

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN
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WELCOME TO LONDON

AFTER 14 years of dispersion, the representatives of Jews from Germany living in many countries and continents, rally again for the first time. Another article on this page is dealing with the political and factual significance of the London conference of the Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany.

There is a strong bond of relationship between Jews from Germany which is by no means determined only by the tragic fate of their community. It is the common upbringing, the same school of thought, the same intellectual development which still forges a close link between them wherever they may reside. Something irrevocable has gone with the destruction of German Jewry whose absence cannot be gauged yet for the intellectual life of the Jewish people.

We extend a most cordial and brotherly welcome to the delegates among whom there are many who have suffered under the Nazi yoke until 1945 and some who even to-day have not yet felt the breath of freedom. May their deliberations be fruitful and become the first markstone in the post-German history of German Jews.

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN JEW

A REPRESENTATIVE Committee, headed by Viscount Samuel, Professor S. Brodetsky, Dayan H. Lazarus and Rabbi Dr. L. Baek, has been formed to put into operation the plan for a memorial for the millions of martyred Jews on the Continent. It has been felt that as most of their places of eternal rest are unknown, a suitable memorial should be erected in Palestine in form of a forest in which trees, gardens, parks and groves can be planted in the names of the departed.

In the centre of the forest will be an edifice where the Yahrzeit light will burn year in and year out. Every year Kaddish will be said for the six millions who were killed.

The Yaar Yizkor in Palestine will be the Tomb of the Unknown Jew. Communities in other countries are falling in with erecting this symbol of our tragic and yet eternal heritage.

UNO AND PALESTINE

AFTER a prolonged and heated debate, the United Nations, have formed a fact-finding Committee which is to investigate the Palestine question.

Many Jews who, impatient with the British administration, advocated not long ago a Palestine solution by U.N.O., may now have received their first lesson in "Palestine versus Power Politics." It sometimes appeared during the discussions that as in olden times, Palestine was to be the country of the clash between East and West. The question of the Jewish National Home receded to the background in face of the diplomatic struggle for key positions in the Mediterranean.

Many of the representatives at U.N.O. have not the long and consistent tradition of the British in their relations to Zionism and they are not bound by the Balfour Declaration or other Governmental pledges. Nevertheless, the terms of reference of the Inquiry Committee enable an unbiased and thorough study of the problem.

ANOTHER "BILTMORE"?

THE Biltmore Hotel in New York has already secured a place in Jewish history when the "Biltmore Declaration" adopted there by a Zionist Conference became the programme of the Executive of the Jewish Agency. Now, another Conference has been convened at the "Biltmore" from which we expect a greater realism.

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THE COMMON TASK

In the course of the past twelve years a number of international conferences have dealt with the refugee problem. One of their characteristic features was that those who were the subject of the discussions could not take part in them, or if they were present—or rather represented—they were admitted only as observers trying in anti-chambers to win over to their viewpoint one or another delegate.

There existed no international comprehensive organisation of refugees. Their organisations in individual countries endeavoured to protect their interests in those countries, but could not make their voice heard in the international sphere. This deficiency was even more felt, when it became apparent that the problems of the refugees were not confined to the countries in which they happened to occur, but that their means of solution in one country had its immediate repercussion in another. Moreover, small organisations of refugees, especially those formed after the liberation, endeavoured to lean on the already existing stronger organisations and claimed not only their experienced advice but also their support.

These facts necessitated an international comprehensive union of the refugee organisations. The attempt, which today can be called successful, limited itself to the Jewish refugees from Germany, that is to say that group of people which was the first to be caught in the tremendous wave of persecution and which was therefore to spread over the world the earliest and the farthest. The Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany is today the acknowledged union of all organisations in the world which represent Jewish refugees from Germany.

This Council, for the first time, is convening the representatives of its member organisations to a meeting in London which is to take place on the 15th and 16th of June. There, for the first time on an international forum the refugees themselves will be the spokesmen of their affairs.

So far, delegates from Belgium, France, Germany, India, Italy, Palestine, Switzerland and U.S.A. have announced their attendance. It is no coincidence that the meeting will be held in London. From London is the organising work of the Council being carried on and, from here the links with the people who need our help are established. Lastly, the British constituent member of the Council, the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain, is the strongest organisation of

Refugees, that is to say the greatest organisation of people who did not come to a country as immigrants, but were for years burdened with the uncertain fate of the homeless. The work of the Association has especially within the last few months affected the interests of Jewish refugees in whatever countries they may reside. Due to negotiations of the AJR, a Restitution Office has been established in agreement with the Control Office for Germany and Austria and was granted official recognition.

The conference will have to deal with the wide field of restitution for the losses we have suffered through the measures of Nazism. The problem is the same, to all damaged parties, no matter in which country they may now be living. The discussion will also deal with the question of legal status in a great number of countries where Jewish refugees from Germany are still regarded as Germans according to State Law. The conference will also speak of the cultural tasks which the heirs of German Judaism ought to fulfil. The Jewish cultural achievements which German Jewry has created in more than a century must not be lost. Lastly a number of particular questions will be on the agenda, such as the care for the old and debilitated who are no longer able to rebuild their lives on their own.

We once coined the word of the *Indivisibility of the Refugee Problem*. This conference will show that we have the tasks in common no less than the common will to fulfil them; that refugees whatever they have gone through, have the strength to build up their lives again, both as individuals and in common effort and spirit.

Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany
Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain

Monday, June 16th, at 7.45 p.m.,
Embassy Theatre,
Swiss Cottage, N.W. 3
"GERMAN JEWS
IN MANY COUNTRIES."
Public Reception

On the Occasion of the First Plenary Session of the Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany.

Addresses will be given by:— Hans Erich Fabian (Germany), Siegfried Moses (Palestine), Hermann Muller (U.S.A.), Hans Klee (Switzerland), Kurt Kornicker (France), Erich Gompertz (Belgium), Kurt Alexander (Great Britain), and others.

Opening Remarks: Prof. MARTIN BUBER who is in London for a short stay.

In the Chair: Dr. LEO BAECK, President of the Council

Admission with Ticket only which should be ordered in advance

TICKETS (1/-) obtainable from AJR Office
Stamped envelope should be enclosed

Maurice Pearlman:

THE JEWS IN JUGOSLAVIA

The Jews of Yugoslavia are a shattered community. Like the Yugoslavs themselves, they suffered gigantic losses in the war. But, again like the Yugoslavs, they have pulled themselves together with remarkable energy and organising skill and are well on the way to reconstructing the material side of their broken lives. In this they are much assisted by the helpful and sympathetic attitude of the Yugoslav Government and the friendliness of the common folk in the country. Both the Government and the people here to be far less anti-Semitic than in many another country in Europe and the Balkans. Yugoslav Jewry numbered 75,000 before the war, with an additional 5,000 who immigrated into the country from neighbouring lands immediately before the outbreak of hostilities. The total Jewish population today is exactly 12,394. Ninety per cent. of those who have not returned perished at the hands of the Ustachi, Italians and Germans. Some managed to escape to Italy and Palestine.

The class structure of the Jews was not uniform throughout the country. They were on the whole better off in the north than in the south. In Serbia and Croatia, they were mostly shopkeepers, merchants and professional men. In Bosnia and Macedonia many were artisans and unskilled labourers. Macedonia even had its Jewish shoeshine boys.

