

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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RECORD OF A YEAR

This issue appears shortly before the Annual General Meeting of the AJR is taking place. Looking back to the past twelve months, two features are outstanding : The activities on behalf of the Community as a whole have been increased, and the work in the field of Social Services is steadily expanding.

Again it has proved to be an invaluable asset that the AJR may speak as an independent organisation on behalf of the Jews from Germany and Austria. General questions of legislation in the field of restitution and compensation have been taken up. In this matter the AJR partly co-ordinated its own work with that of the corresponding organisations abroad under the auspices of the "Council of Jews from Germany," in whose creation under the leadership of Leo Baeck, the AJR and its former General Secretary, Dr. K. Alexander, took a decisive part. A plenary session of the "Council," which took place in London in December, 1950, again revealed the great number of tasks the Jews from Germany have in common. One of them arises from the claim that an adequate portion of the heirless, unclaimed and communal property in Germany should be put at the disposal of the "Council" and its member organisations, in order to be used for relief schemes, especially in the interest of elderly Jews from Germany.

Discriminatory incidents which called for action on behalf of the Jewish refugees in Great Britain did, fortunately, hardly occur during the period under review. Nevertheless, the reaction to proceedings against some naturalized persons (none of whom were Jews from Germany or Austria) again con-

firmed that a psychological difference in the treatment of British-born and British-naturalized persons cannot be entirely eliminated. The words of the Chairman of the Australian "Association of New Citizens," Dr. M. Joseph, also hold good for the new citizens of Great Britain : "Those disinterested have forgotten the lessons that had been taught both in Europe and during the war time here and they feel safe because they are successful in business. Those, however, who are actually working in our Association know that we are still a Community wanting protection and that our Association is a reliable and efficiently working instrument to offer those their protection."

Amongst the steps which had to be taken on behalf of certain sections of the Community are the renewed endeavours in the interest of the unregistered dental surgeons with German qualifications. Negotiations could be intensified under new aspects, and whilst it would be irresponsible to forecast anything about the results, the hope still prevails that one day success may be given to these endeavours.

The work of the Social Services Department is getting increasingly important. As the Refugee Committees, sponsored by Anglo-Jewry for many years, have terminated their devoted and splendid activities, it becomes more and more necessary that we ourselves look after those who need help and encouragement. It is not possible or desirable to placard the human tragedies with which the AJR Social Services Department is faced day after day. There are the old ones, the sick ones, the lonely ones who, in the course of the years, have lost strength and confidence and who have to be cared for. Much more could be done if more means were at the disposal of the AJR ; there are, however, also various tasks for which the services of voluntary helpers would be highly welcome.

Constructive Work

Most constructive work is done by the AJR Employment Agency (annually licensed by the L.C.C.). More than 6,000 employers and employees have made use of the Employment Agency since it was established about three years ago. The majority of those who were placed in employment would not have found work through any other channels. Here, too, expansion of the work is an urgent necessity.

A considerable portion of callers at Fairfax Mansions consists of post-war immigrants who as aliens are subject to various legal restrictions and who, in view of their short period of residence, are particularly dependent on guidance and advice.

NEWS FROM GERMANY

THE general policy towards Germany now stands in the foreground of international discussions. Some of its aspects, especially the intended rearmament and the release of war criminals, have roused strong feelings amongst Jews and Jewish organisations. Public opinion in Germany itself is indicated by regrettable as well as by encouraging symptoms. To the latter category belongs Professor Carlo Schmidt's speech in the Bonn Parliament, extracts from which are reported in this issue. When submitting proposals for an indemnification of the Jews, Professor Schmidt recalled the proud record of German Jewry before 1933 and, at the same time, paid tribute to the spiritual and political importance of the young State of Israel for Jews all over the world. It would be premature to discuss details of his proposals at this juncture ; at a later stage, one of the problems may arise from the fact that there are needy victims from Nazi terror not only in Israel, but also in other countries. Professor Schmidt approached the matter from the right angle by making it clear that material indemnification and moral atonement are two different things and that financial offers must not serve as attempts to relieve the burden of moral guilt.

