two reasons: Firstly, because, according to Constitutional provisions of the Maccabi World Union, only one integrated Territorial Organisation in each country can become affiliated to the world parent body. Maccabi-Israel, with its numerous clubs are, for the present, the only recognised Israeli Territorial Organisation. Secondly, since Hapoel's political leanings are well known, it would be contrary to our policy to affiliate an organisation which owes also allegiance to the International Labour Federation or, for that matter, to any other International or National Political Body.

Thirdly, our negotiations with Hapoel in connection with their co-operation in the 6th Maccabiah have not advanced sufficiently and satisfactorily to wipe out their previous record of hostility towards Maccabi in general, and towards the Maccabiah in particular. At the outset of our negotiations, representatives of Hapoel repeatedly warned us that, unless we came to terms with them (presumably their "terms") they would not participate in the 6th Maccabiah under any circumstances and, moreover, they have already announced that they propose organising an International Sports Festival of their own during 1961 - which, if it materialised, would undoubtedly "clash" with the Maccabiah, although it may not necessarily harm the latter.

Under such conditions, it has been rather difficult to come to terms, although my colleagues and I will spare no efforts to continue patiently with our negotiations. We cannot think of any valid objection to friendly co-operation with Hapoel in many spheres of common interest.

MACCABIAH VILLAGE.

I attended a number of meetings of the Board of Trustees in which some of the following well known personalities participated: Mr. Gurewitz, Chairman, Mr. Krinitz (Mayor of Ramat Gan) Mrs. Rivka Netanel (the widow of our late leader and Chairman) Mr. Ichelov (member of the Knesset) Mr. Friedman (A Tel-Aviv industrialist) Mr. Isachsen (a lawyer and businessman) Mr. Kvasheny (principal Parks Supervisor of the Ramat Gan municipality) the brothers Mayer, of Batyam and Tel-Aviv, as well as several members of the World Executive.

As a result of the deliberations and discussions, it was resolved to proceed with the development of the Village and meanwhile to preserve in good condition and repair the grounds and the building standing on its site. A fund-raising campaign is to be launched in the near future, in Israel itself, with IL 100,000 as a target. Members of Maccabi clubs throughout Israel are to be actively engaged in the campaign towards which they are to make voluntary contributions. Sympathisers and supporters of the Maccabiah Village project are to be approached for major donations. Thus, having received some contributions towards the project from abroad, with more to follow, the Board of Trustees of the Maccabiah Village have decided on a campaign in Israel itself and which, it is hoped, will meet with support. In due course, the Israeli Government and the Jewish Agency are to be approached for their own contributions and, even though the Village may not be completed, as originally planned, - by the time the 6th Maccabiah is held, - it is hoped, nevertheless, that sufficient progress will have been made to accommodate comfortably half the number of athletes participating, as well as to provide an open-air Swimming Pool, a Running Track and Training Grounds for Football, Basketball, etc.

The costly scheme did not seem to deter anyone from embarking upon the second stage of its planned development. Before long, just as soon as the Israeli campaign has been successfully launched, the Board of Trustees of the Maccabiah Village will appeal to Jewish communities overseas and particularly so to Maccabi organisations in many lands, who have so far made no contribution towards the Maccabiah Village.

As I explained to Mr. Dobkin, Head of the Youth Department, Jewish Agency, the Maccabiah Village could well become - a National Institution - an ideal meeting place for Jewish Youth groups from all parts of the world, coming to tour Israel for shorter or longer periods. It could be turned into a modern Youth Hostel, with all amenities such as are indispensable to ensure a happy stay for those accommodated in the Village. Its grounds, dormitories, common rooms and kitchens, could be used to great advantage by other organisations, sponsoring study tours of Israel, or engaged in the promotion of Leadership Courses, P.A.T.W.A. and others.

Time will show that the vision which inspired the Maccabiah Village project has not been an ambitious dream of a single person. Once developed and completed, the Maccabiah Village will constitute one of the most indispensable additions to the limited amenities, available in Israel, to the thousands of youth due to tour the country in years to come, and who are unable to defray the high cost of hotels, boarding houses, etc. situated mainly in the thickly populated cities, or in the luxuriously appointed palaces by the sea-shores. A "camp spirit" can only be fostered in surroundings such as will be created within the boundaries of the Maccabiah Village, and where youth from other countries, of various nationalities and speaking various languages, can get together with groups of Israeli youth, fraternising, playing and working together in a true "esprit de corps".

THE INTERNATIONAL MACCABIAH ASSOCIATION.

My proposals in connection with this project were fully discussed at an Executive meeting held in Tel-Aviv on 2nd May, 1958. My colleagues welcomed the initiative and were willing to endorse my endeavours to enlist practical help in every country in the future organisation of the Maccabiah Games. Elaboration of detailed proposals was left to a special Executive Sub-Committee, who will work in fullest consultation with me. The Sub-Committee will comprise, among others, the President of the Executive, Mr. Heth, Sports Director, Dr. Atlasz, and the Manager of the 5th Maccabiah, Mr. Alorf.

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It will be recalled that Maccabi Territorial Organisations in various lands welcomed my proposals as a constructive step in the right direction. Maccabi leaders who were at all times responsible for the setting up of preten Maccabiah Organising Committees, shared my views that Maccabiah preparations must be embarked upon at least 2 years before the event. They also agreed that the future Maccabiah Games must be run on a sound financial basis without which a permanent machinery cannot be set up in Israel to take care of all technical and organisational problems involved in such major 4-yearly events. Whatever official title of the International Maccabiah Association, (Israeli Executive colleagues favoured a rather different name, such as "The League of Friends of the Maccabiah") - its promotion will, at all times, be sponsored by the Maccabi World Union, with the co-operation of any other bodies and organisations sharing our desire and hope that the Maccabiah Games shall live up to their reputation of a "World Jewish Sports Festival". It is, therefore, conceivable that whilst "The International Maccabiah Association", or "The League of Friends of the Maccabiah" be set up within the framework of the Maccabi World Union, co-operation, help and assistance of whatever nature, tendered in a spirit of partnership, will be welcome at all times. Hence our desire to enlist, in the first place, the fullest co-operation of the Israel Sports Organisations. Likewise, we are hopeful of enlisting the co-operation of overseas Jewish Organisations and clubs, not committed or affiliated to the Maccabi World Union, such as the Centro Sportivo of Mexico, the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, the Committee of sponsors of the Maccabiah Games in Canada, and many others.

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I regret to have to place it on record that the exchange of correspondence with Colonel Henshel and Mr. Kahaner, the joint Chairmen of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel in New York, has so far produced no positive results. The meeting, which was to have been held this Summer in London not yet materialised. Further initiative in this matter must, therefore, rest with the Executive members of the U.S. Committee in New York.

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THE WINGATE INSTITUTE.

In response to an official invitation extended to me by the Board of Education of the Government of Israel, I was pleased to pay a visit to the Wingate Institute at Natanya. There I was received by its Executive Director, Mr. Bag, who was kind enough to show me around, and to discuss with me future development plans. To commemorate the occasion of my visit, Mr. Bag invited me to plant a tree in the Institute's garden - a task which I was very glad to perform, and a gesture which I greatly appreciated.

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During our conversation, Mr. Bag informed me that Maccabi-Israel did not send to the Institute as many of their members as would be welcome to join the Course for Instructors. The number of Instructors going through the Institute from the ranks of the Hapoel and the Army by far exceeded the aggregate total coming from other Sports Organisations. As a result of enquiries made, I was informed by Mr. Zyeman, Chairman of Maccabi-Israel, that the majority of young men and women going through the Institute happen to be members of the Army, of the Hapoel and of Kibbutzim. In all cases, the students are able to absent themselves from their daily occupations for any length of time, and for which purpose they are being granted special leave by their Kibbutzim or by their Army Commanders. Members of Maccabi, on the other hand, are, in the main, wage-earning and absence from factories, workshops or offices, would entail a loss of income which none of them could afford. The Maccabi Organisation in Israel could certainly not compensate them for

such losses of their income. Mr. Zysman assures me that, contrary to the impression I have gained, Maccabi-Israel greatly values the facilities which the Wingate Institute provides, and in no way ignores, or under-rates, the services which the Institute is rendering otherwise.

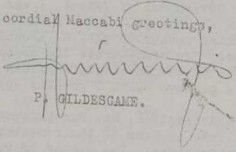
Upon further investigation concerning the development of amenities in this Institute, I was not satisfied that it could serve as a substitute for the Maccabiah Village. Its geographical situation offers no advantage over the existing Maccabiah Village and, insofar as the completion of the Wingate Institute installations are concerned, the prospects are very much in jeopardy, because neither the American Fund for Israel, the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, nor the Ministry of Education, are able to meet the contingent commitments, or raise the necessary funds for the Institute to be completed in the foreseeable future, so as to serve all the manifold purposes for which it was invented. The Institute is due to be officially dedicated on September 3rd.

The above lengthy "Editorial Comment" covered a fair amount of ground. As stated in the earlier remarks, I tried to draft it in the form of a narrative of events during my recent visit to Israel and thereafter. The reports and news items in the remaining pages of this issue, some more topical than others, should complete a survey covering a period of some 4 months and embracing, so far as it was possible for me to do, the World Maccabi Movement as of to date.

A CONFESSION.

I would be insincere had I not confessed that, when I decided to resign from the European Executive of the Maccabi World Union, I have done so with a heavy heart. I built up the European Regional Organization during a period of 12 years. In the course of this time I have made many friends and became attached to them with bonds of real and deep affection. Hundreds of letters received from leading members of Maccabi in Europe helped to encourage me in my work, as they also sustained me spiritually. At the age of 55, I still feel vigorous enough to carry on leading the Maccabi Movement to higher achievements. But I will fail in my endeavours without the co-operation of my dear colleagues and friends who share my idealism and who, like myself, are prepared to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the cause of Jewish Youth Welfare, so dear to us. In Lionel Schalit, my European successor and collaborator for very many years past, we have a man imbued with a sincere desire, not to achieve a personal success, but to see the Maccabi Movement in Europe grow and prosper numerically, as well as qualitatively. Lionel and I are convinced that Maccabi's future in Europe will depend largely upon the Movement following the principles which inspired it decades ago: "A healthy Jewish mind in a healthy Jewish body." I wish Lionel every success in his endeavours and no matter what my official position or title be in years to come, I shall always retain memories of my work in the ranks of Maccabi in Europe, which I will greatly cherish, for these were the best years of my life!

With cordial Maccabi greetings,


P. GILDESCAME.

12th European Conference.

(I acknowledge with thanks the help received from our Honorary Secretary, Fred S. Worms, in the compilation of the report as herunder.)

This year's European Conference was held in London on June 15th, in the Library (The Pierre Gildesgame Room) at Maccabi House in North-west London. Gildesgame took the Chair at 10.15 a.m.

European Territorial Organisations were represented by the following delegates:

GREAT BRITAIN: Shapiro, Robinson, Schalit, Worms, Morley, Rosenfeld, Scott and Blausten.
FRANCE: Mesguich, Kaminski, Haas and Zass.
BELGIUM: Beck. SWEDEN: Marmur. SWITZERLAND: Neufeld. IRELAND: Davis.
HOLLAND: Hess and Pollak. DENMARK: Rudalitzky.

A number of Observers were also present, among them S. Lehrfreund, President of Bar Kochba-Maccabi in London, and one of the Movement's most respected veterans.

Lord Nathan, who was unable to be present, sent the following message:

"I am certain that the Conference on Sunday will serve a useful purpose and will in the personal sense be agreeable to everyone there.

"I regret all the more my absence because, had I been present, I should have commended to the attention of our colleagues your own distinguished appointment as Chairman of the Executive of the Maccabi World Union, and I should also have taken occasion to report my own pleasant experiences in Israel last month in meetings there with a number of those actively interested in the work of Maccabi and also of visiting the site of the proposed Maccabiah Village.

"Please convey my cordial greetings to all who are present"

M. Henry Mesguich attended an International Maccabi gathering for the first time. In welcoming the delegates, Gildesgame introduced him by stating that he was a native of Algeria; in his youth he was an outstanding athlete; he was a prominent member of the French Liberation in Algeria and for his services was decorated with the French Croix de Guerre. He was also the recipient of American and English military decorations. He is Mr. Kaminski's latest "recruit" and it is hoped that M. Mesguich will be able to make a valuable contribution towards the promotion of athletics among members of Maccabi in Paris.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Gildesgame reported on the state of affairs in the World Movement, as well as on his activities during his recent visit to Israel. (Many items of news and reports on activities contained in this issue were reported upon in greater detail.)

SPORTS - A NEW APPROACH.

Gildesgame dealt also with the Mediterranean Games, due to be held in Beirut in 1959, in connection with which the Israel Sports Federation had made strong representations to the organisers, requesting them not to allow yet another act of discrimination by debarring Israel from participation. The Conference passed a unanimous resolution (a copy was to be forwarded to the International Olympic Committee) protesting against Israel's exclusion from previous Mediterranean Games held in Cairo and Barcelona, drawing the

attention of the organisers of next year's Mediterranean Games to the undesirability of the Games being held in an Arab country, known to be hostile towards another Nation in the Mediterranean area.

Gildesgame also dealt with the European Maccabi Games, to be held in Copenhagen in 1959, and reported on the preparations now being made in connection with the problems affecting the 6th Maccabiah, to be held in 1961. Announcing radical changes in the programme of the 6th Maccabiah. Gildesgame said that the Opening and Closing Ceremonies would be shortened, and the previously staged spectacles altered, whilst adhering to the usual "Olympic pattern". The programme of events would be revised so that those which had, in the past, attracted limited competition would be eliminated, whilst the more popular sports would be given preference. Subject to conditions permitting the Maccabi World Union will appeal to all participating teams to bring with them to Israel many hundreds of supporters, mainly in the lower age group, so that the young children from many lands may see Israel for the first time in their lives, as well as to be present at one of the most spectacular Sports promotions to be seen in any part of the world, in which best Jewish athletes compete for highest honours. He announced that a "blue-print" for the 6th Maccabiah will shortly be available for perusal and discussion by all participating countries.

Gildesgame reported also on the Executive meetings held in Israel in April and May, over which he presided, and of the manifold problems facing the World Executive as a consequence of the 5th Maccabiah in relation to its work and tasks in the coming years.

The Sports Director, Dr. Atlasz, assisted by a panel of experts, was drawing up a schedule, outlining a minimum programme of sports activities and of sports standards required of a Maccabi member in any part of the world. A scheme for the award of Proficiency Medals will also be shortly announced.

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EUROPEAN MACCABI GAMES - LATEST NEWS.

I am pleased to announce that since the European Conference was held in London on 15th June, Lionel Schalit, the newly elected Chairman of the European Executive had flown to Copenhagen on June 25th, where he met members of the Executive of the local Maccabi-Hakoah Club. A circular letter has now been issued by Lionel Schalit and sent out to Territorial Organisations in Europe informing them of the programme of events, as well as of the accommodation available. Subject to a good response, participants will compete in the following events: Football, Athletics, Handball, Basketball, Tennis, Wrestling, Weight-lifting and Table-tennis. Accommodation will be provided in a splendid Copenhagen Youth Hostel where Kosher food will be available. The duration of the participants' stay limited to 7 days, at the inclusive cost of £12 only. The Games are to be held either from 16th to 21st August or, alternatively, 18th to 24th August. (The final decision will depend upon a majority opinion by European Territorial Organisations.) Outdoor competitions will be held in the magnificent Copenhagen Stadium with its famous Running Track, Football Pitch, and Swimming Pool. Indoor events will be staged in a large Hall with a gallery capable of accommodating an audience of 2,000. In addition to the Sports programme, a Reception and Ball will be arranged for all participants by the Copenhagen Jewish community. The Games will open with a special Synagogue service. Participants will also be invited to join a Moonlight Boat Excursion, as well as a tour of the City and surroundings. The 1959 European Conference will also be held in Copenhagen during the period of the Games.

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MESSAGE FROM LIONEL SCHALIT.

I have been requested by Lionel Schalit to publish the following personal message from him:

"I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all delegates to the recently held Conference in London, for the honour conferred upon me. I call upon all Territorial Organisations in Europe to contact me as soon as possible, as I am eager to help them solve the problems besetting them. I particularly draw the attention of all organisations to the forthcoming 1959 European Maccabi Games in Copenhagen, details of which I have

circularised. Territorial Organisations should commence their activities and aim at having as large a representation at the Games as possible. Groups of supporters should also be encouraged to accompany competitors. The cost is being kept low and Copenhagen in August is a wonderful City to visit.

"Please inform our London H.Q. of all events which you plan for this year so that the opportunity be given to members of Maccabi clubs in Europe to visit you during such events. It is our policy to foster close liaison, not only between members of the Executive of the various organisations but also with individual club members. I hope that your fullest co-operation will be forthcoming and that the Maccabi Movement as a whole, and in Europe in particular, will go from strength to strength. Chazak Vematz."

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CULTURAL ACTIVITIES - CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMME.

Arising from my conversations with Mr. Eliyahu Dobkin, I was able to announce that the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency might be able to extend to Maccabi Territorial Organisations, in practically every part of the world, guidance and assistance in the pursuit and promotion of cultural activities. Mr. Dobkin informed me that, wherever necessary:

- (1). Suitable Shlichim (emissaries) may be appointed by the Jewish Agency for the specific purpose of helping Maccabi clubs in their work, aimed at raising the standard of Jewish and Zionist education among their youth.
- (2). Members of Maccabi from overseas would be readily admitted to the Leaders' Seminar Courses being held in Israel permanently.
- (3). Groups of Maccabi members from overseas, wishing to tour Israel, under the auspices of the Agency's existing schemes, would be welcome, and the Jewish Agency would arrange for such groups to visit Institutions, establishments, Kibbutzim, etc., according to their own wishes and specific needs.
- (4). The Youth Department of the Jewish Agency would also be prepared to provide Maccabi Organisations with books, pamphlets and textbooks of special interest to youth leaders, or to the rank and file. In the course of time, the Jewish Agency might even help in the production of special textbooks dealing specifically with a programme of activities of a Maccabi club covering sports, cultural and social aspects.

Details of the programme of co-operation with the Jewish Agency will be worked out in the near future. In the meantime, close contact will be maintained with Dr. S. Levenberg, European representative of the Jewish Agency in London.

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A RECEPTION IN HONOUR OF MR. DOBKIN.

During his stay in London, Mr. Dobkin was Guest of Honour at an intimate Reception held at Maccabi House in Hampstead, at which Lord Nathan was also present. Mr. Dobkin dealt with an International Youth Convention which is to be held in Israel at the end of July, and at which some 300 delegates, representing world youth organisations are to participate. Mr. Dobkin explained that the Convention will be a first experiment in an endeavour to create links between Zionist and non-Zionist Youth Organisations in every part of the world. The Convention is not to pass any resolutions. On the other hand, it will examine the most vital problems affecting youth education in many countries, and the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency will thus be able to draw conclusions which will guide it in its future work. A discussion followed Mr. Dobkin's brief address, during which several Maccabi club leaders in London pointed out to him that, whilst the Jewish Agency's work for the benefit of Hechalutz youth is much appreciated, it has so far failed to attract sufficient interest in the ranks of Youth Organisations not committed to the Zionist ideology. The Jewish Agency must be guided in its work, aware of the fact that, to reach the larger masses of the young

Jewish generation, it must re-adjust its approach to it. Pro-Israeli propaganda alone is not enough. Greater emphasis must be laid upon recreational activities with a Jewish content. The value of Sports activities and the interest which modern youth shows for sports must not be overlooked. By providing youth clubs with facilities for sports, a large number of youth can be attracted to such clubs and, in this respect, Maccabi has played a notable part throughout its existence.

In reply to my question as to whether Mr. Dobkin would welcome a delegation of the Maccabi World Union to attend the Convention, he stated that he would most certainly do so. I have, therefore, addressed a communication to the Maccabi World Union Executive H.Q. in Tel-Aviv, suggesting that a suitable representative be nominated to address the International Youth Convention, to explain to its hundreds of delegates the aims and objects of Maccabi, as well as the method whereby it has achieved satisfactory results in its endeavours to bring Jewish youth closer to the ideals of Zionism through Football, Athletics, Swimming and other sports. Mr. Dobkin recognised the value of Maccabi's work and promised the Jewish Agency's fullest co-operation along the lines summarised in the preceding paragraph, entitled "Cultural Activities-- Constructive Programme"

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THE FINANCIAL DILEMMA.

The ever-present difficulties facing the World Union Executive and its numerous affiliated Territorial Organisations figured prominently in Gildesgame's report. Too little financial support had been forthcoming from the Territorial Organisations in the form of affiliation dues, and the Jewish Agency, which derives its income from World Jewry outside Israel had, so far, shown little understanding for the invaluable services the Maccabi Movement is rendering to the welfare of Jewish Youth. The annual grant of £2,500 will be rejected and the World Executive will continue with its endeavours to prevail upon the Jewish Agency to see the folly of its policy, in that it alienates the feelings of Maccabi's leaders who have served Judaism and Zionism for over 70 years loyally, and in voluntary capacity, without seeking support from Charity Organisations or from Jewish Communal chests.

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MACCABI'S REPUTATION NEVER BETTER.

Dealing with the aspect of public relations, Gildesgame stressed the unprecedented reputation at present enjoyed by Maccabi and the Maccabiah in every corner of the earth where a Jewish community is known to exist. Maccabi is looked upon, and rightly so, as the premier World Jewish Youth Organisation pursuing a programme of healthy education, free from political partisanship, and openly professing its attachment to the ideals of Zionism and its loyalty to the State of Israel. Maccabi's relationship with other Youth Organisations in various parts of the world has never been better, or more friendly. Co-operation between it and other Jewish and non-Jewish Youth Organisations is flourishing to the benefit of all concerned. Jewry's communal leaders begin to take notice of Maccabi's growth and they value the contribution which it has been able to make throughout the last six decades to the welfare of the young generation, despite the lack of regular adequate financial assistance from whatever quarter. Maccabi's representatives are being invited by Communal Managements Boards, by Zionist Federations in many lands, by J.N.F. Committees, etc. Indeed, even the Israeli Government has come to the realisation that the international character of the Maccabi Movement, and the influence which Maccabi clubs wield in the ranks of youth in various Jewish communities dispersed throughout the Diaspora are such that we can no longer be ignored. The impact which the Maccabiah Games have made on Jewish sporting circles throughout the world, and on the population of Israel, is unforgettable, its message and purpose are being well understood. "Maccabiah Festivals" are being organised in the U.S.A. with the participation of Maccabiah athletes, sponsored by the American Zionist Council. Maccabi is becoming a household word in every Jewish home and its non-political and pre-Zionist character may well become the established policy and the new outlook of many Jewish Organisations shaping a common ideal with us all: the rebirth of Israel and its lasting prosperity in the Committee of Nations.

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GILDESGAME RESIGNS - SCHALIT NOMINATED SUCCESSOR.

After paying tribute to his Executive colleagues in Israel, and to those

residing in Great Britain, notably Worms, Schalit, Scott, Gildesgame announced his resignation from the Chairmanship of the European Executive. He held this office since 1946, when he was called upon by the late Professor Zelig Brodetsky, then President of the Maccabi World Union, to re-organise the European Movement soon after World War II was ended. (Gildesgame was elected Chairman of the European Organisation at the first European Conference, held in Basle in 1946).

After paying a warm and sincere tribute to Lionel Schalit, one of the veterans of the Maccabi Movement, and to "this most experienced and travelled leader", Gildesgame nominated him as his successor. After a short discussion, during which Schalit absented himself, the Conference unanimously elected him as Chairman of the European Executive.

* * *
HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Fred S. Worms presented apologies from Maccabi Italy, Austria, Finland, as well as on behalf of Mr. Guttman, Chairman of Brussels Maccabi, for their inability to participate in the Conference. He received a gratifying report from Mr. Sinai, President of Maccabi-Hakoah Vienna, who would have come to London for the Conference, had it not been necessary for him to lead a team of competitors to an Inter-Club Sports Meet, organised by Maccabi Switzerland on the same day.

Worms dealt with the assimilationist tendencies now prevalent in Jewish communities and which resulted in an alarming number of inter-marriages taking place. Jews normally draw together and communities grow stronger when suffering from persecution. In so-called 'good times,' when Jews are treated liberally, and under conditions of material prosperity, the tendency of communal disintegration and assimilation appears far more pronounced. This state of affairs affects, inevitably, also the ranks of youth and of youth organisations. This problem, Fred Worms emphasized, must be well borne in mind by Jewish communal leaders, as well as by Maccabi leaders everywhere. Because of its gravity, a far greater effort must be made to integrate Jewish Youth, to attract them to, and to hold them inside, our clubs for as long a period as possible.