The 12,000 or so Jews in Yugoslavia today are distributed among more than 55 organised communities throughout the country. They are constituent members of the national Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia. President of the Federation is Dr. Friedrich Pops, who was also the pre-war president, a noted lawyer and a former mayor of Belgrade. He was sheltered by friends in Belgrade throughout the occupation. One of the Vice-Presidents is Dr. Herbert Vajs, also an outstanding lawyer, who was one of the official Yugoslav Government delegates to Nuremberg and who helped to prepare the Yugoslav indictment against war criminals and organisations.

How do the Jews live? Almost all have lost everything they ever had, families, homes, property, businesses, and have had to start life afresh. Most are in state employ, both in the civil service and state enterprises. Some have resumed their former vocations as shopkeepers, artisans, lawyers, doctors.

On the whole Jewish survivors have found little difficulty in recovering their habitable real estate. The restitution laws obliging all holders of property not their own to hand over to rightful owners functions better than in most European countries. Where a Jewish community has been re-established, restitution of communal property has been made. Where a community has been wiped out, the Government has promised to hand over the communal property to the Federation.

Jewish cultural life in present-day Yugoslavia is meagre. Preoccupations with the day to day material search for food, clothing and shelter were too pressing in the early months of the liberation. Only now can they begin to attend to the spirit. Jewish cultural societies have emerged in Belgrade, Novi Sad and Serajevo. Periodic performances are staged in the Belgrade Jewish institutions. And the

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We had already said in our April issue that efforts had been made to find a common platform of Jewish Organisations in Great Britain to submit proposals for the Peace Treaty with Germany.

There is now solid hope that a basis of agreement will be found of Jewish bodies, not only in this country, but all over the world. A Conference is now in progress attended by nine Jewish Organisations in America, Great Britain, France and South Africa which had drafted the proposals for the Peace Treaties with the satellite countries in August, 1946, in Paris. In addition to those nine Organisations, the "Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany" has also been invited as the representative Organisation of those mainly concerned with the problems which are the subject of the negotiations. The Council will be represented by delegates of its two constituent organisations in U.S.A.

We trust that the Conference will reach agreement on unified proposals.

Federation contemplates launching a weekly printed Jewish bulletin.

There is an equal poverty in the religious life of the community. Only three rabbis have survived in the whole of the country, one in Zagreb, one in Novi Sad and one in Subotica. All are too old to be effective. Belgrade is still without one. Many synagogues have been destroyed. Of the two in Belgrade, one was blown up and the other was used by the Germans as a brothel during the war. It has since been cleaned up and moderately redecorated. Some two to three hundred people attend Sabbath services each week.

FROM BELSEN TO PALESTINE

The "Grand National" Scheme whereby every month Jewish D.P.'s in the British Zone belonging to certain categories are allowed to leave for Palestine, is in full swing.

A special Transit Camp, consisting of wooden huts, the remnants of a former "Stalag," has been set up for this purpose at Bocholt, near the German-Dutch frontier, and a team of relief workers of the principal Jewish voluntary agencies operating in Germany, namely the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the Jewish Relief Unit, and the American Joint Distribution Committee, with UNRRA and Control Commission representatives in charge, are running the welfare, medical and documentation work of the camp.

People stay there for a period up to 14 days, and a special train then takes them to Marseilles for embarkation to Palestine.

After, at the beginning of April, 400 people had left the British Zone, another 260, amongst them approximately 100 men, 100 women and almost 50 young people, were sent off on May 2. Everything was prepared in detail by those working in the camp, there was plenty of space in the German railway carriages, special arrangements had been made for the transport of quite a few babies, and with singing and waving of Jewish flags and banners the people left, full of hopes for a better future in Palestine.

RECRUITMENT OF D.P.'s

The Minister of Labour in association with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster has set up an organisation in the British zone of Germany and Austria for the classification and selection of D.P.'s to be employed in this country. It is understood that preference will be given to men and women who are prepared to take up unskilled manual work or who have skill or experience in certain skilled technical or manual work or who are suitable for training in such occupations. Permission to enter this country will be given for an initial period of 12 months subject to good behaviour on the clear understanding that employment may only be changed with the consent of the Ministry of Labour. The period of permitted stay may be extended. After their arrival volunteers will first be accommodated in holding camps where they are brought in touch with firms in need of additional workers.

RITUAL SLAUGHTERING IN VIENNA

Slaughtering of animals in accordance with the Jewish religious law can now be resumed at the Municipal Abattoir at St. Marx.

The competent Municipal department notified the Chairman of the Agudath Israel in Austria that since the suspension of ritual slaughter enforced by National Socialism had ceased with the collapse of that repressive regime, it was the view of the department that the previous legal provisions were again in force.

THERESIENSTADT "SOLDGELDER"

It is intended, in co-operation with organisations abroad, to compile a list of those former inmates of the Theresienstadt Ghetto who have claims for wages ("Soldgelder") on account of the work they had done in the Camp. Claimants now living in Great Britain are asked to send in name, address and relevant particulars (amount and kind of work, etc.) to AJR Headquarters.

COMMUNITIES IN GERMANY

Berlin.—According to estimates by Jewish relief workers, about 60% of the Jewish population wish to emigrate. Many more would wish to, but do not want to face the burden of re-establishing themselves in other countries.

Leipzig.—According to a report published in "Der Weg," the Jewish Community in Leipzig consists of 300 members, against 18,000 members in 1933. Only 2% of the deportees returned. Whilst most of the 150 older Jews are living in municipal old age homes, all the younger members are working. One of the leading restaurants, "Zellner am Brühl," is under Jewish management. One of the Synagogues as well as the two cemeteries have been restored on the instruction of the Town Mayor, Dr. Zeigner. Negotiations about the return of the Eitingon Hospital, which had once been under the management of the Community, are pending.

Dresden.—About 6,000 members of the Community have lost their lives and the Community now consists of 130 members, amongst them 11 children. The new community has been constituted under the leadership of Leo Loewenkopf with headquarters at the "Schrimmersche Grundstück," Bautzenerstrasse 20. A Synagogue has been established on the second floor and the re-organisation of a Jewish library has been started. The work for the restoration of the cemetery is still going on.

The plot on which the former Great Synagogue stood has been converted into an open green space at the expense of the town. It is intended to erect there a memorial in remembrance of the destruction of the Great Synagogue in November, 1938. At that time, it is understood, members of the Fire Service had saved the Magen David which has now been returned by a delegation of the Fire Service to the Congregation.

Aachen.—The community consists of 74 Jews, the majority of whom live in mixed marriages. Approximately 50% live in the town of Aachen, the other 50% in the Regierungsbezirk Aachen. Quite a number of the Aachen Jews have re-established their business in the textile trade, as cattle dealers, etc. A regular religious service is held on Saturdays.

Muenchen-Gladbach.—The community numbers 74, most of whom live in small places in the neighbourhood. On the whole the position of the community is described as good.

Rheydt.—At the beginning of 1933 the community numbered 350, but now there are only 29, of whom 19 live in Rheydt itself and 10 in the surrounding villages. About one-third of the members want to emigrate.

