

מוזיאון מכבי ע"ש פייר גילדסגיים

PIERRE GILDESGAME MACCABI SPORTS MUSEUM

MWU - Newsletter

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MACCABI WORLD UNION
EXECUTIVE

Newsletter



Kfar Hamaccabiah, Ramat Gan, Israel

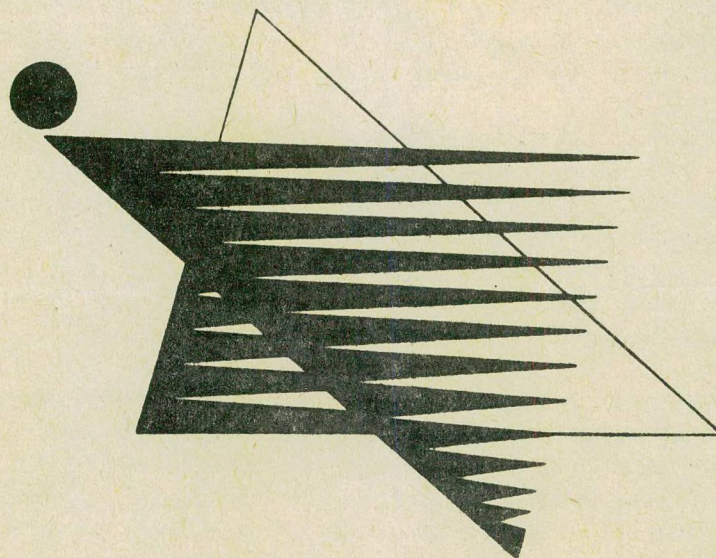
No. 25

February 1976

From the Editor:

We are proud to present the emblem of the 10th Maccabiah Games:

המכביה ה-10 ישראל תשלי"ז כו תמוז | באב 21.7.77 | ישראל



It has been designed by Dan Reisinger, who also designed the emblem of the previous Maccabiah. It is multi-coloured on a silver or on a yellow/green background. It is this emblem that will head our letters, will decorate the walls of our clubs and will be printed on posters, t-shirts and other souvenirs etc. The 10th Maccabiah is just around the corner - so let's all prepare for it!

For, to quote the Minister of Education & Culture, Aharon Yadlin, also Hon. Chairman of the I.M.G.C.: "THE MACCABIAH GAMES SYMBOLIZE AND GIVE EXPRESSION TO THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR PEOPLE. FOR WHILST WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE PROPHETS, WE ARE ALSO THE DESCENDANTS OF THE MACCABEES".

The Maccabiah was also given recognition - now officially - by the Zionist Movement, where at the last meeting of the General Council the following resolution, proposed by Louis Gecelter and myself, was adopted: "THE ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL RECOGNISES THE MACCABIAH AS AN UNIQUE EXPRESSION OF THE UNITY OF JEWISH YOUTH. THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT THE TENTH MACCABIAH GAMES, SCHEDULED FOR NEXT YEAR, SHOULD BE HELD IN THE SPIRIT OF JEWISHNESS, ZIONISM AND A LOVE OF ISRAEL THROUGH SPORT".

We give you here further extracts from the Address by Mr. Aharon Yadlin, to which, I am sure you will all agree with me, there is nothing to add:

"At the forthcoming Maccabiah, the Maccabi Movement will commemorate the 10th Anniversary of Maccabiah celebrations which have been held over a span of 45 years. One dare not take this remarkable achievement for granted - especially to-day when so many ideals are discarded and cynicism has taken the place of true sportsmanship.

The Maccabiah, as an expression of the yearnings of a new generation of Jews for National revival, has reflected not only a cultural renaissance of our People, but equally so, a return to a healthy physical posture, wherein the Jew stands erect - with head high and muscles flexed. This stress on physical education and sportsmanship has been as much a novelty in the National life of our People as was any other factor in the Zionist revolution.