Worms drew attention to the fact that Gildesgame was present at this 12th European Conference for the first time in his capacity of Chairman of the World Union. He was concerned about Gildesgame's health, due to overwork. It was unfortunate that following upon Aron Netanel's death, no other suitable alternative to fill the vacancy of the Chairman could be found and that since Gildesgame has announced his resignation from the European Regional Executive, his colleagues will have to make far greater efforts in future, in order to maintain the close links forged during the past 10 years and thanks to which the European Maccabi Organisation became one of the strongest units in the World Organisation.

Worms congratulated Maccabi Zurich on the celebration of their 50th anniversary and Maccabi Lausanne on reaching their 40th birthday. He welcomed the efforts being made in many parts of Europe to bring in children into the fold of Maccabi. This was mainly noticeable on the Continent of Europe and he was glad to say that a similar effort is being successfully pursued also in many clubs in Great Britain. Before concluding his remarks, Worms welcomed the presence of Mr. Marmur, representing Maccabi Sweden, in the inevitable absence of the Chairman of Maccabi Stockholm, Mr. Fuchs.

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A LIVELY DEBATE.

L. Kaminski (France) suggested that Territorial Organisations throughout the world, should launch a campaign to raise a levy, the equivalent of 1 Swiss franc from each member, and so the deficit of the Maccabiah Village could be amply covered. He recalled that, way back in 1952, Mr. Ben Gurion stated to him, and to the late Dr. Leweler that, in his opinion, Hapoel would never become a world-wide organisation. Mr. Kaminski was sure that, despite Hapoel's present efforts to extend their activities outside the boundaries of Israel, they are unlikely to succeed.

Beck (Belgium) deprecated the lack of support from the Jewish Agency and added that the Agency was contributing \$ 8,000 per annum for the benefit of two Jewish centres in Antwerp alone. He was sure that similar annual

contributions are being made to a large number of organisations and institutions in other European countries, and he could not, therefore, understand the Agency's stubborn attitude vis-a-vis the Maccabi World Union. Dealing with Kaminski's suggestion for a levy of 1 Swiss franc per member, Beck did not think that this scheme could be operative since many Territorial Organisations were still heavily indebted in respect of their previous participations in the Maccabiah Games.

Neufeld (Switzerland) did not think it would be necessary to set up a permanent Maccabiah Office in Tel-Aviv; such an office should be opened only one month before each Maccabiah. Whilst not agreeing with Mr. Kaminski's idea of a special levy, Neufeld thought that if Territorial Organisations were appealed to, and the reasons for the Maccabiah deficit explained, some voluntary contributions might be forthcoming, although these would only be in small amounts.

In his references to relations with Hapoel, Neufeld pointed out that whenever Hapoel wished to send out a team for competition in Europe, they invariably had to rely on co-operation with local Maccabi clubs. Not long ago, Hapoel addressed a request to the Swiss Basketball Federation to make arrangements for a Tournament. Their request, having been declined, Hapoel applied to Maccabi Switzerland. Co-operation would have been possible had Hapoel not demanded a payment of 1,000 Swiss francs to defray the cost of training.

Haas (France) dealt with the offer received from the German Sportsbund to contribute \$ 10,000 towards the Maccabiah Village project. He felt that this represented only a tiny fraction of what the Maccabi Movement has lost in Germany, and that a substantial claim for lost assets should be made by the Maccabi World Union to the Claims Conference. He regretted there was no strong Maccabi Movement in New York bearing in mind that there were so many German Jews there. In reply to another question, Mr. Haas was informed that Gildesgame had made a colour film of the 5th Maccabiah, and that it was available on loan. The official film produced in Israel commercially had not proved as good and the price demanded for it was far too high.

Lehrfreund (Great Britain) was also in favour of application being made for a world-wide restitution of Maccabi properties lost in Europe during the Hitler era. He welcomed the announcement of closer co-operation with the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency and expressed the hope that an agreement along practical lines will be reached soon.

Robinson (Great Britain) did not agree with Gildesgame's assertions that the 5th Maccabiah had received world-wide press publicity. He also wanted to know what was going to happen to the proposed International Maccabiah Association. Gildesgame intervened by informing Robinson that over 3,000 newspaper cuttings have been collected by him, extracted from newspapers published in every part of the world, and which dealt with Maccabiah preparations, results of competitions, etc. The fact that the British Press did not give it wide publicity was not the fault of the 5th Maccabiah Press and Publicity Department, whose work has been highly praised by all those intimately connected with it. As regards the International Maccabiah Association, the matter was still under consideration, but Gildesgame was not prepared to give any information in addition to that already announced in the course of his report.

Davis (Eire) wanted to know whether a definite plan existed as to the use of the Maccabiah Village during the years between the Maccabiahs. Intervening, Gildesgame reassured Davis that the Maccabiah Village would be used extensively between the periods of the Maccabiahs by a number of bona-fide organisations, and that the income therefrom would help cover the maintenance expenses. As the Village, at present, is still far from being completed, it would be premature to announce a definite plan.

Pollak (Holland), pointed out that if application were to be made to the Claims Conference, questions may be asked as to how the money granted would be used.

Morley (Great Britain) amplified Pollak's points, with which he fully agreed. Shapiro (Great Britain) requested fuller explanations as to why the Wingate Institute could not be used instead of the Maccabiah Village.

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Replying to other points raised during the debate, Gildesgame explained that whilst the \$ 10,000 offered by the German Sportsbund has been accepted by the Trustees of the Maccabiah Village, the suggestion made by the donors to erect a Pavilion in the name of the German Sportsbund was not favoured. An application to the Claims Conference was in the course of preparation and would be mailed to New York within a week or so.

The South African Maccabi Council had promised to contribute £5,000 to the Maccabiah Village by 1961 but, as a result of a letter addressed to Mr. Alf Blumberg, its Chairman, Gildesgame has obtained a promise that, if at all possible, £5,000 would be raised during 1959/1960. Mr. Blumberg was on his way to London, in his capacity of Captain of the South African Bowling team, and will participate in the Empire Games during July. He would talk the matter over with him. Mr. David Kopenhagen of Sao Paulo has also promised about \$ 6,000 towards the Maccabiah Village project and has already remitted \$ 2,000 towards it. He, too, will endeavour to remit the balance of the money promised before 1961. Prompted by Schalit and Worms, Gildesgame confessed that he too had offered a contribution of £2,000 towards the Maccabiah Village, having pledged this donation during one of the meetings of the Board of Trustees, which he attended recently in Israel.

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After the Luncheon recess, during which Lionel Schalit has once again thanked delegates and assured them that he will do his utmost to deserve their confidence, the Conference resumed its deliberations with Lionel Schalit in the Chair. He called upon Aubrey A. Scott, Honorary Treasurer, to present the Financial Report. A copy of the accounts was distributed to all delegates and, commenting upon this, Aubrey Scott stated that, as heretofore, the expenses of the European Regional office were small because members of the Executive, residing in London, continued to defray personally all expenses connected with travel, correspondence, cabling, long-distance telephones, etc. The offices of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain are placed at the disposal of the European Executive and are situated at 357, Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Scott appealed to European Territorial Organisations to redeem their promises, as regards affiliation dues, in small amounts amounting only to tokens (several of the delegates present settled their dues on the spot). In conclusion, Scott announced his resignation from the World Executive, as well as from the office of the Honorary Treasurer of the European Regional office.

The Chairman, Lionel Schalit, paid a warm tribute to Scott's past services in which delegates heartily joined. Scott nominated Ken Gradon, a well-known Maccabi worker in Great Britain, to succeed him and, towards the end of the Conference, Ken Gradon was unanimously elected to fill this office for the ensuing year.

* * *

DELEGATES' REPORTS:

BELGIUM: Mr. Beck was glad to announce that the Jewish community in Antwerp has donated 800 square metres of land, upon which a new Maccabi House in Antwerp is to be erected. As is well known Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, and a group of his friends, have promised to help raise sufficient funds for the early realisation of this project. Money has also been received from the Claims Conference for the benefit of "Jewish Youth in Antwerp"; part of this money would be used towards the cost of the building. The Sports Sections were doing well and the Swimming Section was particularly successful. A lack of continuity of leadership was still badly felt as no young men are coming forward from the ranks. The Maccabi Antwerp Swimming Section has competed against Hakoah-Maccabi-Vienna and the Water Polo Section of Hakoah-Maccabi-Vienna has recently competed in Antwerp. Beck announced

that a new Maccabi Club was in the process of formation in the University City of Liege.

DENMARK: Rudaizky delivered, in Yiddish, a message of greetings to those assembled, on behalf of Hakoah-Maccabi in Copenhagen. He then proceeded in English to report that the Copenhagen Club now had several Football teams including one comprising schoolboys aged 10 years and over. They also had two ladies and two mens Handball teams. A Sports Meet, recently held in Stockholm, in which they participated, was attended by over 1,000 spectators. To help raise funds, Hakoah-Copenhagen stages an Annual Variety Show. Building land has now been secured, upon which a home for Jewish Youth is to be erected. Rudaizky has recently received the King David Medal for outstanding cultural work in the ranks of Danish Jewish Youth.

IRE: (Dublin) Davis reported that full use is being made of the Maccabi Clubhouse in Dublin. They still owed the Bank £2,900, having repaid some £17,500 to date. To run the Club successfully, they require £2,500 per annum. In view of the growing membership of Dublin Maccabi, they contemplate spending a further £3,000 to extend the building. A Bridge Section is thriving and has become a source of important material income. There was a lack of experienced leadership in the Club and those in charge lacked an adequate knowledge of the real aims and objects of the Maccabi Movement. Davis hoped that the position would be improved. By attending such Conferences as this, he himself has learned a great deal and was happy in the knowledge that the Movement throughout Europe is making splendid progress.

FRANCE: Haas reported in some detail on the activities of Maccabi Paris, and regretted that their plans to provide Paris with a clubhouse have not yet materialised. Unfortunately, suitable premises have not been found so far. Steady progress is being made in the existing Sports Sections, most notable of all being the Tennis Section. Recently a Tennis Tournament was held in Paris, in connection with the 10th Anniversary celebrations of the State of Israel. The players displayed letters on their Shirts reading in French: "10 years of the State of Israel". An Athletic Section has recently been formed, under the supervision of Mr. Mesguich, and good progress is being made. In Paris, the potential membership is far in excess of what the Club could absorb but, as elsewhere, leaders are lacking. On the other hand, Maccabi in Metz appeared to have good leaders but, unfortunately, were lacking in members. Proceeding with his report, Haas announced that they had a Basketball team in the Paris League, and that 600 Jewish youngsters took part in a Cross-Country Race, which has become an annual event. There was hope that, before long a Maccabi club will be started in Strasbourg.

HOLLAND: Hess, announced that he had recently resigned from the Chairmanship of the Netherlands Maccabi Federation, but that he would stay in office until such time as a suitable successor has been found. Since their return from the Maccabiah, where the Netherlands team gained 5 gold and 7 Silver medals, members of Maccabi in the various Cities of Holland felt greatly stimulated by the success of some of their athletes. This had proved extremely beneficial, as was evident from the progress made in the various Dutch Maccabi clubs. Given suitable leaders, the membership of the clubs could have increased and so could their various activities. Clubs in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Deventer and Haarlem were doing well. Amsterdam was particularly fortunate in having Martin Pollak as its Chairman. The Dutch Jewish communities helped some of the Maccabi clubs financially and, on the whole, he, Hess, was satisfied with the progress achieved to date. He emphasized, however, before closing his remarks, that the lack of Jewish youth leaders in Holland is more acutely felt now than ever, since a young generation is arising and the number of members that could be absorbed by Maccabi is on the increase.

SWEDEN: Marmur spoke with some emotion about the late Chairman of Maccabi Stockholm, Jack Witz who passed away about a year ago. He paid

a warm tribute to his memory and leadership. Marmur reported that 7,000 of the 14,000 Swedish Jews lived in Stockholm; over half of them were extremely assimilated. Membership of Maccabi Stockholm, of which Fuchs was the present Chairman, is 200 strong. Marmur regretted Maccabi Stockholm's inability to participate in the last Maccabiah, due to lack of finance. He hoped that with the co-operation and help of the Zionist Organisation, Maccabi Stockholm will field a team in the next Maccabiah. The club in Stockholm has several active Sports Sections, notably Football, Handball and Table-tennis.

SWITZERLAND: Neufeld recalled the fact that his late Father was one of the founders, 50 years ago, of the "Judischer Turn - und Sportverband (Makkabi Schweiz)" which now had on its register 1348 active members spread over 7 clubs. Whilst sports activities were very popular, he regretted that cultural activities had so far attracted little support. Already a special committee has been formed to start raising funds to ensure Switzerland's participation in the next Maccabiah. He himself (Neufeld) had set up a Trust, the interest of which could be used as his contribution towards the Maccabiah fund.

GREAT BRITAIN. Fred Worms reported on activities in 16 clubs now operating in the United Kingdom. Shapiro, Sports Director of Maccabi in Great Britain, reported on sports activities, which were extremely successful, especially so the National Championships recently held in Badminton, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, not to mention Football, etc.

In summing up the reports, Gildesgame appealed to delegates not to neglect the promotion of cultural activities inside Maccabi clubs. No Maccabi Club is worthy of its name unless its activities are comprised of a Jewish content. All Maccabi activities should be treated as a means to achieve an end and however necessary and important Sports activities are, they should not be treated as an end in themselves. Dealing with the lack of leaders, Gildesgame summed up briefly the method used in Great Britain to train leaders - an experiment which had proved beneficial and which can well be adapted to the needs of other countries.

EUROPEAN MACCABI GAMES DEBATED.

Rudaizky outlined his plan, and reference to it, as well as an announcement concerning the arrangements under review, will be found in another part of this issue (Page 10). Schalit promised to proceed to Copenhagen on 25th June to discuss fuller arrangements. Beck, on behalf of Belgium, was unable to commit himself to Belgium's participation, but promised that the matter would be dealt with by his incoming Executive, due to be elected on 16th July. Davis, on behalf of Maccabi Dublin, expressed the hope that his club would participate, although he was unable to state, at the moment, what the outcome would be. Haas (France), was all in favour of the European Games, but insisted upon Basketball being included in the competitions. Zass (France) appealed for the Games to be held on dates which would be convenient to the majority of participants, bearing in mind the August holiday season. Kaminski (France), suggested that an early announcement would enable participants to make their holiday arrangements in good time as indeed many of them might combine participation in the Games with a holiday in Denmark. Bess (Holland) warned the organisers against too ambitious planning comprising too many events. Pollak (Holland) favoured a date in July, and suggested that the European Conference could be held in Copenhagen concurrently with the Games. Neufeld urged the organisers to send out a circular to all Territorial Organisations with least delay, informing them of the proposed arrangements, as well as of conditions of participation, and to advise Territorial Organisations of the approximate cost involved per participant. Marmur (Sweden) stated that delegates could rely upon Danish hospitality, as well as on Copenhagen Hakoah's ability to organise the Games to the satisfaction of all. Marmur suggested that co-operation be sought with the Scandinavian Jewish Youth Federation, the recognised youth body, whose leaders are well experienced in the organisation of Conventions of Jewish Youth from all over Scandinavia. Gildesgame suggested that further discussions be adjourned until a report has been received from Copenhagen, whereupon Schalit promised to send out a circular letter soon after his return from a visit to Copenhagen.

6th MACCABIAH.

As already reported in this issue, Gildesgame dealt with tentative changes in a programme of the 6th Maccabiah, for which a "blue-print" was now in the course of preparation. Details of the revised programme of the 6th Maccabiah will be issued later this year. Gildesgame reported, at the same time, on latest developments in the Maccabiah Village and the financial problems which the project entails.

In reply to questions by Scott, Gildesgame stated that the Board of Trustees of the Maccabiah Village will not launch appeals in Territorial Organisations without the latter's permission and approval. So far as he knew, Territorial Organisations who have already promised or tendered a contribution will not be appealed to again.

THE JEWISH AGENCY CRITICISED.

At this stage, several delegates engaged in a heated discussion, criticising the Jewish Agency for its apparent indifference to Maccabi and the Maccabiah, and what these mean in the life of the population of Israel, as well as to Jewish sportsmen all over the world.

Several delegates expressed themselves in favour of appealing to regular contributors to the Joint Palestine Appeal Fund (Magbit) to earmark part of their donations to the Maccabiah Village. Gildesgame informed the Conference that the World Executive would not favour such a method of forcing the hands of the Jewish Agency. Contributors to Israeli funds must be free to do as they wished, but there is no reason why individual generous sympathisers of Maccabi should not be requested to contribute towards the Maccabiah Village which, insofar as its importance goes, ranks in importance with other educational or welfare institutions being provided in Israel with funds derived from World Jewry. Gildesgame stressed the fact that the Jewish Agency must, in the first place, provide funds to absorb new immigrants and settle them in Israel - a major task involving millions of pounds. He appealed to delegates not to forget that the Jewish Agency have, in the past, contributed small amounts towards the cost of the organisation of the Maccabiah, although these contributions were not tendered with good grace, they have, nevertheless, proved helpful. He sincerely hoped that the latest developments in the relationship with the Jewish Agency would produce better results for all concerned.

As regards relations with Hapoel, Hess (Holland) suggested that Hapoel should be judged on their record of actions and not by their threats or promises. Their record was not a very good one, especially when one casts one's mind back to their behaviour in connection with the 3rd, 4th and 5th Maccabiah.

Empire Games.

In Cardiff, the capital city of Wales, the Empire Games will open on July 18th, in which teams from a number of Empire and Commonwealth countries will participate. At the time of writing, we are informed that many Jewish officials and outstanding athletes are due to participate. Among them from Canada: Freda Berman, who gained a gold medal in the 5th Maccabiah Games, winning the 200 metres Women's Race, Stanley Levinson, Sprinter, Phil Slobotsky, Wrestler. Mr. H.E. Herschorn, O.B.E., who accompanied the Canadian Maccabiah team, is acting as Assistant Manager to the Empire Games Canadian team. From Australia comes Daryl Cohen. From South Africa Alf Blumberg (Captain of the Bowling team) as well as Pinkie Danilowitz, Bowler and South African Bowling Champion, Meyer Feldberg, the South African National Butterfly-stroke Champion. The New Zealand team is Captained by Mr. Jack Meltzer, M.B.E. Percy Temple, Fencer, is also a member of the N.Z. team. Great Britain will be represented by Ben Helfgott, and L. Levine, Weightlifters, R. Cooperman, Alan Jay, Fencers and Dave Segal, Britain's outstanding Sprinter. (all Maccabiah Games gold medallists).

A Reception in honour of Jewish participants in the Empire Games will be held at Maccabi House, Hampstead, London on Wednesday, July 30th.

News from Territorial Organisations.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Annual General Meeting of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and N. Ireland, held at the premises of Leytonstone Maccabi Association in London on May 18th last, was attended by about 75 delegates, representing every affiliated club. The all-day Conference afforded the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Executive an opportunity to render full reports of last year's activities, which were followed by a lively discussion. The problems besetting clubs, such as the lack of premises, or of facilities for indoor and outdoor training, were reviewed in some detail. Repeated appeals were made to the National Executive for more generous financial assistance.

In his address, Gildesgame stressed the importance he and the Executive attached to the more vigorous promotion of cultural activities of a Jewish content. Having just returned from a visit to Israel, where he witnessed the 10th anniversary celebrations, he appealed to members of Maccabi in Great Britain to take a keener and more active interest in the fortunes of Israel. In conclusion, he announced that he intended retiring from the Chairmanship of the Maccabi Union in Great Britain by May, 1959. He recalled that he has served in the office of the National Chairman for 17 years and felt that a younger man should take over from him, in the near future, so that he may be able to devote more time and energy to the affairs of the Maccabi World Executive.

Fred Worms, Honorary Secretary, after reviewing the activities of individual clubs and pointing to the necessity for further consolidation, welcomed the Edgware Youth Club, whose affiliation was recently accepted and who have a strong and virile membership of over 300 (Edgware is a suburb of London with a growing Jewish population). Mr. Jack Mundy, Honorary Treasurer, after submitting his Financial Report, paid a tribute to the Central Maccabi Fund, without whose support the Movement in Great Britain would have been unable to carry on its good work. Harry Shapiro, Sports Director, reported on the excellent progress in the pursuit of sports activities throughout the clubs and emphasized the many successful National Championships staged during the past year, with the participation of hundreds of members from all over the country.

Several members of the Executive, including Gildesgame, Worms, Shapiro and Mundy, were re-elected unopposed, whilst Aubrey Scott, who was not a member of the Executive during the past year, was unanimously elected a Joint Vice Chairman. The new Executive in Great Britain will also have the benefit of the services, during this coming year, of some young people, including Miss Joy Gillman, Chairman of Maccabi Association Brighton and Hove, as well as of Monty Samuels, who has recently distinguished himself as organiser of the Annual Athletic Championships held at the Maccabi Stadium, Hendon in June. (Dave Segal was one of the participants in an Invitation 100 yards Race which he won in 10 seconds).

Jack Shulman, until recently National Organiser of the Maccabi Union, joined the Executive to fill the vacancy of Cultural Director.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP COURSE.

Alfred Morley is Chairman of the Special Committee set up by the National Executive for the purpose of running the Annual Leadership Courses. On July 20th, an All-Day Conference is to be held in London to study ways and means of introducing a special Course for Junior Club Leaders. This is the outcome of an Executive policy to encourage youth under the age of 18 to join Maccabi Clubs who must be provided with suitable and competent club leaders.

Cyril Blauston was re-elected Chairman of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London at the club's Annual General Meeting, held on Thursday, June 12th. In his Chairman's Annual report, he stressed the importance of developing the young and endowing them with a degree of leadership and understanding for Maccabi's aims and objects. Despite the many attractions offered to

young people nowadays, the club was able to maintain its numerical strength and its junior section alone was now 250 strong. With a view to providing better facilities for training and recreational activities for the younger members, the club was shortly to embark upon the erection of a Hall at the rear of its building, at a cost of about £12,000, towards which the Ministry of Education has promised a substantial contribution. The balance of the money is to be found from a special fund, earmarked for the purpose, as well as from contributions already promised by individual members of the club. Blausten announced that Gildesgame had offered to contribute £500 towards this scheme.

In the course of his Presidential Address, Gildesgame reminded members present that he was speaking to them for the 10th time in his capacity of Club President, and that Maccabi House, where the meeting was being held, was the Club's property for the past 21 years. Gildesgame dealt with the problem of the "lonely youth" seeking friendship among his fellow club members. The importance of this problem is often underrated and is overlooked in the same way as are problems of sex affecting adolescent youth. Modern youth must adjust itself to changing conditions and club life should be based primarily on a community of interests and not on the pursuit of selfish ends only. The fostering of friendship in a youth club was a most important task which must be borne in mind by all concerned. He, Gildesgame, recalled with pleasure the fact that he has made many hundreds of friends throughout his association with the club, of which he was, at one time, an ordinary member. He paid a tribute to Jack Salmon who, for the past 20 years, did much to assist the club in its financial trials. As a tribute to his services to the club, Jack Salmon's name was inscribed in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund and Gildesgame presented him with a Certificate on behalf of the Club's Executive "As a token of affection and gratitude for many years of loyal services."

In replying, Jack Salmon thanked all those who conferred the honour upon him and he spoke of his recent visit to Israel and of the intense impression the country made upon him. The word "defeat" was never heard there. Jack Salmon concluded his remarks by reminding his hearers: "People of Israel need our moral support and our understandings if Israel ever fails in the future, World Jewry will fail."

JACK STEINBERG HONOURED.

As is well known, Mr. Jack Steinberg is Chairman of the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain, having held this office for the past 7 years with great distinction. Thanks to the Central Maccabi Fund, the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain has been able to carry on its work without much worry. Several clubs benefited from grants and loans, some amounting to as much as £1,000 at a time. The Central Maccabi Fund helps also maintain the Maccabi Stadium at Hendon. A group of his friends decided to pay a tribute to Jack Steinberg's unstinting services. Members of the Maccabi Union Executive and of the Central Maccabi Fund, as well as representatives from clubs throughout the country, gathered at a West-End Restaurant in London, last March, to pay a tribute to Jack Steinberg and his colleagues. The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan presided and the distinguished gathering included also Lady Nathan and Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Wolfson. In presenting to Mr. Steinberg the J.N.F. Golden Book certificate, Gildesgame paid a warm tribute to his untiring efforts. Other speakers included Mr. Bernard Saphir, Mr. Sam Beckman and Mr. Aubrey A. Scott. In the course of his remarks, Lord Nathan stated that it was in the Youth Movement that the future hope lay, not only of Jewry, but of the community at large.

