

THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

Vol. 23 ZIF-SIVAN (May-June, 1977) No. 2

Probes

Judah '77

Israel SPOT News/forecast Monthly



Jerusalem - general view from the Mount of Olives. Looking across the Kidron Valley you can see the walls of the Old City. The Dome of Omar with the golden dome is the Mosque of Omar, standing where the ancient Temple stood. In the left background is Mount Zion.

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World Headquarters of "Church of God — 7th Day."
"Messianic Jews." — Romans 2:29; Galatians 3:28, 29.
"Congregation of Elohim", "Family of Elohim". —
Hebrew.

The name is given 12 times in the New Testament.
1 Cor. 1:2, also 10:32, chap. 11:16, 22, and 15:9; 2 Cor.
1:1; Gal. 1:13; 1 Thes. 2:14 and 2 Thes. 2:4; also 1 Tim.
3:5, 15, and Acts 20:28. For headquarters see Acts 15:1-3.

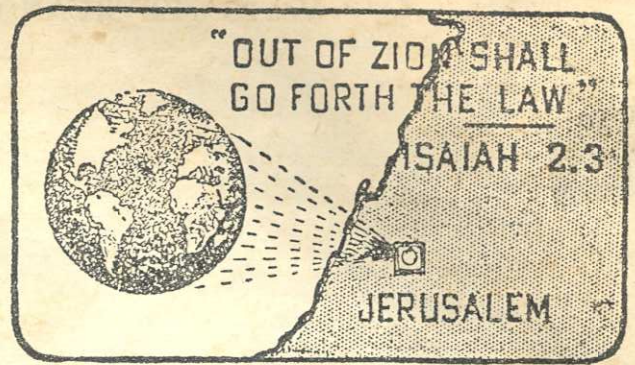
The Head and Director: Christ (Yahshua).

**Membership: "Lamb's Book of Life",
in Heaven. — Revelation 20:15.**

Our creed: Revelation 12:17.

The name in the Old Testament: "The Daughter of
Zion", — "Daughter of Jerusalem". — Jer. 6:2; Zeph.
3:14; Zechariah 2:7, 10, and 9:8. The name Israel origin
(Gen. 32:28), and mentioned over two thousand times.

Tithes and offerings are needed to send Testaments
and Bibles to Israel, and support workers here and
abroad.



EXPLAINING FRONT PAGE PICTURE

In the foreground can be seen part of the slope of the Mt. of Olives, and some of the many graves which are located on this hillside. According to Jewish belief when the Messiah comes He will come to the Mount of Olives, and the dead there will be the first resurrected. They are correct that He will come to the Mount of Olives, but unfortunately most Jews are unaware of who their Messiah is. In the background can be seen the towers and buildings of the new city part of Jerusalem.

(Photo taken from the Mt. of Olives)

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THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE

By the late Elder A. N. Dugger

The secret of prayer is the secret of POWER, and that is why the beloved apostles were so anxious to know and better understand how, and through what power His mighty works were performed. They had repeatedly witnessed the miraculous operation of this "Law of the Spirit of Life", healing the sick, casting out demons from the insane, and even raising the dead, and they coveted this gift of the Spirit, and said, "Teach us to pray." (Luke 11:1.

"There went out virtue OUT OF HIM, and HEALED THEM ALL." (Luke 6:19). He was our example and we are told to "follow His steps" (I Peter 2:21), I am the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. He that followeth Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12). The beloved apostles followed in His steps. He taught them how to pray, by spending whole nights in prayer. (Luke 6:12). Withdrawing into the wilderness to pray. (Luke 5:16). He was alone praying, and His apostles were with Him (Luke 9:18): "He took Peter, John and James up into a mountain to pray." (Verse 28).

The apostles being with Him in these prolonged seasons of prayer were taught how to pray, not just asking, asking, asking, for temporal benefits, but worshipping the Father; thanking Him over and over for all benefits, and praising Him for life, health, food, raiment, and above all, the Spiritual surroundings, and great miraculous preparation He has in store

for the children of men. In taking our thoughts away from this old world, and keeping our mind stayed on heaven, and the glories there, our bodies are supplied with the same spiritual power of which heaven is filled to the overflowing. It is in this way imparted to us while we tarry there, in unity, oneness of accord, and love for everyone, even our enemies, with all variance, gone and dismissed forever from our minds. "LET this mind BE IN YOU that was in Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:5.

The Saviour performed mighty miracles in Galilee, where we find Him repeatedly going on board a ship to get away from the multitude, after His body had been largely exhausted of this VIRTUE, acquired through prayerful contact with heaven. It was after one of such occasions where He had spent time alone on a ship crossing the sea, that the multitude thronged Him. (Luke 8:42). A woman who had been afflicted for twelve years, and had spent all she had on doctors to be healed, but having been determined to see Him, and said: "If I may touch but His clothes I shall be whole" (Mark 5:28), so she pressed through the crowd, and touched the hem of His garment. He exclaimed immediately, "Who touched me?" The apostles were surprised, and wanted to know why He asked "Who touched me?", when surrounding by such a throng. He said: "Somebody touched me, for I perceive that virtue has gone out of me." (Luke 8:44-46). The women wa

instantly healed, and He said to her: "Daughter be of good comfort, THY FAITH hath made thee whole." (Verse 48).

Here we find another example where there was a substance he called virtue departing from him by which people are healed. It is the healing power of the Holy Spirit, which can be acquired only by a correct understanding of "the Law of the Spirit of Life", mentioned in Romans 8:1, which makes us free from the "Law of Sin and Death". We are free because by understanding, and putting his law into operation, the fleshly desires are killed, "the old man, the carnal nature" is destroyed. (Romans 6:6). It therefore becomes our very nature to observe every one of the Ten Commandments. "Sin is the transgression of this law." (I John 3:4). Just as it is the nature of the apple tree to bear only apples, so will it be the nature of the person, who understands, the "Law of the Spirit of Life," spending even a few minutes thrice daily alone in prayer before the Almighty. That person will by nature bear only the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT, love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, FAITH, MEEKNESS, etc." (Gal. 5:22, 23).

The Saviour immediately felt VIRTUE DEPART instantly from Him. The healing strength and power stored up there, had departed to the extent He felt it. His compassion and interest in suffering humanity, and that strong desire of His mind to help people, together with the FAITH of the woman met. She had tuned in on the right meter of real faith, and He was prepared to give to her that which she desired and needed most.

The Law of the Spirit of Life will not operate through a minister who is preaching only as a profession of life, and an easy way of making a living, as thousands of them are today. The one actually called into the service of the Master, through the Spirit from above, will possess a very deep interest in humanity. He will be so anxious to benefit those in need, that he will lose sleep, with joy, and spend time in prayerful meditation on the things above, that he may possess an overflowing supply of that same divine virtue, to be transferred from Him to those requiring spiritual help. The Master often wept over the sick and afflicted and the dead, as in the case of Lazareth where it says: "Jesus wept." (John 11:35). When compassion for others is so manifest with tears, along with an abundant supply of stored up VIRTUE, there is always a demonstration of miraculous power. We have often seen it manifest.

Thousands there are today who at one time were spiritually strong. They had received an anointing, or even a real genuine baptism of the Holy Spirit, but by trusting in this experience, and not understanding the "Law of the Spirit of Life", as taught and displayed by the Saviour, they are spiritual wrecks. They are like the dead battery removed from the place of real service. They have mingled with sinners; associated with those of worldly conversation; in-

dulged more or less in worldly business to make ends meet, with the generator of prayer neglected and disconnected. They did not follow the Master, because they did not understand this "Spiritual Law", of continual contact with heaven in prayer, therefore their power has ceased. They are void of light to direct their frail craft now on the very brink of a fatal crash.

Such people need to read and re-read about the wonderful miracles wrought by the Saviour, and soon coming Prince of Peace. They should go alone on the mountain, or in some secluded place, and tarry with their mind away from pleasure, the cares of life, and the deceitfulness of riches, and seek those things which are eternal. Then they will feel once more that divine refilling of the Holy Spirit. In this way only can a person be recharged again for service in the vineyard of the Master, to await His returning with joy.