Hagen.—The Community consists of 126 persons. The members of the Board, Mr. Richard Hirschfeld, Mr. Elias Marx and Mrs. Martha Stargardt, were re-elected at a meeting of the Congregation.

Bonn.—On April 20 the Jewish Congregation in Bonn (Chairman, Mr. Leopold) consecrated its preliminary Synagogue in the presence of the Mayor, representatives of the other denominations and of the university. The main address was delivered by Dr. Alexander Carlebach. A tablet with the following inscription was unveiled: "Aus Nacht und Grauen wiedererstanden ist dieses Haus Gott und zur Ehre, die da sterben mussten für ihr den Juden sein."

French Zone.—In the Northern part of the French zone no more Jewish D.P.'s are left, but German Jewish Communities have started up again such as Coblenz, Mainz, Neuwied, and Saarbrücken. There are about 500 Jews in the whole of the Northern zone. In the Southern zone, there is one German Jewish Community at Freiburg of about 100 people and another 500 Jewish D.P.'s in the various towns and camps.

Desecration of Jewish Cemeteries.—Are the notorious "Friedhofsschaender" of pre-Hitler and Hitler days again at work? A few significant incidents of that kind that occurred recently in the British Zone may throw a light on the position. Jewish cemeteries in Hanover and Luebeck were desecrated by unknown persons at the end of March and the beginning of April respectively. In Hanover six graves were disturbed and seven tombstones destroyed at the Botfeld cemetery, and at the same time a number of graves were damaged in the disused cemetery at Stangriede. A protest meeting, arranged together with political parties, was attended by 2,000 people. At the ancient cemetery at Moising (Luebeck), which had remained untouched during all these tragic years, about 30 tombstones were smashed.

Dr. S. Rappaport (Johannesburg):

THE LEGACY OF GERMAN JEWRY

Reasoning about the future is always a venture-some undertaking. To the question whether we are entitled to expect a resurrection of European, especially of Central European Jewry, only history itself will provide the answer. During the last twenty centuries many Jewries have been destroyed and again resuscitated. Whether Jewish life in Germany will at any time be resumed like that of English Jewry in spite of the catastrophe of 1220; or of French Jewry, notwithstanding the disaster of 1391; or whether the German-Jewish chapter has come to a close like that of Spanish Jewry after the expulsion of 1492, is known only to Providence. Yet it may be said with a reasonable margin of certainty that for many generations to come a flourishing Jewish life on German soil is unthinkable because the gulf between the Jewish and the German people has become almost unbridgeable.

German Jewry, being constantly linked with Jewish tradition through its contact with Eastern Jewry, and, like every Western Jewry, forced to engage in speculation about the nature of Judaism, produced significant works in the realm of Jewish thinking. While nourished by the roots of Hebrew learning, its intellectual leaders had gained, through emancipation, mastery of Western scientific disciplines and the contents of Western culture.

Harmonisation of Beliefs

Just as the Jewish Hellenists were compelled to seek harmonisation of biblical beliefs with platonic ideas; just as the Spanish Jewish thinkers had to attempt a combination of Aristotelian logic with Jewish traditional piety, so German Jewry was impelled to explain and to formulate the essence of Judaism in terms of contemporary thought.

In the same way as Philo of Alexandria leaned on Plato and Poseidonios, the Jewish Spaniards on Ibn Roshd and Ibn Sina, the German Jewish philosophers, while retaining their anchorage in ancient Jewish thought, sought their inspiration from Hegel and Kant, Schelling and Schleiermacher. The attempted fusion between Jewish and modern thought yields a distinct and abiding contribution to the cultural stream of modern Judaism and the teachings of the German-Jewish teachers must still be listened to by those sections of Jews who are bound up with the fate of Western culture and wish to live as loyal Jews.

There was the great intellectual figure of Hermann Cohen, leading interpreter of Kant, a rare philosophical genius and Jewish to the core, who achieved a notable amalgamation of Kantian philosophy with Jewish ethics. His monumental work, the "Religion of Reason from the Sources of Judaism" is a classic of modern Jewish thinking, giving a systematic interpretation of the fundamental theological and ethical doctrines of Judaism on a rational basis. Hermann Cohen's disciple, Franz Rosenzweig, one of the greatest spiritual guides of Western Jewry, exercised an enormous influence on all modes of thinking concerning Jewish life and doctrine. His main work, "Star of Redemption," aptly described as the "Guide to the Perplexed" of our time, has fashioned a new concept of Revelation as the centre of modern Jewish religious experience, and revived the emphasis on old Jewish Learning.

Rosenzweig became, in the words of Ernst Simon, the leading pioneer of a new Jewish type who fused into a new unity the practical devotion to Jewish ritual characteristic of the orthodox, the freedom and incisive thinking characteristic of the liberal, and the inner bond with the people and land of Israel characteristic of the Zionist. Other thinkers, like Rabbi Leo Baeck, and the Prague circle formed around Hugo Bergmann and Max Brod, worked ardently for the clarification of the spiritual problems of Judaism and the formulation of a rational basis for Jewish existence outside Palestine.

To-day anyone interested in any fact of Jewish history, life and thought can obtain the required information by consulting a Jewish reference work. But this is possible only because the "Science of Judaism," initiated by Leopold Zunz in Berlin, has given us an accurate knowledge of Judaism in all its phases, and of the relation of the Jews with all the peoples and cultures with which they have come into contact.

Since Zunz published his fundamental works on rabbinical literature, a galaxy of scholars have added countless volumes to the wealth of Jewish literature, uncovering new treasures of Jewish ethics, philosophy and poetry. As a result of the labours of Zunz and his great contemporaries and successors—Steinschneider, the bibliographer, Graetz, the historian, Rappaport, the biographer, Frankel, Luzatto, Geiger, Jost and a host of others—nearly the whole field of Jewish thought and teaching has been explored and presented in terms of modern culture.

Scientific Studies

To-day Jewish scientific studies on the German-Jewish model occupy a place of honour in many a renowned seat of learning, particularly at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

All modern trends within the synagogue, with the exception of American-born Reconstructionism, an offshoot of Conservatism, originated in Germany. The ideology of Reform, considering Judaism not a fixed creed, but a continuously developing religion, and assigning to the ethical elements of religion a superior rank over the ritual, was first propounded in Germany in the first quarter of the nineteenth century by Jacobson, Geiger and Holdheim, and from there it spread to the U.S.A., where it found its greatest opportunity and largest growth.

Likewise, the theory of Conservative Judaism had its origin on German soil, where the great scholar and rabbi, Zachariah Frankel, first formulated the conservative programme of a "Positive-historical Judaism" which would accept the principle of historic development and yet not break with the past. Neo-Orthodoxy distinguishing between contemporary adherents of strict traditionalism and pious Jews of a century ago, also bears the label "Made in Germany." Samson Raphael Hirsch of Frankfurt-on-Main, author of the famous "Nineteen Letters of Ben Uziel," restated the fundamentals of traditional Judaism for the benefit of the emancipated observing Jew living in the sphere of modern culture. Israel Hildesheimer established in Berlin an orthodox seminar from whose portals Rabbis equipped with general and Jewish learning, spread the doctrine of neo-orthodoxy among Westernised Jews.

