

Meir Lanir: (From Wikipedia in Hebrew)

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Meir Lanir (November 29, 1911, Nuremberg, Germany - September 8, Moshav Moledet, in the Lower Galilee) served as third head of the Gilboa Regional Council, in the years 1959 - 1970.

#### Biography:

Lanir was born as Martin Wollner to parents Tsili nee Schloss and Heinrich (Hanuch) Wollner. In his youth he was active in Zionist youth movements. His main activity during these years was studying law at the university. He also studied Hebrew with the intention of immigrating to the Land of Israel. When the Nazis came to power, he terminated his studies, and immigrated to Israel (then Palestine) in May 1933 to Nahalal.

In Nahalal he received his agricultural training in the house of Zvi Yehuda, who provided an example and model for him of combining work on the land with public activity. Lanir gathered around him a group of young people, who called themselves the "Wollner" organization, and who later founded the cooperative moshav "Moledet".

In 1936, Lanir married Dora Steinhardt. The couple went to Germany on a mission on behalf of the moshavim movement. They returned to Israel in 1937 on the eve of the establishment of their settlement Moledet, within the framework of "wall and tower". They had three children.

#### His first roles:

In the early years of Moledet, Lanir served as secretary, and was known for his determination and energy in promoting the settlement and its development.

As one of the thinkers and initiators of the idea of the "Cooperative Moshav", Lanir was called upon to represent the movement in the agricultural sector, and in 1958 was sent by the Ministry of Agriculture to Ghana to develop agricultural cooperatives in that country.

At the beginning of the 1960's, Lanir was elected head of the Gilboa Regional Council, and worked to strengthen and unify the area of old and new settlements, moshavim, kibbutzim and Arab villages.

Lanir initiated the establishment of new settlements in the Tanach region, and accompanied their settlers in their first years. He also conceived the idea of establishing a national park in Mayin Harod, and began its practical implementation.

#### More info:

Lanir's activity and contribution went beyond the Gilboa area, when he contributed his extensive experience to various authorities in local government, to the organization of youth hostels, to the development of national parks and other enterprises.

Lanir was known in the valley for his sense of humor, his pleasant personality, his modesty and contentment with little. He is endowed with the ability to listen and respect others, the ability to develop relationships with people and maintain them for days. Indeed, many were his friends in the farm, in the valley, and in the country.