HUNGERING AND THIRSTING

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they SHALL BE FILLED." (Matt. 5:6). The trouble is that most people are hungering and thirsting after new cars, after more land and property, and money, yes everything in this old world, instead of hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

We are to covet earnestly "the Best Gifts" (I Cor. 12:31), and the Master says: "Ask and it shall be given you. Seek and ye shall find. Knock and it shall be opened unto you. Everyone that asketh receiveth and he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone, or if he ask a fish will he for a fish give him a serpent... If ye, then being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the HOLY SPIRIT to them that ask Him." Luke 11:11-13.

Satan will try in every way, to keep you so busy during all of the 960 minutes of every day, besides the eight hours you sleep, that you do not even have one minute to kneel before heaven in earnest prayer. How terrible for people to be so easily led away and deceived, and robbed of the very spiritual VIRTUE they most need, because they are too busy to pray. This power that will keep you in the narrow way, and give you victory over yourself, and knowledge and wisdom to direct others, is so very near, and so easily acquired, when you put into operation this "Law of the Spirit of Life". There is no good excuse for loving the world best, and traveling the broad way to ruin and destruction. May the heavenly Father help you dear reader, to follow in the steps of the Master, and put into operation for yourself this "Law of the Spirit of Life" that He came to teach us, both by precept and example, is our humble prayer. Then you will be delivered from the impending destruction, and be saved and have a home in the soon coming Kingdom where sin, sorrow, sickness and death will be no more.

The Samaritans

Many have written asking about the ancient Samaritan people who live in Israel; about their customs, beliefs, etc. We are therefore printing this article, which has been taken from a recent issue of "Christian News from Israel." It will be printed in two installments.

Most people know little about today's Samaritans. Many believe that the name refers to an ancient, biblical race of which no vestige survives. They are often surprised to learn that the Samaritans, who accept only the Pentateuch as Holy Writ, are a vital, intelligent group with a rich history and a distinctive language and literature, practising their own form of worship and following age-old traditions and customs. In outward appearance, they tend to be tall and goodlooking, often light-complexioned, and indistinguishable from the folk among whom they live.

Claiming direct descent from Ephraim and Manasseh, sons of Joseph, who entered the Promised Land with Joshua and settled in the Samaria region, while their priests stem from the tribe of Levi, the Samaritans rather resent the name by which they are known. They prefer to call themselves "Shamerim" — in Hebrew, guardians — for they contend that they have guarded the original Law of Moses, keeping it pure and unadulterated down the centuries.

Their numbers are not large, and today less than five hundred are left of a great nation that is said to have been counted in hundreds of thousands — there were estimated to be over three-quarters of a million in the early part of the Christian era. About half of the remnant live on their ancestral site, close to Mount Gerizim, and the other half in Holon, near Tel-Aviv.

Their creed is simple: "the unity of God, with Moses as His prophet; the holiness of the Sabbath and the set feasts; the sanctity of Mount Gerizim, and a belief in Resurrection and in the Day of Judgement" — the last tenets obviously adopted at a later stage. Mount Gerizim, in the district of Samaria, draws Samaritans on three annual pilgrimages — Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles. The yearly Paschal sacrifice, which all Samaritans are required to attend, is of the utmost importance.

General opinion, until recently, was that, when the Northern Kingdom of Israel was conquered by the Assyrians in 721 BCE and its population carried off into exile, "the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Kamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel." II Kings 17:24. These foreign elements, who eventually took the religion of the Land, are held to be the forefathers of the Samaritans.

The Samaritans themselves vehemently deny this. They declare that the number banished

was inconsiderable, for the records of Sargon II affirm, "I besieged and conquered Samaria, led away as booty 27,290 inhabitants of it." Obviously that figure represents only a small proportion of the settlers, and the likelihood is that the overwhelming majority stayed to till the soil and carry on their everyday tasks. This being so, the Samaritans argue that their ancestors are the true children of Israel, who never left the Land. This is one of the cardinal dogmas of their faith.

Friction quickly developed between the Samaritans and the Jews returning from Babylon. Exiles, led by Ezra and Nehemiah, began to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple, arousing the wrath of Sanballat, Governor of Samaria, who "spoke before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, 'What do these feeble Jews?'" (Nehemiah 4:2). Jewish sources have it that the Jews were victorious; Samaritan sources that Sanballat succeeded in breaking down what had been built, and preventing completion of the work.

Feelings were further embittered by the unproven Samaritan claim that Ezra the Scribe had altered the script and the text of the Pentateuch. According to the Samaritans, their version is the original one, although basically it is the same as the Pentateuch of the Old Testament. Most variations are minute and insignificant. The principal divergence is the telescoping of the first two Commandments, and the replacement of the tenth by one stressing the sanctity of Mount Gerizim as the site of the House of God, the place of creation of Adam and Eve and of the readying of Isaac for sacrifice.

An accidental find made in 1962 shed new light on Samaritan history at the beginning of Greek rule in this area. Beneath a pile of some two hundred skeletons discovered in a cave in Wadi Daliah near Jericho were items of jewellery, seals, and papyri — including marriage contracts and property deeds — written in Aramaic and employing the Palaeo-Hebrew script that is typical of old Samaria. Among the hundred and fifty seals was one of "Hananiah ben Sanballat, Governor of Samaria", thought to be the great-grandson of Sanballat of the Bible.

Archaeological interpretation infers that, after Alexander the Great conquered Samaria from the Persians around 333 BCE, he set up a military government under Andromachus. Alexander himself favoured the Samaritans, even permitting them to build a temple on Mount Gerizim, but Andromachus was a callous and cruel man whose behaviour sparked off a rebellion in which he was captured and burnt alive. Alexander despatched troops against the insurgents who had hidden in this cave with their families, and they were hunted down and mass-

acred. Even more interesting is the interpretation of the papyri, which, according to the American archaeologist, Frank Cross, Jr., proves not only that the Samaritans of those days were wealthy and cultured, but that they were practising Jews and that marriage with Jewish partners was common.

Samaritan-Jewish enmity was heightened throughout the third century BCE, and flared into open conflict under the Maccabees. The climax came in 128 BCE, when the Hashmonaean king, John Hyrcanus, razed the temple on Mount Gerizim, and so fanned the general unrest in the then large and powerful Samaritan nation. In an intriguing discovery on Mount Gerizim, made in 1968 by Dr. Robert Bull, four strata of ruins were uncovered on the western peak: two upper strata of churches from Byzantine times, and a third of the temple of Zeus of the second century CE, which incorporated in its northern wall part of the lowest staturum — a strong, 10-metre high stone rampart from the fourth-century BCE Samaritan temple destroyed by John Hyrcanus.

At the turn of the Christian era, the Samaritans formed an important section of Palestine's inhabitants. The parable of Jesus, quoted in chapter 10 of the Gospel of Luke, of "[a] certain man who went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves", and was helped by the Good Samaritan, has become a household tale. The site of the Inn of the Good Samaritan, where a monastery stood in Byzantine days, can still be seen midway along the road that winds down from Jerusalem to Jericho.

Further to the north, in the village of Askar, biblical Sychar near Shechem, is Jacob's Well, dug, so tradition says, by the Patriarch over three thousand five hundred years ago. Now within the script of a church built over the spot, this is where, according to tradition, Jesus was resting when a Samaritan woman came to draw water. The tension between Samaritans and Jews is vividly brought out by the story of how Jesus asked her for water, and she replied, "How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans..." (John 4:9). Under Roman rule, Samaritans and Jews alike were persecuted, and Emperor Hadrian, who reigned from 117 to 138 CE, even forbade circumcision and other Judaic religious rites. He began the systematic destruction of Samaritan manuscripts — an erosion which continued for centuries, and it was he who built the temple to Zeus on the ruins of the Samaritan sanctuary on Mount Gerizim.

Some two hundred years after Hadrian's death, a Samaritan sage and scholar, Baba the Great — Baba Rabba — seems to have revived the hopes and aspirations of his people. He has become a heroic, semi-legendary figure, and is still revered. His encouragement was needed then, for, as Christianity gained ground in Palestine, the Samaritans suffered at least as much as the Jews.

Under Byzantine domination, Samaritan revolt after revolt was suppressed with the utmost cruel-

ty. But, despite heavy losses, at the Moslem invasion of Palestine in 634 CE the Samaritans were still about three hundred thousand strong, and for a while conditions improved. Communities were founded in Cairo and Damascus, and not only were the fields of Samaria and the costal plain from Gaza to Caesarea tilled by Samaritan farmers, but also those of Ramla, Lydda and Yavne.