The Maccabiah has also become a symbol of Israel's centrality in the life of the Jewish People the world over. It is only fitting, therefore, that this event continue to take place in Israel proper, the natural homeland of our People, and become the focal point for young Jews from five continents and from every Diaspora which allows its own citizens to carry its flag in Israel.

The forthcoming Maccabiah takes on added significance at this time because it serves as a rallying point of identification and support of Israel's struggle in the international political arena. It is our answer to the challenge which has been thrown at us, by both erstwhile friend and blatant foe alike. It is the response of a proud Jewish world to the pattern of discrimination, boycott and insult which unenlightened societies have practiced with respect to Israeli sportsmen in the world of international sports.

The Maccabiah forgoes a sense of unity and comradeship among its Jewish participants. It provides its sportsmen with a feeling of oneness with us in Israel, and enables us to strengthen our ties with world Jewry. For one thing is certain: we are one People, and all Jews, wherever they are, share in a single destiny of commitment and purpose. We, in Israel are very conscious of our central role in this grand design, but we are humble enough to realise that only through a genuine partnership with the Diaspora will this design become a reality.

It is only proper, therefore, that the 10th Maccabiah be the largest and most spectacular of all its predecessors - with many thousands of participants and with distinguished sports achievements. The Government of Israel is fully prepared to assist the Maccabiah Organising Committee in achieving these goals.

Some people are still not sure of our ability 'to make it'. Indeed the overwhelming tensions and hardships can frighten any normal people. But Jewish normalcy is not the same as that of others. We are the scions of the Hasmoneans who overcame greater difficulties in order to perpetuate the freedom of religion and to re-establish the sovereignty of our ancient commonwealth.

I am absolutely sure that we too will overcome our present challenges. For indeed, we have no alternative! 'Ein Breira' - that is our strongest weapon. The unstinting support of the Jewish People - that is the secret of our strength.

I congratulate you on your fervour and dedication, and trust that your plans will bring forth yet another great memorable event in the life of our People."

With these words, we should all concentrate our efforts and in the name of the Maccabi Movement, the Jewish Nation and Israel - KADIMA, A VAMOS, AVANT, FORWARDS - to the 10th MACCABIAH!

Hazak!

Yitzhak Shargil.

* * * * *

GENERAL SECRETARY: It gives us much pleasure to 'introduce' SHMUEL BENKLER to you on his appointment as our new General Secretary. Of course in European circles he needs no introduction as he was a most successful shaliach to Maccabi England for three years. In our last Newsletter we introduced him as a new member of the Executive, in which capacity he will continue in addition to his appointment as General Secretary. Shmuel, known to many as 'Herzl' due to his characteristic beard, was born in Tel-Aviv in 1929 and attended, as was natural, the Herzliyah Gymnasium. He was a member of the Haganah Special Unit and served in the Armoured Corps as Rav Seren (Major). He is now in the Reserves where he is a Military Spokesman. Shmuel is married to Dina and they have three sons, the eldest of whom is in the army.

I know that you all join me in wishing him the very best of luck! We asked him to use this opportunity of saying a few words to you:

"First of all I would like to thank the Executive for entrusting me with such an important task.

It is very difficult after such a short time in office to give full details of future plans. But, in spite of all problems I'll try and describe in a few words how I see my task, apart from the day-to-day activities.

The M.W.U. has recently entered into many important projects both within the Jewish community all over the world, as well as in its relations here in Israel.

One of the most important is the W.Z.O. I think our friend Joel Haskel defined it most clearly in the European Newsletter - 'we must produce efforts ourselves'. In my opinion one of the General Secretary's tasks is to try and promote ideas as well as to carry them out.

The School for Maccabi Leaders, contacts with the U.S.A., including through the J.W.B., information and contacts between the M.W.U. Executive and the various T.O.'s are all matters that must be given extra effort.

This is a task that however talented one might be, cannot be carried out successfully without the help of one's colleagues. As for myself, I have a lot to learn and look forward to the Maccabi spirit that I have already met with at the last two Plenary Sessions and hope will continue to meet with, both as a member of the M.W.U. Executive and as the General Secretary.

Thanks and l'hitraot!"

