

ULDALL

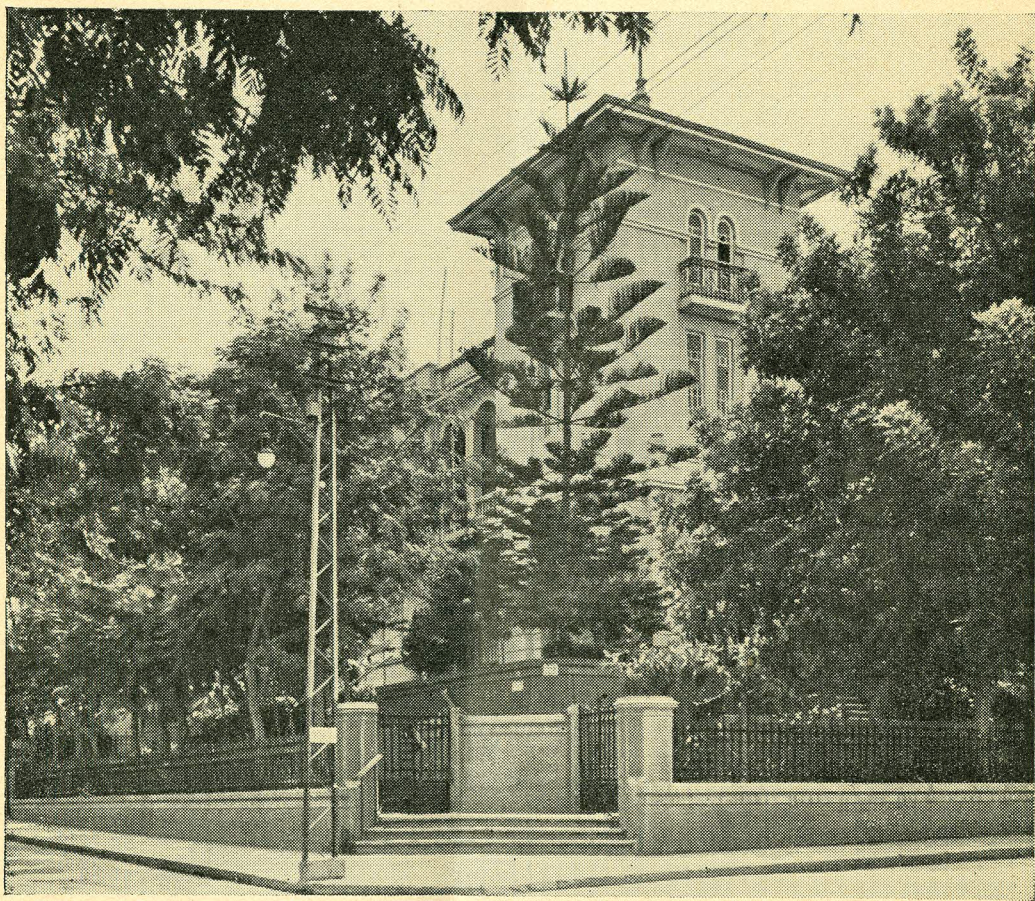
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
TEL-AVIV SCHOOL
OF
ENGLISH

OCTOBER 1940 — OCTOBER 1941

ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1940 — OCTOBER 1941



Director.

M. AARONSON.

Lecturers.

Mrs. Q. APELBOM

A. BROWN

W. E. A. BROWN

J. DONEN

Miss M. HALL

Dr. M. LANDAU

Mrs. S. MAGNAT

R. RETKIN

J. SHACHTER

S. THORP

Registrar.

E. KOTTOW

Secretaries.

Mrs. D. MARX

Miss H. KLEINER

Steward.

O. KLEIN

The Tel-Aviv School of English, which is a non-profit-making institution, subsidised and controlled by the British Council, was opened on September 13th., 1940, four days after the first air-raid on Tel-Aviv, in the presence of about 150 guests, who came in spite of two air-raid warnings just before the opening ceremony.

The District Commissioner, Mr. R. E. H. Crosbie, O.B.E., in a speech wishing the School success in its activities, said that he was agreeably surprised to see how many people in Tel-Aviv had found time to learn English in addition to Hebrew. His Worship, the Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Mr. I. Rokach, O.B.E., speaking in English, lauded the aims of the School and emphasized that while he was a fanatical believer in Hebrew as the language of Jewish Palestine, he also was convinced that citizens of Tel-Aviv were doing well to try and understand the life and culture of that nation which had always been, and still was, the champion of the rights of the weaker. He promised the School his assistance and that of the Tel-Aviv Municipality whenever it needed it.