Another news item from Germany is the arrest of Dr. Philipp Auerbach, head of the Bavarian Indemnification Office. Whilst comments cannot be made as long as the matter is *sub judice*, the reaction to the happenings amongst Jews and non-Jews in Germany must not be under-estimated. The "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany calls for a thorough examination of the allegations and, at the same time, protests against any abuse of the incident for anti-Semitic propaganda. The same line has been taken by several responsible German politicians, amongst them the Bavarian Minister of Justice, whose recent address is referred to in this issue.

AFTER RESTITUTION

THE number of claimants who, on the strength of the existing laws, have acquired or re-acquired assets in Germany is steadily increasing. Most of them are living outside Germany and can only benefit from the proceeds if they become available in their present country of residence. The recent regulations about the sale of blocked accounts are an important step towards that direction. It will now become one of the objects of AJR Information to inform its readers on further developments in this field in the same way as it has always served as a source of information on the legal aspects of the restitution question.

A new feature is the recently established Club, which has already held several meetings and which, under the name "AJR Friendship Club" will now become a permanent institution. The large attendance revealed that here the AJR filled a gap especially for those who, having lost their relatives and friends, live in isolation.

Throughout the years, the AJR Relief Department, sponsored by the Central British

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The Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain herewith invites its members to the

General Meeting

on Monday, April 16th, at 7.45 p.m.

at 1, Broadhurst Gardens, London, N.W. 6 (near Finchley Road Underground Station)

AGENDA

1. Past Achievements and Future Tasks (Report of the General Secretary)
2. Election of Committee of Management (Executive)
3. Election of the Board

The list of candidates who are proposed for the election as Executive and Board Members is printed on page 7. Non-members are not entitled to vote but will be welcomed as guests at the Meeting

RESTITUTION NEWS

DEBATE IN BONN

In the name of the Social Democratic Party Prof. Carl Schmidt submitted to the Bonn Federal Parliament a proposal for a Federal Indemnification Law. In his address he stressed the special obligation of the German people towards the Jews, and suggested that the State of Israel should be recognised as the legal successor for the heirless Jewish property. "I do not want to speak now about the magnificent phenomenon of the mutual bonds which existed between Jewish and other men in Germany, and I do not want to speak either of the highlights and the great achievements in which this co-operation resulted. The time will, however, come when these things will have to be recalled, for at present they seem to be forgotten, just as it has been forgotten how these same people were hunted and destroyed, men, women and children alike, including those who had lost their limbs when fighting for Germany during the First World War. We should recognise our special moral obligation to indemnify, for the Jews were the impersonated target of the crime which euphemistically is called the Third Reich." After having dealt with Israel's situation as legal successor, Prof. Schmidt said: "We have not yet made up for our moral and legal debt, and whatever we are going to do will not make undone what has happened. It could not even be regarded as the basis for an atonement and it would not entitle us to ask the other party for reconciliation."

In the course of the debate spokesmen of other parties also stressed the moral obligation to indemnify the Jews. It was decided by an overwhelming majority to refer the motion to the Legal Committee of the Federal Parliament.

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

Until recently relatives and servants could only draw a travel allowance if they travelled in the company of the owner of a blocked account. This regulation has now been relaxed in so far as the allowance may also be drawn by the relatives and servants after the owner himself has again left Western Germany or Western Berlin, provided that during his stay in Germany he has authorized the Bank accordingly. The payment must not be made for a period of more than three months. As before, the travel allowance amounts to D.M. 75 per day and person with a limit of altogether D.M. 200 per day.

Near relatives in the meaning of this regulation are husbands or wives, parents, grandparents, children and grandchildren.

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Fund, has sent clothing and other commodities to Jewries abroad. Whereas during the first post-war years the consignments were mainly sent to the European Continent, they are now despatched to Israel. The AJR Relief Department (33 Compayne Gardens, N.W.6) wishes to thank all those who contributed and at the same time appeals for further help which is urgently required for the Immigrant Camps.