WORLD ZIONIST ORGANISATION: Recent years have seen an ever-growing association and co-operation between the M.W.U. and the Zionist Movement and its organisations.

This has come as a result of constant contacts started by our Youth Department in connection with shlichim and youth activities. It should be recalled that still in June 1971, the M.W.U. passed a resolution re-affirming our non-political and non-partisan stand and identifying ourselves with the Jerusalem Programme. It was at that time that we applied for formal affiliation to the W.Z.O. After extensive negotiations and several stages we were granted the status of full membership. In other words Maccabi was acknowledged as a leading Jewish World Youth Movement.

With the participation of Maccabi representatives at the General Zionist Council in January of this year in Jerusalem, Maccabi ideas were voiced and the question of sport was taken up, as a result of which the following resolution was adopted:

"The Zionist General Council views with utmost gravity the attempts by representatives of the same forces that act against Israel and Zionism at the United Nations to oust Israeli and Jewish sportsmen from international sport. The Council draws the attention of the world community to this danger, and calls on all who love sport to ensure that politics be kept out of sport."

That Maccabi is helped in various fields through the W.Z.O. has already been mentioned. What does the W.Z.O. expect from us, Maccabi? Firstly, they expect a Maccabi presence on the local Zionist map. There are countries where Maccabi can integrate with Zionist activities without local elections and where many joint projects can be carried out. Prior to the next Congress signatures will be asked for the Jerusalem Programme, obviously the more Maccabi members signing the Programme, the more strength Maccabi will gain. It is important for us to reveal our interest on the various problems facing the Zionist Movement.

At the opening of the Zionist General Council, Dr. Peled said that *"this Movement is ready to do much, given the proper means."*

Maccabi is ready to do much - through sports activities and through various ways with the one and only aim - to tie the Jewish youth to Jewishness, to Israel and to Zionism," he also added: *"the time has come to talk to the youth in its language, to introduce new sophisticated ways and not to rely on the old methods. We are convinced that we shall contribute as much as we can to the development and strengthening of the Zionist Movement especially among the youth of the Diaspora."*

This is our pledge and it is up to us and to you, the T.O.'s to carry it out.

THE WORLD EXECUTIVE PLENUM meeting last month in Israel discussed in detail the various aspects of the relations between the M.W.U. and the W.Z.O., especially in the light of the various conditions prevailing in the various T.O.'s and the following was resolved: *"The Executive welcomes with satisfaction the granting of voting status to the Maccabi World Union by the World Zionist Organisation. The Executive Headquarters in Israel calls on all its departments to foster Zionist activities wherever possible, and to do so within the framework of the aims and objects of the Movement. The Executive calls on the T.O.'s to find suitable means for full co-operation with the local Zionist bodies. Likewise, T.O.'s will expect Zionist bodies fully to support and to assist the Maccabi Organisation in their endeavours aimed at benefitting Maccabi youth."*

Over fifty members of the World Executive and Maccabi Leaders from sixteen countries attended the Plenum held here last month. It was an encouraging gathering of Maccabi Leaders from all parts of the world contributing to increased activities in all T.O.'s.

Among the many organisational resolutions adopted was one that: *"In view of the past experience, no M.W.U. Congress be held either immediately before or after a Maccabiah. The next meeting of the M.W.U. will take place at the end of December of this year (with a meeting of the I.M.G.C. to follow), whilst the next Congress will take place towards the end of 1977."*

SCHOOL FOR MACCABI LEADERS: A lengthy discussion on this important question was held in which the possibilities of an extensive and comprehensive school were reviewed. It was decided however, that before a school was fully established, there should be an experimental project to precede it.

It was therefore decided that the first Course for Maccabi Leaders be run for one month and is to be held in the winter of 1976/77.