This was a brief interlude. Thereafter, for centuries, hardship and assimilation gradually weakened the community, and, although some of those living away from their spiritual centre at Nablus returned, its numbers continued to decline. During Crusader times, the population dropped to fifty thousand, further dwindling under Mamluks and Turks. When Captains Kitchener and Conder travelled through the country in the 1880's they found only a hundred and thirty-six Samaritans in the Nablus region. This appears to have been a turning-point, for the British Survey reports that within ten years the figure had grown to a hundred and sixty, men still outnumbering women by nearly two to one — often the sign of a vanishing society.

After the British Mandate came into effect in Palestine in 1920, following World War I, there was a change for the better. Israel's 1948 War of Independence stands as a decisive landmark in Samaritan life. Until then, there had been a tendency to record the Samaritans as a non-Jewish entity, but in 1949, due largely to the good offices of President Itzhak Ben-Zvi, they were recognized as citizens of Israel under the Law of Return. His encouragement and the example of Japhet Tsadaka, head of the Samaritans outside Nablus, prompted some brethren from Nablus to join their families in Jaffa and then move to Holon, where a housing project was set up and a synagogue was consecrated.

Another important step, probably influenced by the incidence of the Law of Return, was the acceptance of Jewish marriage partners, conditional on their conversion to the Samaritan faith. So far, seven men of the Holon community have married Jewish wives — a reminder and a re-discovery of the essential affinity between the customs and credos of the two peoples. Both believe in the Pentateuch; both keep the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week; both use Hebrew as the language of prayer; both practise circumcision on the eighth day after the birth of a son; both have similar marriage and funeral customs. The only major schism turns on the question, which is the Holy Mount? — Gerizim or Zion, barely eighty kilometres apart. For the Samaritans the biblical injunction in Deuteronomy is incontestable: "When the Lord thy God hath brought thee in unto the Land... thou shalt put a blessing upon Mount Gerizim."

— continued in next issue

"WHEN THE LORD SHALL BUILD UP ZION HE WILL APPEAR IN HIS GLORY."

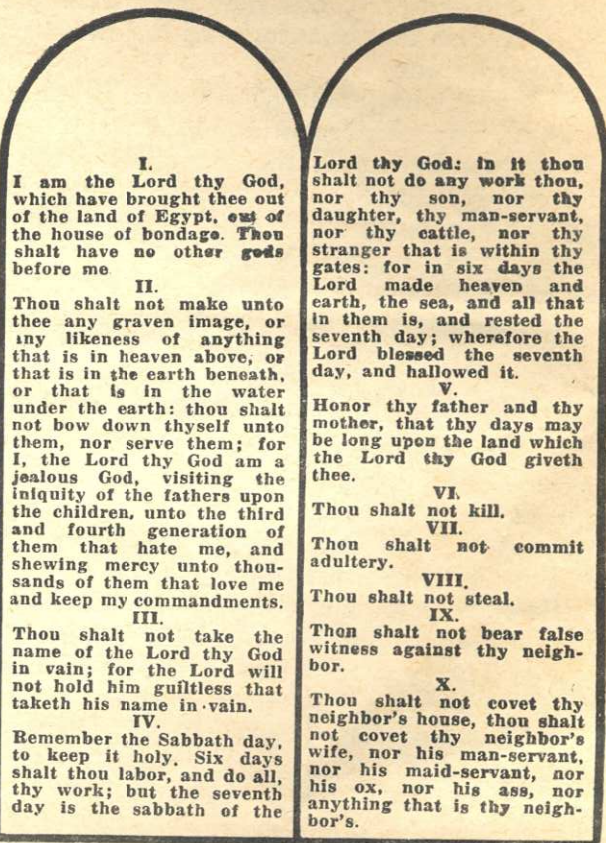
— Psalms 102:15.

DOES THE BIBLE CONTRADICT?

by the late Elder A. N. Dugger

That the Ten Commandments of God are perpetual and immutable, will be quickly seen and willingly admitted when the facts are disclosed. The crime wave sweeping the world, wherein each offense is a violation of one or another of the Ten Commandments, should make every father and mother carefully consider, and anxious to learn the facts pertaining to this vital question. The hateful deception that God's holy commandments have been abolished and nailed to the cross, has had a world wide sowing, and how horrible the harvest; but the searchlight of God's precious Word focused squarely on the situation is everywhere awakening people to the fact that it was the law of Moses and not the law of God that was abolished at the crucifixion of Christ.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS REMAIN FOREVER



THE TWO LAWS CONTRASTED

The Ten Commandments or Law of God

1. Was spoken by God. — Deut. 4: 12, 13.
2. Was written by God on tables of stone. — Ex. 24: 12.
3. Was placed in the Ark. — Deut. 10: 5.
4. Was right true and good. — Nehemiah 9: 13.
5. Was a law which if a man do, he shall even live in them. — Ezek. 20: 11, 13, 21.
6. Is a perfect law. — Ps. 19: 7.
7. Christ did not come to destroy. — Matt. 5: 17.
8. He came to magnify and make it honorable. — Isa. 42: 21.
9. Not one jot or tittle shall pass away, till all be fulfilled. — Matt. 5: 18.
10. We must not break the least. — Matt. 5: 19.
11. Is a law of liberty. — James 2: 12.
12. Is established through faith in Christ. — Rom. 3: 31.
13. Is spiritual. — Rom. 7: 14.
14. Is holy and good. — Rom. 7: 12.
15. Was written by the finger of God and called the royal law. — Ex. 31: 18; Jas. 2: 8.
16. Was proclaimed by Jehovah himself and He added no more. — Deut. 5: 22.
17. And are the commandments of God brought to light in the Third Angel's Message of Rev. 14: 12, and which will insure to those who observe them, a right to the tree of life. — Rev. 22: 14.

The Sacrificial or Law of Moses

1. Was spoken by Moses. — Deut. 1: 1—6.
2. Was written by Moses in a book. — 31: 24.
3. Was placed in the side of the Ark. — Deut. 31: 26.
4. Was not good. — Ezek. 20: 25.
5. Was a law whereby they should not live. — Ezek. 20: 25.
6. Made nothing perfect. — Heb. 7: 19.
7. He abolished it. — Eph. 2: 15.
8. He took it out of the way at His death. — Col. 2: 14.
9. Was an added law and passed away, when the seed came. — Gal. 3: 19.
10. Christ is the end of this law for righteousness. — Rom. 10: 4.
11. Was a yoke of bondage. — Gal. 5: 1.
12. Was a schoolmaster to bring them to Christ. — Gal. 3: 24, 25.
13. Is the law of carnal commandment. — Heb. 7: 16.
14. Is enmity against and contrary to us. — Eph. 2: 15; Col. 2: 14.
15. Was the handwriting of ordinances. — Col. 2: 14.
16. Was ordained by angels in the hands of a mediator. — Gal. 3: 19.
17. Is the law of commandments contained in ordinances (Eph. 2: 15). A shadow of good things to come (Heb. 10: 1), and was disannulled for the unprofitableness thereof. — Heb. 7: 18; Heb. 10: 3.

"Blew ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an ALARM in My Holy Mountain. Let all the inhabitants tremble for the day of the Lord cometh. It is nigh at hand." — Joel 2: 1.

"Judah shall dwell forever and Jerusalem from generation to generation, for I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed. For the Lord dwelleth in Zion." — Joel 3: 20, 21.

GOOD HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ON BREATHING

Few persons understand the vital importance of ventilation to the preservation of physical and mental efficiency. It is not sufficient that we have air to breathe, we must have fresh air. It is not enough that we breathe, we must take thought that the fresh, lifecharged air penetrates to every lung sac at fairly frequent intervals.

Shallow breathing is a health destroying habit and ought to be discouraged in the young, exposed and overcome by the mature and aging. Great numbers of people have not completely emptied their lungs of stale air.

Our own personal scheme to induce better breathing habits is to consciously and forcibly empty the lungs as often as the thought occurs. Nature immediately takes over thereafter with a long, full breath.

This partakes of the experience of a re-creation, a re-inspiration of life. Let it be remembered that before his first exhilarating breath, Adam was perfect and complete in every physical mechanism; but he was inert, lifeless. The scripture states that God "breathed into him the breath of life and he became a living soul." As the blessed oxygen reached his cells they too became living cells and took up each its appointed function.

But from that day to this, it has been the studied purpose of the devil to separate man from the breath of life, cell by cell if necessary, and using a thousand different techniques and devices.

