



The remains of an ancient wine press uncovered at the Byzantine village at Zichrin. The main press is in the foreground, behind are the receptacles and ledges for standing the baskets of grapes.

## Life in the 6th century

By LEA LEVAVI

TEL AVIV. - A Byzantine village community, one of the first uncovered in Israel, has been unearthed this year during the third season of archeological work at Zichrin at the southern end of the Yarkon basin.

This year's finds include a well-preserved Byzantine church, a Roman-style bathhouse, a wine press and an oil press.

Houses, pottery and other artifacts of daily life found at the site help to reconstruct the lifestyle of the rural population during the Byzantine period from the 4th to the 6th century CE, Dr. Moshe Fischer of the Classical Studies Department at Tel Aviv University and head of the expedition, said.

He added that most archeological work pertaining to the Byzantine period has been done on cities, so this glimpse of village life is important.

The dig at Zichrin was a joint project of Tel Aviv University and the Israel Archeological Society. Volunteer workers included youngsters from Israel and Germany, and financial support was provided by the Millstein Quarry and the Pioneer Company.

### Population 4.2m.

Israel's population is about 4.2 million as the year 5745 begins, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics. Close to 83 per cent of the population is Jewish.

While the total population grew by two per cent during the past year (5744), the Jewish population increased by only 1.8 per cent and the non-Jewish sector by 2.9 per cent.

Fifteen thousand immigrants came to settle here in 5744, the same number as in the preceding year.

# The power behind the broom

RANDOMALIA  
Miriam Arad

choosy about her elevenses and her chores. "Windows," she may state categorically, "windows I don't do." Or, "Beat carpets? You mean you don't have a vacuum?"

An *ozeret* like that actually tyrannizes the entire household, because the day before she's due, the lady of the house moves around with a strained look in her eyes, inspecting every room for dirt or litter, enjoining all members of the family not to make a mess, to put their toys, shirts, papers away, not to start fixing that shelf, painting that chair, arranging that stamp collection now, because "tomorrow the *ozeret* comes." You wonder what the lady needs an *ozeret* for in the first place, she does most of the job herself.

Quite a few women, though, have a very happy relationship with their *ozeret*. The two of them know all about each other's husbands, children, green-grocers and back-aches; they bewail The Situation together,

compare prices, exchange recipes - though in fact it's more often the *ozeret* teaching her madam how to prepare some oriental delicacy, rather than being taught how to make *tzimmes*. This *ozeret*, like the Israeli taxi driver, is frequently quoted on what "the people" think.

In addition to all her other merits, the Israeli *ozeret* is an indicator of our immigration patterns too. The first maids, who were primarily washer-women in a pre-machine age, came from the Yemenite immigrations of the 1910s and 1920s. With Hitler's rise to power came - along with lawyers, economists, and other Herr Doktors who, unable to practise their professions here, were reduced to manual labour - their wives who became the German *ozrot* of the Thirties. These were followed after independence by Moroccan and Iraqi, and later by Hungarian and Rumanian domestics. Nowadays, of course, immigration is a mere trickle and it's hard to get a Jewish *ozeret* at all. They're mostly Arab women - and they are quoted on what "the Arabs" think.

## Jews are now a minority in Galilee

By AARON SITTNER

For the first time since the state was proclaimed in 1948, an entire statutory district - Galilee - has more non-Jews than Jews.

This development, uncovered during a routine computer sweep of data in last year's Census of Population and Housing, is considered startling by demographers. Though a dense Jewish population has never been a feature of the Galilee's social profile, the numerical scales have always tipped in favour of the Jews. This is no longer so.

The excess of non-Jews over Jews in Galilee has arisen although the

district contains such established Jewish population centres as Nahariya, Safad, Tiberias and the smaller cities and towns in the Beit She'an and Jezre'el Valleys.

"We were surprised to learn of this demographic shift," David Neumann, spokesman for the Central Bureau of Statistics, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. "True, Acre has always been two thirds Arab, just like the Golan is today. But as a whole, the Northern District has always had a Jewish majority."

Asked what the causes of the change could be, the spokesman for the Central Bureau of Statistics,

David Neumann, replied: "It's a combination of the non-Jews' superiority in natural rate of increase (the surplus of births over deaths) and the superiority of Jews in outward internal migration - in other words, substantial numbers of Jewish families have been leaving Galilee."

Judging from population figures maintained by the statistics bureau, factors other than Katyusha rocket attacks from across the Lebanese border were behind the migration from Galilee. For example, the population of Kiryat Shmona - the Israeli population centre most vulnerable to the attacks - has seen a stable 16,000 over the years.