

Persecuted in Many Lands—Tolerated in Others—Welcome in None: The Jews



A happy group.

IT has been said that "to-day is the day of the small nations," and as we have followed the progress of the Peace Conference we have realized that the smaller nations have received more consideration than ever before in the history of the world.

But what of that ancient Hebrew nation, whose people form a component part of almost every nation under the sun. A race without a national home. Yet, in the history of every nation men of the Jew-

ish faith have played a prominent part. To-day, many of them are cherishing great national and political aspirations and turning their eyes longingly towards Palestine, towards Jerusalem, the city that is beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth.

But these national aspirations are not shared by all Jews. Many of them, having ceased to look for the Messiah, and having made their homes for generations in the lands of their adoption, and acquired wealth and social position, prefer to remain there.

In every country they are loyal citizens. During the war, which has just closed, Jews from Germany and Austria have fought on Flanders' fields against Jews from Britain, France and Italy.

They, too, have made many sacrifices and suffered much, but is there a welcome waiting in any country for the Jew? Persecuted in many lands, tolerated only in others, welcomed in none, can we wonder if he looks askance at Christianity and is difficult to approach with the Gospel?

From the reports of our workers we get many interesting side-lights upon the work amongst these people. One says, "Truly words are inadequate to thank our Heavenly Father for his loving care over us, as we went in and out among the sick and afflicted and dying during the epidemic of influenza. While ministering to their needs in their homes, we sometimes got into trouble, in not discerning the "Kosher" or holy dishes from those in common use. The former must be kept separate and must not be cleansed with soap."

"The people were so grateful for the assistance given them in their time of need. Frequently they would say, 'You are the first to come to us, why do you do it?' Then our missionary would tell the story of Him, Who said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto Me,' while they listened attentively.

"When visiting the hospital, one day, a Jewish lady of culture and refinement grasped my hand saying, 'May God bless you and may you be long spared to go in and out among the people.' This was a surprise, as more often I am reproved.

"The dispensary work is one of the chief means of giving us an open door into many hearts and homes."

Speaking of the work among the children, another worker says, "The boys come trooping in, full of unbelief and rough spirits, but in a short time, under Christian influence, a vast difference is noticeable in them.

"The great eagerness to learn and the remarkable acquaintance with Old and New Testament scriptures on the part of these dear Jewish children