The question is sometimes put whether the main object of the AJR is the representation of the entire community or the assistance to the needy ones. The answer is that there is no genuine difference between these two functions. Amongst Jews, especially if they had to experience the upheavals of the last 17 years, the difference between "settled" and "unsettled" individuals is only a matter of degree. It has been proved by experience that all of them may have to turn to Fairfax Mansions for one reason or another. In addition, however, those who were fortunate to build up their lives anew in this country have also to think of those who require help. To-day, the twofold task of the AJR, self-representation and social work, makes its existence, and even more its expansion, more necessary than ever before.

W. R.

BERLIN INDEMNIFICATION LAW

The application forms for the submission of claims under the Berlin Indemnification Law are expected in London in the course of the next weeks. Orders for forms may be sent to the United Restitution Office, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 (6d. to be enclosed). The United Restitution Office will forward the forms as soon as they have become available, but it is stressed that this may take some weeks.

CONFISCATED SILVER IN HAMBURG

As already reported some months ago, part of the silver delivered by Hamburg Jews to the authorities, as requested by the order of March 31, 1939, has been rescued. Meanwhile an inventory of the items has been drawn up, and the objects may be seen after previous appointment over the phone in the office of Dr. Schellenberg, Finanzbehorde-Landeshauptkasse, Hamburg 36, Gaensemarkt 36, Tel. 341016, App. 321.

Former owners living abroad who have no representative in Hamburg may write to this address, attaching drawings and exact descriptions of the items. As far as the ownership can be proved, an application for the return has to be submitted to the Wiedergutmachungsamt of the Landgericht.

If the objects had not been properly registered in time with the Claims Agency Bad Nenndorf in accordance with the Restitution Law for the British Zone, a declaration of renunciation (Verzichtserklärung) of the Jewish Trust Corporation, Regional Office, Hamburg 1, Burchardstr. 17 (Mohlenhof) is also required.

DECLARATION OF DEATH

The new German Federal Law about Missing Persons (Verschollenheitsgesetz) of January 15, 1951, implies various alterations of the present position in this subject matter. Whilst, according to the order of December 16, 1946, in the British Zone, the presumed date of death of a deportee was May 8, 1945, it is now the date at which the danger started (e.g. the time of deportation), unless another date can be proved in a particular case. The procedure has also in so far been altered as now a public notice (Aufgebot) is required in all cases before a declaration of death is issued.

SALE OF BLOCKED ACCOUNTS

The "Bundesanzeiger" of March 3, 1951, contains new regulations for Western Germany and Western Berlin about the sale of blocked accounts (General Licence No. 49/51), the purchase and sale of bonds (General Licence No. 50/51) and the granting of special licences for certain types of investments. The full wording of the publication may be obtained from the United Restitution Office, 8, Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 (1/- and stamped envelope to be enclosed). Whilst it is not possible to give a full survey of the very detailed regulations, the following references may give a general idea.

Sale of Blocked Accounts.—According to General Licence No. 49/51 blocked accounts owned by natural or juridical persons outside Germany may be transferred to other natural or juridical persons outside Germany, subject to the proviso that any DM bank balances thus acquired shall be credited to an "acquired blocked account" maintained or to be opened with a financial institute in the area of the Federal territory or of Western Berlin. Unless specifically stated, the existing general licences will not apply to "acquired blocked accounts." The following existing general licences have been declared applicable to "acquired blocked accounts": (1) No. 30/50 ("Bereinigung des Wertpapier-Wesens"), (2) No. 32/50 ("Bedienung deutscher Wertpapiere"), (3) No. 36/50 ("Uebertragung gesperrter DM-Guthaben auf Landeszentralbanken"), (4) No. 45/50 ("Uebertragung von DM-Guthaben und Wertpapierdepots von einem Geldinstitut zu einem anderen"). Amongst the general licences which do not apply to blocked accounts are those referring to travel allowances, support of relatives and maintenance of graves.