Spiritual Movements

One of the most noteworthy spiritual movements in contemporary Jewry, a new type of mysticism, was fathered in Germany by Martin Buber. Buber's translations and interpretations of works on Chassidic lore gave rise to a unique kind of Jewish pietism, the so-called Western Neo-Chassidism, emphasising the importance of the ethical and social elements inherent in Chassidic life, especially its exalted sense of religious joy and intense feeling of brotherhood. His concern with the spiritual implications of Zionism earned him the name of Achad Ha'am of German Jewry.

Modern Zionism is also considerably indebted to German-Jewish thought. Moses Hess, born in the Rhineland, was the first philosophical protagonist of Zionism. In his famous tract, "Rome and Jerusalem," inspired by the achievements of the Italian Resorgimento, the nationalist ideology of Zionism was then for the first time set forth in a European language; Herzl's "Judenstaat," the Bible of political Zionism, followed later in the German language, Herzl's mother tongue.

The splendid legacy which German Jewry, notwithstanding its shortcomings and failings inherent in the dualistic existence of Western Jews, left to posterity, has become an essential part of the imperishable legacy of Israel.

(From "Jewish Affairs," Johannesburg.)

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN GERMANY

The facilities for getting personal property from Germany to this country (see April issue of "AJR Information") for the time being only refer to property in the British zone of Germany, whereas property in the three other occupation zones and in the four sectors of Berlin is not included in the scheme.

What the Press says . . .

HOPE FOR THE REFUGEES

Arrangements for the future care of refugees have now reached a point where decisions must be taken quickly if ultimate breakdown is to be avoided. The numbers of them scattered between Shanghai and the Atlantic have been reduced from approximately 12,000,000 to 3,000,000. Of these some 834,000 qualify for relief and another 1,562,800 for protection under the International Refugee Organization when it is constituted.

It would be the more deplorable if the I.R.O. failed to take shape because, in spite of the many and manifest short-term difficulties over refugees, there are now good hopes of a happy and productive future for most of them in the long run. Repatriation, it is true, is likely to play henceforth less of a part in their reabsorption into normal life, since many of those remaining are politically opposed to the Governments now ruling in the countries of their origin. Yet these people have an advantage not shared by their predecessors after the last war in the labour shortage that prevails everywhere, particularly in Western Europe. Already the United Kingdom is bringing in 15,000 a month, the Belgians will have taken 10,000 by July 1, and France, Sweden and the Netherlands have schemes in preparation. There are signs that their example is to be followed by South American countries which have not hitherto been accepting as many immigrant refugees as had been hoped.

"The Times."

NATURALISATION

On April 24 the Home Secretary gave the following figures about naturalisation of aliens:—

The total number of applications received until April 19, 1947, is 37,682, of which 15,700 had come in before July 31, 1945, and 21,982 after.

Of these, 9,222 have been naturalised (178 between July 31 and December 31, 1945, 4,431 during 1946 and 4,613 between January 1 and April 9, 1947) and a further 964 cases have otherwise been disposed of (refusals, deaths, etc.). This means that 27,496 applications are still to be dealt with.

PEACE TREATIES

The Treaties with the satellite states, Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland (see Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld's article in "AJR Information," No. 10/1946) have now been signed and will shortly be ratified. The following articles are of special interest from the Jewish point of view:

According to Art. 3 and 4 of the Treaty with Rumania and Art. 2 and 3 of the Treaty with Hungary, measures are to be taken to secure to all persons without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, the enjoyment of human rights and of the fundamental freedoms including freedom of religious worship. Furthermore, the Governments undertake that the laws in force shall not, either in their content or in their application, discriminate or entail any discrimination between persons of Rumanian or Hungarian nationality respectively on the ground of their race, sex, language, or religion whether in reference to their persons, property, business, professional or financial interests, status, political or civil rights or any other matter. The Governments have also to set free all persons held in confinement because of their racial origin, to repeal discriminatory legislation or restrictions and to refrain in future from any measures of this kind.

Art. 25 of the Treaty with Rumania and Art. 27 of the Treaty with Hungary stipulate the obligation of restoration, or, if this is impossible, of fair compensation for measures of sequestration, confiscation, or control on account of racial origin or religion. Heirless property is to be transferred to communities which are representative of the deprived persons and is to be used for purposes of relief and rehabilitation of surviving members of such communities.

Part of the conditions laid down in Art. 3 and 4 of the Treaty with Rumania and Art. 2 and 3 of the Treaty with Hungary are embodied in the Treaties with Bulgaria, Italy and Finland.

Lutz Weltmann :

J. B. PRIESTLEY

When H. G. Wells resigned the office of president of the World Association of Writers, the international P.E.N. Club, J. B. Priestley became his successor. Only recently he has been delegated by the Ministry of Education for U.N.E.S.C.O. (United Nations' Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organisation).

As a novelist he is matched by E. M. Forster, as a dramatist by James Bridie. But his position is unique as the representative English writer in public life. Heinrich Mann held, to a lesser degree, a similar position in Germany once; Priestley shares with him the political activism, the inspiration by and the influence upon the expressionist movement (at a period of their literary development) and, above all, the leadership of progressive youth. Yet here is the end of similarity. Whereas Heinrich Mann is a passionate satirist and a great hater—on account of his love of humanity—the social critic Priestley always has a smile for the foibles of his fellow-men. He speaks freely, and sometimes he gave offence. But he is an Englishman, which means he advocates reforms by evolution; he is a Yorkshireman, which means that national virtue of balancing between a sense of facts and the duties of humanity is strongly marked; and he is a middle-class man, which means he respects tradition (his novels, with a certain Chekhovian flavour, come from Dickens, the humorist and the social writer) and keeps in touch with the "common man." Thus he does not disdain to write farces with no other intention but to entertain: "When we are married." He masters the technique of farce so well that he can use it even for plays with a more serious background, e.g. "How are they at home?", which was to show the war on the home front, with a refugee maid-servant as one of the characters.

However, he is not just a playwright, but a very dramatist. He is a reformer of English theatre which he wants to free from the bondage of mercenary management. His plays entertain as any of those which are catering for big crowds, but like the works of all great dramatists each of his plays contains a world of its own: "Music at Night"—veils fall from human souls during a house concert; "Dangerous Corner"—a fine variant of Ibsen's theme about Truth and Conventions. Both plays have the Schnitzler touch, and if there is any direct

influence, Priestley can claim to be the only and most original disciple of the Viennese writer.

His latest play, "An Inspector Calls," reveals how members of one family are responsible for the death of a girl, who belongs to the class of the underdog. A piece with a religious meaning behind it like Gogol's "Revisor," which might have served as a sort of a model.

"Desert Highway" is a play he wrote for the army to be performed by actors serving in His Majesty's Forces. Its hero is a Jewish sergeant, who is both liked and respected by his section and object of a thoughtless and, if one may say so, good-natured antisemitism at the same time. In an interlude the scenery of desert warfare becomes identical with the theatre of war where the Jews met the "Fascist" aggressor nation of the ancient world, the Assyrians. The sergeant tells his dream and by explaining what this war means to him as a Jew, he makes clear the deeper sense of the war. It is Great Britain's permanent contribution to the problem, "What is the Importance of This War?" ("Was gilt es in diesem Kriege?") This was the title of one of Kleist's essays, and Priestley reminds us of Kleist's profoundness in his play, "They Came to a City": In Kleist's novel, "The Earthquake of Chile," we witness men and women becoming a community capable of noble feelings and helpful actions, under the terror of a catastrophe of nature. The danger passed, they betray themselves as human beasts again. In "They Came to a City" a circle of persons find themselves stranded within a strange community, their characters are put to the test, and those who prove true in the ideal community have to test their ethics as individuals in the struggle for a better world outside. A manly play (of which a good screen version also exists), with a message of hope.