A distinguished member of the Central Maccabi Fund, Mr. H. J. Cohen, passed away recently, and to commemorate the services he rendered to the Maccabi Movement in Great Britain, a Memorial Fund has been set up, proceeds of which will be devoted to Maccabi Youth work in this country. Affectionately known as "Jimmy Cohen", he will be missed by all those who have known him and enjoyed his fellowship. He competed in the Olympic Games in 1928 and two years later he represented England in the Long-Jump, the 100 yards Hop-Skip-and-Jump, and the quarter-mile Relay in the Empire Games. He played Hocky and was also Captain of a well known Golf Club. A proud Jew, outstanding sportsman, inspiring confidence and commanding respect, such were his attributes. His sincere and unostentatious dedication to the Cause of Maccabi in Great Britain earned for him the gratitude of thousands of members for

whose welfare he cared so much and to whose cause he was greatly devoted.

ANOTHER AMBULANCE FOR ISRAEL.

British Maccabi has, once again, responded to an appeal for Ambulances and recently the seventh Ambulance, purchased with the help of funds raised by members of Maccabi in Great Britain, was handed over to a representative of Magen David Adom by Major P.D.M.Sions, in the course of a ceremony held outside Maccabi House in Hampstead. The inscription on the Ambulance was unveiled by Miss Valerie Mintz, daughter of Louis J. Mintz, a member of the Central Maccabi Fund Council, and among guests attending the ceremony were also Geraldine, Lady Strabolgi and the Marchioness of Winchester, Mr. Kidron, representing the Israeli Embassy and Dayan M. Steinberg, who recited a special prayer of dedication.

MACCABI VISITORS TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Dr. Justice-Dayan, accompanied by his charming wife, spent a few days in London, on his way from New York to Tel-Aviv. During his stay he was entertained by members of the World Executive in London and he also attended the Annual Athletic Championships held at the Maccabi Stadium in Hendon. He gave a detailed report to his colleagues of various meetings he attended in New York, dealing with current Maccabi problems.

Joshua Torczyner, President of Maccabi Association San Francisco, is due to arrive in London at the end of August for talks with Gildesgame and others.

SPORTS AND SPORTSMEN.

Abe Segal, the Lawn Tennis Champion of South Africa and Maccabiah gold Medallist, who has been seeded 4th in the Men's Doubles in the 1958 Wimbledon Tennis Championships played in London during June. He has gained outstanding victories against some of the World's greatest players. In an interview with the "Jewish Chronicle" of London, he stated: "I am never again going to another Maccabiah. The Israelis must really learn to organise International (Lawn Tennis) Tournaments."

A suitable explanation is being sent to Mr. Segal in reply to his complaint, emphasizing to him the lack of Tennis Courts in Israel, as well as of competent promoters of International Tennis Tournaments. His remarks in no way reflect on the organisers of other Maccabiah events which Mr. Segal has not witnessed, for he did not take any interest in them.

Last Spring, the London "Jewish Chronicle" offered a Trophy to the best Anglo-Jewish Football team, for which several clubs competed. "Maccabi Association Brighton and Hove" were the winners, having defeated in the finals Sheffield Maccabi. A crowd of over 1,000 people saw the match.

The "Jewish Chronicle" published recently a despatch from its Haifa Correspondent which I quote in full:

"An example of the lack of understanding of sport shown by Israeli Government officials has been given here by Mr. Pierre Gildesgame, the Chairman of the World Maccabi Union. Mr. Gildesgame had made a statement that it was important that Israeli athletes should run 100 metres in the world-record time of ten seconds instead of 13 seconds. An official seemed surprised by this and asked: 'What is the difference - only a second or two more?....'

Bronze Medallist in last year's Maccabiah, 22 year old Wrestler, Norman Cohen, a member of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, won the Irish Featherweight title at Dublin last March, defeating H. Byrne by 1 fall and 4 points. Norman has only been wrestling for the last 2 years and is being trained by Bill Parkes, a former Olympic Champion and by Police Chief, Leslie Jeffers.

Table Tennis continues to be as popular as ever. R. Bernstein captained the Maccabi London team to win the Championship of the First Division of the Willesden and District Table Tennis Tournament. The team won also the Ascot Challenge Cup. The Club runs 4 teams in the League.

Israel's leading Lawn Tennis Players, Avidan and Davidman are spending a few weeks training in England this Summer. This is in preparation for their country's second round of the American Zone Tie of the Davis Cup against the winners of the British West Indies - Argentine encounter. Avidan and Davidman did not enter for the 1958 Wimbledon Championships. They must first undergo a course of intensive training. Both Lawn Tennis Players are members of Maccabi in Tel-Aviv.

Led by Stanley Rose, the Maccabi National Cycling Centre in Great Britain is making good progress. A number of outstanding Jewish cyclists are members, among them Mike Jacobs, who established the Maccabi record recently when he covered a 25 mile course in 1 hour, 8 minutes, 59 seconds. Rose has been invited to be Team Manager of the English National team who took part in the "12 day tour of Britain race" sponsored by the Milk Marketing Board and which was run at the end of last May.

Bar Kochba-Maccabi Swimmers won 14 of the 28 events at the National Maccabi Swimming Championships held at Sheffield recently.

Jeffrey Ingber, 22 year old Manchester Table Tennis player, who won the Singles and Doubles Championships at the 5th Maccabiah, has been chosen to play for the English Table Tennis team against Yugoslavia.

Debra Turner, 5th Maccabiah Gold Medallist, won the 100 yards Race at the recent Maccabi Union Championships in 11.5 seconds.

Of Debra Turner, Jack Crump, the Manager of the British Olympic team, wrote in the "World Sports" as follows:

"At Easter, in Carshalton, I watched two comparative newcomers to championship class: Jannette Neil, of Mitcham, a 1957 Schoolgirl Champion and Deborah Turner, who won five gold medals at the Jewish Maccabiah Games in Tel-Aviv last September. Both impressed me deeply. The race was intended to be 100 yds. but officials made a mistake and the winning-tape was 110 yds. from the start. Jannette was almost a yard clear at 100 yds. when little Deborah flew past her in a way that reminded me of Australian Betty Cuthbert's winning finish in the 1956 Olympic relay. Perhaps Deborah Turner may prove better over the furlong, but June Paul, Heather Armitage and Madeleine Weston will not overlook her or Jannette over 100 yards.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN VIEW OF THE LENGTH OF THIS EDITION AND THE RESTRICTIONS IN POSTAGE, MUCH OF THE MATERIAL I INTENDED PUBLISHING THIS TIME WILL BE HELD OVER UNTIL SEPTEMBER. I AM PARTICULARLY SORRY NOT TO BE ABLE TO INCLUDE, THIS TIME, INTERESTING REPORTS THAT HAVE REACHED ME FROM SOUTH AFRICA, NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, AS WELL AS FROM SEVERAL MACCABI TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE. THESE AND ANY OTHER REPORTS RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT EDITION.

TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND IN THEIR REPORTS TO ME, AS USUAL, WHILST ANY PROBLEMS AFFECTING MACCABI MATTERS IN EUROPE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO LIONEL SCHLIT, CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE, OR TO FRED WORMS, HONORARY SECRETARY P.G.

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי
MACCABI WORLD UNION
 EUROPEAN REGIONAL EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

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 The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan of Churt
 P.C., T.D., D.L.

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Please reply to:

August/September, 1958.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER NO. 65.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Dear Friends,

The New Year.

We have just entered upon the New Year 5719. It is customary to exchange greetings as well as to make New Year resolutions. All my friends will have received a greeting card from me as well as a New Year message from the Executive of the Maccabi World Union. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking, very sincerely, all my Maccabi friends for the good wishes and cordial greetings they were good enough to send me. I was particularly heartened by the greetings I received from Maccabi Clubs the world over.

A family spirit is being fostered as well as a sense of kinship which is so very essential in a Movement such as ours, in which everyone is dedicated heart and soul to the cause of happiness and welfare of our youth. But for that family spirit and for the friendship which marks our mutual relationship, the Maccabi Movement would have been lacking in inspiration and in substance.

I often recall to mind the many occasions upon which I have disagreed with some of my closest friends and collaborators. We disagreed on matters of policy or on the methods of implementation of policies decided upon by common consent. I have enjoyed such controversies because they provided clear proof of a genuine sense of dedication and responsibility - essential prerequisites to quality-leadership. More often than not we have

(contd: Page 3.)

RECEPTION TO JEWISH PARTICIPANTS IN THE BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES.

At the conclusion of the Games in Cardiff, Wales, last July, a Reception was held at Maccabi House, Hampstead, London, in honour of a number of participating Jewish Athletes. This photograph was taken on that occasion.



Left to right: Ben Helfgott, Ralph Cooperman, Stan Levenson, Mr. A. Blumberg, Lord Nathan, Mr. Pinkie Danilowitz, Miss Frede Berman, Mr. Pierre Gildesgame, Percy Temple, Darryl Cohen, and Mr. Harry Getz (a swimming and diving official with the South African team).

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agreed to disagree, and yet we carried on with our team work cheerfully and uncomplainingly. Such is the 'Maccabi Spirit' in which we were all brought up and such is also the spirit which will permeate our work in future.

* * *

... And Resolutions.

And now what about some New-Year resolutions? I can think of so many, too many to enumerate.

I look forward to the day when the numerical strength of our Movement will, once again, reach the 200,000 mark - just as it was in 1935! Tens of thousands of Jewish youth then rallied around well organised and well led Maccabi Clubs in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Germany and Austria - to mention but a few of the countries where Jewish communities were decimated or annihilated by Nazi terror and persecution. Those communities to which must also be added some tens of thousands of law-abiding Jewish citizens, enjoying prosperity and freedom in countries such as France, Belgium, Holland and elsewhere, provided an almost inexhaustible reservoir upon which new communities in other lands could freely draw. It was thanks to this that during the past fifty or sixty years, the Yishuv in Israel came into being, and it was from those European countries that the first Pioneers made their way to Palestine, where they laid the foundations of the reborn State of Israel - a State conceived, by what appeared to be, a Utopian ideal and which, since the advent of modern Zionism, has now assumed the spectacle of a miraculous reality. It is no exaggeration to say that the young gymnasts, footballers, wrestlers, boxers, swimmers, and athletes, trained in the art of unarmed self-defence, inspired by the ideals of Zionism and fortified by the prospects of a happier future for Jewry, organised in "Maccabi", "Hakoah" or "Hagibor" Clubs throughout Europe - offered a vision of a new generation full of fighting spirit, undeterred by pogroms and persecutions, and ready to give their lives for what they believed to be a just and righteous cause.

A Vision - not a Dream.

Let us, therefore, not forget what we owe to our predecessors, and let Jewry come to the early recognition that the happiness and welfare of the generation of today will best ensure a strong and well consolidated Jewish generation of tomorrow.

There is no other World Jewish Youth movement which has succeeded in firing the imagination of our young generation as did Maccabi. No other movement has made a greater contribution towards the training of communal leaders, imbuing them, from an early age in their life, with a sense of belonging to the Jewish people and all that this implies. No other movement has succeeded in forging closer links of unity and solidarity in the ranks of our young generation as did the Maccabi Movement in those countries where it prospered and where it was led by men and women familiar with our simple aims and objects, but which, at the same time, are so very comprehensive and all-important insofar as the programme of our activities goes.

And so, let us resolve that in this coming year we shall consolidate our positions, we will work harder to attain greater heights, and thus attract to our Movement larger numbers of youngsters, now drifting aimlessly and who may ultimately become lost to the community, either through assimilation or because they are offered no opportunities for joining their contemporaries in a life full of recreational adventure.

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An Important Principle.

Let us also resolve not to lose sight of the all-important principle underlying the programme of Maccabi activities: - sports, recreations, games and fun - all this and more! But this alone is not enough! Let these activities serve as a means to achieve definite ends, such ends being the fostering of a spirit of citizenship and of loyalty both to the country of our residence as well as to the Jewish people and to its "Promised Land", which is now ours - Eretz Israel!

May the members of the Maccabi Movement the world over multiply, may

they go from strength to strength and may they continue to make a valuable contribution to a peace-loving world, free from fear and where all God's children must be treated as equals.

We are never satisfied.

In this edition will be found accounts and reports of a number of activities undertaken by the World Executive. Brief accounts are also published as received from Territorial Organisations. (To my regret, not all my correspondents and informants have sent me their reports.)

The summer months which have just ended are normally marked by a slackening in Club activities, and the excessive heats prevalent in Israel have greatly reduced the work of World Executive members. Nevertheless, little ground has been lost and, so far as I can gather, there is a strong tendency in all quarters to embark upon ambitious enterprises during the Autumn and Winter.

It is typical of our Maccabi leaders everywhere that they are never satisfied with their achievements to date; evidence of realistic self-criticism can be found in great abundance and this, in itself, is a good sign. But self-criticism alone offers no guarantee of better future efforts.

A cautious policy.

Resolutions adopted at the 13th World Congress held in Tel-Aviv last September are slowly being carried into effect. Caution is often advisable, and it is at all times preferable to hasty action. I must emphasize, however, that Time is not always on our side.

We will soon submit for the consideration of Territorial Organisations a fairly simple programme of minimum sports activities in which every club affiliated to the Movement will be expected to engage. Likewise, we will outline a programme of cultural activities designed for youth groups and seniors, respectively. The generous offer of help received from the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency, to which reference is made in this issue, will soon be embodied in concrete proposals and each Territorial Organisation will be notified by the Maccabi World Union's Organisational Department how they can best take advantage of the Jewish Agency's material and moral help.

The World Executive must lose no time in making its influence felt throughout the ranks of the Movement.

More money wanted.

I sincerely hope that the Treasurer's Department of the Jewish Agency will show better understanding for the part which Maccabi has played in the past and which it is destined to play in future for the benefit of tens of thousands of Jewish youth whose relationship towards Judaism, Zionism and communal affairs leaves much room for improvement.

Territorial Organisations and their leaders must show a better sense of appreciation for the considerable sacrifices being made by the active members of the World Executive to safeguard the integrity of the Movement and to see it progress from year to year. Closer liaison with the World Executive is, therefore, desirable and, moreover, any help and assistance that Territorial Organisations are called upon to give to the World Executive Headquarters in the form of membership fees must be offered voluntarily and tendered without delay or excuses.

GO FORWARD MACCABI!

Here then is another New-Year resolution in which we should all join: let us demonstrate to the world that we are a strong universal Youth Movement, whose ranks are open to young Jewry the world over, regardless of nationality, colour or political outlook. Let us work together to uphold the great reputation of the Maccabi Movement and thus ensure for it a prosperous future.

With best New-Year wishes,

Yours sincerely,

P. GILDESGAME.

MACCABI WORLD EXECUTIVE AT WORK.The late Aron Netanel.

A Memorial Meeting to mark the 1st Anniversary of the death of the late Aron Netanel was held at ZOA House, Tel-Aviv on 31st July, 1958. Presiding, Mr. Nahum Heth, President of the Maccabi World Union, paid a tribute to the memory of our late and beloved colleague. Other speakers included also Mr. I. Rikach, member of the Knesset, at one time Mayor of Tel-Aviv, and one of Mr. Netanel's closest friends.

I sent the following cable to Mrs. Rivka Netanel:

"ON OCCASION OF OUR DEAR ARON'S FIRST YAHREZEIT I SEND YOU MY SINCEREST EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY IN THE IRREPARABLE LOSS YOU AND WE HAVE SUSTAINED. THOSE WHO KNEW ARON ADMIRERD AND LOVED HIM THEREFORE HIS INSPIRING MEMORY WILL CONTINUE TO STIMULATE US FOR MANY YEARS TO COME AND THE MACCABI WORLD MOVEMENT WILL BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR HIS UNSELFISH LEADERSHIP. ON BEHALF OF MY EXECUTIVE COLLEAGUES AND MYSELF I SEND YOU CORDIAL GREETINGS AND SHALOM."

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More Sportsmanship in Soccer.

Mr. Shalom Zysman, World Executive member and Chairman of Maccabi Israel, presided at the Press Conference held in Tel-Aviv last August, outlining a plan for the setting up of an independent Court of Honour to be entrusted with the bringing about of better relationships between the various sports organisations in Israel, with particular reference to the Football Association. Should such a project be accepted by other sports organisations in Israel, it is hoped that the practice which hitherto prevailed to attract players from one club to another would be discontinued, and that a stronger team discipline would be introduced throughout the football clubs participating in League Matches and playing in representative matches.

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It is good to know that the initiative to bring about some order in one of Israel's most popular games came from Maccabi, and it must be hoped that other sports organisations, such as Hapoel, Beitar, and Elitzur will heed the advice, taking note of Israel-Maccabi's propositions, and that in future all will "play the game".

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An Expert's opinion.

I quote some extracts of an address delivered in Johannesburg this month by Max Spitz to the Quarterly meeting of the South African Maccabi Council for, as is well known, Max Spitz is a member of the Maccabi World Union Executive Finance Committee, as well as Head of the Peltoirs Organisation.

... "The Maccabi World Union requires funds to continue on a world basis... the Maccabich Village is a reality and the scheme must be brought to fruition. It would provide accommodation for youth of all nations visiting Israel and would enable such visitors to be in close contact with their colleagues from all over the world, a desirable object not capable of realisation under the present system where visitors were billeted apart in whatever accommodation was available. This, of course, was in addition to the Village's function during the Maccabich, when not only would visiting competitors be accommodated, but also Israeli teams".

Max Spitz proceeded: "...a full understanding between foreign competitors and Israelis could only be possible if all groups lived together and the best way to inspire youth was to send them to Israel to see the country for themselves and to meet their Israeli counterparts. Far from being a "white elephant" between Maccabichs, the Village would greatly assist in this object by furnishing a common meeting ground for visitors from all countries."

Spitz referred also to the South African Maccabi organisation saying: "...Obviously due to distance, South African Maccabi had not been in close contact in the past with the Maccabi World Union and with Israel Maccabi." He hoped that a closer liaison would be established in future.

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Economics in Administration.

Owing to financial shortcomings, we have decided to dispense with the office staff, now having to rely for daily routine work on one part-time typist.

Members of the Executive will be conducting their correspondence from their own offices, meetings of the Executives will be held as heretofore at the Maccabi World Union Offices, situated at 47, Nachmani Street, Tel-Aviv. Notice has also been served on the Executive Secretary, Mr. J.Oplatka, whose services with the Executive have been terminated. This re-organisation will in no way affect the daily work by, and contact with, the World Executive members in Israel.

Membership fees.

Territorial Organisations are once again reminded to honour their promises and to forward to the Honorary Treasurer of the Executive H.Q. in Tel-Aviv monies due from them for the years 1957/1958. I cannot over-emphasize the urgency of the situation, and I sincerely trust that those having the cause of Maccabi at heart, will not let us down!!!

Maccabiah Village Limited.

The Maccabiah Village, bearing the name of the late Aron Netanel, has now been incorporated as a non-profit making Company. Some re-organisation of its Board of Management is due to be made, designed to set up a Committee of active promoters of the "Village" project, who will also be responsible for the: Launching a fund-raising campaign in Israel with a target of IL.100,000. Every member of the World Executive of Israel has pledged an individual contribution towards the fund-raising campaign, thereby providing irrefutable proof of their dedication to and sincere desire to see the Village project come to fruition, regardless of any personal sacrifices.

IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT THIS NOBLE EXAMPLE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS RESIDING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

The final accounts of the 5th Maccabiah are shortly to be completed and audited. As soon as these have been received from the Auditors, copies will be distributed to all members of the Executive for their perusal and information.

MACCABI EXECUTIVES ABROAD.

Mr. A. Friedman, member of the Board of Trustees of the Maccabiah Village, was recently in London, on his way from New York to Israel. I discussed with him current problems affecting the development of the Maccabiah Village and the implementation of the various plans in which Mr. Friedman is deeply interested.

Mr. Eliahu Isachson was yet another visitor to London whom I have, unfortunately, not been able to see personally. Mr. Isachson is one of the prime movers of the Maccabiah Village project and a member of the Board of Trustees. He spent a few days in London on his way from New York to Israel (via Scandinavia).

Mr. Ezra Ichilov, member of the Knesset and yet another stalwart of the Maccabiah Village project, has arrived in London. I shall be having talks with him concerning the development of the Maccabiah Village in which he is very actively interested.

Mr. Benno Hess, of Amsterdam, member of the World Executive, is proceeding to Israel on 21st September where he is to have conversations with members of the World Executive on subjects affecting European Organisations in general and that of the Netherlands in particular.

Dr. Robert Atlasz is shortly returning to Israel after having visited Maccabi branches in Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Austria and France. Unfortunately, he was unable to spare the time to visit Great Britain.

Mr. Max Spitz, member of the World Executive, has been on a short visit to London en route for Israel

WORLD CONGRESS 1959. Copenhagen or Tel-Aviv?

Suggestions have been received from European Territorial Organisations to hold the 1959 Maccabi World Union 14th Congress in Copenhagen during 1959. It will be recalled that the 13th Congress, held in Tel-Aviv in September, 1957 resolved that the next Congress be held in 2 years' time instead of 4 years later. Reference to this fact was made in the circular letter issued by the Maccabi World Executive in July. So far, only one reaction has been received, namely, from South Africa, in which it was suggested that the next Congress be held in Israel and not in Copenhagen. Those favouring Copenhagen argue that as the European Maccabi Games are to be held in Denmark in August, 1959, this would afford a good opportunity for the World Congress to be held there at the same time. It must be remembered, however, that many members of the World Executive reside in Israel and that they may find it difficult to absent themselves or to travel all the way to Copenhagen in order to attend the Congress. The presence of all members of the World Executive at any Congress is, of course, essential. Those residing outside Europe will have little difficulty in travelling to Tel-Aviv rather than to Copenhagen - that is if they will be willing to travel at all. Congresses of the World Movement should be held in Israel only - whenever possible.

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WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE. A. Jewish Agency Promotion.

Three hundred delegates, representing nearly 200 youth organisations, Zionist and non-Zionist, from 43 countries, participated in the Conference held in Jerusalem last July. The delegates were addressed by the President, Mr. Ben-Zvi, by the Prime Minister, Mr. Ben-Gurion, by Mr. Eliyahu Dobkin, Head of the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency, and by other Israeli leaders. The British delegation represented practically all shades of opinion in the community and its members included about 17 various organisations or associations, including the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain, represented by Mr. Josh Kahn, a member of its National Executive. All reports reaching me on the subject of this Conference seem unanimous in one respect, namely, that it served a useful purpose inasmuch as youth from 43 countries met together in Israel under the auspices of the Jewish Agency, and that a foundation had been laid for a World Federation of Jewish Youth, regardless of nationality, political outlooks or club affiliation.

The Jewish Agency, Youth Department, was wise in not raising the hopes of the participants as to the outcome of the Conference. It warned them that no resolutions would be passed and that the Conference was but to serve the purpose of helping the Jewish Agency to acquaint itself with the problems of youth organisation in which it takes a very real and sincere interest.

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AN INTERESTING CULTURAL EXPERIMENT IN MACCABI LONDON.

An address on "God and Faith - the Tora" was the first talk on a series of subjects entitled "Living Judaism" delivered to members of Maccabi clubs in London by the Rev. Cyril Harris on September 10th. Other subjects in the series, in which eminent speakers will participate, include "The Synagogue and Prayer," "Jewish Social Ethics" "The Jewish Family" "Ceremonies and Practices" and "The Future of Judaism." Each of the above lectures will be followed by discussion. Later on in the year, a series of 10 weekly talks will be given on "Womanhood and Motherhood", intended especially for lady members of Maccabi Clubs in the London area. The lectures have been organised by the Maccabi Union Cultural Directorate, under the leadership of Jack Shulman. Simultaneously and for the interest of members in Art Sections, a series of lectures will be delivered on Music, contemporary and classical.

The Cultural Directorate will also organise, during this coming year, a Course for Public Speaking, Oratory Contests, Drama Festival, the showing of Israeli Films, as it will also introduce Courses of Hebrew for Beginners.

