

JEWISH YOUTH ORCHESTRA TO BROADCAST

THE Youth Orchestra of the Jewish Musical Institute is broadcasting on Friday, August 22, at 4.40 p.m. on "A" and "B" transmissions. The Orchestra will be conducted by the Institute's Musical Director, Mr. Solly Aronowsky.

The programme will consist of Jewish and other music.

After the Youth Orchestra's successful tour in Rhodesia regular rehearsals have been resumed. The Orchestra is getting ready for a Grand Concert in the City Hall in November of this year.

Rehearsals are in full swing and anybody wishing to join the Orchestra should come any Sunday morning from 10 to 11 to the Doornfontein Government School Hall, Van Beeck Street, Doornfontein.

New Year Cards

The Book Department of the S.A. Zionist Federation now has available for sale Photoprint New Year Cards of scenes from Eretz Israel. There are eight different pictures with glazed surface. The price is 2s. 6d. per dozen, including envelopes. Will readers outside the Union please include 3d. per dozen for postage. Write to Box 18, Johannesburg, or Phone 34-1941.

Only Surviving Kovno Rabbi Arrives In Johannesburg

RABBI EPHRAIM OSHRI, the only surviving Rabbi of Kovno, arrived in Johannesburg last week. Rabbi Oshri was in the Kovno Ghetto throughout the German occupation and was liberated only after the Red Army entered the city on August 2, 1944. Rabbi Oshri was an eye-witness of the extermination of the Jews and survived only by a miracle. He was on many occasions on the brink of death and had personally witnessed the destruction of thousands. After liberation Rabbi Oshri succeeded in travelling through the length and breadth of Lithuania. He went in search of surviving Jewish children and his journey was facilitated by a high Russian medical officer, a Jew by the name of Col. Rabelsky. He visited every town and village where Jews lived before and saw all the mass-graves of Jews in Lithuania. He collected the children from Christian homes and churches.

For 14 months after liberation Rabbi Oshri was busy reconstructing and reorganising Jewish life in Lithuania. Later he arrived in Rome and there he collected Jewish orphans from amongst the displaced persons and formed a Yeshiva "Maor Hagolah." The ages of the



RABBI EPHRAIM OSHRI

pupils ranged from 8 to 20. The Yeshiva is housed in an imposing building and the students are given food, clothing and tuition in the Talmud. The students all hope to go to Palestine. Twenty-three students are already there, while another 35 are in Cyprus, having gone to Palestine as "illegals."

Recently Rabbi Oshri visited the United States, where he attended a conference of rabbis. While in New York he was offered visas and funds to bring the entire Yeshiva to America. He transmitted this offer to the students in Rome. They held a meeting and unanimously decided that under no circumstances would they go anywhere but to Palestine. Minutes of the meeting containing the signatures of all the students were sent to Rabbi Oshri in America. Since then the Yeshiva had acquired a plot at Kfar Atah near Haifa, there to erect a building for the Yeshiva where all the pupils would be housed.

Speaking to the "Zionist Record," Rabbi Oshri emphasised that the Yeshiva was important not only as an institution of learning but also as a means of combating demoralisation of the youth. He said that this thought had always been uppermost in his mind. Even in the Kovno concentration camps he established an institution for youngsters who came to study after a day of slave-labour in order to eradicate the detrimental effects of German oppression. One of the pupils of this concentration school, Moshe Segal, is now in charge of a youth centre near Paris.

Rabbi Oshri is the head of the Yeshiva, and with him there are another five teachers. He is staying with his brother, Mr. Max Oshri, at 21 Wilhelmina Street, Troyeville, telephone No. 32-2079.

SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

Jubilee Booklet and Badge

The Information and Organisation Department of the South African Zionist Federation has just issued a Jubilee publication entitled "Story of an Epoch," which traces the history of Zionism from 1897 to 1947 in pictorial form. Copies are obtainable free from the Secretary of the Department, P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg.

In order that Zionists throughout the country may demonstrate their solidarity with the Zionist Movement on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the World Zionist Organisation, the Information and Organisation Department has prepared a neat and attractive Jubilee Badge (in two colours). The price is 2s. 6d.

JOHANNESBURG WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE

An interesting literary afternoon was held at the home of Mrs. Damelein, 126, Quartz Street, on Tuesday, August 5. Mrs. L. Rom, in the chair, introduced the guest-speaker, Miss Burstein, who had been in Europe on behalf of the Jewish War Appeal.

Miss Burstein described the conditions in camps in Europe and stressed those in Austria in particular. Mrs. Froman proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and the hostess.

MR. ZUCKERMAN ON PALESTINE INDUSTRIES

"ONE tends to forget that but for industrial development in Palestine in the last ten years, colonisation and settlement would have been impossible," said Mr. Herzl Zuckerman, addressing the Zionist Association Luncheon Club last Friday. He went on to say that in spite of political upheavals in the past ten years, industrial plants had doubled in number and the number of workers had trebled.

"If we aimed at taking in more people from Europe it was essential for these industries to continue," added Mr. Zuckerman.

Palestine gets no help from the Government in her industries, said Mr. Zuckerman, and she has to face other difficulties, such as high customs duties on all raw materials and the falling away of certain valuable markets due to the political boycott on her exports. The local population adheres voluntarily to the principle of buying Palestine goods even if the foreign imports are cheaper. The pro-Palestine products committee has been very active in introducing Palestine products abroad, and Palestine industries have won many European markets because of their quality goods.

Mr. Zuckerman stressed that Palestine Industries were competing on a business basis and did not wish to rely on sentiment for their success. "Palestine Industries have had to contend with a lot of prejudice," said Mr. Zuckerman, "but we hope that the Industrial Exhibition which is to be opened here in October under the auspices of the S.A. Zionist Federation will help dispel these prejudices and convince our friends and the general public that Palestine can and will deliver the goods."

Mr. M. J. Gordon presided. The speaker on Friday, August 29, will be Mr. David Dainow, former editor of the "Zionist Record." He will speak on "English Characteristics in Palestine."



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