

## EQUAL CITIZENSHIP

THE Home Secretary, Mr. Chuter Ede, declared in the House of Commons during the debate on the Representation of the People Bill:

"In my view a person is either a British subject or he is not. . . . If he is a British subject, that, in my view, suffices, and I, as one who is responsible for having to admit into British nationality persons who are other than British subjects by birth, would deprecate an action which differentiated, after naturalisation, between one British subject and another."

In a recent letter to "The Times" it was suggested that certain appointments and positions including the permanent Civil Service, were still barred not only to naturalised persons but even to their British-born children. Also, that the passports of naturalised persons carried an endorsement stating the fact and the date of their naturalisation. The correspondents submit that the Home Secretary, in the spirit of his statement, would endeavour to obtain the removal of such existing distinctions.

While the Representation of the People Bill was discussed in Committee, a Tory member proposed that all Parliamentary candidates should be compelled to signify their nationality at birth. He was contradicted by a fervent defence of democratic freedom:

"What is important is not where a man was born, but that he is a naturalised citizen and is accepted as a naturalised citizen. . . . The only purpose of making him declare where he is born is the hope of creating prejudice against him."

Mr. A. J. Cummings, the columnist of the "News Chronicle," commented that in British history there had been many notable figures with a near-foreign ancestry. "We should be strictly careful also not to introduce insular and totalitarian ideas as an aid to fighting any international totalitarian conspiracy," he said.

## AN UNSOLVED PROBLEM

THE world's failure to tackle the problem of displaced persons was admitted by Mr. M. H. Tuck, American Executive Secretary of the International Refugee Organisation (I.R.O.) at the recent meeting in Geneva of its Preparatory Commission.

"Almost one million refugees are being forced to wait in misery and suspense because the world can find no place for them," he said. He denounced the "unenlightened self-interest" of the Governments in the handling of the matter. The lack of Christian charity was, he said, one of the major reasons for the failure of the organisation to overcome the difficulties. The attempts to induce countries to take a fair share of refugees on a family basis had made little progress; repatriation and resettlement operations had fallen short of estimates.

The world's ability to deal with the refugee problem is still one of its moral tests. That in the third year after the end of hostilities it has failed to find a constructive solution signifies more than anything else to the sickness of our time.

## CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES

Mr. Mayhew recently stated on behalf of the Foreign Office that the number of Czechoslovak refugees was 249 in the British Zone of Germany and approx. 4,000 to 7,000 in the American Zone. The Czech refugees, he said, enjoy the same facilities for resettlement and are provided with the same accommodation as other refugees now arriving in the Western Zones of Germany.

E. G. Lowenthal:

## ISOLATION AND INSECURITY

In Germany today there are many bridges, large and small alike, which after destruction by the hastily retreating Nazi forces early in 1945, are slowly being rebuilt.

The average German bridge in a way resembles the position of Jews at present living in towns. In most cases, they have their living, and the foreign Jewish relief agencies, in co-operation with the Gemeinden, are trying their best to make the bare life as bearable as possible. Housing conditions of Nazi victims are improving only very slowly, and the health position still shows many after-effects of the period of cruel persecution and humiliation. But, what is felt more strongly is the fact that, three years after the end of the war, Jews in towns still are spiritually cut off from the rest of the world. It therefore cannot be surprising that Jews often think primarily of their own existence, their personal well-being, their own advantages. Their isolation appears to have increased rather than decreased especially as, in view of a revival of reactionary tendencies in Germany, Jews as a whole have not re-integrated into German public life.

The social structure of Jews in towns is most peculiar and differs from that in camps both as regards their outlook on the immediate future and their "Jewishness." It is probably for this reason that Jews abroad do not take so easily to the strange mixture of Jews in Communities. Here we have the large group of partners of mixed marriages who, on account of this fact, in their majority managed to survive Nazi terror; here are those who were saved by hiding; others, whose nearest relatives perished at the hands of the Nazis, moved to towns from various parts of war-ridden Eastern Europe, and a handful, a negligible number, returned from their places of emigration. The average age of Jews in towns is close on 55 and higher than that in camps. Some of the middle-aged, in particular those living in mixed marriages, are established in business which may have a sound basis or be flourishing only temporarily. The few adolescents are only to a certain extent in training or employment, and the elderly men and women live on small public subsidies or pensions, on help from abroad or in Jewish old age homes.

All the same, one can safely maintain that the trend towards emigration has not slackened. However, since the U.S.A. are practically closed to people residing in the British, French and Russian Zone and

parts of Berlin (in which area the majority of Jewish townspeople live)\* and the future of Palestine is still in abeyance, an "abwartende Haltung" is being shown at present, taking into account the international situation and also developments in Germany herself.

This undecidedness of the majority grows, the longer the world is closed. Yet their attitude remains largely influenced by the prevailing political tendencies in Germany which are partly visible, partly—and this is a decisive factor—latent. De-nazification has become a proper farce and resulted into former Party members emerging in many strata of public life. Instances of open anti-Semitism such as desecrations of cemeteries are perhaps not so significant as the too well-known indirect method with its by far stronger effects: the hateful wording and headings of Press reports on subjects affecting the Jews, unjust Court judgments, in particular where crimes against humanity are concerned, difficulties in obtaining licences for former Nazi persecutees, etc. It is a general feeling that Jews in towns, where they are part of the general population, without however having much contact with the proper Germans, are, against their own will, often considered and treated as Germans and not, as it ought to be, as victims of a criminal regime.

The Gemeinden as institutions suffer from a similar insecurity, and this reflects in many ways on their position vis-a-vis the public and the authorities and also vis-a-vis their own members, although the relations between members, Board and chairman are satisfactory. The chief trouble is that as yet the Gemeinden, at least in the British Zone, have not regained or, rather, been re-granted their status of corporations of the Public Law (oeffentlichrechtliche Koerperschaften) of which they were deprived by the Nazis. The question of the restoration of their former status has been pending with the Control Commission for a long time.

Also closely linked up with the problem of the status is the creation of a "Gemeinde-normalstatut" which is to be the basis of the statute of each autonomous Gemeinde, of the associations of Gemeinden (Landesverbaende) and, finally, of the Zonal representative

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\* British Zone: appr. 5,000, French Zone: appr. 700, Russian Zone: appr. 1,300, Berlin: appr. 8,000; American Zone, comprising several thousand. (In one of the next issues of "AJR Information" an up-to-date statistical survey of Jews in German towns will be published.—Ed.)

# IN PARLIAMENT

## GERMAN VISITORS

On May 13, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, made the following statement: "Visas will be authorised in suitable cases to enable Germans to pay short visits to relatives or friends in this country. All the expenses of the visit must be borne by the prospective host, who should send the intending visitor a letter of invitation showing that maintenance and accommodation are available for the period of the visit; this should be produced when application is made in Germany for the visa. An exit permit must be obtained from the occupation authorities before the visa can be issued. The prospective host must make his own arrangements for transport through a travel agency, and the visitor will not be entitled to any priority of travel. These facilities for visits do not modify in any degree the current restrictions on immigration."