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I.A.A.F. AND ISRAEL.

Dr. R. Atlasz, the very active Honorary Sports Director of the Maccabi World Union, has recently attended the Conference of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (I.A.A.F.) held in Stockholm during August, where he also witnessed the European Athletic Championships. He was the official Israeli representative of the Sports Federation and of its Olympic Committee. He met several officials and delegates and acquainted them with the position of sports in Israel. In his report to me he pays a warm tribute to Mr. Pain, Honorary Secretary of the I.A.A.F., who has shown much understanding for, and a great interest in, the progress which Israel has made in recent years in many fields of sport and in International Competitions. He met also Mr. Ferris of the U.S.A. delegation and others. Mr. Paulen, a member of the I.A.A.F., representing Holland, the very popular Official I.A.A.F. Observer at the 5th Maccabiah, spared no words to praise the excellent organisation of the last Maccabiah and referred to it repeatedly in conversation with other delegates. Very wisely, Dr. Atlasz made also friendly contact with Asian and African delegates, having enlisted their interest and support.

Most important of all is that section of Dr. Atlasz' report dealing with the problem of Regional Games. On behalf of Israel, he submitted a resolution, which was carried by a majority vote, to the effect that no member-country shall, in future, be permitted to organise Regional Games if it excluded from them any nation on political, racial or religious grounds.

I would remind my readers that Israel was excluded from previous Mediterranean Games held in Egypt and Spain, as a result of strong opposition from Arab nations. Our protests against such discrimination had met with a great deal of understanding on the part of the representatives of Western countries, but no action has been taken in this matter until Dr. Atlasz placed this matter before the I.A.A.F.

The Council of the I.A.A.F. criticised also severely the organisation of the Pan-Arab Games held last year in Beyrouth (to which reference was made in my "Newsletter" No. 52).

Dr. Atlasz deserves to be warmly congratulated on his mission, and I sincerely hope that the Israel Olympic Committee and the Israel Sports Federation will acknowledge Dr. Atlasz' services with a sense of deep appreciation.

A full report of Dr. Atlasz' trip around Europe will be published in due course. Meanwhile, it should be mentioned that Dr. Atlasz met leaders of Maccabi in Stockholm, Copenhagen, Antwerp, Brussels, Paris and Vienna, having gathered the impression that all of them are very keen to promote Maccabi activities, as they also look forward to participating in the 6th Maccabiah. Whilst in Copenhagen, Dr. Atlasz discussed also details of the Maccabi European Games to be held there next year.

THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND THE MACCABIAH.

In a letter, dated 21st July, addressed to Dr. Atlasz, the President of the International Olympic Committee, wrote as follows:

"Thank you for your letter of June 10 and the enclosed report on the first five Maccabiahs. I have, of course, been cognizant of your efforts to develop this great Jewish Sports Festival and I compliment you on the progress you have made. I am particularly pleased to know that you conduct your events according to the International Olympic Committee's rules and regulations and the principles of the Olympic Movement.

"With my best wishes for future success,

I am,
Sincerely,

Avery Brundage (President).

Relations with 'Hapoel'.

Proposals received.

The General Secretary of Hapoel wrote to me on August 1st apologising for not having written earlier, as promised, and, after summarising the nature of the talks in Israel last May, (according to his interpretation) he outlined proposals as he was authorised to submit for our consideration on behalf of the Central Committee of Hapoel.

These can be summed up as follows:

1. Hapoel would like to see an Organising Committee formed on a basis of parity, comprised of an equal number of representatives of Hapoel and of the Maccabi World Union only.
2. That the Games be run on the lines of the Olympic Games and should ultimately become known as the "World Jewish Olympiad".
3. The "Olympiad" to bear the character of a popular Folk Festival, comprising also performance of mass Gymnastics, Folk Dances by Israeli and overseas youth.
4. The Games are to bear the character of an all-Israeli national event with no distinction drawn between the teams of Israeli sportsmen.
5. Should such an event take place at regular intervals, Hapoel would not object to it being organised in future under the auspices of the State of Israel.
6. The proposed Organising Committee to be responsible for all Sports equipment and gear which will be purchased for the purposes of the event. It will also decide upon the terms of the investment in the already-existing equipment and will also make arrangements for its distribution among the various sports organisations in Israel. (Presumably after the conclusion of each Maccabiah).
7. Hapoel is prepared to place at the disposal of the organisers, Halls and grounds which can be improved, if necessary, at the expense of the organisers.
8. Hapoel will do its best to assist in the general organisation of the Games in Israel, as well as in the formation of participating teams in Israel and overseas.

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It is worth noting that no-where in his letter to me did Mr. Panai refer to the "Maccabiah" Games by name. He either referred to a "World Jewish Sports Event" or to a "World Sports Promotion."

Our answer.

I replied to Mr. Panai as follows: (I quote extracts only).

1. The Maccabi World Union wishes to set up a Maccabiah Organising Committee, comprised of three members of the Maccabi World Union Executive, in addition to an equal number of members representing the Sport Organisation 'Hapoel' and of the Merkaz Ha'Maccabi of Israel. "Beitar" and "Elitzur" should also be represented on the Committee by one member each. Thus... the Maccabiah Organising Committee would be representative of all the leading sports associations in Israel - a basis which we considered more desirable, having regard to the fact that the Maccabiah Games have been and, in future, will be held and organised in Israel..
2. As suggested by 'Hapoel' the Organising Committee to be presided over by the Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive, or by his nominee.
3. Individual members of the Maccabiah Organising Committee... to be selected on merit, on the basis of their qualifications, known to be possessed of knowledge and experience in the organisation and administration of large-scale promotions such as the Maccabiah Games.

4. The Maccabiah Games to be organised, as heretofore, in conformity with rules and regulations of Olympic, International or Regional Games, in which only amateur sportsmen are eligible for competition. The "Maccabiah" should, therefore, bear the character of a Jewish Sports Festival open to Jewish athletes from all over the world, regardless of nationality or club affiliation.
5. Considering that the Maccabiah Games are being held in Israel, we are agreed on the desirability to give it a character of an all-Israeli promotion. With this in mind, we think it desirable to include in the programme of the Opening or Closing ceremonies mass Gymnastic Displays, Folk Dancing, as well as any other spectacular manifestations likely to stimulate among Jewish Youth in Israel, as well as overseas, a keener interest in sports and in healthy recreational games."

Dealing with Mr. Panai's misgivings as to the possibility of 'Hapoel' being treated as "second-hand partners", I gave an assurance that it is not our intention to score a debating point, nor was it our desire to treat the 'Hapoel' organisation in any manner other than as a collaborator. We differed, however, in one respect: We wish the Maccabiah Organising Committee to be representative of all Israeli Sports Organisations, whereas 'Hapoel' appear inclined to exclude some. Such an intention on their part was not in the best tradition of sportsmanship. We shall endeavour to enlist the wholehearted co-operation and support of all the citizens of Israel, regardless of their civic status, party politics or club affiliation. This desire is shared by the Prime Minister, Mr. Ben-Gurion, and "I know that all communal and political leaders in Israel would welcome an event in which all sports organisations in Israel were to unite and close their ranks, thus creating an everlasting good impression upon Jewish Youth in Israel and abroad, sharing your interests and ours."

I concluded my letter to Mr. Panai by reminding him that "The Maccabiah Organising Committee - such as is conceived by us, could serve as an outstanding example of unity and co-operation inspired by a sincere desire and resolve to attract Jewish Youth from the Galuth to Israel to participate in and to witness a World Jewish Sports Festival of considerable significance to all of us."

I sent a copy of my reply to the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel.

A reply from the 'Hapoel' Central Committee is now awaited.

Relations with the Jewish Agency.

MORAL ASSISTANCE.

As a result of an exchange of correspondence with Mr. Eliyahu Dobkin, Head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, which followed my meetings with him in London, the Executive of the Jewish Agency have recently promised considerable assistance to the Maccabi World Union in the following ways:

1. The Agency will send emissaries (youth leaders) to Maccabi Territorial Organisations overseas, whose return travelling expenses will be borne by the Agency. Such Emissaries will be selected by mutual agreement. They will be required to have a good command of the language of the country to which they will be sent, having a working knowledge of youth work and who are familiar with the requirements of the Maccabi Territorial Organisation. Whilst the Agency will be prepared to contribute towards the return fares of such emissaries, the Territorial Organisations will, in fact, have to assume liability in respect of salary and maintenance.
2. The Jewish Agency is prepared to arrange for Maccabi members, aged 17 to 23 years, to attend the Annual Course at the Institute for Instructors from abroad and, whilst in Israel, for one year, they will be the guests of the Jewish Agency.
3. The Jewish Agency will offer aid in organising groups of Maccabi youth from various countries to attend Seminars held in Israel every Summer, providing

that such groups consist of not less than 30 persons. They shall be given special treatment and will be in charge of a leader who will confine all his time and attention to such individual Maccabi groups. The Summer Seminar lasts from 6 to 7 weeks, and its programme comprises a tour of the country, lessons in Hebrew, attendance at lectures such as are considered suitable for individual groups. Eligibility to such groups is conditional upon applicants being found in good health, each one able to pay his return fare, as well as to make a contribution towards his maintenance whilst in Israel.

4. The Youth Department of the Jewish Agency is also prepared to provide specialised text books in addition to books for the study of Hebrew. Any text books such as are required for Maccabi clubs in various lands may well be published under the auspices, and at the expense of, the Jewish Agency, in the various languages of the countries for which they are destined.

(See Editorial Comment).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

So far, no satisfactory reply has been received from the office of the Treasurer of the Agency in connection with our application for an annual grant for the Maccabi World Union. Dr. Dov Joseph, with whom I exchanged several letters, has professed a genuine interest for the financial difficulties under which the Maccabi World Union administration has recently been labouring. And yet, all that he had to say on the subject was what the Treasurer's Department of the Jewish Agency was not prepared to do. It was not prepared - he said - to grant us an annual contribution towards our organisational and administrative Budget and, in this respect - he emphasized - we were being treated in the very same way "as any other youth organisation".

I felt, therefore, impelled to reply to Dr. Joseph, pointing out that our present financial difficulties would not have been so acute had we not suffered an inevitable loss of some IL.75,000 as a result of the 5th Maccabiah, (towards the total cost of which the Agency contributed only IL.7,500 in all). I added that we were still in the process of settling Maccabiah debts, reduced at present to IL.30,000. I appealed to the Executive of the Jewish Agency to revise its outlook on, and approach to, the value of an organisation such as the Maccabi World Movement, which is unique and has no equal, because of its all-embracing programme of pro-Zionist and non-political activities, because of its universal connections and its splendid record of a world Jewish Youth Movement, whose branches and clubs have, for the past 70 years, become indispensable institutions in the life of Jewish communities everywhere - the training ground for our future leaders and courageous champions of our cause.

I quote a few extracts from my last letter to Dr. Joseph:

My reply to Dr. Dov Joseph, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency.

Having informed him of our decision to dispense with some administrative staff at Headquarters, I explained to Dr. Joseph: "Such drastic action had to be taken because of lack of funds. All membership dues received since early this year from Territorial Organisations affiliated to the Maccabi World Union had been used to meet our liabilities towards creditors whose accounts for goods and services rendered in connection with the 5th Maccabiah held in Israel last September were considerably overdue"... "the contribution made by the Jewish Agency towards the last Maccabiah amounted only to IL 7,500 - a very small percentage of the total cost of this very considerable sports promotion which attracted 1,000 competitors and several thousand tourists to Israel every time the Maccabiah Games were being held, in 1950, in 1953 and in 1957".

Dealing with Dr. Joseph's assertion that all Youth Organisations must be treated by the Jewish Agency on an equal basis, I explained: "There is not a single Youth Organisation in the world comparable to ours, for the Maccabi World Union is a world Organisation, catering for youth of both sexes, led

by men and women rendering their services in voluntary capacity, having branches in every corner of the globe - wherever a Jewish community is known to exist... members of Maccabi Organisations in many parts of the world, particularly so in Europe, constituted themselves into groups of Chalutzim already in the early twenties, that practically every Maccabi group provided facilities for training in "Hachshara", that Kfar Ha'Maccabi was one of the early Kibbutzim, that many thousands of able-bodied Maccabi members from all parts of the world became communal and Zionist leaders, wholly devoted to that cause, because of the education and training they received in our ranks, for many decades past... Thousands of our members from every part of the world joined the ranks of the 'Hagana' and some of the finest material of pioneers brought up on the tradition of Maccabi joined the Jewish Brigade and last, but not least, Maccabi leaders in Europe, whilst fighting in the ranks of the armies of resistance during the Nazi era, helped save thousands of lives and were actively engaged in the memorable organisation of illegal emigration."

..."The Maccabi Movement must continue to have its headquarters in Israel and its programme of sports and cultural activities must be inspired by unadulterated Zionist and Israeli ideals ... therefore everything must be done by the Jewish Agency to enable the Maccabi Movement to be led in future years from Israel."

..."In fact, many unbiased Zionist leaders and promoters of fund-raising appeals for Israel share my view that the Maccabi Movement does much of the work conforming with the aims of the Jewish Agency and considering that leaders of our Movement everywhere give their services freely, without a compensation or a reward, it is fair to say that the results achieved by us, in terms of integration of about 100,000 members of Maccabi the world over, have been arrived at at a very low cost indeed."

..."I cannot imagine any Executive member of the Jewish Agency able honestly to cast a vote against a modest allocation to the Maccabi World Union to help us continue with our educational work benefiting Jewish boys and girls of some 30 nationalities and who cannot be attracted to Zionism and its ideals by means of propaganda leaflets and eloquent speeches..."The word of Israel" - to reach modern youth in a westernised world-must be conveyed to them under a variety of guises and adherence to Zionism cannot be achieved without a consistent and modern approach, often better achieved by attracting Youth to our clubs under the pretence that facilities are provided for them in a swimming pool or playgrounds..."

..."A few friends of mine and myself could very easily divert our annual contributions to the Joint Palestine Appeal and make these available to the Maccabi World Union Executive Headquarters in Israel to enable them to carry on their work without a day's worry. But I know, as a lifelong Zionist and regular contributor to pro-Israel funds, that such action would not meet with your approval, for it may well set a dangerous precedent likely to be followed by other generous donors favouring one Institution of their particular choice at the expense of another."

Dr. Joseph's reply is awaited.

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News from Terr. Organisations.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The "Maccabi Corner" in the "Zionist Record".

The "Zionist Record", the weekly newspaper published in Johannesburg, continues to give generous space to South African Maccabi in a column entitled "Maccabi Corner". Contributions are provided by Barney Kellen, Abe Treisman and others. Reading the clippings which I receive every week, I am left under no doubt that Bowls play an important part, if not the most important part, in Maccabi activities throughout the Union of South Africa. It is the most popular National Game in which South African Jews seem to excel. Reports of Tournaments fill the columns of the "Maccabi Corner" and one is, therefore not surprised to hear South African Maccabi leaders write and speak of Bowls as the be-all and end-all of pleasures that life has to offer.

Alf Blumberg appealed to British Jewry, during his stay in Great Britain, to take a keener interest in Bowls and expressed the hope that, at the next Maccabiah, a strong British team of Bowlers will oppose a South African team and, he concluded, "may the best team win".

Bowls and other sports activities too.

But reference can also be found to Golf and Table-Tennis Tournaments and, during the appropriate seasons, to Soccer, Water-Polo, Swimming and Lawn Tennis, Hockey, Cricket and Rugby. Thus I read in the issue, dated 4th July, of the establishment of a strong Western Transvaal Maccabi Association under the convenerhip of Gerald Rosin, of Klerksdorp who is organising Bowls and Golf Tournaments with a very strong entry. The Southern Transvaal Maccabi Annual Table-Tennis Tournament, comprising Open and Maccabi events reached the final stage on 9th July. We are informed that the entry was the largest received in the Transvaal for any Table-Tennis Tournament - Maccabi or otherwise, with Maccabiah participants Esther Bass and Max Rabinowitz as leading players.

Badminton is not neglected. The sport has been introduced to Southern Transvaal by Mrs. Esme Taylor. The first Tournament attracted some 60 players.

Nearly 600 Bowlers gathered from many provinces to participate in this year's Annual (7th) Maccabi Bowls Tournament, organised by "Chunk" Treisman.

Kyalami Country Club welcomed 120 Maccabi Golfers who participated in the mid-year Southern Transvaal Golf Tournament which took place early in July, organised by Lucke Matus. The response to this first tournament was so encouraging that, as a result, quarterly Golfing Tournaments are to be organised in the future.

For Wrestling and Weightlifting, training is being organised by Julius Gordon. Fully trained instructors are available and the Jewish Guild in Johannesburg has placed its premises at the disposal of Maccabi to start a gymnasium section.

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ABE SEGAL AND THE MACCABIAH.

Abe Hyman was good enough to reproduce from my "Newsletter" (in the "Maccabi Corner" issue of August 8th) the report on Abe Segal's statement to the London "Jewish Chronicle": "I am never again going to another Maccabiah". I think it only fair that readers of this Newsletter" should be informed that, as a consequence of Abe Segal's statement, I sent the

following letter to the Editor of the "Jewish Chronicle" which was published in full:

"Sir,

Abe Segal is quoted (in last week's issue) as saying that he may never again go to another Maccabiah and that the Israelis must really learn to organise international tournaments.

"It must be assumed that Segal referred to international tennis tournaments, in which case his remarks may be partly justified, for tennis has not been as popular a sport in Israel as is the case with football, basketball, or swimming. Moreover, the lack of suitable tennis courts is acutely felt in every part of Israel. The Maccabiah tennis tournaments were played on the inadequate Maccabi courts in Tel-Aviv, known to be in poor condition.

"Segal is obviously used to excellent tennis courts whenever he plays in international tournaments, and it is to be regretted that instead of offering a constructive suggestion he adopts rather a selfish attitude by saying that he may never again go to another Maccabiah. Perhaps he ought to be reminded that Angela Buxton emerged as an international tennis star after her participation in the Maccabiah Tennis Tournament in 1953. Since then she has been actively engaged in many spheres of endeavour to provide in Israel better amenities for training and competition in sport.

"Men like Segal, Flamm, and Savitt and women like Angela Buxton could do a great deal to help raise funds with which to provide Israel with badly needed tennis courts. South African bowlers have set an excellent example when they provided, at their own expense, a bowling green in Ramat Gan so that they and Israelis could enjoy the game under conditions equally as good as those prevalent in Johannesburg and elsewhere."

Mr. A. Hyman's postscript to the report, entitled "The retort courteous", is rather interesting, for he says: "It would appear that there is a certain degree of unanimity in regard to the proposal that Abe Segal will not take part in another Maccabiah"... Abe Hyman, be it known, is Vice-Chairman of the South-African Maccabi Council.

On September 7th, 1958, the Quarterly Meeting of the South African Maccabi Council was held, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Alf Blumberg, recently returned from London. It was to be one of the most important sessions of the Council for, apart from the lengthy normal Agenda, the meeting was also to receive a report from its Chairman, Alf Blumberg, on his discussions with World Maccabi leaders in London, and the position of South Africa in the World Movement. As far as local organisation goes, the main topic was the re-organisation of certain provincial groups on the basis of Town membership and Town Committees federated into provincial bodies.

A few days ago, Max Spitz, a South African, now living in Israel, spent some time with me on his way home to Tel-Aviv. He was present at the quarterly meeting referred to in the preceding paragraph and spoke of his impressions with admiration. To Alf Blumberg ("our Alfie") he referred as the "Man of Destiny". Of the South African Maccabi Movement, Max said: "This body forges an indestructible link among the various Jewish communities living in different parts of the country. Maccabi plays an important part in the promotion of a community spirit as it also helps build a powerful Zionist force."

Referring to Bowls, Max declared in all earnest: "Bowls is no longer a game - its a religion, with thousands upon thousands of followers."

Barney Kellen, when I introduced to readers in some of my previous editions, sent me a note in reference to "Newsletter" No. 63, extract of which I am pleased to quote:

"I have come to the conclusion that one need not travel Europe to ascertain what is going on in the Maccabi World there. One only has to travel from place to place in your "Newsletter" to get a first-class picture of Maccabi. I need hardly add that these "Newsletters" are treasured by me."

Barney Kellen wishes me also to make it known that he is Secretary of the South African Maccabi Council, and not Vice-Chairman, the latter office being held by Mr. Abe Hyman.

The South African Maccabi Council plan to send a team of 100 sportsmen to tour Israel in October, 1959. Invitations have already been issued and applicants have been advised that the inclusive cost of the tour, which will last approximately one month, with first-class hotel and touring accommodation, comprising also participation in Israel championships in various sports, will not exceed £300 per person. On behalf of his Council, Barney Kellen suggested that the 1959 Maccabi World Congress be convened in Israel during October, so that this important event may coincide with some spectacular sports to be organised by Maccabi Israel. It is hoped that the Israel Sports Federation will lend its fullest co-operation to ensure the success of the South African Sportsmen's tour. (See page 7. "World Congress, 1959").

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Barney Ain has recently been officially named "Mr. Basketball" for his services to the game for more than 25 years, and particularly for his remarkable work as chief promoter of U.S.A. participation in the Maccabiah Games.

BASEBALL IN ISRAEL.

Several communal leaders and sports columnists commented on Mr. Mervin Kratter's initiative to introduce the Baseball game in Israel. Encouraged by Colonel Harry D. Henshel, and by Mr. August A. Busche Junior, owner of the St. Louis Cardinals, Mr. Kratter went into action and, as a result of a Cocktail Party and a Dinner held in New York last June, (at which Mr. Busche donated 5,000 dollars) it was decided to build a Baseball Stadium on the grounds of the Wingate Institute at Natanya. The Committee responsible for this promotion hopes to raise 1 million dollars. The field is to be named the "Busche Stadium". Owing to the fact that there were many other events held on the same night, particularly so "Music under the Stars", the dinner was attended by only 300 guests, whereas 1200 were expected. Chaim Glovinsky of the Hapoel Organisation was one of the principal speakers. ("Music under the Stars" was attended by an audience of 8,000 resulting in the sum of 100,000 dollars being raised to aid Israeli Cultural Institutions).

The U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel has given much support to the "Baseball for Israel" project and Colonel Henshel, who was recently in Israel, to attend the official inauguration of the Wingate Institute, will probably have more news on the subject when he visits me in London early in October.

I read an item in the "New York Journal American" of August 14th as follows:

"A couple of prominent Jewish sportsmen opposed Brooklyn's M. Kratter's 'Baseball for Israel' Committee, arguing that the young country (Israel) needs Soccer, not Baseball equipment, because Soccer is Israel's national sport".

My Comment: (I could not agree more!)

The "National Jewish Post and Opinion" reports on a recent visit to the States of Baruch Schlein, 31 year old Coach of Israel Hapoel Basketball Clubs. He was amazed, when visiting one State he saw 14 Basketball teams in practice. "In Tel-Aviv" - he commented: "no more than four, usually three, or only one is good enough." Schlein, who left Germany in 1935, is one of Israel's leading Basketball Coaches. Comparing American Basketball technique with Israel, he commented: "Our boys are not ready for that. In Israel, we play man to man and try simple switching. This is difficult enough for our boys. A 'big man' in Tel-Aviv is any player just over 6 feet, most American Basketball Players are well over 6 feet. Our ball handling is good but not as good as here. We play a ball-control type of game and we do have a good opportunity before shooting. In Israel, the games are played outdoor, at night, and on concrete floors. In

America, many games are played indoors."

Schlein's visit was paid for by Hapoel, whilst his expenses in America were covered by the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel.

In a letter to me, Barney Ain puts forward a suggestion which I commend to the attention of all my readers, and whose comments I invite. Mr. Ain thinks it would be a good idea for the names of athletes and officials who participated in the 1932 and 1935 Maccabiah Games to be compiled and that they, together with all those who participated in the 1950, 1953 and 1957 Maccabiah Games, be invited to attend the 1961 Maccabiah Games as officials, participants, or supporters. Being a realist, Barney Ain adds: "naturally, all these guests should be honoured at a dinner whilst the 1961 Maccabiah Games are in progress and each one personally should receive a commemorative medal".

What do you think?