Other resolutions passed were: *A Folklore Group of Maccabi Tzair to tour abroad, also promoting the Maccabiah. An Exhibition of Paintings & Photographs by Children be organised in conjunction with the Maccabiah. That the year 1976 be a Pilgrimage Year for the M.W.U.*

Hearing of the continued success of the Kfar Hamaccabiah and seeing the improvement works in hand, *"the Executive expressed its appreciation to the Management Committee of the Kfar Hamaccabiah, particularly to those who gave so much of their free time, and extends its best wishes for its future development.*

I.M.G.C. MEETING: Over 60 members of the International Maccabiah Games Committee and Observers from 17 countries attended the three-days meetings at the Kfar Hamaccabiah under the chairmanship of Dr. Peled. Dr. Peled welcomed the members and the guests, who included representatives of the Israel Sports Federation and the religious sports organisation 'Elitzur'. This meeting gave yet another impetus to the world-wide efforts now being made to make the 10th Maccabiah the greatest and most impressive ever. The discussions ranged from budget to entertainment, from sports venues to accommodation and transportation, from Opening Ceremony to Closing Ceremony, from publications to T.V. broadcasts. In short - all aspects that such an event entails in organisation.

Some of the resolutions adopted at the meetings follow:

There shall be an Open Individual International Athletics Competition prior to the 10th Maccabiah Games to be held in Israel in the summer of 1977.

This decision has been taken on the understanding that it has the approval of the Israel Sports Federation and other relevant Israeli authorities as well as the I.A.A.F.

The Israeli press, commenting on this resolution, said that it will enable South African Maccabi to send its athletes to Israel to participate in this open individual competition. It is recalled that the International Athletics Federation has barred South African athletes from participating in official recognised games - and the Maccabiah is recognised by all International Sports Federations.

These Competitions will take place on Saturday Evening, Sunday and Monday, July 9, 10 and 11, 1977.

PUBLICITY, SALES PROMOTION & SOUVENIRS: It was agreed that a motto/slogan of not more than two/three words was necessary in addition to the logo/symbol/emblem of the Maccabiah. It was agreed that negotiations will be made with a sales promotion company as to the production of souvenir items for sale in Israel and abroad.

The logo/emblem of the Maccabiah is the property of the Organising Committee of the I.M.G.C.

SPORTS: Four new sports will be included in the 10th Maccabiah - SQUASH, BADMINTON, KARATE AND MINI-FOOTBALL. Rugby, Archery and Hockey were suggested for inclusion but have been omitted due to lack of sufficient entries and venues.

Senior members of Maccabi have now been taken care of with two new sports - SQUASH (VETERANS) AND TENNIS (VETERANS).

There will also be two tournaments held at the same time as the Maccabiah: BRIDGE AND CHESS.

CEREMONIES & EVENTS: An Olympic-type Opening Ceremony will be held as usual with an attempt to bring an additional pageant to commemorate past Maccabiot. It was decided that the Closing Ceremony of the Maccabiah will be held in Jerusalem thus replacing the usual Jerusalem Day held in the past.

The holding of the Gala Evening, a Maccabiah Happening, an Academia, a Kabbalat Shabbat and a series of social and entertainment events was discussed with a view to ensure the fullest and most meaningful schedule for the participants and their accompanying supporters.

The 10th Maccabiah will open on July 12, 1977 and close on July 21, 1977.

CHANGES IN THE T.O.'s : The Australian Maccabi Federation has notified us that LOU ROSE, their new Chairman will be a Vice-Chairman of the M.W.U. Executive and that their members on the M.W.U. Executive will be JOE ROSEN, TOM GOLDMAN and BERNIE GOLD.

A letter of resignation has been received from Simon Barac of Peru. The new Chairman is SAMUEL BAJTNER who will also represent Peru on the M.W.U. Executive.

From Mexico we have received notification of changes in their Executive. YOSHUA KIPNIS is their new President, whilst Julio Yasinovsky will remain as member of the M.W.U. Executive.

From Germany we have had news of a change in location of Maccabi Germany - the new offices are in Berlin in the capable hands of their new Hon. Secretary ISAAK BEHAR. Chaver Behar is a very keen and active Maccabi and can be found in his 'training' any day of the week either on his way to train himself or to train the youngsters - kol ha'kavod!