The applications have to be submitted in the British Zone to the burgomaster, in the French or American Zone to the nearest British Passport Control Officer or Consul, and in the Russian Zone to the British Passport Control Officer in Berlin.

For adults the time of the visit will have to be limited, but for persons of school age and young persons an extended visit can be arranged if satisfactory reasons for desiring it can be given.

Asked, whether the Home Secretary indicated or implied that the whole cost of travel must be borne by the host in this country, Mr. Ede said that the prospective host has to make his own arrangements for transport. "Who pays for it is no concern of mine."

## VISAS FOR CZECH REFUGEES

On May 3, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, stated that Czech refugees, at present in a displaced persons' camp in Germany, required visas before they could travel to the United Kingdom, but that the grant of a visa was not necessarily dependent on the possession of a national passport or a guarantee of employment. Apart from any arrangement that may be made to recruit Czechs under the European Volunteer Workers' Scheme, sympathetic consideration is given to applications from those who have special claims to come to this country, including men who served during the War in His Majesty's Forces, Czechs with near relatives resident in this country, and Czechs who were admitted to this country as refugees before the war, lived here for substantial periods, and subsequently returned to Czechoslovakia.

## TRAVELS TO AUSTRIA

On April 27, Mr. Mayhew stated on behalf of the Foreign Office: "As a means of aiding the recovery of the Austrian economy, a tourist scheme has been drawn up by the Austrian authorities and special hotel accommodation has been provided by them for this purpose in the three Western sectors of Vienna. This accommodation must be booked in advance and paid for in the United Kingdom in sterling. On proof of such booking, the Military Permit Office will issue a permit to cover the duration of the visit."

## IMMIGRATION OFFICERS

Asked by Mr. Haire, whether he was aware that there had been many recent cases where immigration officers have failed to carry out their duties with the necessary tact and courtesy, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, replied: "It is the constant aim of immigration officers to maintain a high standard of courtesy and consideration in carrying out their duties, and I am unable to accept the suggestion that recently there have been many failures. I am always ready and anxious to investigate specific complaints, and my inquiries about one incident which was the subject of a recent letter from my hon. Friend indicate that the information given to him was mistaken."

## EMIGRANTS

291,000 British emigrants and 10,000 alien emigrants left Great Britain in the two years 1946 and 1947 by sea. These figures do not include those emigrants who left the country by air.

As far as the country of destination is concerned, 210,000 Britishers and 2,000 aliens left for countries of the British Empire; 69,000 Britishers and 5,500 aliens went to the United States; 12,000 Britishers and 2,500 aliens to other countries.

## NO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Asked by Mr. Sorensen, whether the Attorney-General would consider the introduction of legislation making it illegal on the part of any lessor or landlord to refuse a lease or tenancy to anyone because of their colour; and to make void any restriction of that character in existing contracts or agreements, the Attorney-General replied: "I hope that public opinion will soon be strong enough to prevent this deplorable kind of racial discrimination, for this would be more effective than any legislation that could be devised. Meanwhile, however, the question whether anything can be done by legislation on the lines suggested by the hon. Member is under consideration."

## ALIEN DOCTORS

On April 29, Lady Grant asked the Minister of Health whether foreign practitioners serving under the Crown in the Colonial Medical Service, are to be allowed to apply for permanent registration under the Medical Practitioners and Pharmacists Act, 1947, although not resident in the United Kingdom. Mr. Bevan answered: "Registration is conditional on residence in the United Kingdom and these practitioners cannot be registered under the Act while serving abroad. If they subsequently take up residence it is open to them to apply."

The Minister assured Mr. Hastings that applications for registration of doctors who have served in Government Departments abroad (Section 3 of the Medical Practitioners and Pharmacists Act, 1947) would be sent out by the General Medical Council almost immediately.

## ALIENS AND COMMUNISTS

On May 5th, the Postmaster-General stated that four aliens were now employed in the B.B.C. for whom he had given specific written authority. On a further question by Sir W. Smithers, referring to "the menace now publicly condemned by the Government," he stated that he would use discretion in future appointments but not review what had already been done. At the conclusion, Mr. Bramall asked: "Will my right hon. Friend make it clear that we do not accept the implication that the words 'alien' and 'communist' are synonymous?"

## RESTITUTION

In answer to a question put by Mr. Vernon Bartlett, Mr. Mayhew stated on behalf of the Foreign Office that every effort was being made to complete the necessary arrangements for effecting restitution. The delay mainly arises from the fact that in the initial stages attempts were made to get quadripartite arrangements on this problem. The draft of a British Restitution ordinance is now on its way from Germany to this country and it is hoped that early action will be possible.

## NATURALISATION

On April 26, Mr. Ede stated that since January 1, 1946, up to April 17, 1948, inclusive, 28,189 certificates of naturalisation have been granted.

## ADOPTION OF FOREIGN ORPHANS

Asked by Sir J. Lucas whether exceptions could be made in approved cases so as to enable a British couple to adopt an orphan child of one of the former Allies, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, said that he had no power to make exceptions from the provision in the Adoption Act, 1926, excluding any infant who was not a British subject. He would, however, consider whether it was necessary to retain or modify this limitation, when there should be an opportunity of amending legislation.

## NATIONAL SERVICE

On May 11th, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, Mr. Ness Edwards, stated that the interval between the dates of registration and medical examination varied so widely that an average period had no significance. In a straight-forward case, however, call-up normally followed about six weeks after medical examination. Boys who are leaving college or university or who must have terminated their Service at a certain future date, because they have been accepted by a university, could be called up almost immediately after registration by application to the Minister of Labour.

## ISOLATION AND INSECURITY

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bodies. It is a remarkable and noteworthy fact that, on the whole, Jewish Communities in Germany do their heavy work admirably though they lack the type of people that once were in charge.

The social welfare work of the Gemeinden is comparatively more intensive and more extensive than it was prior to the war and certainly in pre-Hitler years and, though Jewish relief bodies render assistance, guidance and advice, the actual work is being done by the few responsible, sometimes only by one man, who is chairman, secretary, preacher and chasan in one person.

Religious life is by no means dead. In certain towns services are held on Shabbat, in others only during High Festivals, when laymen officiate. Religious instruction is given wherever there are a number of youngsters. The one rabbi in the British Zone has his hands more than full, there is at present not a single qualified rabbi in Berlin, and in the French Zone one or two young Army Chaplains help arranging services whenever possible. But all this is not sufficient.

Complaints have often been heard about the insufficient interest shown by Jews abroad in the existence and future of Jewish life in German towns. Individual gift parcels arrive and letters, too, but letters, often concerning primarily the sender's own personal affairs such as property and restitution. In a way, this is true. The problematic, complicated and difficult position of Jews in towns in general calls for attention. It is not so much the material help that matters, though this is always necessary and welcome. There are legal problems and important political decisions, there are cultural needs, where the active co-operation of Jewry abroad is wanted and where the personal contact and the spiritual guidance is indispensable. To free the people and their Gemeinden from the awful feeling of isolation is a task worth while undertaking. And here the Jews, who emigrated in time and can now live in comparative peace and safety, come in in the first instance.