The American Zionist Youth Council presented, on June 1st, a "Maccabiah Festival" in celebration of Israel's 10th Anniversary at Midwood Stadium in Brooklyn, New York. The programme included Track and Field events, Choral Presentations, as well as our Israel Dance Pageant, with the participation of the following Maccabiah Champions: Isaac Berger, Martin Engel, Uri Gallin, Mike Herman, Sidney Kivit, Henry Laskau and others. Among the sponsoring organisations of the Festival were Betar, Bnei Akiva, Hachonim, Hashomer Hatzair, Hanoar Hatzioni, Hechalutz Hatzair, Junior Hadassah, Mizrahi Hatzair, the Student's Zionist Organisation, Young Judaea.

Comment:

The Maccabi World Union was not asked for permission to name this event a "Maccabiah Festival" but I dare say that anything that is good enough for the Maccabi World Union is also good enough for the American Zionist Youth Council. There is only one genuine Maccabiah Festival - that held in Israel once every 4 years. A good imitation can sometimes pass for the genuine article...

Barney Ain's publication "American Sports Report" informs us that Harry Wittenberg, former Olympic and Maccabiah Wrestling Champion is now well known also to the Russian Wrestlers. Not only did he meet and greet them on the airport when they arrived in New York, but he also refereed their final bouts at the New York Athletic Club, in which Murray Edelman (Maccabiah participant) lost to Linaer Salimulin in the 136.5 lb class. Mike Herman, 1957 Maccabiah decathlon champion is getting nearer and nearer to the broad jump performed by Jesse Owen in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He broad-jumped 25 feet 8 and 3/4 inches and to show this was no fluke, he went over 25 feet on two more occasions.

The 17 year old Bonnie Mencher of Forest Hills High School, Long Island, is rated as a big potential for the 1961 World Maccabiah tennis matches and is currently being talked of as another Angela Buxton of London.

Colonel Henshel, Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, continues to appeal to his fellow-Directors for more active help. In a circular letter, dated May, he draws attention to the many projects on which his Committee is at present working: Baseball for Israel, Playing-Grounds for Israel, The Orde Wingate Institute for Physical Education, etc.

HAKOAH-MACCABI SAN FRANCISCO - "Schicko" Torczyner in London.

The distinguished President and Founder of that club, Mr. Joshua Torczyner, nick-named, and known to friends as "Schicko", has just left London after having arrived here from Israel, where he met members of the World Executive in Tel-Aviv. In the course of a Luncheon Meeting, at which Willy Meisel and Fred S. Worms were also present, he gave us a full account of his club's activities, the principle one being Soccer. Considering that Torczyner is a native of Vienna and a member of the celebrated Hakoah, one was not surprised to hear him speak very enthusiastically about this sport. Torczyner observed that Hakoah in San Francisco would welcome young amateur Football players and those desirous of emigrating to the States, with a view to joining the Hakoah club there, would be assisted financially; a contribution would be made towards their fares and jobs would be found for them locally.

I have before me a copy of the "Hakoah News", published in May, 1958 in San Francisco, from which can be seen that members of this club are also active in Table-Tennis and that provision is also made for Cultural and Social activities. Hakoah San Francisco participates also in the Jewish Welfare Fund drive. I was glad to find several items published in the "Hakoah News" quoted from my "Newsletter" headed "Maccabi Around the World". Thus, perhaps for the first time, members of Hakoah San Francisco will get acquainted with the progress of activities of Maccabi Territorial Organizations in other lands.

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If the "Hakoah News" is to continue publication in San Francisco, may I suggest that they print on their front page also the generally adopted Maccabi badge - the symbol and hall-mark of Maccabi Clubs and Associations the world over.

A Little History.

Hakoah in San Francisco was founded 12 years ago. It is the only Maccabi Club on the West Coast of the United States and by far the strongest Maccabi Club in the U.S.A. which, according to the modest Mr. Torczyner "does not mean very much". Not only because of their successes in sports, but mainly because they have grown to be a real and important factor in the Jewish and Zionist circles of San Francisco, Hakoah has come to stay as a permanent Institution considered indispensable to the life of the Jewish community in the "City of the Golden Gates". Leaders of Hakoah are also members of other Jewish organisations holding positions of Presidents or Executive Directors. Mr. Torczyner revealed that he has recently been nominated President of the "Northern California Soccer Football Association" and of the "Northern California Chess Federation".

About a year ago Hakoah San Francisco conceived the idea and embarked upon the project to acquire a 'Home' to house its offices and for indoor meetings. A short time thereafter a large building was purchased which today serves as Headquarters and is a meeting place for various pro-Israeli-minded groups. The building has been named the "Louis D. Brandeis House" after one of America's famous Judges and Jewish communal leaders. Joshua Torczyner is the first President of its Board of Trustees. Among other organisations housed in the building are the Jewish National Fund, a branche of the Zionist Organisation of America, Hadassah, Labour Zionists, Histadruth, American Zionist Council, Zionist Students, American Jewish Congress, etc. On Fridays, Saturdays, and holidays, the building is also used for religious services. There appears to be only one large Synagogue in the whole of San Francisco. Los Angeles, another city on the West Coast of America, is shortly to follow the example of San Francisco and plans to purchase a building to serve similar purposes are already well advanced.

Hakoah San Francisco now counts some 200 members. The Soccer team started in the 2nd Division but soon became one of the leading teams on the Coast. In 1957 they were the Pacific Coast Champions, winning all titles - an unprecedented feat - having lost the U.S. Challenge Cup in the quarterfinals against the final winner by a better score and with a more impressive showing than Hakoah New York - now considered the professional champions of the U.S.A. In a game against Manchester City F.C. Hakoah San Francisco lost 2-5. Similar successes have been achieved by club members in the Table-Tennis Leagues. Despite the comparatively small number of members, all of them appear active in existing sections such as Basketball, Baseball, Tennis, Boxing, Bowling, Swimming and Gymnastics. Lack of facilities for training in Tennis, Swimming and Gymnastics have impaired progress. Difficulties have also been encountered in the development of Basketball and Baseball because of the high price paid to Professional Coaches and which the club cannot afford for the time being.

This year's Club President, Mr. Henry Feld, is studying the possibility of purchasing an estate of 140 acres with buildings, swimming pool, etc., to serve as a Zionist and Jewish Youth Camp. As with the Brandeis House, Torczyner does not think they can do it alone and they are, therefore, trying to interest other organisations in this project.

Isaac Berger does it again.

This Israel-born weightlifter, Maccabiah gold-medallist, now living in America, established a new Featherweight World Record with a total of 375.5 kilos, at the World Championship held in Stockholm this month. He defeated the Russian Champion, Minayev, who lifted 362.5 kilos only.

ALF BLUMBERG IN GREAT BRITAIN.

An appreciation.

The popular Chairman of the South African Maccabi Council, Alf Blumberg, has spent several weeks in Great Britain, in connection with the British and Commonwealth Games. He was Manager of the South African Bowls Team, which gained many victories, most outstanding of which was that of Pinkie Danilowitz, Amateur Bowling Singles Champion, and recipient of a Gold Medal. Alf Blumberg is no ordinary man, nor is he just a good sport. I first met him in the lobby of a London West-End Hotel, and it was a case of "love at first sight". Bubbling over with energy and determination, I felt that here is a man under whose leadership, energy and determination, South African Maccabi is bound to become one of our strongest and most active Territorial Organisations. After dining with him, with Lord Nathan and Pinkie Danilowitz, we proceeded to a Reception at Maccabi House in Hampstead, London, where a number of other Empire Games participants were already gathered. The Reception was originally intended in honour of Alf Blumberg but the Maccabi Organisation in Great Britain thought that as a number of distinguished Jewish sportsmen participated in the Commonwealth teams, this was as good an opportunity as any to invite them to Maccabi House, to congratulate them on their individual successes and to bid them farewell on the eve of their departure for their homelands.

In introducing Alf Blumberg, I referred to him as the man who calls "a spade a spade". Having spent with him an hour and a half, talking of nothing else but Maccabi, I had no difficulty in reaching the conclusion that here was a man who never underrates difficulties, nor does he exaggerate the value of his personal achievements. He spoke with quiet dignity about South Africa's Maccabi strength but, at the same time, pointed candidly to some of its inherent short-comings.

RECEPTION TO JEWISH PARTICIPANTS IN THE BRITISH & COMMONWEALTH GAMES.

When replying to the welcome extended to him by Lord Nathan, who presided at the Reception, as well as to the tribute I paid to South African Maccabi's leading position in World Jewish Sports, Alf Blumberg referred to the Movement in South Africa, 5,000 strong, in those words: "Our main aim was the promotion of sports among our fellow-Jews. Our ambition is to send between 300 and 400 sportsmen to the Maccabiah, once it will be possible to send them by ship through the Suez Canal. Our organisation does not consist of self-contained and separate clubs. Jews in South Africa are free to join and are welcome at non-Jewish clubs. But this is not enough. We want our South African young men and women to understand that being a Jew entails obligations. Being a member of a Maccabi Organisation places upon us liabilities which we will not shirk."

"South African Maccabi has promised to provide a playing-field for the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. We also have in mind the provision of a Sports Club at Ashkelon, the Settlement "adopted" by South African Jewry. This Sports Club is to be open to all Jews, whatever their politics, for we are making every effort to stamp out politics in the ranks of our sportsmen - no matter what the nature of such politics may be."

"We have also pledged the sum of £5,000 sterling towards the Maccabiah Village project. We intend fulfilling our promises and I know that members of Maccabi in South Africa, Juniors and Seniors alike, will join in our drive to see to it that South Africa's pledges are made good."

Of the fabulous Pinkie Danilowitz, Alf Blumberg said this: "I told Pinkie that if he won the Israel Bowls Championship, he could easily win the European Games Tournee. Pinkie won the Maccabiah Bowls Championship last year and he now also won the Bowling Singles Championship at the Empire Games".

Alf Blumberg said how happy he felt in the midst of so many outstanding sportsmen and Maccabi Club leaders from various parts of Great Britain. He assured the gathering that he would take back with him very pleasant memories and that his enthusiasm for Maccabi has been greatly stimulated as a result of his visit to Great Britain.

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Blumberg speaks of British Maccabi.

In the September 12th issue of "Maccabi Corner" (Zionist Record of Johannesburg) I find a report on the quarterly meeting held in Johannesburg earlier this month and which was addressed also by Max Spitz. In the course of his remarks, the Chairman, Alf Blumberg is quoted as saying this about his impressions of his recent encounter with Maccabi leaders in England: "...in contradiction to South Africa, Maccabi in Great Britain was organised on a club basis... the only weakness of British Maccabi, which was very strong numerically and internally, was an insufficient orientation towards sport in Israel. He recalled his interviews with Mr. Pierre Gildesgame, Chairman of the World Maccabi Union and head of British Maccabi, whom he described as a person with immense drive and devotion to Maccabi ideals which bordered on the fanatical."

Max Spitz is quoted as saying "...in South African circles, sport, Israel and Maccabi are synonymous ... In Israel the work of Maccabi was carried on through the efforts of persons who had dedicated themselves to the furtherance of the Movement despite the individual hardships entailed." He was pleased to see that South Africa had workers of similar calibre.

COMMENT:

Alf Blumberg must be reminded of the old saying that "one does not have to be 'messhuzz' to be a Maccabi enthusiast but, if one is - it helps..."

BELGIUM.

Herman Bochner writes:

Antwerp. Here work carries on normally. Our Table-Tennis Section is fully conscious of the fact that it is, and must remain, the champion of Belgium in the Division of Honour. This event was celebrated at a Banquet held in the Bourse Diamantaire last March, an occasion which was graced by the presence of Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, our Honorary President.

Our Gymnastic Section held a special Gala in which the best exponents of the Belgian Federation of Gymnastics have participated. Our Football and Swimming Sections continue their work under normal conditions, whilst Bridge and Chess have proved a great success, and the individual players' victories have gained notable publicity in all the National Newspapers.

Of Maccabi Brussels, Bochner has little to say and their report is, therefore, awaited from its Chairman, Mr. Guttman who, despite many letters addressed to him, persists in his silence.

It appears, however, that the Basketball team of Maccabi Brussels continues active. Proof of that was provided by a letter received recently at the European Executive H.Q. in London from M. Willy Maes, The Commissioner of Police of Berchem Ste. Agathe (a suburb of Brussels) Coach to the Maccabi Club in Brussels, in which he writes: (in a letter dated last June, addressed to Fred Worms):

"I was very surprised to hear that my modest activity for the benefit of the Basketball team Maccabi Brussels has earned the recognition of the Maccabi World Union, and I deeply appreciated the tribute you were good enough to pay to me. I am convinced that, apart from physical fitness, which sport provides, there is another aspect which is far more important, namely the creation of better understanding between men, regardless of race, colour or religion. It is this ideal and conviction that prompted me to undertake the work of coaching young Basketball players of Maccabi Brussels, and I am glad to say that I have not been deceived in my hopes and aspirations. Their spirit of friendship shown by them in the course of friendly competition, legitimate pride and their fair play, can well stand out as an example to many others. They prove courageous in combat, proud in their victories, correct in their deportment, as well as in their defeat. Above all, I consider them a group of good friends whom I am always happy to meet, and with whom I shall be glad to continue to fraternize."

FRANCE.

I have just received a Souvenir Brochure issued by Maccabi France as a memento of the 5th Maccabiah, in which France participated with a team about 50 strong. In addition to photographs of the individual teams, the brochure includes some interesting contributions by Mr. L. Kaminski, President of Maccabi France, Mr. Th. Haas, Chairman of the French Organising Committee of the 5th Maccabiah, as well as photographs of leading personalities who patronized French participation, comprising among others. M. Guy de Rothschild, President of the Fonds Social Juif Unifié, M. Billieres, Minister of Education, M. Roux, Director-General of the Department for Youth and Sports, M. Blumel, President of the Zionist Federation in France, etc.

Maccabi Paris has resumed publication of its monthly Bulletin, dated September. The one just received, reveals that Mr. E. Lefschetz, at one time President of Maccabi Paris, took over charge of the Football Sections. The Basketball Season is due to start shortly and the first match in the Coupe de France was to be played on September 14th. Matches for the championship of Paris are expected to begin in October. The Maccabi Paris Basketball team will be playing in the Division of Honour and Mr. Zas, Chairman of the Section, calls upon all players to get down to serious training sessions, the first of which has been fixed for September 9th.

Indoor Tennis is planned for the Winter Season. Training in Athletics under the leadership of Messrs. Garti and Vitenberg was due to commence on Sunday, September 14th. A well known player, M. Barouh, has joined the Table-tennis section and he, the Champion of France, 1958, should ensure that this section will attract many players. Last but not least, Maccabi Paris is holding its Annual Ball on October 19th at the Hotel Continental, to which all members of Maccabi Paris are cordially invited.

A Warm personal tribute.

In a moving personal letter, dated last July, my good friend, Leo Kaminski, President of Maccabi France, paid me a generous tribute on the occasion of my retirement from the Chairmanship of the European Maccabi Organisation. Knowing how to appreciate Kaminski's sincerity, I feel justified in quoting a few extracts from his letter to me reading: "Your appointment to the Chairmanship of the Maccabi World Union marks the beginning of a new epoch in our Movement. You knew how to win over the sympathy as well as the friendship of Maccabi leaders by your engaging personality and your limitless devotion. Maccabi leaders in Europe particularly admired your initiative, as well as your defiance of difficulties which have often beset European Territorial Organisations. You always came to their help at the right time. As soon as the last War was over, at the time when we were all still recovering from our wounds, you have roused the interest and sense of duty of all those who were saved from the catastrophes. It was your merit that marked a new period in the post-war revival of Maccabi. I am fully aware of the fact that in congratulating you on your elevation to the highest office in the Maccabi Movement, this event entails a loss to the European Organisation. But a Movement such as ours, which is based solely on voluntary workers, will continue to prosper so long as it is inspired by persons whose devotion and qualities of character have withstood all tests. I am profoundly grateful for everything you have done in the past, and hope that your future task will not tax your strength too much and prove to be over-bearing. I wish you, therefore, with all my heart, good health, strength and vigour, so that you may be able to carry on with your work for many years to come."

Thank you, my dear friend, Kaminski!

REPUBLIC OF EIRE.

The last report received from the Chairman of Maccabi Dublin, dated 1st April, was held over, together with many others, for reasons stated in my "Newsletter" No. 64. Much of the report, for which I am grateful to Mr. S.C.Cohen, Chairman of Maccabi Dublin, still contains news of topical interest. In February last, the Rugby Section celebrated the 25th anniversary of its establishment. A very successful and enjoyable Dinner was held at the club premises, at which the Guest of Honour was Dr. Bethal Solomons, well known Jewish Irish Physician, who was capped at Rugby for Ireland in 1909/10/11. Professor Leonard Abrahamson, past President of the Club and Herman Good, this year's President.

The thriving Soccer Section has three active teams playing regularly and whilst early in the year they met with no great success, there has been a spectacular improvement since then. The team should attain a very prominent position in their respective League during the 1959/1960 season.

Norman Cohen, former member of Dublin, who recently joined a London Maccabi Club, won the open Irish Championship for Wrestling in the Featherweight Class. Enthusiasm for Winter Indoor activities is lacking. The Table-tennis section is functioning but it has not met with the success it did in former years.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club held on Sunday, April 13th, was well attended and a number of controversial subjects were discussed. In his Chairman's Report, Mr. Cohen complained of the apparent apathy of our youth who are obviously most anxious to take an active part in the sporting amenities offered to them, and who derive a considerable amount of pleasure from the club, but who, unfortunately, are not prepared to devote any of their energies or time towards the running of it. The Chairman warned them of the danger of the club deteriorating should such help not be forthcoming. His plea met with some initial reward as quite a number of members accepted nomination for the Central Committee, resulting in a keen election. S.C.Cohen was re-elected Chairman, Jack Roberts, Treasurer and J. Marcus, General Secretary (86, Donore Terrace, South Circular Road, Dublin.)

The address of the Dublin Maccabi Association's Club-House and Sports ground is:

Kimmage Road, W. Dublin.

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Some time ago, the Central Council of Dublin Maccabi Association decided on a proposed extension to the premises in order to attract more adult membership. The plans have already been submitted for tender, but the general feeling at the General Meeting was that this may involve the club in a financial burden which, during the present economic recession would be unwise to undertake. The matter was left in abeyance for further study.

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MACCABI NETHERLANDS.A new Chairman - welcomed.

Benno Hess has been succeeded last July in the office of Chairman of Maccabi Netherlands by Major J. Glaser. I am informed that Major Glaser is 43 years old, a regular officer in the Dutch Army, in which he has served for the past 22 years. At present he holds the office of Director of the Department of Personnel Publicity at the War Ministry. Before the last war, Major J. Glaser served in the Dutch East Indies and for about 3 1/2 years was a prisoner of war of the Japanese. He returned to Holland in 1950. Major Glaser gained several war decorations and is also a Knight of the Order of Oranje-Nassau. This honour was bestowed upon him by Queen Juliana in 1955.

Glaser is no stranger to sports, as at various times he participated actively in Football, swimming, tennis gymnastics and athletics. Ten times he participated in the International 4 days distance marches. At present he is mainly interested in gymnastics, athletics, tennis and swimming and, of course, in Maccabi activities generally. Married, he is the Father of 4 children.

Three of his children are members of Maccabi clubs, except for the youngest one who is... too young - barely 5 years old.

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Benno Hess assures us of Major Glaser's sincerity and devotion to Maccabi ideals. He will give him the benefit of his experience as he will also serve as his mentor and adviser. Whilst Major Glaser will devote all his attention and energies to Maccabi activities in the Netherlands, Benno Hess, who is a well known member of the World Executive, will act as "Minister for Foreign Affairs" on behalf of Maccabi Netherlands. Benno assures me that "Maccabi work will be continued under Glaser's leadership and I am quite confident that it will go on improving to the satisfaction of all."

Anyone wishing to communicate with Major Glaser can address communications to:

Cremerstraat, 13, Voorburg (Z.H.) Holland.

* * *
Letters of congratulations and of welcome were addressed to Major Glaser by Lionel Schalit, recently elected Chairman of the European Maccabi Organisation, by Fred Worms, Honorary Secretary, as well as by myself and others. We wish Glaser success in his endeavour and achievements.

* * *
Looking through my file, I find letters from Benno Hess, dated March, April and May, in which he reports that Maccabi Netherlands' first Table-tennis team has been promoted to the First Division of the Netherlands Table-tennis Federation. We hope that they will stay the champions for many years to come.

* * *
A new Maccabi group was inaugurated in "Het Gooi", a locality in the neighbourhood of Amsterdam. Fifty members joined immediately. On that occasion, Leo Horn the well known International and Maccabiah Football Referee welcomed the new group and Benno Hess spoke to them also words of encouragement. The Netherlands Yom Ha'Maccabi was organised on the 18th May with Tennis games prominently featuring in the programme.

SWITZERLAND.

Oskar Messely reports:

The Annual Maccabi Sports Day. In excellent weather the traditional Maccabi Meeting took place in Basle on 15th June last, in which 200 male and female athletes of different age groups took part. Competitions were held in the following events: Track and Field, Basketball, Football, Volleyball and Handball. In the latter event, Hakoah Maccabi Vienna also participated. Junior athletes were very promising and the Technical Commission of Maccabi Switzerland can look to the future with confidence. It is true that no records were broken and none of the results achieved created a sensation. The spectators were compensated, however, by a spectacle of keen and ambitious competitors. Most prizes were won by members of Maccabi Basle, including the "Dr. Levailant Team Prize" for the Pentathlon. In Football, Maccabi Zurich surprised us all by winning the Challenge Cup, whilst the challenge prize presented by the "Israelitisches Wochenblatt" was won by members of Maccabi Zurich who were victorious in the 4 x 100 metres relay.

There were also interesting Basketball results in which the ladies' team of Maccabi Zurich Ski Club excelled. The Male Basketball Competition was won by Maccabi Berna, despite strong opposition from other teams. Maccabi Zurich won also the Volleyball match, which was not surprising, as this team has never been beaten in the past few years. In a three-cornered Handball competition, Hakoah-Maccabi Vienna won by defeating in the final Maccabi Zurich. The Swiss Handball players who proved rather unlucky in the Maccabiah Games showed quite excellent form this time. They can look forward with confidence to the European Maccabi Games to be held in Copenhagen next year.

At the conclusion of the Sports Meet, a Reception was held at the new Community Centre in Basle. In the absence of David Neufeld, President of Maccabi Switzerland, who was in London attending the European Conference, Mr. Adolf Spiegel (Treasurer) delivered an address on behalf of the Maccabi Executive in Switzerland.

Just before the Summer holidays, Swiss Maccabi competitors were engaged in two important events, one in Geneva, where three Basketball teams participated, namely, Hakoah-Geneva, Isil-Lausanne and Maccabi Berne fought for the Challenge Cup of the Federation of Jewish Communities. It was a very close competition, all teams fought keenly and have shown considerable progress, as a result of intensive training. The Geneva team, which included quite a number of American students, were declared winners.

* * *

A veteran - still going strong.

Erich Burgheimer, a past President of Maccabi Switzerland, wrote to me recently reminding me that he was no 67 years old and yet ... "I prefer outdoor sports to conferences, and am very happy that my physical condition still enables me to produce fairly good sports performances, particularly so in long-range fast walking. I love it and it keeps me fit physically and mentally. Next to sports my hobby is journalism. I am busy writing 50 years of history of the Maccabi Movement in Zurich." (Erich Burgheimer has recently walked 10 kilometres in 78 minutes, the best previous performance being 80 minutes).

* * *

AUSTRIA.

The Sports Club Hakoah (Maccabi) Vienna, which was founded in 1909, has recently elected Erich Singl as its President. Three Vice-Presidents were also elected, comprising, Karl Haber, Hans Mantel and Dr. Martin Vogel.

* * *

I was pleased to receive the September issue of the News Sheet published by the Sports Club Hakoah (Maccabi) Vienna. The Preface was written by Vienna's Chief Rabbi, Dr. Akiba Eisenberg, extending to all Hakoahners his good wishes for the New Year.

We are also informed that the Hakoah Club Vienna will be celebrating, early next year, its 50th anniversary. Preparations are already in hand to turn this anniversary into a festive occasion. Many Maccabi friends from near and afar will be receiving invitations to attend.

Hakoah-Vienna intends also participating in the European Maccabi Games, due to be held in Copenhagen in August, 1959. The News Sheet also contains reports about activities of various sections such as Gymnastics, Handball, Swimming and Table-Tennis.

The address of the Secretariat of Hakoah-Maccabi Vienna is:

Seitenstettengasse, 4,
Vienna, 1.

