

The discussion turned much on the possibility of the Israel Government's assistance in building dormitory facilities for the increasing number of our Hebrew Union College rabbinic students, who come here to spend a year of study in Israel. **Bar-On** or **Mereleh**, as he is known, is a very attractive chap, whom I have known for quite a few years now. At times he has lectured here at the HUCBASJ to the members of our annual Summer Institute on Near Eastern Civilizations.

We had lunch at the Eden Hotel, which still maintains the excellent cuisine that has characterized it for years, and which is a center for meetings of important personalities. At the table next to us sat **Pinhas Sapir**, who until recently was Minister of Finance and has now taken **Golda Meir's** place as Secretary of the Labour Party. With him was his successor **Zeev Sharef**, whom I have known for years, and who was very helpful to me some eight years ago when I wangled the deal with the Israeli Government that resulted in our getting ten dunams of land in the heart of the city for the purpose of building our School, for which I pay the symbolic rental of one Israeli pound per year. I greeted both of them, and when Sapir left he made a point of stopping by our table and talking to me.

I must mention in this chronicle another of my recent meetings with **Kando**, the original dealer in the Dead Sea Scrolls, who was involved last year with the confiscation from him of another fabulously important Dead Sea Scroll which he had had for twenty years or more. I had advised him last June to get a good Jewish lawyer, which he did, one **Tusia Cohen**, and fight the case without fear of reprisals against him. To make a long story short, the case was decided in his favor, and he got from the Government of

Israel the sum of \$105,000.00 for the Scroll, the contents of which Yigael Yadin has already published. Had Kando been able to smuggle the Scroll to America, there is little doubt that he could have sold it for a very much higher price. Yadin had offered him \$45,000.00 for it, which he turned down indignantly. I hadn't been to see him for a couple of weeks and dropped in the other day. He told me that he had been on a fast trip to Switzerland with Tusia Cohen, remaining only for a few days. When I asked him what the purpose of the trip was, he told me openly that it was to deposit \$100,000.00 in a numbered account in a Swiss bank. I wouldn't be surprised if he has a million dollars in numbered accounts in Swiss Banks. He carried the money, he told me, in a bundle of cash in his pocket. How much of all of this is true I couldn't swear, but it makes interesting hearing. His reputation is so great that his travel agent, he tells me, was able to get him upped without extra charge from tourist to first-class in their airplane trip.

Nelson Glueck