## NATIONALITY OF M.P.'s

In the course of the debate on Representation of the People Bill, Mr. Hurd moved an amendment that the nationality at birth of Parliamentary candidates should be stated in the nomination paper. He said that by this Amendment he wanted to see that the electors did not unknowingly elect candidates whose roots were far from Britain. The House should recognise that Communism had become an international conspiracy and that the day might come when the British Parliament had to face the alien forces of Communism. The amendment was supported by Mr. Baker White who alluded to the admission of thousands of men and women coming into this country from abroad. Speaking against the Amendment, Mr. Gallacher maintained that its only reason was to try to create prejudice against a candidate, and Mr. Emrys Hughes said: "This is the sort of thing of which Hitler approved. Hitler demanded race purity; in Germany the whole idea was to create prejudice against the Jews. It is part and parcel of the mentality of the person who looks upon a foreigner as an inferior being." The Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, described the Amendment as "not really worthy of a Parliament which, from time to time, has been saved by persons who were not of British nationality at birth."

The amendment was negatived.

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Herbert Freedman:

# THE GOEBBELS DIARIES

One of the revelations in Goebbels' Diaries (Hamish Hamilton, 21/-) is the admission that there was opposition in Germany to the anti-Jewish policy as late as 1943. This opposition has on some occasions obviously taken turbulent forms which coerced Goebbels to make the following admissions:

"We are now definitely pushing the Jews out of Berlin. They were suddenly rounded up last Saturday, and are to be carted off to the East as quickly as possible. Unfortunately our better circles, especially the intellectuals, once again have failed to understand our policy about the Jews and in some cases have even taken their part. As a result our plans were disclosed prematurely, and a lot of Jews slipped through our hands."

And in the same month, March, 1943:

"Unfortunately there have been some regrettable scenes at a home for aged Jews, when a large number of people gathered and some of them even sided with the Jews."

To relieve the war from "the other side of the hill" makes fascinating reading. The up to now obscure Mussolini episode of 1943 forms a most dramatic

## AT THE B.I.F.

The second British Industries Fair since the end of the war has just closed its gates at Earls Court and Olympia, and at Birmingham. Had it been possible at all to distinguish between refugee exhibitors and others, the number of refugee firms who contributed to this parade of British industrial production and trade would have appeared to be very large.

Numerous enterprising refugee firms having first helped in bringing prosperity to certain areas in Scotland and Wales, having then notably contributed to the war effort, are now taking their share in the drive for increased exports. There is hardly an industry represented at the B.I.F. where refugees have not made at least a successful start. There are many where they have earned conspicuous credit for themselves and this country. Sometimes, e.g., in the production of scientific instruments British firms have developed inventions and ideas brought to them by Jewish immigrants from the Continent, or produced under their qualified guidance. The production of certain highly complicated medical and scientific apparatus is carried out by refugees. Some refugee firms show optical lenses, others photographic equipment. The display of a firm of watchmakers attracts much attention. Before Hitler's time this firm used to have its seat in the Black Forest. The diamond trade was given a specially prominent position and setting this year. That much of the new and mighty impetus given to this dollar-earning trade has come from Belgian and Dutch Jews, is well enough known.

To name every single group where refugees—now mostly naturalised British subjects—were represented at the B.I.F. should be left to the statisticians. It is, however, worth mentioning that in some characteristically British trades refugees were offering goods of particularly high quality. In this connection the cotton finishing industry, the knitwear production, leatherwork, and the manufacture of tiles are only a few outstanding examples.

All applications of plastic materials and mouldings figured very prominently. A special Plastics Section did justice to these industries, comparatively young, and largely of German origin. Refugees were strongly represented here, and have during recent years helped to find numerous new uses for these materials. Structural plastics, undistinguishable from timber in appearance, were one of the more recent applications. These products, too, are pioneered by refugees.

Unfortunately, this year's B.I.F. was not a commercial success for most exhibitors, certainly not on the home market, and especially so for luxury goods. As many refugees have settled down in trades requiring little initial capital, including the manufacture of certain fancy goods, leatherware, toys and buttons, they feel the draught of a depression more than others.

Finally, it may be said that a number of the most striking exhibition stands and displays were designed by young Jewish refugee artists.

W. D. FEIST.

chapter of the book; no less gripping are certain glimpses of life at Hitler's Headquarters, of the effect of the Allied air raids, of Goebbels' guesses on Allied policy, and his opinion of his Government colleagues and the Allied war leaders.

Louis Lochner, former Berlin correspondent of Associated Press has edited the Diaries with great care. Those entries again and again mirror Goebbels' hatred of the Jews. At the beginning of these diaries, he proposes to concentrate the Jews in the East, possibly on an island such as Madagascar. Later he changes his mind and advocates their mass extermination. "There must be no squeamish sentimentalism about it," he writes.

It reads like a persiflage when Goebbels, in commenting on the discovery of 10,000 massacred Polish officers at Katyn in April, 1943, speaks of the "gruesome aberration of the human soul."

He closely watches the growth of Anti-Semitism in the Allied countries. There is the following observation in May, 1943:

"Anti-Semitism is growing rapidly even in the enemy states. Reports to that effect reach us, especially from England. If we continue to stress the Anti-Semitic question, the Jews, in the long run, will be much discredited. All one needs is to be tough and determined, for the Jewish problem has now been frozen so tight that it will be difficult to thaw it out again."

On the demand of Anglo-Jewry in April, 1943, to protect them by law from Anti-Semitism, he comments:

"Anti-Semitism cannot be eradicated by law once it has taken root among a people. A law against hating Jews is usually the beginning of the end for the Jews."

And later he observes with satisfaction:

"Almost all of them (i.e. the American and British P.O.W.s) talk against the Jews, but that is due more to a certain emotional reaction than to any clear perception of the problem."

## "Jews among the Aryans"

The British, whom he calls the "Jews among the Aryans," are coming under heavy criticism wherever they side with the Jews and are lauded when they manifest Anti-Semitic sentiments. About the noteworthy session of the House of Commons on December 18, 1942, when the Foreign Secretary acquainted the Members with the extermination of the Jews in Poland, Goebbels writes:

"Eden delivered a speech in the House of Commons on the Jewish problem and answered planted questions. Rothschild, the 'venerable M.P.', as the English press calls him, took the floor and delivered a flood of sob-stuff bemoaning the fate of the Polish Jews. At the end of the session the House observed a minute of silence. All members of Parliament rose from their seats as a silent tribute to Jewry. That was quite appropriate for the British House of Commons, which is really a sort of Jewish exchange."

This fanatical hatred of the Jews was the centre of Nazi planning at a time when one could have assumed that they were preoccupied with the military situation. Even when the German army was collapsing in Tunisia in May, 1943, Goebbels relates how Hitler argues that Anti-Semitism must again become "the focal point of our spiritual struggle."

"He thinks," Goebbels says, "a great deal of the Anti-Semitic movement in England, although he is naturally aware that it lacks organisation and therefore cannot constitute a political factor. Nevertheless, this anti-Semitism is most embarrassing to the Churchill Government."