On his return from a successful tenure of office as Central Shaliach to Massada in the U.S.A., ZEEV MARIN was appointed

Chairman of the Executive of Maccabi Tzair Israel.

The Youth Department of the M.W.U. has a new Organising Secretary - SHAUL BRIL. Shaul was born in the Argentine in 1942 and came on Aliyah in 1965. He is a graduate of the Machon for Madrichim from Abroad and for many years has worked with young people. Shaul is married with two children. We wish him 'hatslaha'.

LATIN AMERICAN FOURTH MACCABIADA - PERU: At the recently-held Congress of C.L.A.M. (reported on in our last issue), it was decided to hold the next Maccabiada in Lima, Peru in honour of the 20th Anniversary of the Lima Hebraica Club (affiliated to the M.W.U.). Samuel Bajtner, their new Chairman, who was present at the meetings of the M.W.U. Plenum in January, extended an invitation to the Executive to send representatives to the Maccabiada due to take place from July 24 - 30, 1976. It is expected that many hundreds of Maccabi sportsmen, women and youngsters will participate in, at least nine sports. The M.W.U. Executive has requested Maccabi Israel to see if a Maccabi Israel delegation can be present at the Maccabiada.

PUBLICATIONS: We were glad to receive the renewed publication of Maccabi Sport, issued by Maccabi Paris. This issue contains a summary of activities of the various clubs in France, results of the football matches held and an editorial by our friend, Theo Haas. A photograph of the Opening Ceremony of the last Maccabiah was included. We wish Maccabi France - good luck.

We have also received a mimeographed newsletter from the Union of Maccabi Associations of Gt. Britain with a variety of information on activities in sports, cultural and zionistic.

Newsletters have also been received from: Belgium, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico. From the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel several of their bulletins have been received reporting on meetings held re the organisa-

tion of the 10th Maccabiah and that yet another Maccabiah participant, Fencer RAY FIELDS is coming on Aliyah - good luck!

Reports from South Africa said that LEONARD FLUXMAN who participated in gymnastics at the last Maccabiah has won second place in the South African Senior Gymnastics Championships.

From a further news item in the South African Jewish Herald, we learn that the Annual Maccabi Golf Tournament was held in Spa, Switzerland - how news travels!

Follow in the footsteps of your father! Back in 1961 Percy Gavronsky wrestled for South Africa at the Maccabiah and three times won a silver medal. 14 years later his daughter Joanna was in Israel as a swimmer with a South African goodwill team. His 11-year old son is actually following in Daddy's footsteps, he is already a wrestler and has won his first big tournament - of his age group of course!

KFAR HAMACCABIAH COUNTRY CLUB: During the January meetings of the I.M.G.C. and M.W.U. a small ceremony was held in a corner of the Country Club, there on a lovely sunny winter's afternoon, the Foundation Stone was laid for the new Sports Hall and given a blessing by our President, Pierre Gildesgame.

One of the members from abroad who was present was so impressed with the atmosphere and the surroundings that he immediately donated \$ 1,000 for the Hall. A big 'mishaberach'!

Those of you who have been to Israel have heard of the weekly 'Lotto' - apart from the fun of "maybe" winning, the authorities that run the Lotto donate and loan large sums of money to sports and educational facilities. They also were impressed with the Club and what it offers for both visiting and local youngsters, and a grant and loan have been authorised for the new building.

It was with very great delight that Squash enthusiasts - and there are many Anglo-Saxons who are impatiently awaiting facilities (in the Tel-Aviv area) to take up again this very strenuous sport - have learnt that Maccabi Australia and South Africa will take a large financial part in building the Squash Courts at the Country Club - in time for the Maccabiah naturally!

MACCABI MUSEUM & ARCHIVES: As this newsletter is being written, further additions are going up in the Museum in the form of a wall mural depicting 'From Maccabiah to Maccabiah', it promises to be excellent. This has been made possible through the generosity of our President, Pierre Gildesgame. (A Bulletin of the Museum has been posted this week).