The payment out of the "acquired blocked accounts" of bank-charges, taxes, fees and other expenses (General Licences 15/49, 32/50, 34/50) and the transfer of "acquired blocked accounts" from persons outside Germany to other persons outside Germany are permitted.

Purchase and Sale of Bonds.—According to General Licence No. 50/51 "acquired blocked

PENSIONS IN AUSTRIA

Emigrated Austrian refugees who had been employees of banking firms, insurance companies and public corporations, or are widows and orphans of such employees, face difficulties in obtaining from these institutes the pensions due to them. As far as the claimants have kept their Austrian citizenship, they are by law only entitled to the pension if they get the consent of the insurance company to reside outside Austria; this consent is usually not granted. As far as they have acquired another nationality, they can, according to the law, only receive payment on the strength of mutual inter-governmental agreements between Austria and the state of their present nationality. Such an agreement does not exist between Austria and Britain.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews, together with the interested organisations, such as the AJR and the World Jewish Congress, have submitted a memorandum to the Foreign Office in which they appeal to His Majesty's Government to take the appropriate steps for making the pensions available to the claimants, most of whom are old and have to face great financial difficulties. Furthermore, the World Jewish Congress has submitted a memorandum to the Austrian Bundeskanzler, Dr. Leopold Figl.

CONVERSION OF GERMAN CURRENCY

According to a new Law, No. 46, issued by the Allied High Commission in Germany, Article 15 of the Currency Conversion Law has been amended. Under the original law Reichsmark debts were converted into Deutschmarks at the rate of 1 : 10. Article 15 enabled United Nations' creditors to register objection to the terms of conversion before October 20, 1948, or to refuse payments tendered on the basis of the Conversion Law.

The main effect of the new Law is to give the United Nations' creditors the additional option of accepting the conversion without forfeiting their right to participate in any further payment that may be provided under final settlement of the Reichsmark claims of United Nations' creditors. Creditors who had previously objected to conversion or refused the payment and who now wish to take advantage of the new provision must notify the debtor by December 31, 1951, that their objection or refusal is withdrawn.

ACCOUNTS

accounts" may be used for the purchase of certain types of bonds (Wertpapiere) from persons residing inside the Federal territory or the Western sector of Berlin. The bonds thus acquired may be sold again; in this case the proceeds shall be credited to an "acquired blocked account" inside Western Germany or Western Berlin.

Special Licences.—On application special licences may be granted by the "Bank Deutscher Laender" for the use of "acquired blocked accounts" for certain kinds of investments and expenditure inside Western Germany or Western Berlin, such as shares in private enterprises, purchase of real estate or building and repair costs.

Valuation of Blocked Accounts

A *Special Correspondent* writes: "It was to be expected that the publication of the new regulations would bring about a sharp rise in the Valuation of the Blocked DM quotations. Whilst just before the promulgation of the new regulations the New York quotation for Blocked DM Accounts was under \$10 for 100 DM, immediately after the publication the New York quotation went up to \$12.50 to \$13, which means, at the time of going to press, 50 to 52 per cent. of the value of DM in international quotations. Those who were quick in taking this advantage could sometimes get quite good quotations, but 10 days after the announcement it became already obvious that more Blocked Mark material had come out than the market could absorb. The suddenly increased demand for Blocked Mark Accounts was also partly due to the fact that quite a number of foreign banks (British, American and Swiss) opened immediately 'acquired DM blocked accounts' with German Banks and banking firms, thus creating an additional demand in Marks which died down after a few days.

There will be always a certain amount of demand for German Blocked Marks, as foreign investors show a keen interest in the German business. What can be expected, therefore, is a permanent change of the quotations for Blocked Accounts on a level which certainly will be higher than before the new regulations were published."

LAST DAYS IN BERLIN

He was 67, had been a business man, although he was more of an artist and writer, and had never in all his life done any manual work whatever. And now he worked in a factory and was praised by his foreman for his good work at the boring machine. He had to get up at 4.30 every morning to eat his thick soup without rushing and be prepared for the

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

Jerusalem, March, 1951.