And a few days later:

"The Fuehrer attaches great importance to powerful Anti-Semitic propaganda. He agrees that success depends upon constant repetition. He is immensely pleased with the way in which we have sharpened up Anti-Semitic propaganda in the press and on the air. I informed him about the extent to which this Anti-Semitic propaganda was being pushed in our foreign broadcasts. At present about 70 to 80 per cent of our broadcasts are devoted to it. The anti-Semitic bacilli naturally exist everywhere in all Europe; we must merely make them virulent. . . ."

## EVENTS IN ANGLO JEWRY

On the occasion of the Royal Silver Wedding, messages of congratulations were sent by the Deputy for the Chief Rabbi and the Board of Deputies. Dayan and Mrs. H. M. Lazarus were among the guests who attended the reception given by their Majesties at Buckingham Palace.

Intercession services for peace in Eretz Israel are being held now every Sabbath upon instructions by the Deputy Chief Rabbi who in a circular letter to all Ministers wrote: "This historic international rehabilitation of our people to the Land promised to our forefathers is of Messianic import. We pray for peace in the world and for Jerusalem as the Holy City to which all nations shall turn for inspiration."

In a statement, Professor Selig Brodetsky, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, expressed the joy of Anglo-Jewry at the establishment of the State of Israel. Despite the misunderstandings of recent years, as well as the circumstances of the ending of the Mandate, the statement says, British Jews will always remember the noble part played by men such as Lord Balfour, Mr. David Lloyd George, Mr. Winston Churchill and Field-Marshal Smuts in laying the foundations of the Jewish State.

At the annual meetings held by most of the constituent synagogues of the United Synagogue, marked progress was reported in respect of membership, incomes and synagogue activities generally. The Zionist convictions of the overwhelming majority of United Synagogue members were shown by the warm approval which was given to the policy of the Board of Deputies in supporting Partition as the most practicable solution of the Palestine problem.

The new President of the Federation of Synagogues is Mr. Jack Goldberg (succeeding Mr. Aaron Wright who resigned some time ago); the new Vice-President (replacing Dr. Bernard Homa) is Mr. J. Slutsky.

A "Jewish Women's Week," sponsored by the League, and the Union of Jewish Women, also by WIZO, B'nai Brith and the Mizrahi Women's Organisation, has been held from May 23 to May 30. Its purpose was to encourage British Jewish women to help the women of Palestine to care for immigrant women and children now coming from Cyprus and Europe.

The question of whether Jews should have a Marriage Guidance Council of their own, was discussed at a conference convened by the Jewish Board of Guardians. No decision was arrived at though there seemed to be substantial agreement that Jews should attach themselves actively to the London Marriage Guidance Council and reinforce that body with their own Ministers of religion to deal with the religious aspect when treating Jewish "patients."

An appeal has been directed to the community by the Board of Guardians to provide Jewish foster-homes for Jewish children, including young working girls, who would otherwise be placed in non-Jewish homes or in public institutions. Payment will be made according to the standard of the home offered, so that no financial loss is entailed.

In view of the growing Mosley propaganda, an order was made by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police prohibiting all political processions in the London area for three months. Replying to fresh suggestions that Fascist activities be banned by law, Mr. Ede said: "As I understood it, the last war was fought for the right of freedom of expression, among other things, and I am quite certain that mere suppression will not defeat this or any other movement. Let its arguments be stated, and let those who think them false refute them."

The London Board of Jewish Religious Education reports for the past year an expenditure of £65,647, as against an income of £53,160 (which includes £40,204 from the United Synagogue and £7,640 from the Federation). It is feared that if the deficit is not covered, some educational commitments will have to be curtailed.

## FEUCHTWANGER'S NEW NOVEL

In his "Proud Destiny" (Hutchinsons International Authors, London) Lion Feuchtwanger has returned to the historical novel after his excursions into present day history ("Paris Gazette," "The Pretender," "Success," "The Oppermanns"), a field in which he had his first resounding successes ("The Ugly Duchess," "Josephus," etc.). Therefore, it seems to be unfair to accuse him—as has been done by American critics—of following the present day trend of the American literary market. An author who has to live in order to write has, in a time almost bare of generous patrons, little choice but to follow the general trend especially when having previously established a well founded reputation in this field. And Feuchtwanger holds more than his own in the group of writers of historical fiction.

He portrays in lively details with much gusto and providing a sound knowledge of the historic and cultural background Benjamin Franklin's ambassadorship to the Court of Louis XVI of France around 1780. Louis sees the shadow of the revolution reaching across the Atlantic and is forced against his better judgment into an alliance with the rebellious country; Beaumarchais, the adventurer, the author of the "Barber" and of "Figaro," the trader in arms is pictured as well as Voltaire at the crest of his fame and making his peace with God. There is Joseph of Austria and his sister Antoinette, Louis' wife, and there is Benjamin Franklin, the old grand and simple man standing for a new society. The idea to see the birth of the United States through the eyes of an American living in Paris is certainly a splendid one. Since hardly more than entertainment and popular education can be expected from this genre of novels, Feuchtwanger has reached his goal easily and, if the publisher could have insisted on some cuts, "Waffen fuer Amerika" (the original German title for the book), could almost be called a perfect specimen of the historical novel.

JOHN F. OPPENHEIMER (New York).

### JEWISH SCHOOL IN THE BRITISH ZONE

The foundation of a Jewish school in the British Zone has been decided upon by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews. The school will be situated in Blankenese, at the Estate which had been put at the disposal by the Warburg family and which, so far, was used as a Children's Home.

**NEW BOOKS:** Fabian von Schlabrendorff: "Revolt against Hitler" (Eyre & Spottiswoode); Professor Alf Ross: "A Textbook of International Law" (Longmans); Jacques Petitpierre: "The Romance of the Mendelssohns" (Dennis Dobson); A. Cohen: "The Soncino Chumash" (Soncino Press, Hindhead); Robin Maugham: "Approach to Palestine" (Falcon Press); Emil Ludwig: "Of Life and Love" (Hutchinson); Rolf Flugel: "Der Kreuzottergarten" (Limes Verlag, Wiesbaden); Heine: "Zur Geschichte der Religion und Philosophie in Deutschland" (Duckworth's German Texts); Richard Drews and Alfred Kantorowicz: "Verboten und Verbrannt, Deutsche Literatur—12 Jahre unterdrueckt" (Heinz Ullstein-Helmut Kinder-Verlag, Berlin/Munich); Arthur Goldschmidt: "Geschichte der evangelischen Gemeinde Theresienstadt 1942-1945" (Furche Verlag, Tuebingen); Bruno Weil: "Durch drei Kontinente" (Cosmopolita, Buenos Aires); Wilhelm Herzog: "From Dreyfus to Petain" (Creative Age Press, New York).

## WEIZMANN'S TRIBUTE to DR. BAECK

The following message from Professor Ch. Weizmann on the occasion of Leo Baeck's 75th birthday arrived too late for inclusion in last month's "AJR Information":

"Dr. Baeck in his personality, not only symbolises as a scholar and a teacher the best of what German Jewry contributed to Judaism, but also had the great and grave responsibility and distinction to become the spiritual as well as the political leader of German Jewry in its darkest hour.

