

BETAR IN SYDNEY

The Pride of the Movement —
THE HASHMONAIM

Betar in Sydney, according to its age, may be considered as the younger brother of the Melbourne Betar. It has been established approx. two and a half years ago and is still in the process of developing.

It is far too early to enumerate the achievements of the movement in Sydney, although it can already be proud of numerous successful activities in the field of youth education and culture.

BETAR CAMPS IN N.S.W.

Betar in Sydney was really created when the Movement held an Interstate Camp in the year 1952 at Mount Victoria. This camp brought to-

gether under canvas over 100 boys and girls from N.S.W. and Victoria. Despite the many shortcomings, amongst others the bad weather which practically prevailed throughout the entire camp period, this camp proved highly successful.

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SYDNEY BETAR



From left to right: (sitting) Shalom Traurig, Larry Sitky, (Mefaked Machoz), Danny Rosing, (standing) David Cukierman, Yael Robinson, Susan Rechnitz, Phyllis Mahler, Hedda Gassenbauer, Shimon Adress.

Since this first attempt to organise Betar Camps in N.S.W., regular Junior Camps were held annually. Towler's Bay, Crowlands and many other suitable camp sites were chosen. Some of the camps were in Youth Hostels, others entirely under canvas.

The Jewish community of Sydney, slowly but surely, recognised that Betar Camps were one of the best as far as organisation, education and any other aspect of camp life are concerned.

Each camp had a well-prepared educational programme which was strictly adhered to, combined with an intensive sporting and scouting programme, and at the same time allowing for the necessary recreational activities.

SYDNEY BETAR ORGANISES PUBLIC FUNCTIONS

During the short existence of Betar in Sydney, many public functions were held with extremely well organised programs. Some of the functions were movement functions as such, others were held in conjunction with the Senior Zionist Movement and the Zionist Youth Council.

Sydney Betarim did not fail to show their readiness to co-operate in all Zionist ac-

tivities, amongst others they showed keen interest in the Blue Box Collection and were commended for their excellent results.

ORGANISATION OF BETAR SYDNEY

From a very humble beginning, just 2½ years ago, Betar in Sydney had taken deep roots in the community and plays a prominent part in all spheres of Jewish life.

Betar groups are organised today in 4 centres, Centennial Park, Strathfield, Marroobes and Lindfield. It is planned that in the very near future, Betar groups will be established in many other Jewish centres.

To provide the best possible education, an intensive youth leadership course was held with the help of trained youth leaders from the Netzivut (the Head Office of Betar in Melbourne). This course proved to be a great success and provided excellent youth leaders who at the moment are already taking groups and educating them.

There is no doubt that Betar in Sydney has still many unutilised opportunities, and that there is further scope to increase numbers as well as activities. The youth will join Betar, the movement which offers them so much. Undoubtedly it will conquer the hearts of the hundreds of unorganised youth in this city.



Hashmonaim during dancing

Betar caters for youth, starting from the early age of 9 years and considers that a thorough Jewish education can only be successful when started at an early age.

For this reason the youngest age group of Betar, called Hashmonaim, are given the best attention and the most experienced madrichim. The spirit in the groups ranging from the

ages 9-11 proves in itself the soundness of this conception. Today large groups of Hashmonaim exist in every centre where Betar has established groups. Their numbers increase daily and the result of the education can be observed from week to week.

Today this youngest age group is the pride of the movement.

BETAR IN MELBOURNE

BETAR SYDNEY INVITES JEWISH YOUTH TO JOIN THEIR RANKS

Betar Sydney extends an invitation to all unorganised Jewish youth to join the ranks of the National Movement.

The movement is in the fortunate position to be able to provide the opportunity for Jewish youth of all age groups and resident in practically every suburb, to join a group of Betar.

Information concerning the different groups meeting in Sydney may be obtained from the following leaders:—

For Lindfield, Killara, Gordon, Pimble, Hornsby, Chatswood, Roseville, Artarmon, Northbridge, Crow's Nest, Cammaray, and all other North Shore suburbs—
David Cukierman - FW 3719
Hedda Gassenbauer FY 2610

For Strathfield, Croydon, Parramatta and all other Parramatta line suburbs; also Drummoyle, Rozella, Gladsville, Ryde and surrounding suburbs—

Brian Adress - FW 5909
Susan Rechnitz - FY 3771
For Centennial Park, Paddington, Bondi, Dover Heights, Bondi Junction, Bronte, Rose Bay, Double Bay, Vaucluse, Bellevue Hill and all other Eastern suburbs—
Larry Sitky - FY 6531
Yael Robinson - FY 4362
Phyllis Mahler - FY 6568

For Maroubra, Kingsford, Coogee, Randwick and surrounding suburbs—
Heena Dunes - PU 6602

All information regarding Betar in general should be obtained from Larry Sitky, the Mefaked of the Sydney March, 10 Kenneth St., Flat 6, Bondi, Tel. FY 6331.