One of the essential fundamental ways of reversing and defeating that lethal process is to regularly get that stale air out of the dark corners and replace it with clean, fresh air. It may not be easy at first for some of us, but it is worth the effort, and we will know at once that we are on the right track. — D. R. Hiatt.

REMARKS. — That miraculolous "something" in the air, that man named "oxygen", is a life giving substance. Air all about us is one thing that is free. We use it without any cost whatever, but thousands of people use much of it second handed, and over and over again, as if it were too expensive to afford in its pure state.

Satan, while carrying out his business of deception, to rob people of their health, and bring them to early graves makes many believe that if a window is left open, or a door, they are sure to catch a death of cold. This is a big falschood. No one ever took a cold from breathing fresh air. It is a thing impossible, but millions catch colds because of a lack of fresh air, by sleeping in a closed room, where a number of others also sleep.

Open your windows and doors, in the sleeping room in such a way that there is no strong draft blowing through the room, and you need never fear catching cold. Foul air is like poison

gas, you do not detect its presence, until you have stepped out into fresh air, and then back unto the sleeping room.

Your heart keeps up its faithful work of pumping the life blood through your body all night long, but as it comes into the fine cells of your lungs where it is purified with that miraculous "something" called oxygen, and finds only stale poluted air, that has been used over and over again, it cannot wait to receive its cleansing, but goes right on back into the various parts of your body, still carrying much of those impurities that should have been taken out. The blood in this way looses its repairing powers, to repair those parts in need, and give proper life to cells.

Fresh air, good wholesome thinking, with natural foods just as they come from "Mother Earth" assures health and long life. Sickness never comes without a cause, and outside of contageous diseases, overeating, because of much variety of tasty foods, with lack of real work (bodily exercise), is said to be the cause of 99 per cent of common ailments.

— A. N. Dugger.

FOR SICK FOLKS

HEAVENLY FATHER: — Thy precious Word declared that Thou didst heal the sick, cleanse the leper of sickness, and all manner of disease among the people, thou art just the same today! Thy power is still able to heal those who will come to Thee in faith. I therefore come to Thee now, on the authority of Thy precious Word and claim healing from this sickness, in His powerful Name. And this I ask, Heavenly Father, through the merits of Thy Son, our Messiah and Saviour.

DANIEL AND REVELATION

Now we have printed another edition of the book of Daniel together with the book of Revelation. This is a rare and valuable book explaining these prophecies and what is in store for the world. We are sure that Gabriel and Michael, through whom these great prophecies were given, will be pleased for us, unitedly to give them to the "Chosen People" from whom they have been withheld all of these years. Please purchase some of these books for yourself and also for your acquaintances, or give us orders to whom to mail them direct from Jerusalem. Available in English, Hebrew, and Russian.

Price \$2.50 Six or more, one half price

"Rehoboam was one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the Lord did choose of all the tribes of Israel to put His Name there." — 1 King 14:21; also 2 Chro. 12:13.

Extracts From Readers Letters

ST. CROIX, U.S.V.I —

My Dear Sister Dugger,

Greetings of love to you and the dear ones in the wonderful name of Jesus, our soon coming Messiah.

Just a few lines to let you know that we are all well by the grace of God, and hoping the same with you.

I would like to remind you about the quarterlies. Please post me 50 quarterlies by air-mail, so that we can get them by the end of the quarter. I hope that the tracts you promised to send me will be in time for the Convention, for I need them badly.

That's all for now. May God bless you.

Yours in His Service,
Elder J. Eudovique

U.S.A. —

My Dear Sister Dugger,

Greetings and blessing from Yahveh to you and family. It is a source of happiness to receive "The Mount Zion Reporter" again, just to know that you are striving to carry on. Truly you have had many trials, but Yahveh is the great source from which comes your help.

You have our sincere prayers continually. Surely it is not very much longer before our blessed Saviour and strong Deliverer comes back to earth again to receive His own. I pray every day to be ready and look forward to His return.

Please keep us in your prayers, and I'll be looking for the next "Reporter" soon. Love and prayers.

Your Sister in His great and Holy Name,
C. H. B., Calif.

KENYA. —

Dear Friends in the Messiah,

These are greetings from your spiritual brother who is in Kenya. I hope this meets you well and safe as it leaves me here.

Your recent letter has reached me safely. When I say thank you from the bottom of my heart for the truth of God's Holy Word which you send from Jerusalem, it just does not convey how deeply grateful I really feel. Knowing the truth is the only real happiness. It has taken many years for me to know the true church or the true doctrine without any doubts or reservations. It has been so difficult to fight error especially when error went with fellowship.

I have never come across anything which meets my spiritual need as "The Mount Zion Reporter" except for the word of God itself. The Lord has wonderfully blessed me through the articles in "The Mount Zion Reporter". I have never come across such Messianic literature which reveals the urgency of our time and the only solution for our lost generation.

I can't help financially as I am only a student, but I always pray for you all. I appeal to you

also to pray for me as I continue trusting and serving Him. I wish to thank you again for your kindness to me. May God bless you as you continue spreading His Word. I wish to hear from you soon.

Yours in the Messiah,
J. N. K.

SOUTH AFRICA. —

Dear Mrs. Dugger and Co-Workers,

Thank you for sending me "The Mount Zion Reporter" and your newsletters.

In Pretoria there are now regular Sabbath services. There are some 19 churches in Southern Africa now, of the Worldwide Church of God.

I placed a copy of the book "The History of the True Religion" in the Pretoria Church Library, and I have been quite amazed at how popular it is. Whenever someone returns the book, someone else immediately takes it out again.

Thanks again for the magazine.

Yours sincerely,
O. B.

PHILIPPINES. —

Dear Sister Effie Dugger,

Holy greetings to you and your co-workers there in our world headquarters. I am happy to inform you that I have received the Bible Lessons, the Bible Home Instructor, Daniel and Revelation, and the prophetic chart. I am very thankful that I receive all I need in the work of God. I am needing also the pamphlets: The Second Coming of Christ, Three Days and Three Nights, Signs of the Coming Messiah, The Change of the Sabbath, What Was Abolished, and The Greatest Miracle of the Age. All kinds of these pamphlets send me by bundle, because there are many interested here.

Because of my situation in laboring for our beloved Messiah here in Agusan del Sur, I am very busy. It is 100 miles going to the North, 100 miles also to the South, and in my territory there are four provinces. Even though I am very poor, I try my best to preach the gospel.

Will you please send me the "History of the True Religion", because this is very important, especially here in our place there are many Seventh Day Adventists.

Lastly, please pray for us, while we are praying for all. With best Christian love to all.

Your Brother in the Master's Service,
Evangelist M. P.

LIFT UP YOUR HANDS

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

LIFE IN ISRAEL

By EFFIE DUGGER

Life in Israel goes on in a peaceful way thus far.

The nation of Israel celebrated the occasion of its 29th Independence Day with joy. The day preceding Independence Day is the Memorial Day for the ones who lost their lives for the freedom of the State of Israel. It is a solemn day of remembrance, with programs in every village and city over the country. At 11:00 a.m. the sirens blow for a period of time in remembrance for the fallen. Every one stops whatever they are doing to stand to attention, traffic all stops in the streets, and many of the drivers leave their vehicles to stand at attention. In the evening the sirens blow once again to end the Memorial, and the celebration of the Independence Day begins.

The days are getting longer, and the sun is warming things up now. There has been plenty of rain to keep things growing. In fact, we have had an abundance of rainfall this winter, and even some good late rains which the farmers are thankful for, in that they will not have to irrigate their orchards until in May this year. They usually start in April. How wonderful that this little nation came to life again, and is being used as a witness of God's love and keeping power!

And another blessing will be bestowed upon this city in the future. We must pray that the people will be ready to receive the blessing. "Hereafter shall you see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of Heaven." (Matt. 26:64).

Thanks for your prayers for us that we may be strong and use the strength for His glory. My lame hip is a little better, but I use a cane to get around. My little grandchildren go with me when I go shopping. Also some of the neighbor children help pull the shopping cart home.

Brother Gordon took me to a store downtown this morning where they tested my eyes, and made me some glasses to wear. I had lost my old ones. Now I can see real well again and I am thankful.