After the end of the war we had the great joy of being reunited with the man who, having been segregated for years from the rest of the world, and facing death day by day and hour by hour, was preserved as by a miracle to Jewry and Judaism. During all these years Dr. Baeck, by his inspiring leadership, gave his fellow-Jews moral strength, the courage to go on living, the hope for a future.

Dr. Baeck has always understood that the determination of the Jewish people to survive is bound up with the great constructive effort it has begun some decades ago in the rebuilding of its National Home in Palestine. He belonged to the small group of representative German Jews who, together with the late Oscar Wassermann, at an early stage, came to the support of the Keren Hayesod and later on, in 1929, joined the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

In remembering Dr. Baeck's leadership in the past, in listening to his teaching to-day, it is good to know that there are men who, by their example in action and in thought, remind us that even in the darkest hour, Israel maintains its firm and unshakeable belief in the final victory of right and justice.

It is with a profound sense of admiration and gratitude that I am sending my affectionate greetings and best wishes to my old friend Dr. Leo Baeck."

### DR. S. HERZFELD

Dr. S. Herzfeld, the last President of the "Juedischer Centralverein," who had made his home in Palestine died suddenly while on a visit to his son in Buenos Aires.

Dr. Herzfeld was an outstanding personality, gifted with a lucid mind and with a very clear and realistic judgment. When in summer 1936, after the death of his brother-in-law Justizrat Dr. J. Brodnitz, he became the President of the "Juedischer Centralverein," the then biggest Jewish organisation in Germany, a very responsible task was laid upon his shoulders.

Apart from this activity which put already a great strain on his time, he was a member of the Rat of the "Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland" since its inception, and also the Chairman of the Jewish Community in Essen.

Who thinks of Dr. Herzfeld is also reminded of him as a lawyer of the highest reputation. The lawyer firm Abel-Herzfeld-Krombach—all three of them played a most active part in Jewish life—was one of the best-known in Western Germany.

Dr. Herzfeld was one of the best representatives of German Jewry. His name will be linked up for ever with its history. K. A.

### IN PARLIAMENT—Contd. from page 2

#### CAPITAL TRANSFERS TO U.S.A.

Asked by Mr. Erroll whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer will arrange that emigrants to the U.S.A., whose application to enter that country had been accepted by the authorities prior to his reduction to £1,000 of the amount emigrants may take to the U.S., but who had not then applied to the Bank of England for permission to take the full £5,000, shall be entitled to take up to £5,000 in capital over the next four years on the old terms provided that they apply to the Bank of England in the immediate future, Mr. Glenvil Hall answered: "No, but the same concessions apply in the case of the U.S.A. and other countries outside the sterling area as were mentioned in the Chancellor's reply on May 6 about Canada: the old terms apply to emigrants who can show that they were financially committed before April 9, in the expectation of being able to take out the amounts then allowed."

#### PARCELS FROM ABROAD

On April 26, Dr. Edith Summerskill stated on behalf of the Ministry of Food that it was illegal for anyone in the United Kingdom to make a donation to any individual or organisation abroad with the intention of receiving a parcel of rationed foods or causing such a parcel to be sent to any other person in this country.

## 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.

### NATIONAL INSURANCE

From July 5th onwards, nearly everybody between school leaving and pensionable age (65 for men, 60 for women) will come under the new National Insurance Scheme, either as an employee or as a "self-employed person" (including directors of Companies, etc.), or as a "non-employed person." Married women are not allowed to enter the insurance if and as long as they are working as housewives only. The additional benefits for employed married women who decide to join the scheme—the decision rests with them—will be explained in the next issue of this paper.

In principle, all benefits of the scheme are granted to all insured persons, but no unemployment benefit is granted to self-employed and non-employed persons and no sickness benefit and maternity allowance to non-employed persons.

Unemployed and sickness benefit are dependent on at least 26 paid contributions and at least 50 contributions paid or (for periods of unemployment or incapacity of work) credited during the last contribution year.

Unemployment benefit is limited to 180 days with possibility of extension, sickness benefit to one year, but is after three years' insurance and 156 paid contributions payable up to pensionable age without time limit. After the exhaustion of the unemployment benefit or of a limited sickness benefit one requalifies for them by 13 paid contributions.

The Maternity grant amounts to £4 accompanied by an attendance allowance of 20/- for four weeks, or, if the mother stays away from her ordinary work, of 30/- for 13 weeks.

Retirement pension is payable at pensionable age. It is dependent on 156 paid and a yearly average of 50 paid or credited contributions.

Widow benefits become due if the late husband has fulfilled the contribution conditions for retirement benefit.

After an initial benefit for 13 weeks the further benefits are dependent on a child living with the widow and the length of her married life. Generally each benefit ends at 60.

A *Guardian's* allowance of 12s. is payable to a

person who has an orphan of insured parents in his family.

Death grants will not be paid for death before July 5th, 1949.

Finally, the *National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act* provides for an injury benefit of 45s. during 26 weeks and, in cases of disablement, for an unlimited benefit or a gratuity. In fatal cases, pensions, allowances or gratuities may become payable to the bereaved dependants.

The new *National Health Service* also begins on July 5th. It provides general medical service, maternity treatment, hospital and specialists' services, surgical operations, dental treatment, nursing (if necessary at home), sanatorium treatment, care of mental health, medicines, appliances (such as spectacles and for deaf people hearing aids).

Generally, these services and supplies are free of charge, and only a few special items have to be paid for, such as the extra cost of a single room, or the accommodation in a small hospital ward, provided at the patient's request, special dental treatment, the replacement or repair of an appliance, if due to the patient's carelessness, the extra cost of dental or ophthalmic appliances, if more expensive than the prescribed type.

Every person over 16, even if a member of a family, can choose a doctor amongst those on the list of the Executive Council of his Local Authority. The doctor can be changed without difficulty and at any time.

In the planned health centres, in which later doctors will be jointly accommodated instead of in their own surgeries, the patient will have "his own doctor," who will come also to the patient's home and will arrange for treatment and advice by specialists at the same centre.

In view of the present shortage of dentists, the dental service will not get into full swing at once. Therefore, the local authorities have to organise a special priority service for expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

Nobody is forbidden to have private doctors outside the service and private pay-bed accommodation in hospitals, but a doctor must not treat as private patient persons who are as public patients on his list.

Benn W. Levy, M.P.

## WHAT IS A JEW?

To the best of my knowledge nobody knows what a Jew is. Judaism is not a race; indeed "race" as a contemporary word is practically meaningless. It is not a nationality, for there is as yet no Jewish nation. It is not merely a religion because there are Catholics, Episcopalians, Atheists and members of other denominations who accept the general verdict

## Letters to the Editor

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Dear Sir,

I should like to add a few remarks to the timely approbation afforded by Professor Reimann, to the place of manual work and craft in society, and the consequent importance of vocational training.

The point upon which I disagree with Professor Reimann, is his suggestion that by returning to man the means of livelihood which have—however unjustly—lost their rightful recognition in the society of our time, man's dignity in labour would be restored. Hands, it is true, create the immortal works of art: but it is the artist who endows the work with value, and not the work which endows man with value.