AIMS.

The Tel-Aviv School of English is a school for adults which teaches English so that through its medium students may acquire a knowledge of British life and culture.

TUITION.

It has been found that the best way to teach English in Tel-Aviv is by means of the direct method, employed in small groups. So far the number of members in a group has not exceeded five, but from October the first onwards, a sixth member will be added. The books used in class have been specially written for students of Tel-Aviv.

LONDON MATRICULATION.

The London Matriculation class has functioned very well. The subjects studied are English, Mathematics, English Literature, and the History of the British Empire. The next London Matriculation class, commencing October 1st, will include modern Hebrew for the language paper.

FOREIGN ADVOCATES COURSE.

Courses specially arranged for advocates sitting for the Foreign Advocates examination continue to be popular and successful.

CAMBRIDGE PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION.

It is intended to prepare all advanced classes for this examination during the coming year.

SEMINAR CLASSES.

Seminar classes in English Literature and English History were held throughout the year, and a class in Economics was started in the summer.

LIBRARY.

The Library contains over one thousand books and it has been greatly appreciated and much used by the students.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

In order to enable students to practise their knowledge of English acquired in classes, we have organised numerous social functions. These have included lectures, debates, mock-parliaments, mock-trials, concerts, sketches, and tea-dances.

LECTURES.

We have been singularly fortunate in being able to welcome lecturers from different parts of the country. The lectures have embraced a variety of subjects, and apart from enabling students to hear English spoken, they have stimulated thought.

Lectures have been very popular this year. So many students and their guests were eager to attend them, that we hired the Tel-Aviv Museum Hall every Tuesday evening, during the winter, in order to meet the popular demand. As no provision had been made for this in the School budget, it was found necessary to charge students ten mils entrance to each lecture in order to cover hiring expenses. This procedure was adopted

throughout the summer when lectures were held in the School garden, in order to cover the loss sustained by hiring the Tel-Aviv Museum Hall during the winter. I am happy to say that suitable provision has been made in our budget this year and as from October 1941 all lectures and debates will be free of charge to members of the Tel-Aviv School of English. The following list of forty-three lectures for the year October 1940—October 1941 will show how varied were the subjects, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the lecturers for their kindness, which apart from preparation, often entailed travelling from different parts of the country.

List of Lectures.

1st	October	1940	Mr. M. Aaronson, Director, Tel-Aviv School of English. "Education".
6th	"	"	Mr. S. J. Hogben. Assistant Director of Education, Department of Education. "Some Experiences of an English Colonial Official in Northern Nigeria".
15th	"	"	Mr. A. Epstein, District Officer, Tel-Aviv. "The Importance of Littleness".
22nd	"	"	Mr. W. A. Stewart, Director of the Technical Department, Department of Education. "Life in an English Village".
29th	"	"	Mr. J. Donen, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "Shakespeare's Tragedy of 'Macbeth'".
4th	November	"	The Hon. E. Samuel, Assistant Commissioner for Migration. "British Parliamentary Government".

12th November 1940 Mr. O. M. Tweedy, Public Information Officer. "The British Schoolboy".

19th " " Miss M. Hall, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "English Life and Customs".

26th " " Captain G. R. Driver, M. C. "The University of Oxford". (illustrated).

3rd December " Mr. W. E. A. Brown, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "How to see London".

6th " " Mr. C. A. F. Dundas, British Council Representative, Near East. "The Work and Aims of the British Council".

12th " " Mr. S. Tolkowsky, Secretary of the Citrus Board. "Oranges and Lemons in the Art of the Renaissance". (illustrated).

17th " " Mr. R. Retkin, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "English Music". (illustrated by grammophone records kindly lent by the Anglo-Egyptian Union).

31st " " Mr. S. Thorp, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "The Seven Ages of Man".

7th January 1941 Mr. T. V. Scrivenor, Assistant District Commissioner, Tel-Aviv. "The British Empire in the 20th Century".

15th " " Major C. F. Wakelam. "The British Army". (illustrated).

21st " " Mr. W. A. Stewart, Director of the Technical Department, Department of Education. "Eric Gill". (illustrated).

