

INTERMENT

'As in most cases, my father was interned as an enemy alien, he went to Onchan camp on the Isle of Man. My mother started doing the only job that was allowed to her, that was cleaning floors, housework. With his usual Prussian efficiency, my father got himself a job there as Welfare Officer, and they didn't want to release him because he was so efficient. Anyway, strings were pulled and my father came out after nine months in interment and joined us in Headington, Oxford. His first job was as a baker's roundsman. He got himself a hernia, so he had to stop that, and then he got a job making blackout fittings in a carpentry firm – very different from selling soft furnishings and curtains, of course, but he didn't mind.'

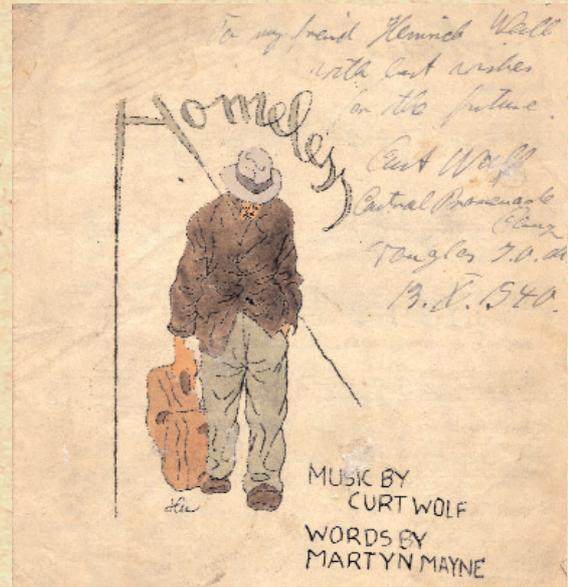
Hans Seelig

'I remember walking down Oxford Street after my husband had been interned, in a real paranoid attack. I felt that everybody was looking at me and I was a real pariah, an outcast. It was a dreadful experience. Nothing like being in a concentration camp, but even so, psychologically it was very bad.'

Adelheid Schweitzer, née Schoenewald

'The following morning I collected my father, and we were taken to Huyton [internment camp] in a Black Maria, would you believe it? I mean, it was an insult. Then he collected his things, and he'd obviously been very popular. One of the things that haunted me for years was that when we came out, there were a lot of these wonderful Jewish refugees, lots of really distinguished-looking people, and they stood behind the barbed wire and waved to him as we went off in the Black Maria.'

Hilde Angier, née Salomon



The plight of the interned refugees was reflected in songs like Homeless, written and performed by internees at the Central Promenade Camp, Isle of Man in October 1940.



Courtesy Hans Schneider

Four refugees interned on the Isle of Man, summer 1940. All were friends from Edinburgh, (left to right), marine biologist Willy Gross, doctor Max Sugar, composer and musicologist Hans Gal and dentist Hugo Schneider.

PROGRAMME FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 3, 1940

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
11.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
11.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
12.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
12.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
1.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
1.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
2.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
2.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
3.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
3.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
4.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
4.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
5.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
5.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
6.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
6.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
7.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
7.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
8.15	English	English	English	English	English	English	English
8.45	English	English	English	English	English	English	English

The English Hour:
 TO-DAY MONDAY:
 HOUSE 52
 8pm
 Otto Liebreich:
 Anglo-Saxon Humour

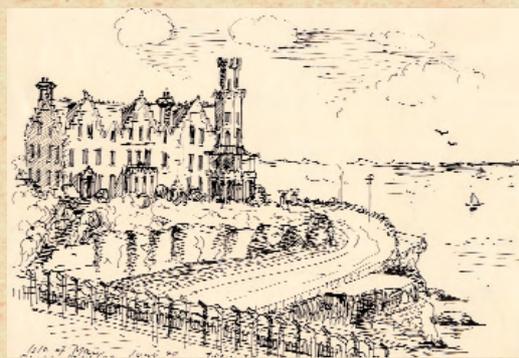
CONCERT IN THE CASIN

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd 8pm

J. SCHIDLÖFF
 VIOLIN
 DR. SALOMON
 PIANO

Concert in A for Violin & Piano
 Fandango in C minor for piano
 Unaccompanied Violin
 And-Playe Bach
 Violin Concerto in A minor

The interned refugees included many professional and creative people. Days at the camps were filled with cultural and educational activities, as these pages from a scrapbook kept by former internee Theo Marks testify.



Drawing of Onchan camp, Isle of Man, by an internee, June 1940



Some interned refugees were sent overseas. This drawing is of an internment camp in Australia where 2,550 men were sent after a voyage on HMS Dunera in appalling conditions.