An important feature in our portrait would be missing unless we mentioned J. B. Priestley as a speaker for the wireless. His postscripts during the war are not forgotten; one of them dealt with the question of refugees to whom he had shown helpful understanding from the outset. His device of Live and Let Live has been proved in his frequent endeavours to create a better understanding with Russia. In a series of talks, "Our Secret Dream," he developed the idea of how Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union are united in the

ideals of the French Revolution, and yet divided in their emphasis of any of the three: Liberty (Great Britain), Equality (U.S.A.), Fraternity (Soviet Russia). Whilst his policy falls more in line with Henry A. Wallace, heir to Roosevelt's outlook in world affairs, he has very much in common with Churchill as one of the most powerful orators of all times, as a man who commands the idiom of the people without compromising in the quality of thought and in the level of eloquence for a noble cause. Thus it was duly up to J. B. Priestley to introduce the "Atomic Week" in the B.B.C. and to call the listeners' attention to the fact that they were not to listen to some highbrow volley of esoteric science, but that it was of their own concern to win the peace.

Priestley's first great success was a novel, "The Good Companions." He is himself the "good companion" of all men of goodwill.

PERSONALIA

Two leading personalities in Palestine have recently celebrated their 60th birthday, Felix Rosenbluth and Siegfried Moses. Both are well known figures in Jewish life. Felix Rosenbluth is the Chairman of the Palestine sister organisation of the AJR, the "Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa" and of "Aliyah Hadashah," a political party of progressive elements with a realistic programme, deady opposed to terrorism and certain trends which have led to it. He holds important offices in the National Council of Palestine Jewry and in the Municipality of Tel Aviv.

Siegfried Moses was the President of the "Zionistische Vereinigung fuer Deutschland" and an Executive member of the "Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland" since its inception. He is one of the most outstanding experts on tax problems on which he has, not long ago, published a book. Both are very active in Jewish affairs, not only in Palestine, but all over the world. Jews, especially from Germany, are grateful for all the work they have done and are doing.

Rudolph Schwarz, conductor of the Jewish "Kulturbund" Orchestra in Berlin from 1936 onwards, has been appointed conductor of the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra. Mr. Schwarz, who at present holds an appointment in Sweden, was rescued by British troops from Belsen in 1945 after he had been there for two years. Many Jews from Germany, who thus hear for the first time that Rudolph Schwarz has survived the Nazi persecution, will be glad to learn that he found a field of activity in this country.

Miss L. A. Schwarzschild, who came to this country from Germany in 1938, is the first woman to win a coveted prize at Oxford. It is the Boden Sanskrit scholarship worth £200 a year for the maximum of three years.

NEW BOOKS.—Julius Isaac, Ph.D.: "Economics of Migration" (Kegan Paul, London); R. E. Peierls and John Enogat: "Science News 2" (Penguin Books); Charles Singer and C. Rabin: "A Prelude to Modern Science" (Cambridge University Press); March Cost: "Rachel" (Collins, London); Richard Crossman: "Palestine Mission"; (Hamish Hamilton); Max Brod: "The Biography of Franz Kafka" (Secker and Warburg, London); E. H. W. Meyerstein: "Division"—A Poem (Blackwell); J. Pedersen: "Israel, its Life and Culture" (Oxford University Press); M. P. Waters: "Haganah" (Newman Wolsey, London); Charles & Bertie G. Schwartz: "Faith through Reason." A modern interpretation of Judaism. (Macmillan & Co., London); Lt.-Col. W. Byford-Jones: "Berlin Twilight" (Hutchinson, London); Robert Collis & Han Hogerzeit: "Straight on" (Methuen, London); Maurice Pearlman: "Mufti of Jerusalem" (Victor Gollancz, London); Joseph Weinberg: "Homecoming" (Michael Joseph, London); Leonard Regaz: "Israel, Judaism and Christianity" (Victor Gollancz, London); N. Barou: "British Trade Unions" (Victor Gollancz, London).

A STORY OF A LIFE

Y. Ben Aharon, member of the collective settlement Givat Haim and one of the younger labour leaders in Palestine, tells in "Listen, Gentile" (Staples Press, Ltd., London, 10/6), the whole story of the self-realisation of a young man who faced the turmoil of the Europe after 1918 and, together with a group of his comrades, undertook to trek to Palestine.

The author who was himself a prisoner of war in Germany, gives his story the form of a conversation between a British officer in a German prison camp and a Palestinian officer from a kibbutz in Palestine.

LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Wednesday 5-6.30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION OF AN ESTATE

Assets situate in England belonging to deceased persons, irrespective of their domicile or place of death, can only be administered and distributed amongst the persons entitled if either the deceased's will has been "proved" in the Probate Court and a Grant of Probate made, or if, in case the deceased died intestate, i.e. without leaving a will, Letters of Administration have been obtained. If the executor or executors have been appointed in the will a Court will usually confirm their office. If the deceased died intestate or if he failed to appoint an executor or executors in his will, one or more Administrators will be appointed by the Court. The relatives of the deceased, in certain order, are the persons first entitled to become Administrators of the estate. It is the duty of these Administrators or Executors to administer the estate which includes collection of assets, payment of debts and estate duties and taxes, and ultimately distribution of the remaining assets amongst the beneficiaries in accordance with the provisions of the will or the law of succession in case of (total or partial) intestacy. In all cases the prospective Executor(s) or Administrator(s), before Probate or Letters of Administration are granted, have to file an Inland Revenue Affidavit setting forth the assets and liabilities known to them and to pay the Estate Duty, if any, thereon. At present no duty is payable in respect of estates under £2,000.

In some special cases monies (generally not exceeding £100) belonging to the deceased can be paid out to the beneficiaries without the production of a Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration, e.g. deposits in Savings Banks.

As mentioned above, the will of a person who died domiciled abroad (a "foreigner") and who disposes of property in this country, must also be "proved" here. The will must conform to the law of the country of the deceased's last domicile both as to capacity, form and its material effects. Thus, the foreign law determines who are beneficiaries and how the assets are to be distributed and it also decides whether the will is valid and, as a rule, how it is to be construed and interpreted. This, however, applies only to a will disposing of movable property (e.g. money, shares, debentures, jewellery, and furniture). Disposition of immovables (i.e. land in England) must be in conformity with English law both as to form and contents. As far as the form of wills disposing of movables is concerned, made by English subjects domiciled abroad, special provisions favouring the validity of wills by granting a wider choice of forms are contained in the Wills Act, 1861. These are too complex to be discussed here.

If a foreigner in this sense, dying intestate, leaves an estate in England a distinction has to be drawn between Administration of movables and of immovables. As regards movables, the grant of Letters of Administration has as a rule to be made to the person entitled thereto by the law of the country of the deceased's last domicile; such person can and usually does appoint a person residing here as his Attorney. The determination of the beneficiaries and succession are governed by the same foreign law—it has been said in a decision that the English Judge will apply the foreign law as a foreign Court would apply it. As regards immovable property in England, English law alone decides who is entitled to it and in what proportions.

