

An eye-opener for the Sabra

WHY EICHMANN SHOULD FACE AN ISRAEL COURT

• By G. SHAIK

It is now well known that the prime-minister of Israel was against "doing in" with Adolph Eichmann on the spot at the time of his capture. The reason Ben-Gurion wanted the Nazi monster with the surgical "baby face" to be brought to Israel despite all the risks involved, was that he wanted him to stand trial before a Jewish Court, and to face Jewish judges, a precedent perhaps unknown till now in our history.

The premier expressed more clearly this opinion last week in a letter to "Davar" by saying:

"The importance of Eichmann's capture and future trial does not lie in the exceptional resources and ability shown by the Israel secret service, but in our having the privilege of revealing the entire holocaust in an Israeli court."

And everyone of us will agree, that the facts of the holocaust should be made known to the Israel youth, to the younger generation which has heard only an echo of those terrible years. On the other hand, this trial will also be an eye-opener for the world at large, who should learn something of the bitter truth.

It's obvious that above all, the trial will raise the curtains on a past of which the Sabra is, often unwittingly, ignorant. Psychologically it will have a

Psychologically it will have a deep impact on his morale and his whole attitude to the Galuth. He will see our past from a new angle and a different light, because the trial will reopen page by page a history that has been falsely or inadequately interpreted by others.

The Sabra has in the past always shown his disgust and even aversion to the Galuth and, even looked upon his parents, who were Galuth-born, as a kind of inferior people. The Galuth was thus always a wall between the Sabra and the Galuth Jews.

On this latter fact, the following incident is enlightening: The other week, an Israeli journalist conducted a questionnaire among 210 Sabras in the age group of between 16-17, asking them what they knew about the Nazi holocaust. The result of his re-

know about the Nazi Holocaust. The result of his research was heart-breaking, because the answers of all the young people were astonishingly vague and disappointing.

"HEARD SOMETHING"

The whole group of 210 Sabras answered that they "heard something" but could not clearly define how many millions of Jews perished in Europe.

Some of them had "heard" about concentration camps, while 41 per cent. had never heard about gas chambers, 35 per cent. had never heard about the "yellow badge" and 64 per cent. of them had never

the shadow of the Swastika and its horrors. This trial will yield hitherto unknown facts and shed new light to the whole monster-plan of how Nazism planned to annihilate world-Jewry.

This trial will be therefore a kind of restaging of the Nuremberg trials from a new angle. On the other hand the trial will be a turning point in our history and a lesson for Israeli youth and young people everywhere. It will undoubtedly bridge the gulf which divided them from their parents for whom they will show more understanding, and a greater unity in Jewish affairs may result.



MR. BEN-GURION

read books about this period.

Undoubtedly the Eichmann trial will supply the young Israeli generation with a first hand opportunity for a journey into the hell of the past. It will supply him with food for thought, and the opportunity for soul-searching. It will also be a forthright challenge to the conscience of the world, because at the trial mankind as a whole will stand again in the shadow of the Swastika and its horrors. This trial will