

## ISSACHAR-DOV BAR-DRORA (FRAJER)

Son of Moshe – born in the city of Kutno on 9<sup>th</sup> of Adar 5643<sup>1</sup> (16<sup>th</sup> of February, 1883). His father was a merchant, related to Rabbi Dov Meisels of Kraków-Warsaw, and the Rabbi of Kutno, author of the book "Fresh Olive." He studied in the "*cheder*" and later in the "*yeshiva*", and after he developed his intelligence, he became an "extern", he knew languages and sciences well.

In his youth he came to Warsaw, where his childhood friend Shalom Asz introduced him to Y. L. Perc, although he had not yet turned 17, but had already worked in the newspaper systems: "The Siren", "The Flood" and "Der Veg"<sup>2</sup>. In these systems, the editors (Sokolow<sup>3</sup>, Ludwipol<sup>4</sup> and Zvi Pryłucki) recognized that the young and modest young man dressed as a "chassid" would become a writer in Israel, because everything he wrote was clever and witty.

In 1906 he arrived in Israel and immediately took his place among the men of action. He went in to work at the Anglo-Palestine Bank, became a friend of M. Dizengoff<sup>5</sup>, and was one of the first participants in the construction of Tel Aviv by participating in the founding of the "Nahalat Binyamin" neighborhood. From time to time he was published in the press.

In 1909 he entered the political committee of the settlement, which was established immediately after the declaration of the constitution in Turkey. On the committee were besides him: Meir Dizengoff, Eliyahu Sapir<sup>6</sup>; Shimon Rokach<sup>7</sup>, Aharon Eisenberg<sup>8</sup> and Yosef Luria<sup>9</sup>. At that time, he was a participant in the Hebrew press in the Diaspora ("The Time" and "The Siren").

After the British occupation, he went to work at the great civil newspaper, which was founded by Eliezer Ben-Yehuda – "Mail Today", and for ten years, with breaks (1936-1920), he worked for this newspaper and was also its editor-in-chief for several years.

For three years he edited and published the weekly "Yishuv" (1925-1928) with the participation of the best writers, founded the settlement company "The Planter", which established Netanya and Even Yehuda, and the bank "*Bnei Binyamin*", participated in addition to the excellent weekly of the Farmers' Association, "Gardener". In the above-mentioned weekly, he would publish two reviews a week (*Eretz Israel* and "In the Diaspora") and also a *feuilleton*.

With the closure of the "Mail Today" (1936), he began working in "The Morning" where he would publish his *feuilleton*: "The Other Side of the Coin" every week.

His articles and *feuilletons* made a great impression, as he was able to write about any local matter out of authoritative knowledge and with great and comprehensive expertise. His words were always short and clear. His diaries in the daily newspapers were concise and clear.

After the outbreak of World War II, the press shrank – there was no room for his articles and his *feuilletons* and rarely, he published short articles in "The Morning" and "*Yedioth Ahronot*".

His health condition deteriorated greatly during the war years. In the meantime, he became seriously ill, and the severe health condition adversely affected the development of his illness. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of Adar 1941<sup>10</sup>, he suffered a severe heart attack, as a result of which he died a sudden death that day, and was buried in the old cemetery<sup>11</sup> in Tel Aviv.

Descendants: his daughter Rachel Drori, wife of Moshe Ginzburg; his sons: Amnon and Avshalom (all in Pardes Hanna).

(David Tidhar – Encyclopedia of the Pioneers of the Yishuv, Tel Aviv, 1952, p. 184).

<sup>1</sup> TN: his matzeva says 9<sup>th</sup> of Adar 5642 (28 February 1882).

<sup>2</sup> TN: in Yiddish, "The Way".

<sup>3</sup> TN: Nachum Sokolow: January 10, 1859, Wyszogród, Poland – May 17, 1936, London, United Kingdom.

<sup>4</sup> TN: Abraham Ludwipol (1865, Novohrad-Volyns'kyi, Zhytomyr Oblast, Ukraine – May 3, 1921, Tel Aviv, Israel).

<sup>5</sup> TN: Meir Dizengoff: February 25, 1861, Echimăuți, Moldova – September 23, 1936, Tel Aviv. Founder and first mayor of Tel Aviv.

<sup>6</sup> TN: Eliyahu Sapir: July 8, 1869, Jerusalem – September 1, 1911, Petah Tikva.

<sup>7</sup> TN: Shimon Rokach: June 10, 1863, Jerusalem – 10 February 1922, Vienna, Austria.

<sup>8</sup> TN: Aharon Eisenberg: November 14, 1863, Pinsk, Belarus – September 23, 1931, Rehovot, Israel.

<sup>9</sup> TN: Yosef Luria: 1871, Pumpenai, Kovno district, Lithuania – December 3, 1937, Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> TN: 16<sup>th</sup> of March 1941.

<sup>11</sup> TN: Trumpeldor cemetery.