

MISS SZOLD, 84, ZIONIST, DIES IN JERUSALEM

Noted Baltimorean Ha- dassah Founder; Visited Here In 1940

Miss Henrietta Szold, of Baltimore, Zionist leader, social worker and regarded by many as the foremost Jewish woman of modern times, died last night in Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem, according to an Associated Press dispatch. She was 84 years old.

The founder and honorary president of Hadassah, women's Zionist organization of America, Miss Szold also headed the Youth Aliyah (immigration) Department of the Jewish agency in Palestine. This department has been responsible for the education and maintenance of thousands of refugee children from Germany and other European countries.



Miss Szold had been a resident of Palestine since 1920. She returned to the United States occasionally to visit her sister, Mrs. Louis H. Levin, of 5509 South Bend road. The last such visit was in 1940. Mrs. Levin is 75.

Led Anti-British Parade

In May, 1939, in Palestine, although nearing 80, Miss Szold led a march of 10,000 singing, protesting Jewish women, who carried banners with the slogan "We will not surrender," in protest against the British Palestine policy.

Miss Szold was born in Baltimore on December 21, 1860. Her father, Rabbi Benjamin Szold, who was one of the most prominent rabbis in Baltimore, taught her German, Hebrew and French.

At 33 she became secretary of the Jewish Publication Society of America, a position which she held for more than twenty years and which required a great deal of translation work.

Her interest in Zionism dated from the 1890s, when thousands of Russian Jews fled to America to escape pogroms. She organized classes in which the immigrants were taught the language, customs and ideals of America.

Taught In Schools Here

For this work she had been prepared as a teacher in Baltimore private schools for nearly fifteen years.

In 1909 she went to Palestine for the first time, reporting afterward that she was horrified by living conditions which prevailed at the time in the Near East.

Three years later, in America, she organized Hadassah, which had as its aim the re-creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Another specific goal was the bringing

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of the benefits of modern medicine to Palestine.

The women's organization now has a membership of 100,000 and is one of the largest and most influential Zionist groups in the world. Miss Szold served actively as president from 1912 to 1926.

Medical Unit Set Up

Miss Szold went to Palestine in 1920 to direct the organization's work and set up a medical unit with a staff of 50. From this beginning there came into being a hospital, medical school, clinics and playgrounds open to Jews and Arabs alike.

Ten years ago Miss Szold contemplated retirement and was preparing to return to America when she was asked to organize the reception and care for refugee children from Germany.

On her eightieth birthday Miss Szold was honored in 500 American cities and in cities in various other countries with celebrations by local Jewish groups.

Two days before her eightieth birthday she was cited as one of the 100 outstanding women of the past century by the Women's Centennial Congress.