Going Up : When I arrived here last September looking for a flat I regretted that I had not come some months earlier as the cost for securing accommodation had almost doubled in 1950. Now I am glad that I did not arrive yesterday for during the past six months the inflationary spiral on the housing market has reached new heights. A three-roomed flat costs nowadays IL. 3,000 key money, a four-roomed flat costs IL. 4,000—that means IL. 1,000 per room. This, of course, means renting the flat only and not purchasing it. Purchase prices are approximately three times as high.

Almost all new buildings which are going up are "Batei Meshutafim," that is, houses which may become the common property of the tenants. Each tenant buys the flat into which he wishes to move. A two-roomed flat on such a basis costs IL. 6,000, a three-roomed flat IL. 9,000, etc. This is in houses without central heating, otherwise prices are still higher.

No building contractor will give you a definite date when you can move in and it is a common sight in Jerusalem to see construction on houses at a standstill because some of the equipment has not arrived. And no one would like to give you a contract for a house which is scheduled to be finished in eight or nine months' time because by then prices will have soared up by another leap.

Shabbat Zealots : The technique of the "Guardians of the Shabbat," some ultra-orthodox people in Meir Shearim, seems to have changed during the last few weeks. While in former times they were content to stone passing cars on Shabbat they are now employing a different method by burning cars though not on Shabbat but in the course of the ensuing week. They have extended their campaign of "persuasion" also to other offences such as listening to the radio on Shabbat, and some of such culprits had either their flats or other property burned.

Not so long ago terror was one of the political means in the fight for Israel. At that time it was directed towards non-Jews. But terror is "indivisible." Terror breeds terror and no one would be surprised if some counter-action against the Naturei Karta—that is how these orthodox zealots call themselves—were to assume no less unpleasant forms.

Border Tours : With the tourist season opening, a new tour has been included among the sight-seeing spots of Jerusalem. I was taken along the other day to the borders which divide the Arab and Jewish held parts of the city. Nothing is more unreal than to see a street cut into half by some barbed wire fences, and behind the fences there are Arab shops and Arab children playing and cars passing by, while Arab Legionnaires are on sentry duties. This sight repeats itself at many points especially near the Mandelbaum Gate and the Jaffa Gate, but no less eerie is the view from Mount Zion where the Israeli and Jordan outposts face each other at a stone's throw's distance.

You are admonished by the guide not to point at the Arab sentries, who might mistake such a gesture for an attempt to shoot them and might reply in kind.

Shuttle Service to Elath : Most of the requirements for the small garrison in Elath are being brought by an air shuttle service from Lydda. The route is mostly flown by small two-seaters, so-called "Primus," which gained some fame in the War of Liberation. The zeal of the young soldiers who man this southernmost outpost of Israel is unparalleled. The other day a plane returning to Lydda was loaded to a capacity almost exceeding the whole of the little "Primus." When asked whether the freight was not overweight, the young man who loaded the stuff said, "Possibly," and then added a request: "but don't tell the pilot."

HERBERT FREEDEN

long, hard 10-hour-day. He had a permit to use the tram to the other end of the town, but was not allowed to occupy a seat, and at 5.50 he stood in the cloakroom and changed into his blue overall. On the dot of 6 the works siren hooted, the power was switched on and work began. At 8.35 they had a break, when he and two men of his age and a few women and girls, some only 15 years old, sat in the little dressing room and made a meal of their sandwiches and the piping hot coffee supplied by the canteen. They were not allowed to mix with the "Aryan" workers, although the workers themselves were friendly and helpful,—a hot lunch was sent in every day from the Jewish Centre,—and so the few Jewish employees had the little room to themselves. They came from various parts of the city and every day news and the topic of the time, "evacuation," were freely discussed. They always knew of somebody who had been sent either to Theresienstadt or an unknown destination and they related all the details to the less informed.