The office is open every day, except Saturdays and Sundays from 2.p.m. till 3 in the afternoon. The Telephone number is 637311.

* * *

Their best Handball team participated in the Sports Meet organised by Swiss Maccabi in Basle on June 15th last.

* * *

GREAT BRITAIN.

A Father and Son have much to do with the success of the Brighton & Hove Maccabi Football team. Thirty-nine year old George Gunn is Brighton's Goalkeeper, one of the best in the history of the Club. His Son is 17-year old Michael whose consistently good displays have given him a prominent place in the team as left-half-back. Father and Son have reached a workable agreement. Mr. Gunn said: "I give Michael instructions but he does not advise me, because Michael is a good boy"...

* * *

Debra Turner, 17 year-old girl, winner of several Gold Medals in the 5th Maccabiah, member of the Brixton Maccabi Youth Club in London, has been chosen to represent the London Schools in an Athletic Match against Frankfurt Schools in Germany during September. She won the 100 metres race in 12.2 seconds and her team won the 4 x 100 metres Relay Race.

Maccabi in Great Britain mourns the death of Louis Golding, the well known novelist and author of many books, most notable among them being "Magnolia Street". Mr. Golding was a lover of sport and has shown particular interest in Boxing. For many years he has been Vice-President of the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and patron of many of its clubs. The "World Press News" in London recalls that Louis Golding took part in a "Brains' Trust" held at Maccabi House in London where he was asked: "What do you think of trial marriages?" Louis flashed out: "All mine have been failures"...

Mr. H. Golombek, three-times British Chess Champion, has consented to become President of the Maccabi Chess Club in London. The Club has been elected a member of the London Chess League.

Last June, Maccabi Union, Southern Area Lawn Tennis Championships were held on the Tennis Courts at the Maccabi Stadium. Outstanding among the players was Miss Joy Gillman, of Brighton Maccabi who won three titles. Miss Gillman has recently been elected a member of the National Executive and in addition to being Chairman of her Club, she is now also Editor of the "Maccabi Mirror" - the official publication of British Maccabi.

The 21st anniversary of Newcastle Maccabi Association was celebrated in Newcastle last June. Guests of Honour included Geraldine, Lady Strebolgi, a national Vice-Chairman, Aubrey Scott, Vice-Chairman of the Maccabi Union, and Pierre Gildesgame, Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive. Mr. David Bloom, President of the Club, Mr. Black, Chairman of its Management Committee, Mr. Ben Speker, Chairman of the club, and others, were among the speakers during the dinner held in the local Communal Hall. Over 150 guests participated and a sum of £1,000 was raised to assist the club in its programme of extensions. Newcastle Maccabi have their own club premises as well as playing fields and tennis courts.

Birmingham Maccabi Association is due to enter a new era. They will share premises with the Birmingham Hillel House - a Home provided by the local community for the benefit of Jewish Students studying at the Birmingham University. Members of the Birmingham Maccabi club will be able to use the club premises on three nights a week and an adjoining large-sized garage will, in due course, be rebuilt to serve as an indoor Gymnasium.

Leicester Maccabi Association will shortly instal central heating on its premises at Upper Tichborne Street. Maccabi House in Leicester now provides accommodation for about 100 members and Stanley Lidiker, until recently Chairman of the Club, had resigned so as to be able to devote more time to the promotion of a Junior Section for members aged 12 to 16 years. Maccabi House in Leicester is also placed at the disposal of other communal organisations such as W.I.Z.O., the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen, etc., who hold their committee meetings at such times when the club is not occupied by its regular members.

Maccabi House Manchester is also undergoing several improvements and its membership has recently increased as a result of the better amenities provided for them.

Negotiations are proceeding with the Glasgow Jewish Institute in the hope that their premises will be made available to Maccabi members in Glasgow.

A property has recently been acquired in Upper Clapton Street, London, for East London Maccabi Association who have been without a home for several years past. The premises, which will undergo considerable structural alterations and repairs, will also be suitably decorated. The Chairman of the Club, Aubrey Scott, is confident that as soon as the club will open its doors, its membership will rise to about 500. The name of the club will be changed and will henceforth be known as the North-East London Maccabi Association. The sum of £3,000 is being spent in connection with this scheme.

Mike Labulter won the Maccabi 50-mile time trial cycling championship and established the first Maccabi record for the distance with a time of 2 hours 19 minutes 3 seconds. The Maccabi 25-mile Champion, M. Jacobs retired at 20 miles.

Chairman's Newsletter

Maccabi Association (N.W.) London, will shortly be proceeding with the erection of a Gymnasium for its Junior members now numbering 250, at the cost of over £10,000.

It is hoped that, in the course of the next 12 months, work will commence on the building of a Pavilion, Changing Rooms, Showers and other indispensable sanitary amenities on the site of the Maccabi Stadium at Hendon (London). The scheme is estimated to cost over £10,000.

It is worthwhile mentioning that the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain has consented to give assistance to all the above enterprises entailing an expenditure of several thousands of pounds. The Chairman of the Central Maccabi Fund, Mr. Jack Steinberg, and his Committee, look with favour upon the initiative and drive shown by Maccabi clubs in Great Britain, aimed at consolidating the Movement's position on this Island and at attracting larger numbers of Jewish Youth to Maccab's sports, cultural and social activities.

The Central Maccabi Fund has recently sponsored the Premiere of a West-End Theatre Show, in which the famous comedienne, Miss Beatrice Lillie plays the leading role. A profit of over £2,000 has been realised. Later on this year the Central Maccabi Fund will be publishing the first edition of the "Maccabi Year Book, 1958". In addition to editorials and articles of general interest to sympathisers of Maccabi, the publication will contain a large number of advertisements contributed by supporters and sympathisers of the Movement in Great Britain. It is estimated that this publication will yield an income of about £4,000.

I would remind all my readers that, thanks to the good work of the Central Maccabi Fund, and to one of its principal promoters Mr. Aubrey Scott, Maccabi clubs throughout Great Britain have been financially assisted for many years past and will continue to receive such assistance as they will deserve. It has always been the policy of Maccabi in Great Britain to encourage clubs to become self-supporting and not to rely on outside aid. Considerable progress has been made in this direction and it is true to say that the majority of clubs live up to our expectations. There are instances, however, where major capital expenditure is required for the provision of premises and other facilities which the clubs cannot afford.

Time and again the work of the Central Maccabi Fund in Great Britain has been given much publicity in the hope that Maccabi Territorial Organisations in other lands will follow its splendid example.

BELGIUM.THE WORLD EXHIBITION IN BRUSSELS - PAVILION OF ISRAEL AND THE MACCABIAH.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors must have admired the Israeli Pavilion at the Brussels Exhibition and were impressed by what they have seen there. A variety of means is being used by each country to show its achievements in the spheres of social services, science, industry and commerce, emphasizing the highlights in the recent history of their national life all of which is understandable propaganda. In this respect, the Israeli Pavilion has excelled itself. The Jewish National Fund (Karem Kayemet le'Israel) is exhibiting an excellent colour film with a well-spoken running commentary, featuring many aspects of life in Israel. Towards the end of this documentary spectators are shown a sequence, running about 4 or 5 minutes, of the 5th Maccabiah, the Opening and Closing ceremonies, with teams of 22 nations smartly marching past the Tribune of Honour, in the presence of over 50,000 spectators crowding the Ramat Gan Stadium. The Maccabiah Games thus become one of the most spectacular show-pieces in the annals of the modern State of Israel.

AUSTRALIA.

Mrs. Suzy Javor, of Melbourne, the Victorian and Hakoah (Melbourne) Table-Tennis champion, became last week-end the Australian national women's singles table-tennis champion for the first time. In the semi-finals she met the former Australian national champion, Dorly Shipp, who visited Israel last year as a member of the Australian Maccabiah team.

NEWS FROM ISRAEL.

Maccabi-Haifa Football team to tour New Zealand?

Some 20 newspaper clippings have reached me recently of reports appearing in New Zealand papers during June, the contents of which disturbed me very much, particularly so as I had heard nothing on this subject from Israel. I can only assume that the proposed tour by Maccabi-Haifa has been cancelled for financial reasons and that this has had nothing to do with the decision to suspend the Israel National Football team, due to undisciplined behaviour displayed by it at the Asian Games held in Tokyo last May. The "New Zealand Herald" of Auckland reports: "The tour of New Zealand by the Israeli Soccer club Maccabi-Haifa later this season is now definitely cancelled. The Secretary of the New Zealand Football Association said he had sent a cable to the club advising that New Zealand unable to continue with the tour. The reason was that Australia had refused to accept any games from the team and so help defray the heavy cost of air fares."

The "Wellington Evening Post" reports of the receipt of a cablegram from Maccabi-Haifa reading: "Regret deeply due to unforeseen difficulties Maccabi tour cancelled."

According to the Treasurer of the New Zealand Football Association, the tour of Maccabi Haifa was to cost about £10,000 in fares and about £1,600 in hotels, not including internal travelling expenses and pocket money.

Another Maccabiadd?

About 700 Betar youth, including small delegations from Betar movements in Belgium, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, the United States, South Africa, Turkey and Australia, participated in the opening ceremony of the first "Betariada" - six days of sports events and other activities - at Natanya.

INDIA.

Maccabi Bombay.

Sam Marshall reports that the local club continues activities in Track and Field, Swimming, Water-Polo, Hockey, Badminton, etc. Occasionally Dances and Dramatic performances are also held. Efforts are being made for the creation of Junior Sections for boys and girls aged 8 to 13 years. At Marshall's request for material with respect to the promotion of Junior age groups, I have sent him copies of my booklet entitled "Maccabi's aims and Objects" which I trust he found of interest. The receipt of further reports from Maccabi Bombay will be appreciated.

FINLAND.

K. Ancker, Chairman of Maccabi Helsinki, reported early in September on a meeting between Maccabi Helsinki and Maccabi Turku, the only two clubs in Finland, at which united action to strengthen the Movement has been discussed and decided upon. Ancker was elected to represent Finland on the World Council, succeeding A. Livson who resigned. Among other matters, the meeting decided to run a Winter Camp for Junior members aged 10-15 years at Erikilä's Sports Institute in which some 50 juniors will participate. Emphasis, in the course of future activities of Maccabi Finland, will be laid on the promotion of Junior Sections. I. Baran, now 30 years-old, who participated twice in Maccabiahs, continues to run in 100 metres races. R. Rubin, double gold medallist of Maccabian Games, often participates in Wrestling Contests. Bowling (American version) attracts Senior members and about 30 of them have participated in weekly training. Bowling is a very popular game in Finland and Maccabi bowlers are also members of leading Finnish clubs. (South African please note!). Two Football teams comprising mainly junior members are being formed under the supervision of a Finnish International Coach. A new Clubhouse has recently been acquired and, although smaller than the previous one, it is considered adequate to accommodate members of Maccabi Helsinki for their indoor activities and meetings. Maccabi Helsinki hopes to participate in the Copenhagen Maccabi European Games and Ancker promises to give what help he can to the organisers, as and when called upon to do so.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS LETTER

NO. 66

הסתדרות עולמית מכבי

MACCABI WORLD UNION

WORLD EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS

47 Nachmanli Street, Tel-Aviv, Israel



Published in London by F. Gildesgame

337 Kuston Road, London, N.W.1

Dear Friends,

November/December, 1958.

Editorial Comment.

MACCABI LEADERSHIP.

Devoting, as some of us do, considerable time, thought and energies to the promotion of the Maccabi Movement, the more optimistically-minded among us count their blessings and seem highly satisfied with the results achieved so far. This is a natural phenomenon. Without such a sense of satisfaction, continued endeavours would be lacking in stimulant. At the same time, it must be admitted that views so held are, to a large extent, parochial. They reflect the views and opinions of those valiant and dedicated Maccabi leaders who work either for the benefit of a particular club or a Territorial Organisation. I am often worried by this state of affairs for, in a World Movement such as ours, we must be able to rise above local or Territorial level and view the position, as well as assess it, by different standards.

The numerical strength of a club, or of an entire organisation, - important though it may be as a yardstick by which to measure the success of the Movement - is not a reliable criterion of its "quality", if such a term can be used in this context. I know of a good many Maccabi clubs in Europe and elsewhere who are fortunate in possessing fairly adequate premises, in addition to facilities for training in indoor and outdoor sports. They may even have a large and enthusiastic membership engaged in a variety of activities. But what of its leadership? What of the emphasis placed on Youth Education in general and of a Jewish content, in particular? It occurs to me that many of our contemporary Maccabi leaders, whilst excelling in organisational ability, often have little understanding for Maccabi's aims and objects, or attach little importance to instilling Maccabi ideology into their members still of an impressionable age.

Time and again, news reaches me of the fortunes, or misfortunes, of



HAPPINESS AND HEALTH IN MACCABI

Yvonne Kayo, Maccabi international discus and shot champion, has recently announced her engagement to John Field, an outstanding Water-polo player.

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some clubs in various parts of the world, reporting on successes in various spheres of sports activities, but altogether leaving out any mention of their educational-cultural activities. By allowing our Movement to grow, unchecked and uncontrolled, we may find ourselves facing a deteriorated moral situation, for which there will be no remedy. Maccabi cannot, and must not, become just another organisation catering for Jewish Youth along the lines of a programme which is either improvised locally, or which is the outcome of a compromise. We all know that youth - and in this respect Jewish youth is no different from any others - must be attracted to clubs and held there by a variety of legitimate means. Modern youth is attracted to Youth Clubs known to be run successfully. What is a successful Youth Club, according to present-day conceptions? One that possesses nice and congenial premises, having a cheerful crowd of members, both boys and girls. The parents are glad in the knowledge that their children are not addicted to Television, that they are not frequenting doubtful Coffee Bars or Dance Halls, that they are not mixing with undesirable friends, etc., etc.

This is not a positive or constructive policy.

What the parents of our children must be told is that we are not running Youth Clubs so that their children may be kept off the streets, away from the Coffee Bars and the Dance Halls. To convince parents of our earnest intentions, as well as to do justice to the confidence which some parents have in Youth Leaders, we must train ourselves to run our Maccabi Clubs according to a positive and constructive programme of sports, cultural and recreational activities, regardless of whether the club premises (if they have such a thing at all) are sumptuous or modest, richly endowed or bare.

We have a duty, as well as a responsibility, towards our young generation. A duty to look after their welfare, physical and moral alike, and a responsibility insofar as the programme of education goes which, when properly applied, might well determine the formation of the character and the destinies of those thousands of youngsters entrusted to our leadership.

* * *

It is my considered view that leaders of Maccabi clubs everywhere ought to undergo a proper course of training. They must be made familiar with Maccabi's aims and objects, to which reference has been made on these pages on many previous occasions. Whether an individual be Chairman of a Club, member of its Executive, or leader of a section, he must be, above all, a man or woman of highest moral integrity, with a clean social record, and one whose dedication to the cause of youth welfare must be free from personal ambitions or a tendency to self-aggrandizement. Leadership of youth requires qualifications, as well as hard training, a sense of dedication and, above all, an understanding of the problem which is that of the happiness and welfare of fellow-human beings, of our co-religionists and fellow-Jews.

* * *

I have advocated the introduction of Leadership Courses on a good many occasions, both in writing, as well as in the course of my numerous public utterances. It is never too late to make that deficiency good. Anyone requiring guidance or assistance in this matter need not hesitate to write to the World Executive in London, or in Tel-Aviv. Tell us what your problems are and we will give you the benefit of our knowledge and experience.

THE 6TH MACCABIAH.

It is too early yet to discuss a detailed programme for the 6th Maccabiah. Regular readers of this "Newsletter" will have learned, from previous editions, of the changes that are to be made in the programme of events, as well as in the Opening and Closing ceremonies. This is as far as we could go.

But it is not too early yet to discuss the broad outlines which the organisation of the 6th Maccabiah will entail. For the sake of simplicity, the problem can be viewed from two different, somewhat inter-dependent aspects: internal and external.

By "internal", I mean in Israel. We have already been assured of the benevolent attitude of the Government, and of the Jewish Agency. How much practical help can be expected from these two quarters is a matter for speculation.

Reference has also been made in previous editions to negotiations between the Maccabi World Union and the Hapoel Sports organisation in Israel. Our hopes of an early and successful conclusion of these negotiations have, so far, not materialised. The failure cannot be attributed to the Maccabi World Union. Without wishing to recriminate in any way, but in order to present this matter in its proper perspective, it must be clearly stated, here and now, that, apart from a belated acknowledgment of the letter containing proposals submitted to the Hapoel organisation, no reply has, so far, been received and, therefore, the Maccabi World Union proposals have not, so far, been either accepted, or rejected. In a letter received from the General Secretary of Hapoel, a little while ago, (in response to several reminders) we were informed that the Committee of Hapoel was shortly to consider our proposals and would let us have their reaction. What Hapoel hopes to gain by their delaying tactics is a matter upon which I prefer not to comment. Suffice it to remind you that Hapoel were anxious to conclude negotiations in December, 1958. Zero hour has not yet been reached, but is it not the 11th hour?

I am confident that other problems of an internal organisational nature will be overcome by the organisers of the 6th Maccabiah. The Ramat Gan Stadium, in addition to the reconstructed Maccabiah Stadium in Tel-Aviv, will be available, as before. There will be the suitable venues for outdoor competitions, with the possible exception of Tennis Courts, which are sadly lacking in Israel. Venues for indoor competitions will be better than in previous years and a co-ordinated effort will be made by a group of experts who know how to handle crowds, as well as cash.

It is to be hoped also that the 6th Maccabiah will be attended by far bigger crowds of tourists and supporters than ever before and, God willing, we will also succeed, with the help of the Israeli Government and of the Jewish Agency, in a promotion which, a few years ago, sounded like a dream, and which may well become a reality - A WORLD JEWISH YOUTH JAMBOREE.

The Maccabiah Village will soon undergo considerable developments under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Israel Rokach and his Board of Management. I do not propose to reveal here details of the development plan. I will do so as soon as action has been embarked upon. Accommodation for athletes will rank as a high priority, and so will the provision of food and of other amenities.

The Maccabi World Union have proved excellent as organisers of the Maccabiah - the World Jewish Sports Festival - and I have no doubt that the experience gained will stand them in good stead in 1961.

The "external" problems are manifold. Our first consideration must be the promotion and fostering of a friendly partnership with all those whose participation in the Maccabiah is both desirable and essential. Other organisations will, in this respect, rank equal with Maccabi Territorial Organisations, regardless of their size, and each potential participating country will be consulted on every facet of the Maccabiah preparations, providing each participant is also willing to make a contribution towards the ultimate success of the enterprise.

It must be an all-Jewish effort externally, as it must also be an all-Israeli effort internally.

It need not necessarily be an all-Maccabi World Union effort, for there are countries whose national teams are as important to us, from the point of view of participation, as are those whose participation is a foregone conclusion.

Colonel Harry D. Henshel, the distinguished veteran sportsman, a highly respected American, a proud Jew and fan of the Maccabiah games, likes to engage in friendly controversy with me. Despite repeated arguments, both verbal and written, I am glad to be able to say that we still remain close friends and, I hope, Maccabiah collaborators for many years to come. Colonel Henshel is free to hold views different from mine and, in his capacity of Chairman of the Committee for Sports in Israel he is, in duty bound, to convey to us also the official views of his committee's colleagues. But Col. Henshel's views are often diametrically opposed to those shared by my colleagues and myself and, to my regret, we have not, as yet, reached a basis for mutual agreement.

American participation in the Maccabiah Games, no longer creates a sensation; it is taken for granted. Having turned up some records, I find that the Americans participated in the first, as well as in the second Maccabiah Games in 1932 and 1935, long before the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel has been in existence. How could American Jewry and, for that matter, its athletic youth, exclude itself from a World Jewish Sports Festival such as the Maccabiah is, being held in Israel at 4-yearly intervals?

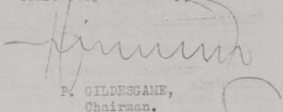
Colonel Henshel believes that the organisation of the Maccabiah ought to be entrusted to a body representing all Israeli Sports Organisations, and not exclusively the Maccabi World Union. With this view we agree. But he would like a prominent Israeli to be Chairman of the Maccabiah Organising Committee, and he suggested the names of several personalities, all of whom are known to be committed politically, or already involved with other Israeli Educational Institutions. Col. Henshel does not say that he would like to see the control of the Maccabiah taken out of the hands of the Maccabi World Union. But his plan, if accepted, could well produce such a situation. Not being a "fanatical" Maccabi leader himself, Col. Henshel refuses to accept the theory, as well as the historical reality, that the Maccabiah is a Maccabi World Union Institution, conceived and promoted by the Maccabi World Union since inception, and successfully run by the Maccabi World Union on five consecutive occasions. We do not propose "nationalising" the Maccabiah for the present and, therefore, it is not our intention to allow the Government of Israel to organise these games, which no Government Department has either the wish to do, nor, in my humble opinion, has an understanding for. By acceding to Col. Henshel's suggestion that the Maccabiah Organising Committee be run by an Israeli whom we know to be dedicated to the strongest Israeli Political party, we would be running the risk of the Maccabiah losing its character of an International Jewish Sports Festival; in the course of time it would bear the stamp and stigma of an Israeli Political Party or, at the best, of an all-Israeli promotion. We wish to uphold the character of the Maccabiah as a Sports Festival, organised for the benefit of Jews all over the world, whose sympathies for Israel do not come into question. We are concerned with the raising of the standard of competition in sports in the ranks of Jewish Youth everywhere and, so long as this is possible, we believe that the Games should be held in Israel, and be organised by a World Youth & Sports Organisation such as is Maccabi.

We wish to foster the spirit of partnership in the Maccabiah venture and, to ensure its success, we believe that early preparations are essential.

With Maccabi greetings,

P.S. I wish all my Maccabi readers and sympathisers of the Movement a Happy and Prosperous New Year, 1959.

Yours very sincerely,



P. GILDESGAME,
Chairman.

NEWS FROM MACCABI WORLD EXECUTIVE H.Q.

Maccabiah Stadium in Tel-Aviv - Important progress.

In a previous issue, I referred to negotiations between the Maccabi World Executive and Maccabi Tel-Aviv on the subject of the Maccabiah Stadium. I am now happy to announce that an agreement has been reached between the two parties in consequence of which the Maccabiah Stadium in Tel-Aviv will, henceforth, and until further notice, be developed and run by Maccabi Tel-Aviv under the auspices of a special and independent Board of Trustees. The Board is being officially registered whilst the property of the Stadium will remain vested, as heretofore, in the Maccabi World Union. The Board of Trustees will include among others such well known personalities as Mr. Levanon, Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Mr. Shtah, Chairman of Maccabi Tel-Aviv, and Mr. Yekutieli, "Father of the Maccabiah Games". The Maccabi World Union will also be represented on the Board.

The following work has already begun on the grounds of the Stadium: repairs to existing buildings, to the exterior and interior fences, to the existing pavilions, as well as to the Running Track, and to the grounds themselves. The ground is being re-seeded with grass and several trees will be planted around the perimeter of the Stadium. It is also contemplated to provide seating accommodation for 20,000 spectators and to erect two main archways to allow the public to gain access to the Stadium.

The Hon. Secretary of Maccabi Tel-Aviv, Mr. A. Kahana, informs me that the first part of the work should soon be completed at the cost of £245,000. It is, therefore, to be hoped that in a year's time, the plan, as envisaged jointly by the Maccabi World Union Executive and Maccabi Tel-Aviv will be completed in good time, before the next Maccabiah takes place.

I have just received a photograph showing a bulldozer raking up the ground of the Maccabiah Stadium. This is not the work of destruction. Anyone looking at this photograph cannot help remembering that this Stadium had witnessed the 2nd Maccabiah Games - the first to be held in Palestine in 1935. It was for this reason that it was named the "Maccabiah Stadium". It is hoped that it will serve as a training ground for Israeli athletes as well as a stage for the display of sporting prowess of Maccabiah competitors for many generations to come.

LIVELY ACTIVITY IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

I am glad to be able to report on lively and constructive activity during the past few weeks. World Executive members in Israel held frequent meetings at which current matters and future planning were being discussed and action upon several decisions instituted. I wish to report on some of the more important developments about which I am in daily correspondence with Tel-Aviv.

Maccabi World Congress.

It has now been decided that the 14th World Congress shall be held in Tel-Aviv, or Jerusalem, some time at the end of October, 1959. Official confirmation of the final date will be available as soon as consultations with Territorial Organisations have been concluded.

Maccabiah Village Project.