YOUTH DEPARTMENT: Within the framework of the Sochnut 'Tapuz' programme for Latin American youngsters to come to Israel for two months to work on the kibbutzim there are many Maccabi youngsters. At the moment there are 110 from Hakoah Maccabi Buenos Aires, 50 from Hebraica and 80 from Maccabi Brazil. They have during their time in Israel had many activities organised jointly by the Jewish Agency and the M.W.U., including touring from the Golan to Eilat!

On January 26th a four-day seminar was held in Jerusalem. Study groups were held on Zionism, Israel, Middle-East problems and tours in Jerusalem. Afterwards, a three-day meet was held at the Kfar Hamaccabiah including folk-dancing, talks on the Maccabi Movement, Film of the 9th Maccabiah and visit to the Museum, with plenty of sport added to the programme.

At the party on the last evening all youngsters received a certificate from Maccabi.

A seminar was held recently for youngsters from Maccabi Buenos Aires who were completing a Madrichim Course in Israel.

We have at the moment a group of 24 youngsters from Maccabi Uruguay who are in Israel on a three-week tour, travelling from the Golan to Eilat. During their stay they attended a

Maccabi Youth Gathering with Maccabi Tzair Shikma and Amidar for a few days at the Kfar.

The Shnat Hacksharah Group from Mexico were also at the Kfar for ten days, during which time they attended seminars, social and cultural activities with Maccabi Tzair, saw the Film of the 9th Maccabiah and visited the Museum. They then left for Wingate where they attended a sports seminar. Tours have also been made from the Golan to Mount Sinai.

EUROPEAN NEWSLETTER: We acknowledge with thanks a further issue of the Chairman's Newsletter from Europe. Our congratulations to Joel for the speed with which he brings out his letter, this latest edition was received by us almost immediately on his return to Brussels from Israel. We have pleasure in noting the following interesting points:

Football in Brussels. This year's European Maccabi Championship in Football will be played in Brussels May 27-30, organised by Maccabi Brussels and Antwerp, supervised by Dick Urban, Sports Director in London. Entries have been received from Belgium, France, Holland and Switzerland, plus hopefully from Denmark and Italy. For financial reasons Sweden is unable to participate.

Handball in Basel. It is hoped to have a tournament there in June organised by Jack Fischlewitz.

Table Tennis & Bowling. The European Table Tennis Tournament will be held in London from October 22-24.

Can Anyone beat Makkabi Helsinki? 1,000 Jews in the capital of Finland are keeping the Maccabi flag flying high by playing tennis, bowling and table-tennis. In November 1976 they will celebrate their 70th Anniversary of Maccabi activities in Helsinki. Can anyone beat this record. I doubt it!

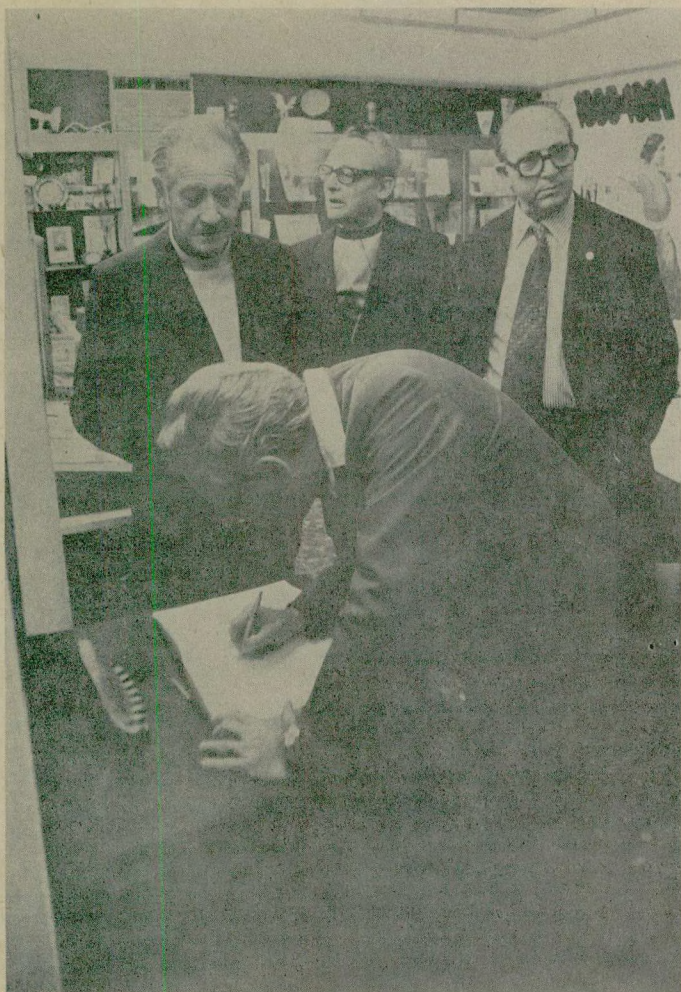
From the Editor: We throw out this challenge to all our T.O.'s - let's hear from you!