We have as many as six grandchildren helping here the most of the time, and sometimes more. Two or three sleep here at nights so that I am never left alone. The big boys help with the printing, the orders, and keeping things repaired around the place, and the girls help with the housework, typing, etc. They also help with the music. They have a lovely singing group, but we do miss Joel Fauth's deep voice now. He is the son of Adolph Fauth and was working here with us for several months since he graduated from Hebrew high school last summer. He has left us, and gone to the United States. We miss him, he was a great help here around the

machinery, and with the Hebrew language.

Priscilla plays instruments for the singing groups. She is the one who plays for the group of blind Arab girls in Bethlehem, called "The Lamplighters." They sing at our meetings sometimes.

A sister from Tel Aviv is staying with us a few days, she is originally from Switzerland, and has been a supporter of the work here for years. She hopes to move to Jerusalem some day. She was down in the yard straightening up things when I get up this morning. This is a sunny day today, almost like summer. I must go to town and do some shopping, It will be nice to get out into the sunshine. The stores are full of fruits and vegetables, this is a wonderful place for a vegetarian. There are always several kinds of fruits in season here the year around. Also there is always a very good selection of almost any kind of vegetable fresh on the market the year around. One can easily have a very good, well-balanced diet here at all times.

We were very happy to be privileged to have the distinguished radio speaker of the Voice of Prophecy, H. M. S. Richards and his wife of Glendale, California, as our visitors recently. Elder H. M. S. Richards has told us of how his grandfather learned the Sabbath truth from Elder A. F. Dugger, who was Elder A. N. Dugger's father. We value very highly these ties with the pioneers of Sabbath keeping, and his visit meant very much to us.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee. (Ps. 122:6).

Will close with love to "The Reporter" friends. Shalom.

Effie Dugger

"THE REPORTER" SPEAKS

Please do not bury me in your house somewhere. My MESSAGE about Jerusalem and our SOON COMING KING is not finished. I do not want to die, but must call at home after home yet to visit many good people like you. If you stop me, my blood may be required at your hands as we are told in Ezekiel 33:6. Please, after you write down my home address: P.O.B. 10184, Jerusalem, Israel, either take me to or pay my fare just the cost of a stamp to visit someone else. Thank you very much!

A HISTORY OF THE TRUE RELIGION

By Dugger and Dodd. — A wonderful book which everyone should read, tracing the history of the true faith from 34 A.D. down through the centuries of Roman persecution to present day times. Has 320 pages. — Cost \$5.00

Obituaries

IN MEMORY

Brother James D. Collins, of Henryetta, Okla., U.S.A., passed away on October 30, 1976. He leaves behind his dear wife, for whom we pray that the Lord will give her the courage, comfort and strength to carry on. Brother Collins is now asleep in the Lord, awaiting that bright resurrection morning and the crown of immortality.

IN MEMORY

Sister May Leonce, of St. Lucia, passed away on Thursday, March 8, 1977, at 7:30 p.m. She passed away at the St. Jude hospital in Vieux Fort, during childbirth. She was 33 years old. She leaves her husband, Brother S. Leonce, five sons, and one daughter.

Sister Leonce was a faithful sister in working for the Lord, and we have the hope of meeting her on that bright day of His coming. We pray that the Lord will give comfort and courage to her family in this time of loss.

IN MEMORY

Nkechi Azubine, the beloved daughter of Brother Azubine of Mbaise, Nigeria, passed away in the Lord on November 20, 1976. Having gone to sleep in the Lord, she now awaits that bright day of His appearing. We extend sincere condolences to her family.

IN MEMORY

John Fauth, of Toppenish, Washington, fell asleep in Jesus on Thursday, March 1, 1977, after an extended illness.

Brother Fauth was born December 1, 1895, in Eureka, South Dakota. In 1919 he homesteaded near Baylor, Montana. He married Pauline Reich on July, 1920, in Glasgow, Montana. The family lived in Montana until 1946, when they moved to Washington.

Brother Fauth was a faithful member of the Church of God and with great expectation looked forward to the coming of Jesus.

John Fauth was the beloved husband of Pauline Fauth, the father of Aaron, Reuben, and Sammy Fauth, and Leona Schlenker. He is also survived by 13 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 3 brothers, 1 sister, and many nieces and nephews. Two sons preceded him in death, Byron Fauth in 1942, and Erwin Fauth in 1947; also two grand-sons, Ornan and Mark Fauth on February 5, 1977.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder William Heuer on Monday, April 4. Brother Fauth was laid to rest in the Elwood Cemetery, Toppenish, where he will await the sounding of the Trump of God. — 1 Thess. 4:16.

IN MEMORY

Sister Lily McIntyre fell asleep in the Lord on March 19, 1977. She now awaits that glorious day of His coming, and the crown of everlasting life promised to all the righteous. We of "The Reporter" staff will miss her letters, and extend our sincere sympathy to her friends and loved ones.

IN MEMORY

Sister Wilda Hammond, of Lineville, Iowa, fell asleep in the Lord in August, 1976. Sister Hammond was a close friend and supporter of the Jerusalem Work for many years. She was a faithful member of the Church of God, and a faithful servant of the Lord. She now awaits His coming and the crown of everlasting life laid up for all the saints.

THE OVERSEER OF NIGERIA

The new Overseer of Nigeria, chosen to take the place of the late Elder Orukwoku, is Elder J. A. Agilebu. He was chosen at a convention held for this purpose in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, and we hereby confirm Elder Agilebu as being the Overseer of Nigeria. We ask all Elders and Pastors to give him their co-operation and support, and pray that the Lord will work through Elder Agilebu, for His glory and to the furthering of His work.

— World Headquarters of the Church of God (7th Day)

MY BIBLE AND I

We've traveled together,
My Bible and I,
Through all kinds of weather,
With smile or with sigh!
In sorrow or sunshine,
In tempest or calm!!
Thy friendship unchanging,
My lamp and my psalm.

We've traveled together,
My Bible and I,
When life had grown weary,
And death e'en was nigh!
But all through the darkness
Of mist or of wrong,
I found there a solace,
A prayer and a song.

So now who shall part us,
My Bible and I?
Shall "isms" or "schims"
Or "new lights" who try?
Shall shadow for substance,
Or stone for good bread,
Supplant thy sound wisdom,
Give folly instead?

Ah, no, my dear Bible,
Exponent of light!
Thou sword of the spirit,
Put error to flight!
And still through life's journey,
Until my last sigh,
We'll travel together,
My Bible and I.

— Author Unknown

NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

ALL ITEMS FROM "THE JERUSALEM POST"

FIRST MOSHAV IN GAZA

YAMIT. — Hammering a "mezuzah" into the doorframe of one of the 30 new homes in Moshav Netzer Hazani, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday inaugurated the first Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip.

The new moshav, formerly Nahal Katif, will initially be settled by 25 religious families of the Hapoel Hamizrahi movement, who will grow glasshouse tomatoes.

Rabin said he considers the area between Deir el-Balah and Khan Yunis to be an inseparable part of Israel. He said another six settlements had been approved for this immediate area.

REMAINS OF ROMAN CITY AT BARDAWIL

BEERSHEBA. — An ancient city on the trade road between Israel and Egypt, which appears on ancient route maps and was mentioned by Josephus, has been uncovered by archaeologists from Ben-Gurion University working under the direction of Dr. Eliezer Oren.

Dr. Oren's team has just finished a first season of digs at Flusiat, on the Bardawil Lagoon in north Sinai, some 30 kilometres from El-Arish. Flusiat was identified at the site of the ancient Roman city of Ostrakina, which dates from the Third and Fourth Century C.E.

Students and soldier volunteers working under extremely difficult conditions in thick salt marshes uncovered a magnificent Byzantine church with marble pillars and stone walls. At the north and south sides of the church archaeologists found fragments of glass vessels and copper utensils which indicate that Ostrakina produced its own goods. The church was destroyed by Persian soldiers in the Seventh Century.

The dig at Flusiat was organized by the archaeology officer in the Sinai Command after Bedouin stole valuable antiquities from the site.

ISRAEL MAKES CHANGES IN F-15

Israel has made several basic changes to the F-15's it has on order from the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, it was learned.

The changes will be made only on those planes which are earmarked for Israel. But it is understood that the U.S. Air Force is seriously considering adapting some of the Israel suggestions to their own aircraft.

BIG WATER FIND NEAR YAHEL

TEL AVIV. — Additional evidence that large parts of the Negev straddle a vast underground water reservoir came over the weekend with the reported discovery of substantial quantities of water at "Yahalon One" — near the kilometre 110 on the Eilat highway.