In each country where the Jew was the object of derision and prejudice he has been accused of monopolising some branch of economic life. Against this creed of illogicality, there is no such simple remedy as directing trades and professions among the Jews.

We must bear in mind that the conditions which prevail among those of us in the Diaspora (which is the point at question) are not healthy and that we, as Jews, are restricted in our free choice of vocation. At the same time we must remember that our epoch has reduced so many spheres of manual work to mere mechanical operations. The need to "possess imagination, ingenuity and a well-developed aesthetic sense" is the privilege of the few. The vast majority of working mankind has neither the possibility nor the time.

It also seems to me that the adulation of manual labour is as undesirable a thing as the exclusive adulation of the intellect: in fact, it is probably much more dangerous. But that is, perhaps, leaving the question of vocational training too far behind. Until society is organised in such a manner that fluctuations in demand and supply are foreseen and controlled, it seems that the only choice open to Jewish girls or boys is to train for the occupation demanded in the maximum number of countries. That would be the least of all evils. We are trying to insure against an indeterminate future: its only certainty is its blackness, and, after all this "emerald isle" is set in a sea of water! Forgive my pessimism.

46, Belsize Park, N.W.3.

Sonia F. Braham.

## VICTOR GOLLANCZ

Dear Sir,

In your May issue you mention an address by Mr. Victor Gollancz. All that is said in your report reads: "Mr. Victor Gollancz who said that the Jews must accept wholeheartedly the Christian ethic which they rejected 2,000 years ago." As I was present at this meeting I feel that your account through its shortness is misleading. I myself did not agree with much of what Mr. Gollancz had to say. His main points among others were as follows:

The characteristics of the Jews are and have been at all times their longing for a unity of their belief with the conditions of actual life.

The unity has also, in the opinion of Mr. Gollancz, to be achieved by much stronger application of the Jewish religious ideas in daily life, or, as he expressed it, Jewry should become a Jewish equivalent to the Society of Friends movement. It was in this connection that Mr. Gollancz expressed his opinion that the religious future of Judaism cannot be guaranteed by Orthodox Judaism or a revival of it, and uttered the opinion that Judaism should not separate itself from the so-called Christian ethic. Mr. Gollancz clearly said that he does not mean by Christian ethic the interpretation given to it by the Churches but the fundamentals which are in full agreement with the old Jewish ethic and which are, in accordance with the developments of the centuries, more in the foreground in the Gospels and more in the background in the Old Testament.

51, Pullman Court, S.W.2.

Hans G. Woyda.

that they are still Jews. Jewishness appears to be a nebulous and indefinable quality which for all practical purposes can only be acquired at birth and not even dispensed with at death.

It is a label and labels have very practical consequences. It is not merely the Irish climate that, as Mr. Shaw has suggested, produces the Irish characteristics, it is also the label of "Irishman." The word itself, which is almost synonymous with tradition, imperceptibly dictates certain characteristics and behaviour. But, more important still, the predominant association of Irishmen with Irishmen and of Jews with Jews transmits and sustains a discernible character. It is this character which gives the label meaning as well as vice versa. And the characteristics persist and grow in proportion as outside contacts are excluded.

Now when you have a land of your own, the ill consequences of insularity are limited. The insularity of Jews, however, in a country where they form a minority is the inevitable basis of anti-Semitism. It is, of course, exacerbated by outstandingly bad behaviour, just as it is exacerbated by outstandingly good behaviour. Egregiousness in either direction underlines the insularity.

Nobody need dispute, therefore, that Wells was quite right in arguing that assimilation predicates a humble conviction among Jews that, as a community, they have nothing worth preserving. The necessary humility for this view is not an outstandingly Jewish characteristic. Certainly it is true that a man can always escape the pains of living by jumping out of a top-storey window. But men are rarely modest enough to believe their lives are not worth preserving. The same is true of communities, however artificial. The problem, therefore, is much deeper than logic takes us.

Nevertheless, the hard fact has got to be faced that anti-Semitism is the inescapable consequence of self-perpetuation as a community, with no discernible differentiating basis of religion, philosophy or interest. There are Jews who, proud of their early contribution to civilisation, retain the mystical conviction that they have yet another contribution to make one day as a community. But even this mystique is neither universal nor even widespread.

And so to the outsider the Jews remain a minority community, bound together for no purpose that they can explain. It is perhaps the absence of explicable purpose, in addition to the fact of insularity, which is at the root of what is called "the Jewish problem."

## HISTORY OF PIONEER CORPS

The Ex-Service (N.B.) Association intends to publish a history of the non-British companies of the Royal Pioneer Corps during the Second World War. Professor Norman Bentwich has undertaken to edit the history and Brigadier Lord Reading has addressed an appeal to all members of the companies to supply information. In order to make the report as complete as possible, any officer, N.C.O., or other ranks who can give any information about his own service or the doings of the companies should send his account to Professor Norman Bentwich, 3 Circus Road, N.W.8.

## Old Acquaintances

"*Chez Nous*" in London:—Walter Rilla went to Germany on a visit to write for London's "Tribune" about the theatre and arts there.—Marcel Hellman showed his new picture "This was a woman" with a score by Mischa Spolianski, and photographed by Guenther Krampf in the "Empire."—Karel Stepanek and Marianne Kupfer, who now calls herself Deeming, scored a success in the production of "The Burning Bush" by Geza Herczeg and Heinz Herald in the "New Lindsay." It's a thrilling and moving play about the ill-famous ritual-murder trial in Hungary.—Erna Pinner illustrated "The Animals of the U.S.S.R." by G. M. Vevers and W. E. Swinton's "Corridor of Life," published here with much success.—Gerard Hinze-Heinz and Amy Frank gave excellent performances in Cavalcanti's "First Gentleman" picture.

I know it's not any more "news," but there are more than one reason to mention now the tremendous success of Martin Miller (late of "Juedischer Kulturbund, Berlin) in London's "Comedy," where he plays the leading comedian in "Mountain Air." It's called "a holiday comedy," but in reality it's a very British farce, and nothing is so difficult as to break into this kind of national entertainment.

**On Broadway:**—Elisabeth Bergner scored a personal success when she played "The Cup of Trembling," directed by her husband, Dr. Paul Czinner. It's a female "Lost Weekend," and she is so to speak a "dipsomaniactress," but the critics think, Billy Wilder's drunkards are still the best.—Hans Jaray, the Viennese actor and playwright ("Ist Geraldine ein Engel?") who published his first book a few weeks ago in New York, will be "Egmont" in German, produced by Felix G. Gerstman in autumn.—Kurt Robitschek, the former director of Berlin's "Kabarett der Komiker," changed his name to Ken Robey and tours the States now with an all-American show.—Fritz Rotter, whose old song-hit "Ich kuesse Ihre Hand, Madame" is revived in Billy Wilder's Bing Crosby picture "The Emperor's Waltz," will see two of his plays produced on Broadway soon "The Empty Years" and "The Devil also dreams."—Fritzi Massary was guest of honour when the university of California showed her late son-in-law's Bruno Frank "Nina" in an English adaptation. By the way, in the same comedy Lucie Mannheim succeeded to conquer London after she came to this country.

