

The Jewish Year Book.

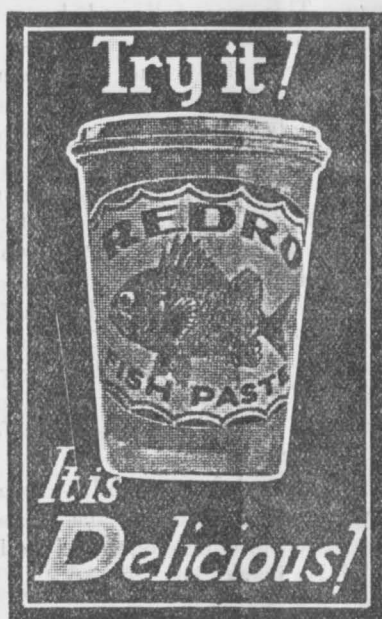
The Editor,

S.A. Jewish Chronicle.

Sir,—I have before me a copy of the "Jewish Year Book" for 1935, published by the London "Jewish Chronicle." Amongst other things, it tells me that Cape Town boasts a Talmud Torah Ivris B'Ivris (which merged with the United Hebrew Schools a dozen years ago); that its President is I. Schwartz (who died in 1928); and that the United Hebrew Schools have as Hebrew Master J. Homa (who died about the same time); and as Secretary E. Velk (who ceased to be such as least six years ago). I became curious to see who were given as officers of the Dorshei Zion Association, but, alas, the premier Zionist Society had been completely pushed out of existence by Kosher Kitchens and Friendly Societies. Its sister institution, the Bnoth Zion, clung to a precarious mention only by virtue of a Hebrew Classes Association (defunct these fifteen years!). This is the Mother City—I cannot say how up-to-date the information about the smaller dorps may be.

I take it, Sir, that an accurate 300-page list of the institutions and societies in the British Empire may have some useful place in the general scheme of things, or it would not be printed for the thirty-ninth year in succession; but even all my respect for the learned editors, Rev. Levy, M.A., and Dr. Cecil Roth, and for their South African collaborators (Rev. Cohen, of Bulawayo, and Rev. Konviser, formerly of Kimberley now of Salisbury), cannot suggest a defence for inaccurate ditto.—I am, etc.,

"SEEKER AFTER INFORMATION."



A fine Kosher Fish Paste

REDRO

made by

STEPHAN BROTHERS LTD.

and sold everywhere in

1-oz., 3-oz., and 4-oz.

ovenglass jars.

Zionist Conversazione.

The opening conversazione of the season took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night. The hall was filled to capacity.

Dr. C. RESNEKOV was in the chair and spoke of the important part played in the Jewish cultural life of Cape Town by the Zionist conversazione, which was now entering on its sixth year.

He extended a cordial welcome to Mr. N. Kirchner, President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, and Mrs. Kirchner, and paid a tribute to them for all they were doing to further the cause of Zionism. Mr. Kirchner displayed all the qualities of leadership and stimulated Zionist activity throughout South Africa.

He also welcomed Mr. Nestadt, a former Mayor of Benoni, and Rev. M. I. Cohen, M.B.E., of Bulawayo, and Mrs. Cohen, whom he congratulated on their fine record of service.

He hoped all the visitors would return to their homes refreshed in body and mind and prepared for the difficult work of the coming Keren Hayesod campaign.

Mr. N. KIRSCHNER received a great ovation when he rose to address the gathering. He had been asked to speak, he said, on "Jewish Problems of the Day," but it was impossible to deal with all the problems in a short address and he would confine himself to those nearest to us at the present moment. If, he continued, we could help to solve the problems in, about and around Palestine, we could to a large extent, help to solve the problems of the whole Jewish people. Two grave problems on which the future of Palestine depended were the proposal for a Legislative Council and the new Land Law. As regards the former, he said, the Jewish people were in favour of democratic institutions, but the Legislative Council would retard the progress of Palestine as the Jewish National Home, and was an untimely measure.

The new Land Law, said Mr. Kirchner, although not specifically aimed at Jews, would affect them most and was a very serious problem. The Jewish people had taken their burden too lightly; if they had a larger percentage of land to-day, the position would not be so grave.

Nevertheless, they would go on building Palestine as the Jewish National Home, in spite of all hindrances and obstacles. The Jews had a moral right to Palestine and would carry on with the work which the pioneers had so ably begun.

Another very serious problem, continued Mr. Kirchner, was the division in the Zionist ranks. The Jews could not afford the luxury of a revolution; the formation of a new Zionist organisation was a dangerous experiment; there was room within the movement to fight out differences of

opinion and he hoped good sense and understanding would ultimately prevail.

As regards the position in South Africa, said Mr. Kirchner, the Jews must realise the strength within themselves. They must act in accordance with the highest principles of right and justice, and they would then have the strength to face all that might come. They had duties towards Eretz Israel which they could not neglect, and they had duties in this country towards one another. If they stood united they would have no foe to fear.

Rev. M. I. COHEN, said that Palestine had become a reality for us all and new links of unity were continually being forged. Without Zionism the youth would have been almost completely "converted." The Zionist idea, more than the Zionist Organisation, had saved the Jewish youth. There were, however, far too many who took no interest in Jewish questions, and here he felt the Synagogues were largely to blame in not providing the right cultural representatives. The youth were not getting the instruction they should get and had not the power of Jewish faith. The Zionist Organisation was also fundamentally weak in not giving the proper attention to the cultural and spiritual needs of the youth.

Mr. NESTADT congratulated the Dorshei Zion Association on their excellent work.

The conversazione, he felt, was a most admirable institution, and the Committee could feel proud of it; it was an excellent thing for those interested to be able to come together in this spirit.

A discussion followed in which Mr. Rosenblitt, Dr. Sachs and Mr. Markowitz took part. Mr. Kirchner replied.

Mr. L. Bowman rendered a pianoforte solo and Mrs. M. Lurie a song.

National Travel Service

PARTY TOURS TO VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE RUINS AND MATOPOS, etc.

SEASONAL EXCURSIONS TO:—

Capetown, Capetown-Simonstown Section, Strand Hermanus, and Saldanha (for Hoedjes Bay), one day each week during January and February.

East London, Port Elizabeth, Jeffreys Bay, Port Alfred and George-Knysna-Mossel Bay, one day each week during January.

Leave Care and Car to the S.A.R.

For further particulars consult: Leaflets, any S.A.R. Tourist Office or Station Master.

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS.

"Calcarium"

THE DECORATION FOR ALL HOMES, HOTELS, HOSPITALS, etc.

DURABLE AND ECONOMICAL.

Send for Colour Cards from Agents:

E. J. DANCER & SONS,
1, BURG STREET, CAPE TOWN.