"Yahalon" is one of 12 water wells now being drilled by Mekorot. It makes its name from the

nearby, new formed kibbutz, Yahel. It was begun three months ago and completed at a cost of some IL 3 m.

Mekorot spokesman Mordechai Yacovitz said yesterday that the water, obtained from a depth of some 600 m., was of a satisfactory 460 mg. per litre mineral content — which meant that it could be used for agriculture and possibly for drinking as well.

The trial pumping rate is kept at a controlled 150 cubic metres per hour, but company geologists hope that they will eventually be able to increase this quantity.

ISRAEL CAN STILL WIN WAR SWIFTLY SAYS ALUF TAL

TEL AVIV. — Israel can win swift military victories as it did in the past in the event of another war, unless she commits a major error, according to Aluf (res.) Israel Tal, assistant to the Defence Minister.

Nothing has changed with regard to the military and human potential of both Israel and its neighbours, Tal said on an Israel Radio interview Friday. But there is no weapon which Israel is unfamiliar with — no matter how sophisticated it is.

KIRYAT SHMONA AWARD TO RESERVE BATTALION

KIRYAT SHMONA. — Mayor Avraham Aloni Tuesday, awarded the town symbol to an infantry battalion which served in the Kiryat Shmona area during 1974. The reserve unit, consisting mainly of Druse soldiers, took part in actions against terrorists in the area, including the attack on Kiryat Shmona in April 1974.

FLOWER EXPORTS FROM THE NEGEV

Negev growers are expected to export over 125 m. flowers this year, according to a projection in an internal report by the Agriculture Ministry.

Total farm production in the Negev in 1976 came to IL.1.8 b., of which one third was exported. According to the report all tomatoes, lettuce and radishes exported from this country last year were grown in the Negev.

Negev farmers last year exported a total of 120,000 tons of 16 kinds of fruit and vegetables.

SULPHUR SPRING FOUND NEAR KOMEMIUT

The Dead Sea and Tiberias may soon have stiff competition for the spa trade, according to an announcement by the Tourism Ministry yesterday.

The announcement said that a new mineral spring, containing the highest percentage of sulphur ever found in this country, has been discovered near Komemiut, inland from Ashkelon.

Meanwhile, plans are going ahead to develop two other recently discovered springs: Ein Noit, on the Dead Sea, and Ein Nun, near Tiberias. The Health Resorts Authority is negotiating with local and foreign investors who are interested in acquiring the rights to bottle water from these springs.

PERES: WON'T TOLERATE A PALESTINIAN STATE

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Israel will not give in to the Palestinian demand to set up a state — purportedly in the name of peace — which would be the base for further wars against Israel, Defence Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday. He was recating to the resolutions of the Palestine National Council in Cairo.

Speaking at an awards ceremony for outstanding workers at the Military Industries, Peres said the Palestinians hope that from a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza they could "hit at Israel until they achieve its total destruction." We do not plan to cooperate with such an effort, and it is unimportant in what language the words are said: Arabic, English, American or Hebrew."

MEIR: BRITAIN BROKE OFF TALKS ON TANK DEAL AFTER ARAB THREAT

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Golda Meir said over the weekend that when she was Prime Minister Britain broke off negotiations to sell tanks to Israel following a threat by Kuwait to withdraw its huge deposits from London.

Addressing the Economic and Industrial Club here on Friday, Mrs. Meir noted that even friendly countries which understood our problems sometimes found it more convenient "not to understand" when it came to contracting deals worth hundreds of millions of dollars with the Arab states.

Referring to recent statements on the Middle East attributed to U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his advisers, Mrs. Meir said that even if these were accurate, they were not binding upon Israel until Israel agreed to accept them.

"We should not, under any circumstances, give in to anything which we are convinced, after careful consideration, is dangerous for us," she said.

\$34 B. OPEC STAKE IN U.S. MAY INFLUENCE POLITICS

NEW YORK. — A secret CIA survey shows that OPEC nations have invested \$34 b. in U.S. holdings over the past three years, columnist Jack Anderson reported on Friday.

Anderson says some CIA analysts fear this huge financial stake could influence U.S. action in any future Middle East crisis, and that the nation's most influential financial leaders might feel compelled to support the Arab cause.

OPEC nations have entrusted their portfolios to the nation's largest banks, particularly Chase Manhattan, Morgan Guaranty, Bank of America and New York's Citibank, reports the col-

umnist. He adds: "Once the Arabs get a hold on a banker's pocketbook, his heart and mind will usually follow."

The petrodollars have been channelled discreetly into the U.S. economy, Anderson states. With the single exception of the Shah of Iran, the oil potentates have been careful to avoid purchasing controlling interests in American firms.

The rise and fall of the stock market, plus deposit withdrawals and other transactions, have reduced the value of the \$34 b. OPEC investment in the U.S. by \$2 b., according to the CIA.

Anderson says the CIA estimate is that the oil-producing nations are pumping about 20 per cent of their available funds into the U.S.

OUR EXPORT GROWTH ALMOST THREE TIMES THAT OF EEC

The growth of exports in Israel during 1976 was almost three times that of the average growth in European Common Market countries.

Last year our exports grew by 26 per cent over those of 1975. During that period the EEC countries registered an increase of only 9.10 per cent, an official at the Commerce and Industry Ministry said yesterday. He attributed the rapid increase here to the effect of trade conventions, the slowdown in domestic consumption, and the constant change in the make-up of our total exports.

While until a few years ago the citrus industry accounted for a large part of our exports, the metal and electronic industries now have increased their share. The two branches doubled their exports, from \$215 m. in 1974 to \$455 m. in 1976, the official said.

The chemical industry has also shown considerable growth, he added.

16 TERRORISTS CAUGHT; WERE READING CAR-BOMB

A terrorist cell of 16 members was in the midst of preparing a car-bomb when it was uncovered by security forces in the village of el-Yamoun, near Jenin, recently, the Army spokesman announced yesterday.

When arrested, the terrorists also had quantities of arms and explosives in their possession. The investigation continues, the spokesman added.

NEW ISRAEL DRUG MAY RIVAL INSULIN

NETANYA. — A new type of anti-diabetic drug, which is taken orally, is now undergoing clinical tests, both in Israel and in Europe. The drug, whose code name is D.I.D.-42, was developed by Dr. Enzo Tedehchi, a senior research chemist at the Plantex Pharmaceutical Company here.

(A senior pharmacist at another company, who is also engaged in research, said that "although there are other oral anti-diabetic drugs on the market, this one, according to first reports, is longer-acting, more efficient, can be taken in

lower dosages, and has fewer side-effects.”)

D.I.D.-42 is said to have a completely new chemical structure and a “novel” mechanism of activity. It reduces the glucose (sugar) in the blood by strongly increasing the burning up of sugar (glucose oxidation) in the muscular and fatty cells, while simultaneously slowing down the creation of glucose in the liver cells.

The drug also decreases the cholesterol and fatty acid level in the blood. Moreover, unlike insulin, it is a normo-glycaemic drug (that is to say, it will not reduce the sugar levels in the blood below a normal level) and thus will not cause a patient to go into a state of shock if too much of the drug is taken.

Since the drug (if it lives up to expectations) will be a huge commercial success, Plantex refuses to reveal the name of the European company which is also testing it. It is believed, however, that this company will market it within the Common Market, since this would eliminate much of the red tape involved in having a new drug accepted by the various Health Ministries in the Common Market.

ARABS VIEW RESIGNATION AS EXCUSE TO STALL PEACE

CAIRO. — Because the resignation of Premier Yitzhak Rabin over an illegal bank account held in the U.S. is incomprehensible in Arab eyes, it was being interpreted in Arab countries as an excuse to delay Middle East peace efforts.

As a legacy from the days of the caliphs, most Arabs expect their leaders to get rich on the job. The limousines, helicopters, palaces and other trappings of power are taken as a matter of course.

“This is a manoeuvre to delay making peace with the Arabs”, said an Egyptian official. “Al Ahram”, Egypt’s leading newspaper, said the same thing.

STATE DEPARTMENT: SOVIETS TO RESTORE ISRAEL TIES, PERHAPS BY SUMMER

WASHINGTON.—The U.S. State Department has concluded that the Soviet Union will probably move to restore diplomatic relations with Israel later this year, perhaps as early as this summer.