28th January 1941 Mr. M. Aaronson, Director, The Tel-Aviv School of English. "Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar'". (illustrated by acted scenes).

4th February " Mr. Albert Brown, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "Some Great Englishmen".

11th " " Mr. J. Y. Maxwell, Y. M. C. A. Officer, Australian Army. "John Masefield". (with recital of selections).

18th " " The Reverend Scott Morrison. "Scotland". (with recital of Scottish songs).

5th March " His Worship, the Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Mr. I. Rokach, "The Growth of Tel-Aviv".

11th " " Mr. J. Y. Maxwell, Y. M. C. A. Officer, Australian Army. "Australia". (illustrated).

18th " " Mr. C. N. John, Field Archeologist, Department of Antiquities, Jerusalem. "The Citadel of Jerusalem. (illustrated).

25th " " Mr. J. Kollenschner, Barrister at Law. "The English Legal System".

1st April " Mr. J. Donen, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "Liberty and the Constitution".

22nd " " Mr. I. B. Perry Robinson, Assistant Public Information Officer. "Do the British Enjoy Wars?"

29th " " Mr. S. Thorp, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "The Four British Temperaments".

13th May	1941	Mr. Y. Schiffman, Municipal Engineer, Tel-Aviv. "Some Aspects of Urban Development in Palestine".
20th	"	Mr. M. Aaronson, Director, The Tel-Aviv School of English. "The Meaning of Democracy".
27th	"	Mr. T. V. Scrivenor, Assistant District Commissioner, Tel-Aviv. "The Tudor Monarchs and the Birth of Modern England".
4th June	"	The Reverend Scott Morrison. "The Stuarts".
10th	"	Mrs. Shaw. "Florence Nightingale"
17th	"	Mr. S. Thorp, Lecturer at the Tel-Aviv School of English. "England in the 18th Century".
24th	"	Mr. Robert Newton, Assistant District Commissioner, Nablus. "England Against Napoleon".
28th	"	Mr. F. Lobe, Joint Producer at the "Ohel" Theatre, "Shakespeare". (illustrated by acted scenes).
8th July	"	Mr. H. J. Uldall, Lecturer at the British Institute, Cairo. "Speech and Language".
15th	"	Mr. I. B. Perry Robinson, Assistant Public Information Officer. "The 19th Century—A general Survey".
19th	"	The Hon. E. Samuel, Assistant Commissioner for Migration. "With Allenby in Palestine during the Great War".
9th August	"	Mr. D. J. Hicks, Lecturer at the British Institute, Cairo. "Student Life in Oxford".

12th August	1941	Mr. A. J. Ryder, Director, British Institute of Zaqaziq, Egypt. "Social Changes in England in the 20th Century".
19th	"	Lieut. O'Brien, Recruiting Officer, Tel-Aviv. "Gold Mining in Saudi Arabia".
9th September	"	Mr. N. N. Tett, Assistant Director, British Institute, Baghdad. "Baghdad during the Crisis".

DEBATES.

Apart from arousing controversial thought, debates have served the purpose of enabling students to practise their English outside class. Our debates have been run on the lines of an English Debating Society; there has always been a proposer and seconder, and an opposer and seconder. All speeches and remarks have been addressed through the chair. The proposer and opposer have initiated the debate, they have been supported by their seconds, and then the motion has been put to the meeting for discussion. The proposer and opposer have then summed up and the motion has been put to the vote.

List of Subjects for Debate.

7th October	1940	"That Life is not worth living".
21st	"	"That the value of Sport has been much overrated".
9th November	"	"That the Emancipation of Women has not justified itself by results".
1st December	"	"That in spite of everything we are progressing".
14th	"	"That the habit of smoking has increased, is increasing and ought to be diminished".

11th January	1941	"That the climate of Palestine is the best in the world".
15th February	„	"That the lack of money is the root of all evil".
22nd March	„	"That (if one has to choose) too much work is better than too little".
26th April	„	"That Politeness is nothing but a form of hypocrisy".
31st May	„	"That the Age of Chivalry is not yet passed".
10th July	„	"That Individualism has had its day".
23rd August	„	"That where Equality conflicts with Liberty, Liberty is to be preferred".

MOCK TRIALS AND MOCK PARLIAMENTS.

Our mock trials and parliaments have been mock in name only. Every effort has been made to introduce the atmosphere of an English court and an English parliament. In the case of mock parliaments the hall has been divided into government and opposition, and the speaker has been wigged and robed. In the case of the mock trials every attempt has been made to reconstruct an English court scene.