**Obituaries:**—Hermann Frey, who wrote the lyrics for "Immer an der Wand lang" and "Bummelpetrus" died aged 71 in Berlin.—Actor Gustav Diessl died in Vienna, he was married to singer Maria Cebotari.—Dr. Fritz Blum who worked for the German section of the B.B.C. suddenly died in London.—Dr. Franz Leppmann, former dramatic critic of the "Voss" and editor of "Prophylaen Verlag" died in London.—In New York died music critic Josef Reitler from Vienna.—Once famous, now forgotten artist Fidus ("Der Sonne entgegen") died aged 80 in Berlin. In London died, aged 74, Professor Dr. Max Epstein, one of the most colourful men of Berlin's theatrical life before Hitler. He was handicapped by an illness of his legs, but lively and interested in everything until he died. Professor Epstein was not only the builder of Berlin's "Kuenstler-Theater" in Nuernbergerstrasse, but also the founder of the literary weekly "Blaues Heft." Furthermore he was the author of several books on the subject "The Theatre as Business," and succeeded even in putting Immanuel Kant's "Kritik der reinen Vernunft" into "Knittelverse."—In Berlin died actor Josef Almas, aged only 53, shortly after his return from his exile in London. Almas was not a star, but always a useful member of any ensemble he belonged to. He was interned in 1940 and sent to Australia, and played the lead in "Amphitruon," the best German performance produced in this country during the war. I met him after his first "first night" in Berlin's "Hebbel-Theater"; he was the only returnee who confessed to regret having come back to Germany.

PEM

## RESTITUTION IN AUSTRIA

The Consular Section of the Austrian Legation, 1 Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.7, does not charge any fee for the legalisation of Powers of Attorney if they are restricted to restitution matters. In this case it is also unnecessary to have the Power of Attorney attested by a Public Notary.

## FROM MY DIARY

The Theodor Herzl Society celebrated its tenth anniversary on May 11 when Professor S. Brodetsky addressed a large gathering of friends and members. Dr. H. Capell presided.

The Theodor Herzl Society, affiliated to the A. J. R., is a society of Zionists from Germany. It enjoys a very high reputation among the Zionist Movement in this country and it is noted for its regular activities both in the cultural and fund raising spheres and its high standard of lectures. Its Tuesday evenings at 57 Eton Avenue have become a social and cultural centre for many Continental Zionists.

Published on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, a "T.H.S. REVIEW" very vividly relates the history of this organisation which at the same time is the history of many refugees and their integration in this country. The publication also deals with current problems facing generally Jews from the Continent in present-day Britain and deserves study.

The "Times Literary Supplement" has recently published a bibliography of non-Nazi literature of the war years. Neither book-burning nor book-banning, the "Times" says, sufficed to prevent publishers from producing, booksellers from purveying and the public from buying books which were at variance with always every tenet of the régime. Many of these non-Nazi books were new editions and re-issues of the standard writers (the "classics") of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The "Times" mentions, amongst others, the collected works of Novalis which were published by the Insel-

Verlag, Leipzig, without acknowledging a very liberal use, bordering on plagiarism, of the edition by R. H. Samuel, now Professor at Melbourne University. The humorist Wilhelm Busch's collected works in eight volumes (Braun and Schneider, Muenchen, 1944) were forbidden to be mentioned in the Press as there were included some letters to Jewish friends. The same had happened shortly before the war to Urban Rosdl's biography of Stifter (Rowohlt, Berlin, 1936), when it was found that the author was of Jewish descent.

"In some cases," the "Times" goes on, "books were reissued which were nothing but thinly veiled attacks on the Nazi régime. Very cleverly, they were brought out in facsimile editions so that nobody could accuse the editor of having doctored or ingeniously selected the text. R. Oldenbourg, Muenchen, thus reproduced Adalbert Stifter's 'Lesebuch zur Foerderung humaner Bildung' (1938), its very title challenging Nazi ideology. S. Fischer issued a reprint of the collected works of Matthias Claudius (three volumes, 1941), full of open and veiled attacks on militarism, regimentation and oppression."

The Waterloo Theatre in Hamburg was the scene of an unusual incident at the first showing of a new picture "Marriage in the shadow" (on which we reported in our December issue) which features the tragedy of a mixed marriage. Shortly before the start of the performance, it was discovered that Veit Harlan, producer of the notorious Nazi film "Jew Suss," and his wife, film actress Kristina Soederbaum, were among the audience. They were asked by the cinema owner to leave the premises.

NARRATOR

## RESETTLEMENT OF D.P.'S

In its latest monthly Digest the Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organisation (PCIRO) gave the following survey on developments in resettlement. Schemes for mass resettlement exist in four European and nine Overseas countries. The United Kingdom admitted 34,423 European Volunteer Workers, Belgium took 16,788 miners, France recruited 8,296 workers and the Netherlands 3,108 refugees for the mines, as garment workers, domestics and hospital workers. Furthermore, small numbers have been sent to Switzerland (69 nurses) and Sweden (219).

The distribution in countries overseas is as follows: Argentina admitted 4,338 persons, chiefly from Italy, Australia 1,709, Brazil 2,265, Canada 11,416, Chile 1,000, North Africa (Morocco and Tunisia) 491, Paraguay 860 Mennonites, Peru 621 persons, Venezuela 2,712. Furthermore, Colombia indicated its willingness to take 2,000 refugees, Guatemala expressed its interest in receiving Spanish republican refugees, and French Guiana is ready to admit agricultural families.

Apart from these schemes of mass immigration, there has been a steady expansion in the field of individual migration. A total of 2,128 persons departed for resettlement under individual migration arrangements during the period July 1, 1947—March 1, 1948. The greatest number to leave for any one country went to the United States of America (12,203). Other countries who received large numbers of individual immigrants were France (6,087) and Palestine (2,078). Considerable numbers also went to Sweden (868), the Argentine (837), Australia (767) and the United Kingdom (752).

### CLASSIFIED

#### Employment

Advertisements are subject to Control of Engagement Order.

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LADY BOOK-KEEPER-TYPIST, reliable, wants work 2 or 3 ev. 7-9. Box 601.

AFTERNOON OR EVENING. Educated elderly lady would act as companion or sit in with children. Box 603.

WANTED CUTTER for high-class Dresses able to manage small work-room. Also Cutter for high-class Blouses. Best remuneration and prospects. 5-day week. May suit capable Dressmaker. Manchester suburb. Pamela Frank Ltd., The Arcade, Bolton.

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TO LET for 4 or 6 months furnished room, kitchen and bathroom. West Norwood, S.E.27. Box 600.

TO LET large Bed-Sitting room for Gentleman. Hot and cold water. Bathroom, Gas fire. CUN 6997. Maida Vale District.

TO LET 4 Room Top Flat, N.W.6. Furniture, Crockery for sale. Owner going abroad. Box 608.

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#### Miscellaneous

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TO CLEAR: Scientific, Glass, Medical and Dental Instruments and Books. Write for List: Vite, 2, Banff-House, Glenmore Road, N.W.3.

#### MISSING PERSONS

##### Inquiries from AJR

Steinfeld, Herbert, from Berlin, N.20, Swinemuenderstr. 77, for Erich Hassfurth, Berlin.