Informed U.S. sources, disclosing this State Department assessment said over the weekend that the U.S. has picked up several significant indications of a gradual Soviet movement in this direction. They thought restoration of ties could come before the reconvening of the Geneva Middle East conference during the latter half of this year.

The Soviets, who broke relations with Israel during the 1967 Six Day War, are seen as anxious to expand their role in Arab-Israel diplomatic efforts. The Kremlin is coming around to the conclusion that it will need formal ties both with Israel and with the Arab states to play an effective role, according to the Americans.

SADAT ASKS U.S. FOR BOMBERS, TOW MISSILES

WASHINGTON.—Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday wound up two days of talks with President Jimmy Carter by formally putting forward Egypt’s request for the supply of U.S.-made military equipment, including F-5E fighter bombers, Tow anti-tank missiles, sophisticated electronic equipment and other items.

Following his third and final session with the American President, Sadat declined to say how Carter had responded to the Egyptian request.

KINNERET WILL SUPPLY RECORD QUANTITY OF WATER

TEL AVIV. — Mekorot will be able to supply a record quantity of some 400 m. cubic meters of water for irrigation, industrial and household use from the Lake Kinneret reservoir this summer, its spokesman, Mordechai Yacobovitz said here yesterday.

“It’s been an exceptional year from a hydrological point of view. Lake Kinneret has risen to minus (below Mediterranean level) 209.78 metres — which is only 78 centimetres below its maximum holding capacity”, Yacobovitz said.

This year’s rainfalls have added some 300 m. cubic metres to date. Other rain catchment basins, including the Kar Baruh Lake and the Menashe Hills system, are also filled to capacity. The Menashe area has absorbed over 21 m. cubic metres. Its storage capacity is 14 m. cubic metres and the overflow was used to replenish depleted underground water tables.

The spokesman attributed the satisfactory situation to a good distribution of the rainfalls and the adequate quantities measured in the northern half of the country.

Note. — There has since been more rain, bringing the level of the Sea of Galilee up even further.

DIAMOND EXPORTS UP 30 PER CENT TO \$712 M.

Diamonds are still Israel’s number-one export. Though this is not new, something special happened in the industry in the last year: exports rose by 30 per cent to \$712 m. This, industry leaders say, places Israel in the top spot in the world for sales of polished diamonds, with markets in every continent.

Trade circles attribute this growth to the general expansion of the industry. And this, they add, is due to stability — the good labour-management relations that resulted from the signing of the last work agreement.

Another factor is increased automation in Israel’s diamond-processing plants.

“We could use hundreds — perhaps, thousands — more diamond cutters and polishers right now”, an industry representative said. “But,” he added, “many diamond factories hesitate to initiate active hiring campaigns. They don’t want to risk investing lots of time and money training workers, only to see them snatched away later by some competing firm.”

LEBANESE OFFICER: FIGHT TO THE END

METULLA. — The commanding officer of the Lebanese forces in southern Lebanon bitterly criticized President Sarki's government, the Syrians and "the entire world" for abandoning the residents of the independent enclaves to the butchery of the terrorists.

The officer, who identified himself as Sa'ad Hadad, was speaking to journalists after bringing six wounded children to the Good Fence here on Friday. The children had been wounded by 120 mm. mortar shells.

Major Hadad, about 45, balding, with a reddish brown mustache and wearing olive-green army fatigues, also criticized Christian leaders, such as Pierre Jemayyel and Camille Chamoun, as well as Shia Moslem leaders like Kamal el-Asa'ad.

The officer said he had decided to break his silence and speak openly, although by doing this, "I know I am endangering my life, my family, and probably also my military career."

He claimed Syria "is putting all its weight behind the terrorists in order to fight and destroy the few Lebanese in the south" who are still fighting for Lebanese independence.

"How can they blame us for asking for Israel help?" Hadad asked. "Who will give us food? The Syrians are shelling us with 130 mm. guns and the terrorists with 155 mm. guns and rockets. Any man who is a true Lebanese... must pick up his weapons... and fight the terrorists and also the Syrians, because the Syrians are here to wipe out everything that is Lebanese."

ISRAEL WON'T IDLY WATCH PLO ADVANCE

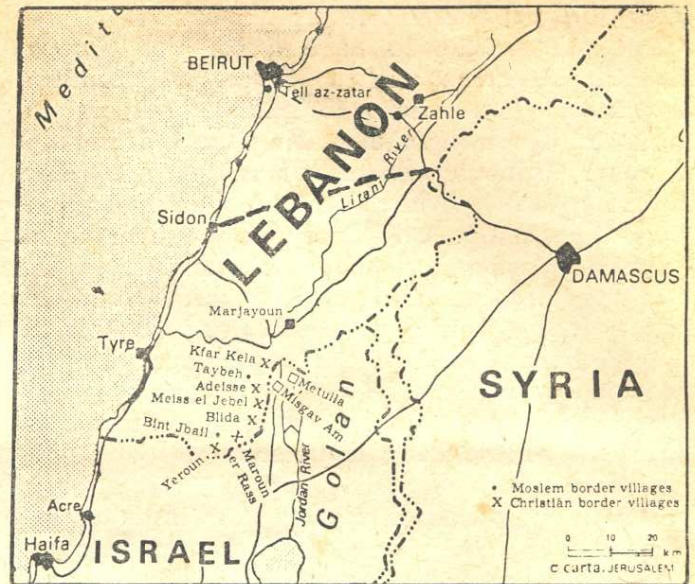
Israel has served notice to the Western powers that it will no longer remain indifferent to the deployment of Palestine Liberation Organization forces along Lebanon's southern border with Israel. It is learned last night that the Israel notice was first conveyed to the U.S. with the aim of channelling it to the Lebanon as well as to Syria, which makes up the backbone of a 30,000-strong "peace-keeping" force in Lebanon.

Jerusalem further cautioned that it will not tolerate either Beirut's or Damascus' current notion of implementing a 1969 Cairo formula under which the PLO would continue to hold its present positions near the border. Jerusalem stressed that the Cairo formula was essentially an anti-Israel scheme designed to regulate the PLO's terrorist activity against Jewish settlements.

Jerusalem also reasserted the concept of a "red line" demarcating the southernmost limit for non-Lebanese troops. This geo-political security limit is believed to run along a line stretching between Sidon and Jezzine, beyond which the predominantly Syrian Arab League peace-keeping force in Lebanon was barred from advancing last February. Israel continues to maintain that security in southern Lebanese villages could be safeguarded by a purely Lebanese force.

This reaffirmation of Israel's position came in the wake of the PLO entrenchment in villages just taken over from Christian militias.

In the notice it served through international channels, Israel warned against the PLO's continued extermination of southern Lebanese villagers. Israel could no longer idly watch the slaughter of Christians who are just across the border. As a Jewish nation which had faced the horror of genocide, Israel would not permit



the murder of Christian citizens, it was said. Israel would also not remain indifferent to attempts to undermine the humanitarian aid it was extending to the southern Lebanese.

ALLON: WILL NOT TOLERATE ATTACK ON CHRISTIAN AREAS

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said last night that Israel would not tolerate any attack on the Christian enclaves in Lebanon adjacent to Israel's northern border.

Interviewed on television's "Moked" programme, he noted that the recent attacks on Christian forces had taken place outside the Christian enclaves.

Television military correspondent Nahman Shai said there were 6,000 to 7,000 Palestinians south of the Litani River. In addition, he said there were 30,000 Syrian troops and 400 tanks some 30-40 km. from the border. Shai said that Israel's entire northern border was being prepared to meet the possibility of a Syrian thrust.

PLO-SYRIAN PACT IN LEBANON DANGEROUS FOR ISRAEL: GUR

Agreement between the Palestinians and the Syrians in Lebanon would bring Israel's relations with Syria to a point of great danger, Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur said yesterday. Rav-Aluf Gur said Israel "could not ignore" such an agreement, which could mean renewed terrorist activity on the Lebanese border, and warned Syria to "weigh the matter thoroughly."

SHARON: ARABS WILL ATTACK THIS YEAR

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Aluf (res.) Ariel Sharon warned here yesterday that the Arab states have already decided to launch a new war against Israel and will attack this summer or fall.

The former general said the Arab states, having learned the lesson of the Yom Kippur War, would attempt to wear Israel down through limited wars or other military operations aimed at achieving limited objectives. The decision had already been taken in concept by Cairo, Damascus and Riyadh, he said; and the preparations were nearly complete.