It can now be confirmed that Mr. Israel Rokach, well known for many years as Mayor of Tel-Aviv and a member of the Knesset, and one of the veteran citizens of Israel, has now been nominated, and unanimously elected as Chairman of the Board of the Maccabiah Village Trustees. Mr. Gershon Gurewitz, the first Chairman of the Board, has resigned, due to pressure of work and to other public and business engagements. Mr. Elishu Isachson, has been elected Honorary Treasurer. Mr. Joshua Kadari will serve as Honorary Secretary of the Board and Liaison Officer between the Board and the Maccabi World Union Executive, of which he is a member.

Merkaz Kupath Cholim "Maccabi"



Head Office of the "Kupath Cholim-Maccabi" in Tel-Aviv.

How many readers of this "Newsletter" know what the above title conveys? In order to enlighten my readers on a very important Maccabi activity in Israel, I deem it necessary to offer a full explanation. "Merkaz Kupath Cholim" means "Sick Fund Centre". Many Israeli organisations have their own Sick Funds, for the benefit of their members and their families. So has Maccabi-Israel. In addition to medical help and assistance dispensed by it, the Maccabi Kupath Cholim grants also loans, free of interest, to its bona-fide members, or to clubs throughout Israel, for what is known as "constructive purposes". The annual Budget of this organisation is in the region of 2 million Israeli pounds, most of its income being derived from members' fees, that is, from the beneficiaries of the Sick Fund. The Maccabi-Israel Sports organisation receives an annual grant from the Sick Fund of about £2.25,000.

The "Kupath Cholim" has recently completed the erection of a building which serves as its Headquarters. A photograph of this building is shown on this page. The building is situated at No. 10, Balfour Street in Tel-Aviv, and consists of 4 floors. The Ground Floor accommodates the following: the Electro-Physiotherapy and Orthopaedic-Physiotherapy Department; the Nurses' Quarters and the Central Pharmacy. The First floor comprises Reception and Waiting rooms for the public, as well as the quarters for the Senior Medical Officer and his administrative staff. The Second floor accommodates the Accounts Department, the Medical Management, as well as a large assembly room. Attached thereto is a Canteen and Refreshment Rooms for employees and visitors. The Top Floor of the building, yet to be completed, has been provided for the Out-Patients Department and is additional to the old building of Kupath Cholim, situated opposite the new one. It is expected that when the National Health Insurance scheme will be introduced in Israel, the Kupath Cholim will have to cater for many more patients than heretofore. Unlike other Sick Fund organisations, Maccabi receives very little assistance from the Government or from Municipal Bodies.

Some rooms have been placed at the disposal of the Maccabi World Union Executive and the Merkaz Maccabi-Israel. It is noteworthy to mention that, early last month, the first meeting of the World Executive was held there.

Kupath Cholim is the third largest organisation of its kind in Israel.

In a report received some time ago from Dr. E. Freudenthal, Head of Kupath Cholim (the administration of which is in the able hands of our colleague, Mr. Uri Nadav) he outlined to me ways and means whereby overseas Maccabi organisations can help in the growth and development of this institution. Dr. Freudenthal very rightly points also to the help which Kupath Cholim is already giving to the Maccabi organisation in Israel, and the further considerable assistance which it could give to the Maccabi World Union in a variety of ways. Dr. Freudenthal's idea, which he discussed, during his recent visit to London, with my colleagues Schalit and Worms, and with myself, are sound, and I feel confident that some form of co-operation should be considered, at an early date, which promises to benefit all concerned.

Anyone visiting Israel this year, or next, would do well to go to 10, Balfour Street, where he will be received cordially by Dr. Freudenthal and Mr. Uri Nadav, and shown around the premises and organisation of the Kupath Cholim, of which we can all be truly proud.

Under Mr. Rokach's dynamic leadership, it is hoped that the fund-raising campaign in Israel will soon be launched with, as target, IL.100,000. It is confidently expected that Mr. Rokach and his colleagues will make every effort aimed at developing the Village so that the project may be almost completed by 1961. It will be recalled that South Africa promised to contribute £5,000 sterling towards the scheme and, according to Mr. Alf Blumberg, Chairman of the South African Maccabi Council, their pledge is to be honoured within the next year or two. An appeal for funds will also have to be launched in other overseas countries who have not, so far, contributed anything towards the Village project.

th Maccabiah Debts.

This problem continues to be prominent on the Agenda of the World Executive meetings and it naturally hinders the Executive in its administrative work which, inevitably, entails a considerable outlay of money.

I am requested to appeal, once again, to Maccabi Territorial Organisations everywhere to pay, with least delay, the monies due, about which Mr. Caspi, Honorary Treasurer, has written to them on previous occasions.

Administration.

Mr. Opatka, the previous General Secretary, having resigned, has now been succeeded by Mr. Fistul, who has started work early in October. Judging by some of the communications received from Mr. Fistul, as well as the neat and lucid way in which minutes of Executive Meetings are composed by him, I hope that he will deserve of our confidence and support for many years to come. Individual members of the Executive, engaged in departmental duties, have carried on bravely, without Office Staff and, judging by the number of letters I have been receiving from them, during the past two months, I can say without hesitation, that the temporary inconvenience resulting from the absence of staff has, in no way, impeded the work of individual Executive members. Israelis have always excelled in improvisation and our Executive colleagues in Israel are no exception to the rule.

Jewish Agency.

Consequent upon conversations I had in London with Mr. Meir Grossman, Head of the External Affairs Department of the Jewish Agency, I have advised my colleagues to accept the grant of IL.2,500 from the Jewish Agency's Treasurer, merely "as a token of their earnest to support the Maccabi World Union in its arduous work." I have advised Dr. Dov Joseph of our decision on the matter and have, at the same time, suggested to my colleagues to submit, in the near future, a substantiated Budget of Income and Expenditure for the year, 1959.

Sports Policy.

I am informed by Dr. Robert Atlasz, who has recently returned from a trip around Europe, that he is busily engaged, assisted by some experts, on the preparation of draft proposals, comprising also a revised scheme for the Maccabi Proficiency Badge.

Youth Education.

It is to be regretted that, due to personal reasons, Mrs. Gusto Singer has not, as yet, submitted to the World Executive draft proposals for a Youth Education Scheme, to conform with Maccabi's Aims and Objects, consisting of a programme to be adopted by Maccabi branches, according to conditions prevailing in their respective countries. The Youth Department of the Jewish Agency, and notably the Head of the Department, Mr. Dobkin, promised me fullest co-operation, as indeed a start has already been made in Great Britain which augurs well for the future. Tentative arrangements, subject to confirmation by the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, have recently been discussed with Mr. Meir Ayali, Head of the Youth Department of the London

Office of the Jewish Agency. A suitable "Shaliach", known for his qualifications as a Youth Leader, is to be appointed, subject to Maccabi Great Britain's approval, by the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. He is to spend in England a minimum period of 2 years. His return fare is to be defrayed by the Jewish Agency, as well as part of his remuneration. Maccabi Great Britain will contribute towards the Youth Leader's remuneration up to about £350 per annum, as it will also defray all his travel expenses when visiting clubs in London and in the provinces. In addition thereto the Youth Department of the London Office of the Jewish Agency will select a number of Israelis studying in University cities to spend one or two evenings a week in local Maccabi clubs, helping members to learn Hebrew and teaching them Israeli Songs and Dances.

This latter scheme has already been introduced.

What can be done in Great Britain can be done equally well in other countries and, now that Great Britain has given a lead, it is to be hoped that Maccabi Organisations in other countries will take full advantage of the Jewish Agency's desire to assist us with our Cultural and Educational work.

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A deputation of World Executive members was due to see Mr. Dobkin at the end of November to discuss with him details of close and permanent co-operation with the Youth Department.

Sports Directorate.

I am grateful to Dr. R. Atlasz, Hon. Sports Director, for frequent news of his activities, as well as about the Sports Directorate which he has recently set up. He informs me that he is in regular touch with some Territorial Organisations concerning their individual problems. Maintenance of this contact provides him with important data in his endeavour to compile, not only a sports programme, details of which are to be announced before long, but also of a scheme for the award of the Maccabi Proficiency Badge. I reassured Dr. Atlasz, insofar as the cost entailed in the provision of well-designed badges, having promised him that the necessary money will be found as soon as the project has been approved and the design for the various badges adopted.

Publicity resumed.

Mr. Alexandroni, who has recently resumed activities on the World Executive, will assist in the publication of a Bulletin which will contain news of interest to Maccabi sportsmen and which will also outline Dr. Atlasz' sports policy and the Proficiency Badge scheme.

Dr. Atlasz is taking a very personal interest in the South American Maccabi Games, to be organised in 1959. He is in close touch with Mr. L. Schalit concerning the European Games to be held in Copenhagen next year. Likewise, he is concerned about the success of the tour of South African sportsmen to Israel next year, and he feels confident that a full programme will be drawn up in co-operation with Maccabi-Israel to make the South African tour useful, interesting and memorable.

Mediterranean Games again?

In a letter dated November 11th, Dr. Atlasz advises me that official information has reached him that, contrary to all expectations, the next Mediterranean Games are to be held, after all, in Beirut, Lebanon. The Israel Olympic Committee and Sports Federation have been duly informed and Dr. Atlasz is urging them to make early representations consistent with the general policy of the International Olympic Committee not to exclude Israel from future Mediterranean Games.

MACCABI EUROPEAN GAMES.

Lionel Schalit, Chairman of the European Maccabi Executive, reports: The date of the Games in Copenhagen has now been finally fixed: Sunday 16 to Wednesday 19th August inclusive (1959). Participating teams will be expected to arrive at Copenhagen on 14th August, which is a Friday. The following day, on Shabbat, there will be a service at the Synagogue and on Sunday, August 16th, the Athletic meeting will take place at the Stadium. It is hoped that competitions will be arranged in the following events: Athletics, Swimming, Football, Lawn Tennis, Table-tennis, Wrestling, Weight-lifting, Fencing, Basketball and Handball. At least three entries will have to be received for an event to take place.

The Annual European Conference will also be held in Copenhagen following the closing of the games, that is on the 20th and 21st August.

The European Games have aroused considerable interest in Maccabi sporting circles throughout Europe. It is hoped that an Athletic Invitation Tournament will also be included in the programme, in which case, a team of Maccabi athletes from Israel will participate.

CLAIMS CONFERENCE.

Elsewhere in this "Newsletter" a brief report is published of a conversation I had with Mr. Saul Kogan, on the subject of an application I sent to him on behalf of Maccabi clubs on the Continent of Europe, requiring help and assistance for the provision of Youth Centres. I have now heard from Mr. Louis Kraft, in Geneva. I deem it necessary to quote a few extracts of Mr. Kraft's letter which, I am sure, will be found of great interest to Maccabi leaders in Europe:

... "You are already familiar with the arrangement in Antwerp, where the Conference has some time ago encouraged the establishment of a Jewish Center which would include provision for the basic program of Maccabi. A proposal is now before the Conference for a specific building project, including a regulation size gymnasium and auxiliary facilities; Maccabi will it is expected, be able to carry on its primary indoor activities in the Center and at the same time benefit from the cultural and social program which, it is hoped, will be conducted by the Center. I am quite sure that Maccabi alone could not finance the construction and maintenance of the building, nor the extensive cultural and social program that should be available to its members. By joining with other bodies in a Community undertaking, its own position is, I think you will agree, strengthened, its autonomy preserved and it can make a contribution to the general community program.

"In Amsterdam, there is currently under consideration the construction of a Center as a combined enterprise of the Hoofdsynagogue and Maccabi.

"In Brussels, the Youth Center, now nearing completion, will have a gymnasium, lockers and showers. There is sympathetic consideration being given to some suitable arrangement that would enable Maccabi, presently inactive, to become involved in the program.

"In Stockholm, Maccabi receives support from the Central Community body, Mosaiske, which is also considering plans to establish a Community Center to include, insofar as possible, better provision for Maccabi.

"In Copenhagen, Makoah has asked for a grant from the Claims Conference, towards the construction of its proposed Center, including a children's camp. The question will come before the Executive of the Claims Conference in the next few weeks.

"In Paris, there is, as you may know, a working relationship between Maccabi and the Youth Center. Maccabi meets weekly in the Center, each

News from Territorial Organisations

ISRAEL.

Israel Soccer team - tour of South Africa.

The South African Football Association has given permission to the South Transvaal Football Association to proceed with negotiations for the Israel Soccer tour in South Africa next July and August. In the November issue of the "Maccabi Corner" (which occupies a special column in the "Zionist Record", published in Johannesburg) Barney Kellen writes:

"Israel football is of a high standard - as witnessed by the Jewish team's sterling World Cup displays against Wales, both at Ramat Gan and in Cardiff this year. Our own standard will have benefited by the Springbok tour of Britain and to the Continent. There can be little doubt that the International Games between the Israelis and the Springboks will be even more exciting than that hard-fought tour when we saw South Africa beat the Israelis 2-1 at the Rand Stadium in June, 1954."

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Cricket.

Bernie Cohen, Chairman of the Israel Cricket Association is doing his best to see that this sport continues to flourish. The Tel-Aviv Cricket Club beat the British Embassy in a match at Tel Hashomer when they defeated the diplomats by 7 wickets. This match was watched by the British Ambassador, Sir Francis Rundall. The Tel-Aviv XI was composed of players from Israel, South Africa, India and England.

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Football.

The Israeli Football Association Appeals Committee met in Tel-Aviv recently having unanimously rejected the appeal which Petach Tikvah Hapoel made against the decision of the Football Association-League and Cup Committee that ruled the Club had lost its Israel Cup Game against Tel-Aviv Maccabi. It will be recalled that in the quarter-final encounter between the two clubs the game ended in the 43rd minute when Petach Tikvah players attacked the Referee, A. Dudai. The score at that time stood at 2-nil, in favour of Tel-Aviv Maccabi.

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The Israeli Soccer Cup semi-final Match was played between Tel-Aviv Maccabi and Tel-Aviv Shimshon in Haifa, and Haifa Hapoel against Ramat Gan Hapoel in Jerusalem.

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Tennis.

The Annual Israel national Tennis championship ended when Hanan Geva of Haifa and Mrs. Winkler won the Men's and Women's Singles respectively.

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A leading Polish Soccer team (of the city of Lodz) was due to play 4 matches against Israeli clubs during November.

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Mr. Shalom Zysman, Chairman of Maccabi-Israel, informs me that, whilst efforts continue to be made, aimed at bringing about an orderly and decent relationship between the various Soccer teams in Israel (Hapoel, Maccabi and others) some difficulties are still being experienced in connection with problems affecting Basketball. These problems are mainly due to friction among clubs, most notable of all being frictions between Beytar and Hapoel. Maccabi appears to be playing the part of Referee or mediator.

Mr. Zysman informs me that a drive is on hand in Israel to increase the number of Maccabi branches throughout the land, particularly in those parts of the country where new Settlements and Kibbutzim have been set up in recent years.

Postscript. I wish I could publish more frequent news from authoritative sources about sports activities in Israel generally and about Maccabi's in particular. I have, therefore, requested Mr. Zysman to ask either the Secretary of the Israeli Sports Federation, or of Maccabi-Israel, to send me regular reports so that I do not have to rely on newspaper versions which, to my regret, are not always accurate.

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SOUTH AFRICA.Ian Maltz elected Mayor of Johannesburg.

The Maccabi Movement of South Africa and Maccabi leaders and members the world over, have learned with delight and pride that South Africa's National President, Mr. Ian Maltz, has been elected Mayor of Johannesburg.

As announced in previous editions of this Newsletter, Ian has served, this past year, as Deputy Mayor of Johannesburg. During his term of office, he and Mrs. Maltz have earned the esteem and respect of all citizens of Johannesburg. His elevation to the office of Mayor was considered a foregone conclusion.

Together with Abe Hyman, Ian Maltz was the founder of Maccabi in South Africa, way back in 1935, when the South African sportsmen participated in the 2nd Maccabiah, held in Israel. During the years of his activity and dynamic leadership in the ranks of the South African Maccabi Council, Maltz endeared himself to all those who worked with him. In South Africa, his name is identified with everything that Maccabi stands for, and what it has achieved during two decades.

Maltz played an important part in South African sport. He is past Chairman and President of the South African Athletic and Cycling Association; he served also with distinction on the Board of the South African Zionist Federation. Everyone who knows Ian Maltz and his distinguished record of activities for the South African Jewish community, as well as on the Councils of the city of Johannesburg, will wish him a successful and fruitful term of office. As is well known, His Worship, the Mayor of Johannesburg has also been a member of Maccabi's World Executive since 1951.

The Maccabi Luncheon Club meet once a month. They have recently invited world famous athletes, Murray Halberg, as well as Gordon and Spirl Pirie, to be Guests of Honour at the Club's meeting on 13th November. The man responsible for arranging this is Lou Abrams, Chairman of the Wanderers Athletic Club, who is acting as the athletes' Manager during their stay in the Transvaal.

Abe Segal, won his first major South African Tennis Championship, having played magnificent Tennis last month, beating Gus Koenig in 4 sets in the final at Ellis Park. Southern Transvaal Singles championship ranks second only to the national title. It will be remembered that Abe Segal was a member of the South African Maccabiah team in 1953 and 1957, having distinguished himself on both occasions.

Maccabi "Meshugaa's".

Abe Treisman, who edited the "Maccabi Corner" issue of October 24th, commented on a statement made by me in the "Chairman's Newsletter" No. 65. He writes:

"Browsing through Pierre Gildesgame's latest Newsletter in search of topics of interest to Maccabi members, I came across the following quotation:

"One does not have to be meshuga to be a Maccabi enthusiast, but, if one is - it helps."

"This, in essence, epitomises the situation of Maccabi all over the world."

"Every movement of this type can exist only if its ideals create an intense and sincere enthusiasm among its administrators and the world-wide success of Maccabi is due to the fact that in every country there are found men sufficiently inspired to devote their time and attention to the furtherance of its ideals. The topic cropped up in this Newsletter out of a report in Maccabi Corner of Alf Blumberg's meeting with Gildesgame recently, when Maccabi Corner gave us his assessment of Pierre Gildesgame as a "person with immense drive and devotion to Maccabi ideals which bordered on the fanatical."

"Max Spitz, who recently addressed the Maccabi Council while in South Africa, pointed out that even where conditions of living are worst and time is at a premium, such as in Israel, there are men imbued with these ideals and the enthusiasm to propagate same. At that time, he paid

tribute to Alf Blumberg and his tribute is applicable to all South African administrators of the movement. As long as South Africa finds, as it has in the past, a steady flow of interested and enthusiastic administrators coming into its ambit, the future of the movement in South Africa will be secure.

"In his Newsletter, Gildesgame quotes extensively from the Maccabi Corner and publishes, without comment, our suggestion that possibly British Maccabi is insufficiently orientated towards closer relationship with sport in Israel. He points out, however, when discussing his interview with Alf and the 'Maccabi Corner' that inordinate emphasis is placed in South Africa on bowls, and it is possible that this aspect of South African Maccabi, while it is the strength of the movement, may also be a weakness in that preponderance of attention seems to be of sport for the senior sportsman. The time will yet come when South African Maccabi will have to shift its emphasis to the juniors and also the cultural aspect of Maccabi which is particularly strong in England.

"Incidentally, an interesting point arises in this Newsletter. We in South Africa were under the impression that the United States committee for Sports in Israel operated only on the occasion of the Maccabiah. Gildesgame reports that this committee is presently engaged on such projects as baseball for Israel, playing grounds for Israel, the Orde Wingate Institute for physical education, and others. We appear to have done our American friends an injustice."

That Man Pirie...

Southern Transvaal Maccabi arranged last month, at the Beaufort Park premises, a Reception to Pinkie Danilowitz and Alf Blumberg, fresh from their triumphs at the Empire Games in Cardiff. Approximately 200 bowlers gave them a royal welcome. Alf responded wittily to the speeches, whilst Pinkie maintained his "sphinx-like silence". Mr. George Crawford, President of the Southern Transvaal Association, paid tribute to Pinkie and Alf in a speech which was enjoyed by all present.

Pinkie honoured.

At the annual meeting of Rand Sportswriters' Society, Pinkie was proclaimed as one of the six South African Sportsmen of the year. The South African Sportsman of the Year will be elected at the annual banquet of the Sportswriters' Society to be held on December 2nd.

Before going to "press", I received a letter from Mr. Ian Maltz, Mayor of Johannesburg, reading as follows:

"Your letter of the 11th November, 1958, gave me a great deal of pleasure and I do appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending congratulations to me and to my wife.

"I look forward to the coming year and to the opportunities I shall have of being associated with Maccabi. Please accept for yourself and convey to the members of your Executive my warmest thanks for your thoughtful and friendly gesture.

With kind regards" etc., etc.

Mr. Hymie Bernstein, a well known Maccabi stalwart, has been elected Chairman of the I.U.A. campaign in Port Elizabeth. Mr. Bernstein was a member of the 1957 Maccabiah Games team and won his colours as a member of the Bowls contingent. He has always been in the forefront of Maccabi activities in the Eastern Province.

The part played by Maccabi leaders in some of the main centres of South Africa, in connection with fund-raising for Israel, is very impressive indeed.

The South African Maccabi Council's Annual Diary for 1959 has just been received. It is prefaced by a message from Alf Blumberg, the national Chairman, and Arthur Goldman, a member of the Executive Council and Press Officer of the Movement in South Africa, contributes an interesting article concerning the membership of Maccabi on the South African territory, which is at present 5,000 strong. This, he claims, means "That after 7 years of strenuous efforts, one in every 20 Jews in South Africa is a member of Maccabi." The target of our friends in South Africa is that one in every 10 Jews should be a member of Maccabi. So may it be before very long!

MACCABI IN SOUTH AMERICA. - An Interesting Report.

Aron Shamir, is the name of an Israeli Emissary (Shaliach) appointed by the Jewish Agency Youth Department in Jerusalem to help reorganise and consolidate the Maccabi Movement in the South American Continent. In a report, dated September of this year, to the World Executive in Tel-Aviv, Mr. Shamir writes (inter alia):

"I am glad to inform you that, despite the difficult financial position affecting Maccabi in Buenos Aires, and the debts which they have incurred in recent years, the Executive of Maccabi of this town has, in the course of one of its recent meetings, decided on positive steps designed to improve the position of the club in all respects. One of their principal decisions has already been carried into effect, namely, the purchase of a plot of land, upon which a new Maccabi House, large and adequate for their requirements, is to be built. This plot of land has been purchased in a district considered eminently suitable for the new building. Full credit for this initiative must be given to the Honorary Chairman of the Club, Mr. Dobri, for it is he who undertook to raise the necessary funds, without which the project could never materialise.

"I have also visited the Maccabi-Hakoah club of Montevideo, Uruguay. My visit coincided with the festivities arranged there on the occasion of the Club's 19th anniversary. I was greatly heartened to meet there Maccabi friends who appeared devoted wholly to our cause, prepared to do everything in their power to carry the flag of Maccabi proudly for many years to come. In fact, I have encountered the same reaction in all other corners of Latin-America, wherever Maccabi clubs or groups are to be found.

"The programme of the Maccabi Week Festival, which I have witnessed in Montevideo, was exceedingly well-produced; it has impressed all those present to witness it. Throughout my stay in Montevideo I felt like being among members of my own family. As it is the case in other Maccabi organisations overseas, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the club in Montevideo are hard-working fellows, devoting most of their leisure time in the service of Maccabi. The Maccabi club is centrally situated in town and is well provided with everything that the club requires, with one notable exception: they have not got a Gymnasium for indoor sports activities. They have a very suitable Basketball stadium, surrounded by concrete tiers to accommodate many hundreds of spectators. The Basketball stadium is situated outside town, a distance of about 15 minutes by motorcar; it has become the object of the club's pride, and no wonder, because it is one of the finest Basketball Stadia owned by an amateur team in this part of Latin-America.

"To enhance the anniversary celebrations, Montevideo has invited a Basketball team from Maccabi Santa Fe in the Argentine, against whom they competed. There were also table-tennis competitions. From both these events Montevideo emerged victorious. The atmosphere throughout the anniversary celebrations, which lasted a week, was excellent and friendly, and one could distinctly detect the Maccabi spirit throughout the ranks of those who participated in the competitions, as well as those who witnessed them. On the Shabbat day we organised a special Cultural Session, and I was pleased to address those present on Maccabi ideology, on our future task, as I have also drawn their attention to the desirability of teaching members of the club to speak Hebrew and to sing Israeli songs. In the course of the conversations held at Montevideo, a desire has been expressed by all present to convene a Latin-American Maccabi Congress in which delegates from various Maccabi clubs are to participate. Likewise, it has been tentatively decided to organise also a Second Latin-American Maccabiah to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the Maccabi-Hakoah Club in Montevideo next year."