יער יזכור



In memory of six million martyred Jews

As most of their last resting places are unknown, a memorial will be erected in Palestine and take the form of a Forest in which trees, gardens, parks and groves can be planted in the names of the departed.

COMMITTEE

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Professor S. Brodetsky,
Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck.

Chairman : F. Ashe Lincoln, K.C.

Vice-Presidents : Rabbi Dr. A. Altmann, F. Ashe Lincoln, K.C., Prof. Norman Bentwich, Rabbi I. Brodie, Dr. I. Feldman, Louis Golding, Berl Locker, Henry Minden, Lt.-Col H. Morris, M. P., Alderman A. Moss J.P., Rabbi Kopul Rosen, S. S. Silverman, M.P., Aaron Wright.

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A Row (12 trees) 4 gns. A Garden (100 trees) £35.
A Cluster (30 trees) 10 gns. A Park (300 trees) 100 gns.
A Grove (1,000 trees) £350

A JEWISH "LOST PROPERTY" OFFICE

A London newspaper, the other day, referred to the Restitution Office under the auspices of the Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany as the largest "Lost Property Office" of its kind in the world. Some months ago the Control Office for Germany gave this body an official status for dealing with inquiries about the legal position of assets in Germany. Its activities cover the four zones of occupation, including Berlin, but it is the centre for the Sub-Offices in Palestine and Australia. Sub-Offices in other countries are to follow.

Mr. Daniel Cohn, former member of the Supreme German Court, is in charge of the Office, in which, day by day, the tragedy of a community unfolds itself. Children inquire about the property of their parents who have disappeared, relatives claim the estates of their families who have been wiped out—deportations and suicides are the ever-recurring tale which opens up the question of restitution.

Although the office has only been at work since March, there is a large and ever-growing number of daily inquiries, among them a fair proportion from non-Jews. Among the callers are also some British-born Jews whose property in Germany had been robbed before the war. Many of the inquirers who are naturalised British subjects believe erroneously that naturalisation has some influence on the settlement of claims.

Who Inquires

Who are the people who inquire? There are children, some of them grown up, who had come to England with Children's Transports from the Continent and who, in most cases, are not familiar with the estates of their late parents. Sometimes it proves rather difficult to extract useful information from them and odd bits and pieces of knowledge have to be pasted together to obtain even a vague picture of the assets of their families. Co-operation with the German authorities who were responsible for confiscation, has proved helpful in a number of cases. Involuntary co-operation was rendered by the Gestapo when documents on deportation fell into Allied hands, containing, with proverbial German thoroughness, specifications of the property of the deported.

Not all inquirers, however, have the tragic air of heirs seeking information. There are many who want to know what happened to their own assets and properties, be it real estate, which might have been sold, confiscated, bombed, or bank accounts, insurance policies, etc. Some people made striking discoveries when they found that some banks, at variance with Nazi decrees, had not surrendered their accounts and securities. A few lucky ones even learnt the pleasant news that their boxes of gold and silver wares were still in the safes of their banks in Germany. Others who had their valuables deposited with "Aryan" friends or relatives, received the offer of having them handed back. As far as such property is in the British Zone (excluding Berlin), it is now possible to obtain a licence to bring it to England. Among Jewish property which has been found are many objects d'art which have been stored in museums, and many books have been traced in public libraries with the "ex libris" of their Jewish owners.

Definition of Claims

It is too early yet to define the exact claims for registration until the restitution laws are formulated. Today it is, for instance, uncertain if restitution for special taxes and levies will be recognised by the law. The main task of the Office at present, is to help prepare the necessary documents and to elicit the required information, in case the coming restitution law should foresee a time limit for registering claims. It has also in various instances successfully applied to the military authorities to act as Trustees for Jewish property. This has been done without distinction between zones. On the other hand, co-operation with the Russian zone is more difficult although experience has not been long enough to form a clear picture. There, as in other instances, complications have arisen from the inability to remit monies from England to Germany for fees if and when they are required. But it is rather naive to expect the Office to "speed up" restitution as some impatient applicants do. Others even submit strongly worded "claims for settlement." Their

resentment goes so far as to omit to include their fee for 5/-.

What the Office can do is, of course, often limited to more general advice and to the suggestion to consult a solicitor. A member of the Executive of the Council has gone to Stadthagen in Germany, the Central Office for the Administration of Jewish Assets, in order to co-ordinate the work for claims from England and the Dominions. Hundreds of registrations for the British zone have been received from the Offices in Palestine and Australia, and from other parts of the Dominions. A considerable number of inquiries have come from Jews in Shanghai.

There are, altogether, two main groups of inquirers, the largest one, no doubt, made up by former German Jewish business-men and owners of real estate in Germany. The second largest group consists of former civil servants, old age pensioners and insured persons.

One side of the activities of the Restitution Office, of which the public does not know, is its work in connection with the impending Restitution Law for which the Council has been asked to prepare a draft and to submit suggestions. Both the military Government and the German authorities, frequently enlist its co-operation for legislation which is now being enacted or for comments on such legislation.

It is envisaged to establish branch offices in the near future in some of the main provincial centres.

I.R.O. SESSION

On May 14, the Preparatory Committee of the International Refugee Organisation resolved at its Session in Lausanne to assume operational responsibility on July 1 after eight member Governments had agreed to make advance contributions in order to finance the operations. The seat of the International Refugee Organisation will be either Paris or Geneva. Jewish relief organisations doing field work will obtain a special status enabling their close co-operation with I.R.O. officials in the various zones. The session was adjourned on May 22 till the end of June. Among the representatives of Jewish organisations who were present in Lausanne as observers were Mr. S. Adler-Rudel on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, Dr. Gerhardt Riegner, head of the Geneva Office of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Salomon Ehrmann representing the Agudath Israel World Organisation and Dr. Hans Klee, representative of the Swiss Central Committee for Refugees.

As we go to press the Constitution of I.R.O., which comes into being as soon as 15 or more states unconditionally subscribe at least 75% of the Organisation's first year's operational budget of 151,060,500 dollars, has been signed by 16 states altogether with a total amount of subscriptions of 75.52% but the number of ratifications is not sufficient yet. The unconditional signatures by 5 states (Australia, China, Iceland, New Zealand, United Kingdom) add up to 19.47%. The conditional signatures by 11 states (Belgium, Canada, Dominican Republic, France, Guatememala, Honduras, Liberia, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, United States), add up to 56.5%.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

May I ask your help on behalf of the Children's Marrainage Scheme which is, as you know, a sub-committee of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad. This Scheme exists to help orphaned Jewish children in France and Germany. We try to find for them in this country people who are willing to act as their god-parents and who will, by writing to them and sending them occasional parcels, help them to recover a little of the sense of security and of being cared for that they have lost during the past seven years.

I am sure that readers of your paper would like to "adopt" one of our children, either from the displaced persons' camps in Germany or from France. Will anyone who is interested write to me for further particulars. Yours sincerely,

Ursula Torday, Organising Secretary, Children's Marrainage Scheme, 7 Endsleigh Place, London, W.C.1.