VISITORS: A most interesting visitor this month was BORIS BURSTEIN, brother of Jose Burstein who came to Israel with his family to celebrate the Bar-mitzvah of his twin sons - 'Mazel tov'. A family reception to celebrate the occasion was held at the home of Dr. Peled. Mrs. Chaya Peled on her visit to Buenos Aires heard of the possibility of the twins having their Bar-mitzvah in Israel and spontaneously offered her hospitality for this party.

Mr. Burstein, who is also Vice President of Hakoah, Buenos Aires, visited the Kfar and the M.W.U. Headquarters for meetings with Dr. Peled and other Executive members on matters concerning future activities of Maccabi Argentina. Also attending these meetings was Natalio Wegman, Hon. Treasurer of Hakoah Buenos Aires, who attended the meetings of the Plenum and stayed over to await the birth of his first grandchild to his son - Yehuda, an ex-Maccabi member of Maccabi Buenos Aires and his wife - Patty, and ex-Maccabi member of C.D.I. Mexico. Their son arrived safely. 'Mazel tov - a successful klitah'!

By the way, Yehuda Wegman is making good progress in his job in the office of one of our Executive members. In the same office there has been found work for Hugo Goldman and Joel Robbins, both new Olim and Maccabi Tzair Madrichim from Uruguay and Mexico respectively. Only an example of our quiet but effective efforts for Klitah.

STOP PRESS: At the time of closing this issue the whole of the Israeli sporting public is anxiously awaiting the outcome of Maccabi Tel-Aviv's basketball match against Forest Cantu of Italy on which depends Maccabi's elevation to the semi-final of the European Cup.



1. Mr. Aharon Yadlin, Minister of Education & Culture on a visit to the Maccabi Museum. Also seen are Dr. I. Peled, Mr. Chaim Wein and Mr. Arthur Hanak.



2. Maccabi youngsters from Uruguay on 21 day tour of Israel - at the Oceanarium at Eilat.



3. Foundation Stone Ceremony at Kfar Hamaccabiah Country Club Sports Hall - Mr. Yariv Oren, Head of Sports Authority, addressing those present. Seated on the platform are: Dr. I. Peled, Mr. P. Gildesgame and Mr. M. Kevehazi.



4. & 5. Maccabi youngsters from C.D.I. Mexico taking part in the Chanukah Torch Relay - outside the President of Israel's residence in Jerusalem.

STOP STOP PRESS: Congratulations to RUBY RICHMAN of Toronto, Canada on his appointment as a Queen's Counsel (Q.C.).

Also to MICHAEL KEVEHAZI on his election to the Council of the Israel Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

LATEST SPORT NEWS: The Maccabi Tel-Aviv Basketball Team did not make it - it lost the return match against Forest Cantu

of Italy and is thus eliminated from the European Basketball Tournament.

Interest will now centre on the Intertoto Football Championship, where for the first time two Israeli teams will compete. Their identity will depend on League places at the end of March.

L'hitraot!

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