BOOKS AND TRACTS

YOU SHOULD READ THESE BOOKS

The Greatest Miracle of the Age, The Rebirth of Israel — Bees Fight and Manna Falls Again. German, French, Hebrew or English. Price 10c.

Bible Lessons for Adults. — A 16-page booklet with durable cover, containing a Bible Lesson for each Sabbath for three months. Lessons are in question form with Bible references for answer. — Cost 25 cts.

Communion, Passover, or Lord's Supper. — As practiced by the New Testament Church, and foot washing. — Cost 5 cts.

Death in the Kitchen. — This shows the grave danger, even death from not following the "Law of the Clean and the Unclean Meats". Confusing New Testament texts cleared up. — Cost 10 cts.

Doctrine and History of the Primitive Church. — A condensed history from the 300-page book on: "The History of the True Church". Printed in English, Spanish, Hebrew, Greek, French and Telugu (16 pages). — Cost 15 cts.

Does the Bible Contradict? — A 4-page tract showing that there are no contradictions in the New Testament over the question of the Law. — Cost 5 cts.

Explaining Objectionable Scripture often Used Against the Sabbath and the Law. — Cost 5 cts.

Has Our Messiah Come? — This shows how fully 33 outstanding scriptures of the Old Testament were clearly fulfilled in the New Testament, proving the Child born in Bethlehem was and is our Messiah. — Hebrew or English (16 pages). — Cost 10 cts.

Prophetic Charts on Daniel and Revelation. — Heavy white paper. Includes booklet of 32 pages fully explaining the chart. — Cost one dollar. Colored 5 dollars.

Prophetic Time Periods in Bible Prophecy. — The Resurrection in this Generation. — 10 cts.

Seven Reason why the Seven Last Plagues are Future, and Literal. — (Four pages). — Cost 5 cts.

The Change of the Sabbath; Who Authorized It? — Cost 10 cts.

The Children's Friend. — Published bi-monthly at Jerusalem (containing different Sabbath Lessons for the younger children, each Sabbath through the month, also letters from children over the world, short Bible stories, etc. — Cost one dollar a year.

The Daughter of Jerusalem and the Daughter of Babylon. — This booklet identifies the Daughter of Babylon with "Babylon the Great", of Revelation 17. — Cost 10 cents.

The Kingdom Restored to Israel. — The restoring process of the Kingdom on earth. 1,000 years of peace. Who will remain? Who will perish? **The atomic burning day.** — Cost 15 c.

From Sabbath to Sunday or Who Changed The Sabbath? — Price 10 cts.

Three Days and Three Nights. — Matt. 12:40 explained concerning the resurrection of Christ (Yahshua). — Cost 5 cts.

The Law of the Spirit of Life. — 8 pages dealing with the way in which Heaven's virtue and power is generated by man, for greater service. In German, Hebrew or English. — Cost 5 c.

Easter Xmas and Sunday, Pagan Holidays. — Cost 10 cts.

Signs of the Coming Messiah. — Events and world conditions showing that the return of our Messiah (Yahshua) is extremely near. — Cost 10 cts.

Was Man Created or Did He Evolve? — The false theory of evolution tested. Illustrated with a number of photos (10 pages). — Cost 10 cts.

What Was Abolished? — Peter's testimony about Paul's writings. He says they are hard to be understood, which people wrest, to their own destruction. Question and answer form, on Paul's statements about the Law (15 pages). — Cost 10 cts.

I Will Bless Them that Bless Thee. — Setting forth personal experiences where financial and spiritual blessings have favored those who love and bless the Jews. — Cost 5 cts.

Who Are the Messianic Jews in Israel? — 16 pages in both English and Hebrew. — Cost 10 cts.

Why Israel Is Here To Stay? — 16 pages showing time periods in Bible prophecy fulfilled in our day pertaining to Israel, her rise and fall again. — Cost 10 cts.

Why Is the Jew Indestructible? — Also includes testimony on brainwashing by Communists, who were struck dead. — Cost 5 cts.

Walking and Exercise. — For longevity and health. — Cost 5 cts.

Will there be Another World Kingdom? — Israel's God a Reality or a Myth? — 10 cents.

World-wide Warning of Pending Beast Worship. — With flag and snow-flake, with mark and number of the beast (16 page). — 10 cts.

The Bible Home Instructor, English and Hebrew. English over 500 pages and 200 pictures, illustrating the subject. Price 5 dollars, one half price to salesmen. **Daniel and Revelation,** cloth bound stiff cover. English and Hebrew: \$2.50, one half price for order of six or more. The same for the **Instructors.**

Public Discussion on the Sabbath, written in full as given by the Founder and Elder Porter of the "Church of Christ." — Cost 3.00 dollars.

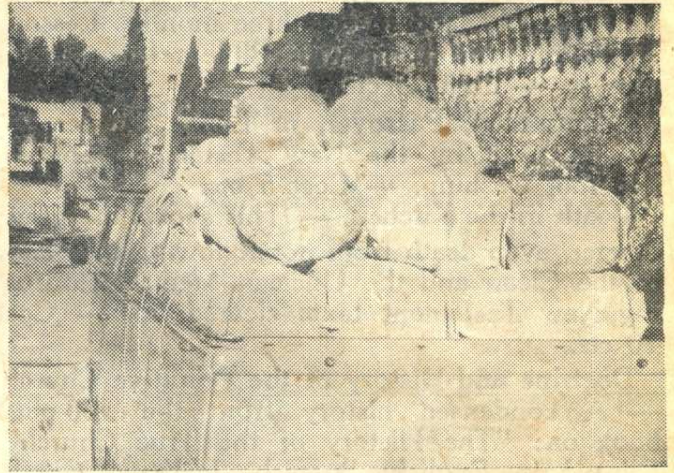
HOW GENTILES GET IN

Showing that they are to be adopted into the family of Abraham and become Israel (Gal. 3: 28 to 29). Also Jews inwardly (Rom. 2:25, 29. — Cost 10 cents.

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



Sister Effie Dugger and Elder Gordon Fauth with one of our recent mailings, on its way to the Post Office.



One of our shipments of literature (bibles, books, tracts, etc.) being taken to the Post Office for mailing.

FEAST OF BRIDES AND BONFIRES TONIGHT

Lag Ba'Omer, the one-day break in the seven-week semi-mourning period between Pessah and Shavuot, will be celebrated from sundown this evening (May 5) with weddings, haircuts, bonfires and hikes through the countryside.

The semi-holiday recalls the legendary end of the plague that felled 24,000 of Rabbi Akiva's disciples, but more probably it marks a victory against the Romans at that time. It is also observed as the anniversary of the death of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai, known as the author of the mystic Zohar.

About 150,000 visitors are expected this evening at Mt. Meron in Galilee, the traditional burial site of Bar-Yohai. The Religious Affairs Ministry claims to have spent IL1,250,000 to prepare the area for the invasion of pilgrims (compared with IL620,000 last year).

The traditional parade of an antique Tora scroll will set off this afternoon from the Abu family home in Safad — for the 144th time. Sephardi Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef will take part.

The procession is expected to arrive at Mt. Meron for a torch-lighting ceremony at 7 in the evening, with Religious Affairs Minister Haim Zadok in attendance.

To prevent the desecration of the Sabbath, the parking lots and roads leading to Meron will close tomorrow at 3 p.m. to open on Saturday evening.

Meron will also be the site of "halaka" — the

first haircut for three-year old boys — on Lag Ba'Omer.

Jerusalem will have no central bonfire this year, since Jerusalem Day and its celebrations will follow next week. But the capital will certainly be spotted with small bonfires set by children and adults.

— from the "Jerusalem Post"

NOTICE

All contributions and money sent in (cheques money orders, etc.) should be made payable to "The Mount Zion Reporter". We acknowledge each amount promptly. If you fail to receive a letter and receipt from us in acknowledgement, please write in and tell us about it.

Address all letters to: **P.O. Box 10184** or to **P.O. Box 568** — Jerusalem, Israel. We have been using these two boxes for many years, and mail can be sent to either of them. Please, however, **DO NOT** address mail to any other box, or it will go astray.

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET!

Your entrance into the Kingdom will be blocked and the door closed against you for: judging and condemning one-another. (Luke 6:37). For carrying a reproach against your neighbor. (Psa. 15:1-3). For smiting (knocking) your fellow-servant. (Matt. 24:49). For hatred, variance, wrath or strife. (Gal. 5:20, 21).