FROM MY DIARY

It is interesting to note from an appendix to the booklet, "Towards Union in Palestine," on Zionism and Jewish-Arab Co-operation, published by the Ihud (Union) Association, Jerusalem, the movement for Jewish-Arab co-operation, that the majority of the contributors have come from Germany and Austria. The publication which was well received in Jewish circles here and met with an echo far beyond the narrow school of its political followers, has been edited by Martin Buber, J. L. Magnes and Ernst Simon.

Among the contributors are Gabriel Baer, a Hebrew journalist who came to Palestine in 1933 from Berlin; Salli Hirsch, former member of the governing bodies of the Zionist Organisation in Germany and active member of the Inner Zionist Council; Mrs. Gerda Luft, former correspondent of the "Juedische Rundschau"; Professor Richard Koebner, who was Professor of medieval and Modern History at the University in Breslau until 1933 and is now a Professor of Modern History at the Hebrew University at Jerusalem; David Werner Senator, former Secretary General of the Joint Distribution Committee's European Headquarters in Berlin and since 1937, administrator of the Hebrew University; and Gavriel Stern, who came to Palestine from Germany in 1936 and is now Assistant Editor to the journal "Ba'ayoth" of Ihud.

Hermann Schwab, in his book, "A World in Ruins," has made a thorough study of the history, life and work of German Jewry (published by Edward Goldstone, London, 15/-).

As far as facts and figures go, Mr. Schwab's survey of the beginning of Jewish settlement in Germany up to the age of emancipation and the collapse after Hitler's advent, is a useful piece of work. His compilation of the cultural and economical development will serve as a reference to all students of German Jewish history, as long as the book does not intend to be a history of German Jews in a wider interpretation of the word. For this, it lacks reflection of the spiritual movement and achievements of German Jewry, as was once so masterfully portrayed by writers such as J. Kastein and Arnold Zweig.

NARRATOR

AN EVENT IN THE WORLD OF LETTERS

Margarete Susman: "Das Buch Hiob und das Schicksal des jüdischen Volkes." (Steinberg Verlag, Zürich.)

I have read this book three times. I shall read it again and again. It is a book which has a message for the German Jew, for every Jew, for Jew and Christian alike. The future Jewish historian will state: 1912 Baeck's "Wesen des Judentums" was published, 1915 Cohen's "Religion der Vernunft aus den Quellen des Judentums," 1921 Franz Rosenzweig's "Stern der Erlösung," 1933 Buber's "Kampf um Israel," and—1947 Susman's "Hiob." In such perspective Mrs. Susman's book has to be seen.

German Jewry has ceased to exist as a coherent community. But Mrs. Susman's book speaks again in the name of German Jewry. It is like a voice out of the grave, not ghostlike, but speaking with power and authority and speaking of eternal things.

That a woman of 72 years of age should have been able to write this book is one of the many wonders Mrs. Susman puts before the reader to ponder about. As a religious writer she follows up the tradition opened to our generation by Franz Rosenzweig.

Six million Jews have been murdered. Will this fact shatter our belief in God's justice and mercy? Mrs. Susman makes us understand Job's humility: "I have uttered that which I understood not, things too wonderful for me, which I knew not"; and Job's triumphant belief, "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth Thee." Reading Mrs. Susman's book we are helped to understand Job.

May God grant Mrs. Susman the peace of many blissful years in recompense for the message of peace she is bringing with this book to the remnant of Israel.

IGNAZ MAYBAUM

"CENTRAL BRITISH FUND NEWS"

A new bi-monthly bulletin, published by the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation, has made its first appearance in April. It contains, amongst others, a valuable survey of the work done by Jewish relief workers in Germany, Austria, Greece, Yugoslavia, Italy and other European countries under the auspices of the Central British Fund. 529 tons of relief goods have been sent over to the Continent and £180,000 were spent, up to now, for the maintenance of 700 Concentration Camp orphans now in this country.

FAMILY EVENTS

Mr. Ernst Kromwell of Nürnberg passed away in New York on May 8 at the age of almost 81 years. In sorrowing memory, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kromwell, 32 Radcliffe Road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS

LEICA OR CONTAX wanted. Eric O. Sonntag, 159 Bickenhall Mansions, Baker Street, W.1. WELbeck 6802.

RE-UPHOLSTERING, also Carpet Repair work done on customers' premises.—A. Fahn, 6 Lithos Rd., N.W.3.

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ORTHODOX FULL BOARD wanted in London for elderly lady. Single room, preferably with central heating and hot water. Box 442.

COOK GENERAL wanted, sleep out, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. preferred. Small modern flat, all conveniences. £4 per week. Fares paid. Phone, Hendon 7563.

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VERSATILE BUSINESSMAN is prepared to invest moderate capital for active partnership with Gentleman or Lady with technical knowledge. Box 448.

EXPERIENCED MATERNITY NURSE free for taking advance bookings for private cases in London from Sept. onwards. Box 449.

ESTABLISHED FIRM with factory space, City, wishes to contact Expert who can offer promising Line with the view to manufacture. Box 443.

SIEMENS HEIMBUEGLER, new, 220 volt, to be sold. Box 444.

WANTED: Accommodation of any kind—Vacancies for men and women (skilled and unskilled)—Holiday hospitality with or without payment. AJR Social Service Dept. MAI 9096.

BOOK-KEEPING and consultations by exp. man, part-time. Box 446.

ATTENTION MANUFACTURERS. Traveller with very good connections with wholesalers in London and in the country seeks position for the sale of blouses, skirts and dresses. Box 447.

EXPERIENCED, LIVE REPRESENTATIVE required by Wholesaler of fancy jewellery, fancy goods and buttons. Must have excellent connections, especially stores London. Good commission. Write stating particulars, previous experiences and references. Box 450.

BUSINESS MAN going very shortly to Sweden, Norway and Denmark is prepared to accept any kind of business matters to be negotiated over there. Box 452.

EXPERIENCED STENOGRAPHER, German and English, wanted by export firm, if possible immediately. Box 453.

REFINED LADY with extensive Housekeeping and Cooking experience (Continental) would like position of responsibility with 1-2 Gents. or business couple. Box 454.

MISSING PERSONS

Inquiries from AJR

Fischer, Grete, from Vienna VII, Gumpendorferstr., worked with husband in household near London, for Bayerisches Hillswerk.

Fuss, Max-Leo, son of Sender Fuss from Vienna, for Leo Fuss, Palestine.

Gartenberg, John, last known address 26 Chesterford Gardens, N.W.3, for AJR.

Gerson, Olga, born 25.3.17, last known address 14 Mazenod Avenue, N.W.6, for Alfred Wende, Berlin.

Lipska, Frieda, born abt. 1900 at Posen, from Berlin, Bochumerstr. 18, married name unknown, for Leiser Auerbach, D.P. Camp, Germany.

Inquiries from HIAS

37 Museum Street, London, W.C.1

Gabel, Leo, and Lotte, née Weisberg, for Mrs. Bessie and daughter, Joshua, Manus, Brooklyn.

Held, Wolf, born Roumania, formerly Vienna, for Hermann Neumann, Santiago, Chile.