Speyer, Edgar, from Berlin-Grunewald, Caspar Theysstr. 25, same enquirer.

Silberberg, Walter, born on 17.6.03, from Berlin, Calvinstrasse, for Louise Buchholz, Berlin.

Hammerschlag, Moritz, lived at Frankfurt/Main and Cologne, for A.J.R. Nathansen, Hannelore, moved from Manchester to London, for A.J.R.

Hecker, Siegmund and Anni, singers, from Breslau, Elsasserstrasse, for Claire Elfering, Goerlitz.

Mars, Salin (Samuel), born on 12.5.75, and daughter Margarete, born on 20.1.09, from Schweinfurt, for Ludwig Roth, Schweinfurt.

##### Inquiries from Hias,

37, Museum Street, London, W.C.1. Distenfeld, Johann, Ernestine, Susanna, formerly Vienna, for Eugene Zeilendorf, Budapest.

Loewy, Robert, formerly of Bruex, for Maria Loewy, nee Friedrich, Goerlitz.

Eger, Werner, born 11.11.25, at Frankfurt/Main, for Willie Sattelberg, New York.

Juster, Isidor, about 55 years, for Gertrud Ludwig, nee Juster, Weilheim.

##### Inquiries from

Jewish Refugees Committee, 19, Sumner Place, London, S.W.7.

Rudert, Lilli, nee Rubensohn, abt. 47, born in Dessau and daughter Lieselotte, abt. 20, from Naples to England, for brother/uncle Walter Rubensohn, Koeln-Ehrenfeld.

Oppenheimer, Gerd, abt. 28, born in Berlin, farmer, for Georg Freudenthal.

Pollak, Lenke, born 1914 in Hungary, for cousin Egon Herzog, Italy.

Handl, Walter, from Vienna, for Karl Steiner, Shanghai.

Herzberg, Dr. Karl, abt. 66, born in Hannover and daughter Ruth, for Gabriele Kraus, Frankfurt-Nied.

Ritter, Mr., son of Ernst Ritter, from Berlin, whose parents went to South America, for Richard Hechel, Druebeck/Harz.

Fliegenheimer, Hermann, al. Feller, from Berlin, for relatives in Germany.

Mendel, Ilse, nee Kraft, born in Eger, wife of Dr. Hans Mendel from Austria, for Julius Nachmann, Kennath-Stadt.

Trapp, Hans and Betty (Barbara), and children Anna and George, for Hans Matausch, Schwandorf.

Stern, Max, and children, born in Bonn, formerly Berlin, for Gerda Kahle, nee Piepenbring.

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## PERSONALIA

For a long time, including six years of Nazi-terror, **Moritz Rosenthal** was one of the leading figures of the Berlin Jewish Community. He provided much of the "drive" which activated its Board, combining a shrewd business man's brain with a true Jewish heart, social spirit and deep adherence to Liberal Judaism. Synagogues, Old Age Homes and a modern Publicity Department were his special fields. Many friends extend to him on June 11th sincere birthday greetings.

**Mrs. Elsa Hirsch**, Leicester (formerly Chemnitz), died on May 5th. For many years she has been the Hon. Secretary of the Local Leicester Group of the AJR, and it is to a very high extent due to her endeavours that refugees living in that district became associated with the work of the AJR. The AJR will always gratefully remember her.

## HOSPITALITY FOR CHILDREN

The Children's Marriage Scheme, 7 Endsleigh Place, London, W.C.1, is bringing over 100 deportee children (from 14 to 18 years) from Europe between July 19 and September 6. Will anyone who would like to offer them hospitality from July 19 to August 16, or from August 9 to September 6, please communicate with the Secretary.

## MAINTENANCE FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNTS

The scheme by which blocked accounts in banks in the British and American Zones may now be used for the maintenance allowances of near relatives (see May issue of "AJR Information"), if the owners are United Nations and neutral nationals, has been extended to account owners of ex-enemy nationality.

## AJR GLASGOW

(11 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, C.5)

Sunday, June 6th, 6 p.m. "Social."

Sunday, June 27th, 6 p.m. "Today's News," introduced by H. Preiss.

## THEODOR HERZL SOCIETY

Meetings every Tuesday, 8 p.m.

57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3.

June 1st, "Life in Israel." Four Palestinian Students Report.

June 8th, "Israel's Maritime Future," talk by Mr. BARNET LITVINOFF, Secretary, Palestine Maritime League.

June 15th, Reception for Mr. and Mrs. JANUS COHEN and address by Mr. Janus Cohen, a Vice-President of the Zionist Federation.

June 22nd, "My Experiences in the D.P. Camps and Austria," a talk by Mrs. MIZZY MILLS, a social worker who recently returned from duty on the Continent.

June 29th, A Social.

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## POSTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Palestine

Whilst letter telegram service to Palestine is entirely suspended, other categories of telegrams (except Forces telegrams) can be accepted only for Haifa, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, those for Jerusalem being restricted to Government, Press and full-rate messages addressed to Consulates and Banks. Telegrams for "British Forces in Palestine" can be accepted until further notice.

## French Zone

Telephone service has been opened with the French Zone of Germany, the minimum charge for a three-minute call is 10/-.

## Air Mail

Air postage rates to Central America, the West Indies and to certain countries in South America has been reduced from 1s. 3d. to 1s. per 2 oz. for letters and to 6d. from 7d. for postcards. As a result of these reductions, a uniform rate of 1s. per 1/2 oz. for letters (postcards 6d.) now applies to the whole of North America, Central America, South America and to the West Indies.

## WAR CRIMINALS

The Association of Baltic Jews in Great Britain, 42 Theobald Rd., London, W.C.1, is collecting evidence of war crimes committed against Jews in the Baltic States and appeals to all people who have any evidence to offer to pass it on to their office, where a list of war criminals responsible for the "liquidation" of the Ghettoes, especially in Riga, and their photographs are also available.

## FROM ALL CORNERS

## AUSTRALIA

An investigation amongst 1,500 new immigrants revealed that 70% of them were wage earners, 20% had set themselves up in business of their own, and 10% were professional people. A great number of immigrants who had been professionals in their country of origin, is now working successfully in trade and commerce. The survey mentions amongst others an Austrian immigrant who, as a designer of optical high-precision instruments, helped to make Australia self-sufficient in this highly specialised field of production.

## SWEDEN

According to law, residence of at least five years in Sweden is conditional for the grant of naturalisation. In practice, this period was actually ten years, but was reduced to nine years after interventions on the part of Jewish Organisations. The Swedish Government is now prepared to consider a further reduction and the period of residence may be limited to seven years.

## COLUMBIA

Eighty per cent of the Jews of Bogota, capital of Columbia, lost their property during the recent anti-Government riots there. It is estimated that some 500,000 dollars worth of Jewish property were destroyed.

## VIENNA

The director of the Tel-Aviv opera, George Singer, gave an Orchestra Concert in Vienna. The soloists included Staatsopernsängerin Hilde Zadek.

Readers who should like to have additional copies of the *May Supplement* to "AJR Information" in honour of Dr. Leo Baeck may order them from AJR Headquarters.

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