Mr. Shamir gives also a brief account of the two Maccabi clubs operating in Bolivia under the moral leadership of a Mr. Aria Haskelovitz, who is a teacher of Hebrew at one of the local schools. Mr. Shamir draws the attention

of the World Executive to the necessity of maintaining a closer contact with Maccabi clubs throughout Latin-America. He adds: "Latin-American Jewry is well-organised and its youth constitutes excellent material for the Maccabi Movement. It would, therefore, be a pity if our South American Maccabi club leaders were to find themselves in a sort of "splendid isolation", or if they were not given the feeling that their work is appreciated by those who are responsible for the management of the World Movement".

Mr. Shamir urges the World Executive to write to the Chairmen of the various Maccabi clubs in South America, offering them what help and advice they may require, as well as to provide them with information concerning activities of Maccabi clubs in other parts of the world. In this manner a sense of belonging to the Maccabi Movement will be better fostered and "I am sure", Mr. Shamir concludes, "that by so doing, closer liaison will be established between our South American Maccabi friends and ourselves."

Since the above report has been received, Mr. A. Tory, Hon. General Secretary of the World Executive, mailed a full explanatory letter to Mr. Shamir, to acquaint him with Executive policy affecting Latin-American Maccabi Organisations. He also addressed individual letters to Mr. Haskelovitz at La Paz, in Bolivia, and to Maccabi leaders in Montevideo.

BELGIUM.

Antwerp Maccabi's activities.

A report dated October 15th contains the following interesting information:

Swimming Section has been going through a period of transition and of consolidation. On the average, about 175 children attend regularly training and satisfactory progress is being made. On November 29th, an International Swimming Gala is to be held in Antwerp, with the participation of Maccabi teams from Holland and France.

Soccer. Training is being intensified for the benefit of the young members of the club. A special effort is being made to strengthen the Senior Soccer team without calling upon members from other sections.

Gymnastics. Training in gymnastics has been resumed again. Members under the age of 12 seem very interested, but those above that age have shown little enthusiasm.

Table-tennis. Last year's victory of the Antwerp Maccabi Table-tennis team - champions of Belgium - continues to serve as an inspiration to this year's training. The first team has already won two matches this season. The second and third teams have won their first match.

Bridge. This Section is doing well and some of its players represent Belgium in International tournaments.

Basketball. A good trainer has been engaged and a team "worthy" of the name 'Maccabi' is in the process of formation.

Herman Bochner, Chairman of the Antwerp Maccabi Club, has recently called upon all sports sections to intensify the recruitment of school-children, and thus to form as many junior sections as possible, under the supervision of the Sports Committee. Transfer from one sports section to another will only be possible with the permission of the Sports Committee. Disciplinary measures are also to be introduced, giving power to the sports committee to suspend members from the activities in one or more sections.

Great interest is being shown by all Maccabi sports sections in Antwerp in the forthcoming European Maccabi Games, and Mr. Bochner believes that Belgium will be represented by a fairly large team.

BELGIUM. (Contd.)Mr. Romi Goldmuntz honoured.

To the many decorations and honours bestowed upon Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, Hon. Vice-President of the European Maccabi Regional Council, yet another has been added recently, as the French Government has conferred upon Mr. Goldmuntz the decoration of "Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur". Anyone familiar with Mr. Goldmuntz' activities as a citizen of Belgium and as a distinguished member of the Belgian Jewish community, will agree that no person has better deserved of such honours than he. Mr. Goldmuntz celebrated his 75th anniversary a year or so ago but, according to all accounts, he is still going strong. This untiring communal worker has done much for the Belgian Jewish community during the last war and the years that followed it. He has well deserved of the love, admiration and respect in which he is held by gentiles and Jews alike. May he be spared in good health for many years to come.

Royal Maccabi Club of Antwerp- Prospects for a "Home" good.

Mr. Romi Goldmuntz, Hon. President of the Club, informs me that he has recently proceeded to Geneva where he interviewed leading personalities connected with the Claims Conference and with the American Joint Committee. It is hoped that, as a result of Mr. Goldmuntz' representations, a substantial contribution will be made by the Claims Conference towards the creation of a "Maccabi Home" for the Antwerp Maccabi Sportclub. Mr. Goldmuntz informs me that, some time ago, the Antwerp City Council offered to Maccabi a piece of land on which to build their Clubhouse. The offer has been declined because the site has been considered unsuitable, as it was situated some miles from the centre of the city which younger members of Maccabi might find difficult to reach. Thereafter, an offer has been received from the Committee of the Antwerp Jewish Community (of which Mr. Sally Deck, a veteran Maccabi stalwart, is Honorary Secretary) of a site more suitably situated in the centre of the city. The offer was made conditional upon the building being so designed as to comprise also a Communal Hall. This offer has been accepted. I understand from Mr. Goldmuntz that the building, which is to be completed within about 2 years, will also include an Auditorium, capable of seating 800, a Library and Gymnasium, provided with Changing Rooms and Showers. The project is to cost approximately 15 million Belgian Francs. The "Goldmuntz Foundation" which was formed as a token of the Antwerp Jewish Community's gratitude to the "Grand Old Man" will be largely responsible for the promotion of the above project.

SWEDEN.Maccabi Stockholm.

This club will shortly be celebrating its 25th anniversary and I take this opportunity of conveying to them our heartiest congratulations. We hope to receive a report from Mr. Fuchs, Chairman of the Club, on some of their recent activities and plans for the future.

FINLAND.

Please note that all communications to this club are to be addressed to:

Makkabi r.y.,
c/o. K. Uotinen, Esq., Hon. Sec.,
Siltasarekatu, 24 A 4,
Helsinki,
FINLAND.

EIRE.Dublin.

The official opening of an extension to the premises of Dublin Maccabi, designed to cater for Senior members, was held in October.

Mr.H.Good, Chairman of Dublin Maccabi, who presided, said that the new facilities would make Dublin Maccabi, in the fullest sense of the word, a Centre for communal activities. The Opening Ceremony was performed by Mr.M.Jacobson and Professor L. Abrahamson, Chairman of the Representative Council of Ireland, also spoke. A lecture on "Culture and Emancipation" was given by Rabbi Dr.I.Cohen, of Edinburgh, who was visiting Dublin at the time.

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NETHERLANDS.

Mr.Glaser, Chairman, writes:

Yom Ha'Maccabi was celebrated towards the end of the Summer in the traditional manner. A programme in which Maccabi clubs from Amsterdam, The Hague, Deventer, Haarlem and Gooi participated, comprised events in Athletics, Table-tennis, as well as Lawn Tennis. Inter-club activities are on the increase and all these clubs show good promise. In The Hague, we acquired our own Indoor Swimming Pool. Thus our members will be able to train during the Winter months and our Juniors will learn to swim for the first time. The Rotterdam Maccabi activities include Swimming, as well as Volleyball and Table-tennis.

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Mr.Glaser was pleased to meet with Dr.R.Atlasz, Sports Director of the Maccabi World Union and Mr. Lionel Schallt, Chairman of the European Executive, in the course of their recent visits to Amsterdam.

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A Maccabi Worker thanked.

I have recently addressed the following letter to Miss v.d.Bergh of Amsterdam who has, for some years past, held the office of Honorary Secretary of Maccabi Netherlands:

"Dear Miss van der Bergh,

"I have recently received a very flattering report from Mr.Benno Hess about your activities and invaluable services you have rendered to the Netherlands Maccabi during the past 5 years. It gives me, therefore, great pleasure in thanking you, as well as in congratulating you on the splendid record set up by you in the course of the voluntary services you have rendered to the Movement as a whole and to Maccabi Netherlands in particular.

"I clearly remember your presence and participation at Conferences at Paris, Antwerp and Wassenaar, and the diligent and unostentatious manner in which you assisted everyone needing your help and guidance. I trust that you will continue to give Netherlands Maccabi, and its new Chairman, Major Glaser, the benefit of your past experience, and let us hope and pray that the splendid example of service set by you in the past will be followed by many others."

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FRANCE.Maccabi Paris.

On October 21st, a "get-together" evening was organised at La Salle Consistoriale. Guest speaker was Dr. Oppenheim, and his talk was followed by two films presented by the Athletic Section and another film by the Tennis Section. The Paris Maccabi Basketball team, competing for the Coupe de France, proceeded to Le Havre, where they played against one of the best local Basketball teams, having won their match by 31-30. In the course of a Football match, Maccabi Paris beat the College d'Athletes d'Erment by 2-nil. Training in Athletics is proceeding and the Tennis Section is equally active.

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GREAT BRITAIN.

Getting acquainted.

To get acquainted with clubs, the National Executive of British Maccabi have recently decided that every Executive member will, during his term of office, visit as many clubs in London, and in the provinces, as time will permit, or as conditions inside the club will warrant. It is hoped that, in this manner, members of the Executive will be in a far better position to study conditions in clubs, to advise a club's Committee on their respective problems, and so to be able to discuss practical and ideological issues affecting the Movement as a whole, on the basis of personal experience.

The "Jewish Chronicle" Football Trophy.

This year's final of the "Jewish Chronicle" Association Football Trophy will be played at the Reg Harris Stadium in Manchester on May 10th. The competition has become increasingly popular with Jewish sportsmen in Great Britain and it is, therefore, expected that a crowd of several thousands will attend the match. Civic leaders, outstanding sportsmen, as well as well known members of the Jewish community, are being invited to the final. The make the competition even more attractive, it has been decided that the final should be played between a Southern and Northern team. Consequently, the semi-finals have been zoned and will be between two southern and two northern sides. One of the southern sides will be Brighton & Hove Maccabi, the holders of the trophy. They will play one of the leading teams in the Association for Jewish Youth. The northern semi-final will be between Manchester Maccabi, who last season won the national knock-out competition, and a leading team in the Northern Jewish Soccer League.

Leytonstone Maccabi.

The revival of Cultural activities in several Maccabi clubs in Great Britain is truly gratifying. Mention of that has already been made in the last issue of this "Newsletter". One of the suburban London Clubs, the Leytonstone Area Maccabi Association, has drawn up an ambitious programme of talks by distinguished speakers, of debates and play-reading, which are quite noteworthy. Mr. R.W. Sorenson, the well known Member of Parliament for Leytonstone, gave recently a talk on "The U.S.A., as I know it." This was followed by a talk by Pierre Gildesgame on "Maccabi-What does it mean?" Geraldine, Lady Strabolgi, spoke recently about "Technical Education in Israel."

Maccabi Juniors do well in Football.

Playing for the first time in A.J.Y. League Football, Maccabi Juniors (N.W. London) have made an impressive start in the Under-16 Division by beating Cambridge & Hackney 10-0 in their first game, and Wanstead and Woodford 9-0 in their second game.

The strength of the team is attributed to a powerful half-back line in which the centre-half and Captain, Lawrence Richman, just 15 years of age, shows such promise and solidity that he is likely to become prominent in the years ahead. The Maccabi Junior Club is unique in that it is also affiliated to the A.J.Y. Many of this club's managers have been connected with the A.J.Y. for some years past.

David Segal, British International Sprinter, winner of many contests in the European, Empire and British Amateur Athletic Games, has recently applied for membership to Maccabi and will shortly become an active member and participant in Maccabi athletics. A fine sportsman, very popular among European and Empire contestants, Dave Segal has promised to do his utmost to encourage young Maccabi athletes in Great Britain to train together with him at the Maccabi Stadium at Hendon next Spring and Summer. Dave's "reconversion" to Maccabi was not unexpected. He was selected to the British Maccabiah team in 1957, but was unable to participate because he had to represent Britain in an important competition held simultaneously in Germany.

The organisers of the Maccabi European Games, to be held in Copenhagen next year, will look forward eagerly to Dave's participation, which is bound

to arouse much interest in Scandinavian sporting circles. This will be the first time that Dave Segal will be running in a Maccabi competition wearing British Maccabi colours.

Laurie Levine, the young Maccabiah weightlifting champion, recently broke the British middleweight record for the press with a lift of 251 lb at the Brady Clubs, London. He was taking part in the National Club Week activities. The previous record of 248 lb was held by Ben Helfgott, who was present at the contest and encouraged Levine to break the record.

Yet another Maccabiah champion playing for England.

Following his election as a member of the former England team which will participate in the Scandinavian Table-tennis championships later this month, Jackie Ingber, the Maccabiah champion, has firmly taken his place as one of England's leading players. Taking part in a tournament in which England's top ten players participated, he gained fourth place. He was in great form when he represented England against Yugoslavia and, a few days ago, he overwhelmed two of Scotland's leading players. He plays in a classical style and he was a most popular winner of the table-tennis title at the 5th Maccabiah.

Maccabi's youngest and one of the largest clubs.

The Edgware Jewish Youth club, formed in February, 1958, has recently affiliated to the Union of Maccabi Associations in Great Britain and is now proud of a membership of 500, sub-divided in three groups, Junior (11 to 14 years) Intermediate (14 to 17 years) and Seniors (over 17 years). Members of the club engage in a wide range of activities, both sport and cultural. The National Executive of Maccabi in Great Britain is playing special attention to this club and is carefully watching its developments. The Chairman of Maccabi in Great Britain, Pierre Gildesgame, accompanied by a number of his colleagues, has recently visited the club and addressed their members.

In the course of his remarks (as reported in the London "Jewish Chronicle") Mr. Gildesgame said to the 500 youngsters assembled:

"We want you to enjoy yourselves and to enjoy life. But enjoyment was only one facet of Maccabi activity. The real aim was to help create a generation of young Jews and Jewesses whose pride in their Jewishness was justified by knowledge, and whose strength and confidence was devoid of arrogance and boastfulness.

"Maccabi was anxious to instil into Jewish Youth an appreciation of the importance of freedom, good citizenship and fellowship and, above all, a determination to live and, if necessary, to die as Jews. By joining Maccabi they became members of a great Youth Movement with branches in every part of the free world."

Mr. Gildesgame appealed to young and adolescent members alike to take up courses in Hebrew, in Jewish History "so that you may know something of your ancestry and be justified in your sense of pride as a Jew and as a citizen of the world. Israel was not created only for those seeking a refuge from persecution. The State of Israel is open to Jews from all over the world, willing to proceed there, either as tourists or as settlers. It is our duty as Jews and as human beings to assist actively in the building up of Israel as a permanent Jewish State. Hebrew must become the language in which every modern Jew can converse, so that "You may not only be familiar with our language, but also be able to understand the prayers which you recite in Synagogue and at home. Prayers are meaningless unless you understand what they express."

Mr. Gildesgame paid tribute to leaders of the club and, after inspecting the premises, said he had not seen a finer Youth Club for a long time.

NETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

During November, the Annual Maccabi Netball Championship was held at the Royal Air Force Sports Arena, Stanmore, Middlesex. Manchester Maccabi won the Senior Championship with Maccabi Brighton runners-up. Cups and medals were presented by Mrs. D. Dover, representing the all-England Netball Association.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS IN LONDON.

Colonel Harry D. Henshel, Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel, spent a few days in London, during the first week of October. On his way home to New York, and following upon a visit to Israel and Lebanon, he attended, at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Craps, a meeting of the National Council of the Central Maccabi Fund, over which Mr. Jack Steinberg, Chairman, presided. The following day, he was the guest of Lord Nathan at a luncheon at the famous "Reform Club". In a specially reserved room, Lord Nathan entertained also my colleagues Schalit, Worms, Salmon and myself. Both during the previous evening, as well as in the course of the Luncheon, the discussion with Colonel Henshel centred on the U.S. Committee's sponsorship of American participation in the 1961 Maccabiah. Colonel Henshel recalled the discussions that he had with Maccabi World Union Executive members in Israel a week or so earlier, and has confirmed the views he expressed on previous occasions, as regards the general organization of the Maccabiah. He believes that the solution lies in the formation of an overall Organising Committee in Israel, to be headed by a man of important political and civic stature. Colonel Henshel agreed with me that the Committee should be representative of all Israel Sports Organisations, that the Games should retain the name 'Maccabiah', and that "they are to be conducted on a truly national scale, worthy of the respect of Jews and Gentiles throughout the world, which it deserves to have in sports, and which Israel already has in other major activities," (See Editorial Comment).

* * * Mr. Saul Kagan, is the Secretary of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany Inc., whose Directors, from many parts of the world, attended a meeting in London last month. Young, learned, and extremely well-informed on the situation of Jewish communities in many parts of the world and, particularly so, on the Continent of Europe, Mr. Kagan, who received me at his London Hotel one morning, explained to me how the "Claims Conference" worked and the bases upon which its Board decides on monetary grants. Mr. Kagan is also blessed with an excellent memory and he impressed me by quoting parts of an application I addressed, a few months ago, to the Claims Conference on behalf of Maccabi clubs in many European countries. As a result of my conversations with him, Lionel Schalit issued a circular letter to Maccabi Territorial Organisations in Europe, inviting information as regards any applications that may have been made to the Claims Conference, offering them advice on how such applications should be made in future.

Mr. Kagan referred me, for further information and guidance, to Mr. Louis Kraft, the Honorary Adviser to the Claims Conference in matters concerning the provision of Youth Centres on the Continent of Europe. Mr. Kraft is also engaged in important work on behalf of the American Joint Distribution Committee operating from Geneva (Switzerland).

Meir Grossman, the veteran Zionist, now aged 70, is Head of the External Affairs Department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. He was good enough to spend with me some time during his recent visit to London. It transpired, in the course of the discussion with him, that he is as well-informed on Maccabi World Union affairs and activities as any Maccabi leader of my acquaintance. Mr. Grossman has followed with interest the correspondence I exchanged with two other colleagues of his, members of the Jewish Agency, namely, Mr. E. Dobkin, Head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department, and Dr. Dov Joseph, the Treasurer.

Whilst sympathising with our attitude, in that we have refused to accept a token grant from the Jewish Agency, in the amount of £2,500 per annum, he strongly pleaded that I advise my colleagues to reverse our previous decision and to accept the grant for the current financial year, merely as a "token" as, otherwise, - Mr. Grossman argued - the Maccabi World Union may be removed from the list of regular beneficiaries. He thought - and I agreed with his arguments - that a fresh application would have to be made to the Jewish Agency early in 1959, accompanied by a budget of estimated income and expenditure, and which would prove, to the satisfaction of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, that the Maccabi World Union cannot subsist on an income accruing to it from Territorial Organisations, in the form of membership dues only.

Maccabi Chess team.

The British Maccabi Chess team played their first London League match early in November and were beaten $3\frac{1}{2}$ - 6 by the London School of Economics.

Some Maccabi clubs in London excel even in the art of Jiving. A Challenge match between Leytonstone Maccabi and Ivri Maccabi was recently held, including contests in Jiving, Table-tennis and General Knowledge. Ivri-Maccabi emerged the winners. The previous week Leytonstone-Maccabi defeated Ivri-Maccabi in a Netball match.

VISITING ISRAEL.

Fred S. Worms, member of the World Executive, Honorary Secretary of the European Regional Executive H.Q., is proceeding to Israel and is due to arrive there on December 18th. He will attend several meetings of the World Executive, where he will represent the views of his European colleagues, as well as convey several personal messages on my behalf.

SWITZERLAND.

The Judischer Turnverein Zurich will celebrate its 50th anniversary on December 13th, in the form of a Concert, Banquet and Ball. Invitations have been sent to Maccabi friends in many parts of Europe. I am glad to announce that the World Executive will be represented, on this occasion, by Lionel Schalit, Chairman of the European Executive, who is making a special trip to Zurich.

It is worth noting that many clubs in Europe are celebrating their anniversaries with due pomp and ceremony, and that some of them can well claim an existence of half a century, and are still going strong.

STOP PRESS (GREAT BRITAIN)

Several leading members of the Maccabi Movement in Great Britain attended a banquet, held recently at Grosvenor House, London, in honour of H.E. Eliahu Elath, Ambassador of Israel. Principal speakers who paid a warm tribute to Mr. Elath, and to the State of Israel, included the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Macmillan, leader of the Opposition, Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, as well as leader of the Liberal Party, Mr. Joe Grimond. The Presiding Chairman, Mr. Barnett Janner, Member of Parliament is President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Senior Vice-President of the Maccabi World Union.

Birmingham Maccabi organised recently a Concert at the Birmingham Town Hall. Proceeds of the Concert were to be devoted towards payment of the rent of new premises which they are to occupy in the New Year.

Stanley Jacobson won the Mixed Doubles (with Miss Gelfarb) and reached the Finals of the Men's Singles in the Southern Maccabi Table Tennis Championships held at the premises of Ivri Maccabi. The Men's Doubles was won by L. Hoffman and R. Bernstein of Maccabi Association (N.W.) London. In the Northern Maccabi Table-tennis Championship P. Strulovitch, of Manchester, won the Men's Singles.

Art Swiden, American Jewish heavyweight Boxer, made a very disappointing debut in the British Ring when he was disqualified for low punching in the 7th round of his fight with Joe Armstrong (Ghana) at the Granby Halls, Leicester. The tournament was professionally promoted by Mr. Joe Jacobs, one of the veterans of the Patrons of Leicester Maccabi Association.

Six Israelis, studying in London, have joined the Cultural Directorate of the British Maccabi Union and are now visiting regularly Maccabi clubs in London. They will start courses of Hebrew for Beginners, as well as teach the boys and girls Israeli Folk Dances and community singing. More Israeli students are to be invited to join in this endeavour, for the benefit of Maccabi clubs in other parts of the country.

Wednesday evening; it is represented on the Board of Directors by Mr. Jacob, whom you know; the Youth Center provides players for Maccabi teams; in some sports, Maccabi instructors train the Center teams; many Maccabi members are individually also members of the Center and take part in its social and cultural activities. Maccabi also receives an annual subvention from the Fonds Social Juif Unifié, which likewise supports the Youth Center. Should the plan for a new Community Center in Paris materialize, it will include substantial physical education and sports facilities and the continued participation of Maccabi is, as I understand it, envisaged.

"Hakoah, Vienna, receives a monthly subvention from AJDC and will have some use of facilities for meetings at the Youth Center which is about to be opened in the next few months.

"In general, I should tell you that whenever an interest is shown in the establishment of a Youth Center or Community Center, our investigation includes contact and discussion with all youth groups or cultural organisations, including Maccabi, where it exists in the continental European countries eligible for Claims Conference consideration."

I am consulting Mr. Kraft on the chances of an application being favourably considered by the Claims Conference for help and assistance in the promotion of Youth Leadership Courses throughout Maccabi clubs in Europe, under the auspices of the Maccabi World Union. I will deal with this project in another issue, but not before I have had some positive news from Mr. Kraft.

MACCABI PERSONALITIES.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, Hon. President of the European Maccabi Regional Executive Council, is at present in New York. Upon completion of a Lecture Tour, he will return to England by the middle of December. Whilst in New York he hoped to have talks with Col. Henshel and members of the U.S. Committee for Sports in Israel.

Viscount Samuel, a Vice-President of Maccabi in Great Britain, has recently been honoured by Queen Elizabeth, who conferred upon him the Order of Merit. Viscount Samuel, who is aged 88, has been a member of H.M. Privy Council for the past 50 years. Viscount Samuel is already a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath and a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire. It will be recalled that, as Sir Herbert Samuel, he was the first British High Commissioner for Palestine. As one of the founders of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Viscount Samuel continues to remain associated actively with this important Institution of learning, and frequently appears at public gatherings in London to enlist moral and financial support for it. He is renowned throughout the world, Jewish and Gentile, as a leading politician and philosopher. We take this opportunity of conveying to Viscount Samuel our heartiest congratulations and good wishes.

Mr. John Shaftesley, O.B.E., until recently Editor-in-Chief of the London "Jewish Chronicle", has now resigned from his post to join the Board of Directors of the "Jewish Chronicle". Mr. John Shaftesley, who is a well known communal worker and enthusiastic supporter of the Maccabiah Games and one of the Vice Presidents of the British Maccabiah Organising Committee, has also designed the British Maccabiah emblem and flag.

The late Professor Brodetsky's memoirs are shortly to be published. A few British Maccabi leaders contributed £250 towards the cost of the publication. An announcement will be made when the book has appeared in print, so that members of Maccabi everywhere may acquire copies.