Archinowitz, Meta, born Lotzen, for Emil Posnanski, Berlin-Wilmersdorf.

Inquiries from United Kingdom Search Bureau
Bloomsbury House,
Bloomsbury St., London, W.C.1

Mencies, Alice, for mother Karlina Hauer, Austria.

Mendelsohn, Lilly, Violinist, abt. 35-40 yrs. old, sister married to Physician.

Mikschik, Ferdinand and wife Lily, née Schreiber, London, for F. H. Samosch, Amsterdam-Z.

Molner, Rosa, abt. 36 yrs. old from Austria, London, for mother Maria Molnar, Schneegattern.

Neter, from Dortmund-Aplerbeck, for Edde Pichler-Ploner, Dortmund.

Steger, Auguste, born August, 1902, from Vienna, for Suchdienst, Munich.

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ENQUIRIES
INVITED

THE ASSOCIATION AT WORK

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

On April 14th Dr. N. Barou spoke on the subject "Jews in the World." He stated at the outset that it was typical for Jews and also for Jewish refugees in this country that they were most interested in discussing problems but that they were not to the same extent inclined to learn the facts on which these problems were based. As a matter of self-respect Jews should try to find out by exact scientific work as much as possible about the structure of their community. He stressed as the main peculiarities of the Jews that they were a minority everywhere, that they were concentrated in large towns and that, linguistically, they were to be divided in five different groups, the English speaking group now gradually becoming the largest one amongst them. Finally, Dr. Barou reported on the endeavours to get statistical material on the Jews in England.

The Franz Rosenzweig Series of Lectures under the auspices of the AJR was concluded on April 28 by Professor S. Brodetsky's lecture on "The Future of British Jewry." Mrs. E. Reichmann, who was in the chair, described Professor Brodetsky's presence at this meeting of the AJR as symbolic for the good relations between Anglo-Jewry and the immigrants from Germany and Austria.

Professor Brodetsky, dealing in his introductory remarks with the specific situation of the Jewish victims of Nazism, said it was significant that they were welcomed in this country not only by Jews, but also by non-Jews. Member of the Anglo-Jewish community was every Jew in Britain wherever he had come from. Professor Brodetsky then analysed tendencies in various spheres of the Jewish community life. Numerically, Anglo-Jewry might gradually be diminishing because the birthrate was decreasing and a substantial immigration from abroad unlikely. Spiritually, the next generation would be more English in outlook and the knowledge of Yiddish would be reduced; on the other hand, the knowledge of Hebrew might spread wider. In the field of religious life, there was, in Professor Brodetsky's view, a trend moving away from strict Jewish orthodoxy. One of the most serious tasks was a new approach to youth education.

Professor Brodetsky did not believe that, in the long run, anti-Semitism might become a serious

danger for Anglo-Jewry; for the next period, however, it might become more intense by the after-effects of Nazi propaganda, nationalistic tendencies in world policy and by the Palestine terrorism, which he condemned in strong words and which might undermine Jewish life everywhere. The unique geographical position of this country would also increase the importance of Anglo-Jewry, in spite of its smaller number, for Jewish life all over the world.

The utmost sincerity and the clear approach which characterised Professor Brodetsky's lecture made a great impression on the audience.

RECITATIONS BY WALTER HERTNER

Parts from two new novels by Jewish writers from Germany in this country were read by Walter Hertner at a function under the auspices of the AJR Golders Green Branch on May 12: Herbert Friedenthal's "Wasser auf Gottes Muehlen" and Leo Kahn's "Obliging Fellow." Together with other literary documents they reflected the various stages through which German Jews had to go since 1933. The high artistic level, the well-balanced choice and Walter Hertner's lively and excellent interpretation, were greatly appreciated by the audience. Introductory explanations were given by Mr. W. Rosenstock.

LONDON REGIONAL COUNCIL

The London Regional Refugee Council, at whose Executive the AJR has been represented for many years, terminated its work. The reason for this decision was that, as refugees are now gradually adapting themselves to British life and as naturalisation is progressing, the specific activities of the Council could not be usefully extended.

The last annual report of the Council contains, amongst others, the following reference to the collaboration with the AJR: "Regular announcements have appeared in 'AJR Information' making known the work of the London Regional Refugee Council. Dr. Alexander, the indefatigable Secretary of the Association, has assisted the work of the Council in numerous ways."

The refugees have to be deeply grateful to the Council, in particular to its Chairman, Mr. E. N. Cooper. The Council has not only done much useful work in the interest of the refugees, but—and here

again Mr. Cooper's name has to be mentioned—has at all times shown a special understanding for their wishes and their needs.

Arrangements have been made by which the AJR may benefit from the valuable material collected by the London Regional Council.

LEEDS

On the average the Branch met twice a month during the past year. Lectures were given on general Jewish and refugee questions by Dr. S. Rawidowicz, Dr. K. Alexander, Miss M. Steinitz, Dr. J. Prinz, the Rev. Hardman and the Rev. Einhorn. Special gatherings were arranged on the occasion of Jewish festivals such as Purim, Simchat Torah, and Chanukah.

CARE FOR ADOLESCENTS

The London Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee for the Religious Education and Welfare of Jewish Refugee Children would greatly appreciate any offers for holiday hospitality inside and outside London, with or without payment, as well as for permanent homes with Jewish families for Jewish adolescents who came to this country without their parents. It is particularly essential to give these young Jewish immigrants, many of whom have been lacking a Jewish family life for several years, a Jewish background. A considerable number of them have already drifted away from the Jewish Community and a transfer to Jewish surroundings is considered by the Committee as the basis for any constructive effort to revive and maintain their attachment to the Jewish Community. The Committee could immediately use offers of homes for a young student, aged 19 (orthodox), a girl, aged 17 (liberal) and a young man, aged 19 (liberal). The payment for these three cases is between 35/- and £2 for full board. Any readers who feel able and willing to co-operate in this important task should ask for further particulars from AJR Social Service Department.

The Bnai Brith Youth, Otto Hirsch Chapter which is affiliated to the AJR, will have a Charity Concert in aid of their welfare for children in Belgium and France on Sunday, June 15, at 7.30 p.m., at Stern Hall, 33 Seymour Place, W.1. The artists will be Esther Salaman, Martin Lovett and Paul Hamburger.

AJR MEETINGS IN JUNE

Monday, June 16, Embassy Theatre, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3, 7.45 p.m. PUBLIC RECEPTION on the Occasion of the "Council" Session (see advertisement).

AJR GLASGOW

(11 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, C.5)
Sunday, June 1st, 5.30 p.m. Bridge Evening.
Sunday, June 15th, 5.30 p.m. Dance and Social Gathering.
Sunday, June 29th, "Bunter Abend."

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Meetings every Tuesday, 8 p.m.
57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3.
June 3rd, Mr. LUCIEN HARRIS (Information Department, Jewish Agency): "British Public Opinion, U.N.O., and Palestine."
June 10th, Councillor V. MISHCON, L.C.C. (Delegate to the Labour Party Conference): "The Labour Party Conference, 1947, and the Palestine Issue."
June 17th, RECEPTION for guests from Palestine, Switzerland and America, among others Dr. Hans Klee, Geneva.
June 24th, The Rev. E. F. EINHORN, M.A.: "The World Jewish Congress and the Jewish People."

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