"THE BETAR ALPHABET"

- A.—Arts and Crafts.
- B.—Betarim & Comradeship.
- C.—Campfires & Storytelling.
- D.—Dramatics.
- E.—Education & Enjoyment.
- F.—Football.
- G.—Games.
- H.—Hebrew.
- I.—Israeli Dances.
- J.—Jewish atmosphere.
- K.—Knowledge.
- L.—Literature.
- M.—Meetings.
- N.—Nature Study.
- O.—Outdoor Life.
- P.—Picnics and Hikes.
- Q.—Quizzes.
- R.—Recreational activities.
- S.—Study Circles and Singing.
- T.—Traditional Judaism.
- U.—U should join Betar now.
- V.—Volley Ball.
- W.—Wrestling & Judo.
- Z.—Zionism.

★
All This and More
You will enjoy as a
Member of Betar
★

By no means can it be said that Betar in Melbourne grew overnight to the position it holds today in the community.

It took years of hard work, education and development, until the present standard was attained.

Unlike many other youth movements, Betar in Melbourne did not find itself with a large following and extensive support a short time after its foundation. True

enough, Betar did not offer social activities alone, which would have attracted that part of our Jewish youth which can only be approached through such activities. The primary aim was education.

It took a long time — years — until one nucleus after another was formed. Eventually small but well organised youth groups, practically in every suburb of Melbourne, were created, each one after its foundation. True

leadership of keen and experienced Betar leaders.

In every single communal activity, in every youth body, Betar is not only represented, but takes a leading part in executive positions — in all youth affairs the voice of Betar is heard.

From every point of view, Betar in Melbourne can already be regarded as THE Jewish Youth Movement; although its membership compares favorably with the largest Jewish Youth Movement in the City, Betar's emphasis is not on numbers, but rather on the standard of each and every individual in the movement.

Betar in Melbourne always upheld the policy of keeping the movement at a high standard in preference to allowing it to grow out of proportion to the numbers of available and efficient leaders.

It took years of training and educating of the human material available in the movement. Today Betar has at its disposal an excellent group of well trained youth leaders, and only now, Betar extends an invitation to the large masses of unorganised Jewish youth. Today we can cater for them, today we can give them that education they need and deserve.



Some of the younger Betar leaders of Melbourne from left to right:— (Standing) T. Kado, R. Landerer, A. Morris, (Mefaked Machoz), F. Lasher, P. Mirjam, Front Row:— B. Schneider, A. Ninedek and A. Fliegelman.

IN EVERY SUBURB OF MELBOURNE THERE IS A GROUP OF BETARIM WAITING TO WELCOME YOU

THE AIM OF BETAR

is the Redemption of the Jewish Nation,
the Revival of its State and Civilisation,
whose language shall be
Hebrew,
Its Soul the Bible,
Its Order
Freedom and Social Justice.
These objectives are to be secured
by the creation
of a Jewish State in Eretz Israel
on both sides of the Jordan.

THE MISSION OF THE BETAR

is to produce
the type of Jew
which the Nation needs
in order the better and faster
to build up
the Jewish State.

Whatever part of Melbourne you live in, there is a group of boys and girls ready to welcome you.

Practically in every major suburb, there is an organised Betar group, catering for all age groups.

No matter where you live, whether somewhere out in Brighton or Bentleigh, or whether on the other side of the Yarra, in Carlton or Brunswick, for your convenient meeting places are arranged in all suburbs.

To enable you to participate in all the wonderful activities which you read about in this paper, all you have to do is to write or phone and all information you may need will be given to you. So remember the address of the Betar Office—

"Betar,"
884 St. Kilda Road,
Melbourne, S.C.3.
Tel: Wm. 6305.

BETAR'S OWN ISRAELI — DANCING GROUP

Israeli Dances and Songs convey so much of the spirit of Israel, its culture and its youth. Keeping this fact in mind, Betar throughout its entire educational program, gives a prominent place to the practice of Israeli Dances and Songs.

At every group meeting, some time is devoted to dancing and singing, which is a feature greatly enjoyed by all participants.

In addition to the time set aside for dancing and singing for all Betarim, the Movement has founded its own Israeli Dancing Group, led and instructed by K'tzin Shimshon Feder, who acquired his excellent knowledge in this field during his studies in Israel.

This Dancing Group was selected from amongst those Betarim who are particularly capable in dancing and sing-



The Betar dancing group performing a Yeminite dance

ing. They are specialising in a number of more advanced dances, such as Yeminite Folk Dances, which are today recognised as one of the typical examples of Israeli Folk Dancing.

This Dancing Group has given already a number of performances on various occasions and is yet another feature which is a credit to the movement.

JOIN THE RANKS OF BETAR!