Whilst these proceedings were not devoid of humour, the humour was of the kind generally found at a session of parliament or of the law courts. I should like to thank the members of the staff who have cooperated in producing these meetings.

HISTORICAL SERIES.

This was a series of instructive lectures giving a general background of a section of English History.

The school was fortunate in obtaining, as lecturers, six students of history at present residing in Palestine. The series was inaugurated by the Assistant District Commissioner, Tel-Aviv, Mr. T. V. Scrivenor.

- Mr. T. V. Scrivenor. "The Tudor Monarchs".
- The Reverend Scott Morrison. "The Stuarts".
- Mr. S. Thorp. "England in the 18th Century".
- Mr. R. Newton. "England Against Napoleon".
- Mr. I. B. Perry Robinson. "The 19th Century: a general survey".
- Mr. A. J. Ryder. "Social Changes in England in the 20th Century".

The audience, which in general emanated from the continent of Europe, was delighted at the frankness displayed by the lecturers and their refusal to draw a veil over some of the more sordid details of English history. These lectures were of great assistance to the School in its work.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

A series of chamber music concerts directed and arranged by the Weissgerber brothers of the Palestine Orchestra was held during the winter months. These concerts reached a high standard and included the following well known artists as soloists:

- Mr. Andreas Weissgerber (Violin),
- Mr. Joseph Weissgerber (Cello),
- Miss Hela Jam (Violin),
- Mr. Menashe Kletzki (Viola),
- Miss Pnina Salzmänn (Piano),
- Mr. Frank Pollak (Harpsichord),
- Mr. Guys Karten (Clarinet),
- Mrs. Pataky (Harp).

The series included a concert devoted to English Chamber Music.

A number of sketches, written by members of the staff and acted by students and members of the staff, were produced.

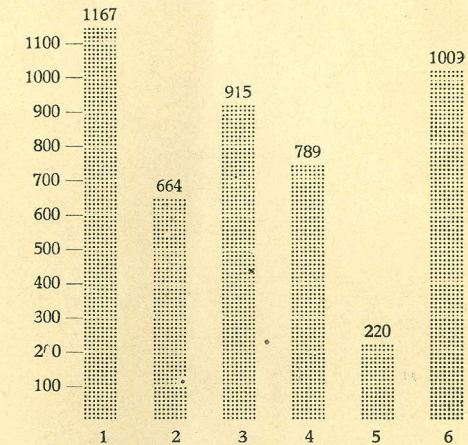
The tea dances and the students ball were most successful.

CHARITY.

At the beginning of the year the School in conjunction with the Tel-Aviv Playground Committee organised a ball in aid of the latter's Fund, under the distinguished patronage of Mr. R. E. H. Crosbie, O.B.E., and His Worship, the Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Mr. I. Rokach, O.B.E. The net proceeds were handed over to the Tel-Aviv Playground fund.

Later on in the year I was approached by a group of students who wished to demonstrate their desire to take part in the general war effort. A committee was formed and it decided to collect sufficient money from students and their friends to purchase an ambulance for His Majesty's Forces. At the request of the District Officer, Mr. A. Epstein, it extended its scope, and the "Mayor of Tel-Aviv's Fund for Army Ambulances" was created. I understand that enough money has been collected to present His Majesty's Forces with three ambulances, bearing the emblem of Tel-Aviv. Particular thanks is due to a student of this School, Mr. Ebensohar, administrative secretary of the General Federation of Labour, who was responsible for collecting over L.P.1000. In this connection I should like to thank the members of the Weissgerber Quartet, who donated a concert in the School garden for this purpose, and those students and friends of the School who provided the refreshments.

STATISTICS.



1. Number of Students who have attended the Tel-Aviv School of English from October 1940—October 1941.
2. " " " who have studied for more than nine months.
3. " " " who have studied for more than six months.
4. " " " who speak Hebrew.
5. " " " who study Hebrew in Tel-Aviv.
6. Total Number of Students who speak Hebrew or study Hebrew in Tel-Aviv.

FUTURE PLANS.

With the opening of the new School Year on October 1st., students will find that the school premises have been enlarged. In addition to the reading room, a sitting room, games room and a refectory have been added. It is intended to develop the club life of the School.

M. AARONSON

Director

The Tel-Aviv School of English.

September 15th, 1941.