As he was eating his black bread he said that at 7 o'clock the previous night he had received a very bulky envelope from the Jewish Central Office, and since he had been very tired he had only glanced through the papers and thought they were forms for the inventory of the flat. One of the women cried out: "For God's sake that means evacuation and they at the most allow you a week to get ready." He sat very still and the others looked at him with deep compassion in their eyes. Then he quietly got up and went to his foreman, who advised him to go home and make sure and then to come back so that the factory could apply for his exemption from deportation. So he went home—and made sure that the "Order for Evacuation" was amongst the papers he had received on the previous night,—the factory made the application and for another three days he went to work as usual; but he thought that no days had ever been so slow in passing, while his and his wife's fate were hanging in the balance. And on the third day his foreman told him that he could go home, that to his own regret the release had been refused. So he went and cleaned his machine, said good-bye to his fellow workers and the last he heard were a few quickly stifled sobs, before the door closed behind him.

On his way home he tarried,—the hardest task was still to come: to prepare his wife for the inevitable—he went slowly and took a last look at all the familiar places of his happy youth.

The last days were over only too quickly: the Red Cross letters to the children in England, North Africa and China had been written, the friends informed, the inventory of the flat that had to be left in good order had been made. Some of the friends then still in the city had come at night to say farewell and to take away some of the contents of their home either as a last gift or for safekeeping for the children,—the most important papers and other things had been sent to a safe place more than a year ago,—and now they were packing their suitcases with the few necessities they were allowed to take with them.

And the summer morning of July 1942 dawned when they had slept for the last time in their home, when they went through the few rooms for a last look round, remembering the many good-byes that had been said to their children and friends. But when the furniture removal van was at the door with two Gestapo men and two Jewish helpers they were ready; and without looking back as the swastika seal was put on the door they stepped into the vehicle and presently were on their way to join the many thousands of their fellow sufferers—destination: Theresienstadt, and two years later: Auschwitz. E. P.

(From a diary rescued after the liberation of Theresienstadt.)

CHURCH AND JUDAISM

At the Congress of the Evangelical Committee for service to Israel in Dusseldorf Prof. Dr. Rengstorf (Muenster) said that most Germans had lost their human face. They would only find it again if they would become able to look upon those whom they had tried to destroy. A way should be found by which the Christian could again live together with the Jew and make good the wrongs he had inflicted upon him.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Life in the Provinces

The fine Festival of Jewish Arts recently in Glasgow held under the auspices of the local Hebrew Council and described by the President of the Deputies as without its like in Anglo-Jewish history, has drawn a more than usual measure of attention on our people in the provinces. They live for the most part in the shadows of publicity, and it is not only, as Dr. Cecil Roth points out in his recent booklet on "The Rise of Provincial Jewry," the historian who seems inclined to show little interest in what goes on outside the capital. To some degree perhaps people in the country have themselves shown no keen conspicuous interest in their immediate surroundings, and as Dr. Johnson says of the Scots, their fairest prospect was the high road to London. But this is probably so no longer, and one must hope that some causes besides the amenities of atomic warfare have helped to attach fresh importance to provincial life.

Foremost to-day of course is the concern with Israel—a concern that is carefully and effectively nursed. In Manchester which has a Jewish population of 31,000, the first dinner in the J.P.A. campaign drew £80,000; Glasgow, with 13,000, is certain to levy £50,000; Cardiff's 3,000 raised £8,750 in 1950 (though 10 per cent. of the members held back); the comparatively few (300) Jews of Margate gave £900, and those of Belfast (320) hope to make it as much as £10,000. A notable point was again scored by Glasgow which intends to establish a new textile plant in Israel. Birmingham Jewry (6,000) have now formed a branch of Israel's Anti-T.B. League, so have the 25,000 Jews of Leeds, and when Mr. and Mrs. Elath last month visited that city to promote the cause among the affluent business men up North, they were the guests of the Lord Mayor at a civic reception. Alderman and Mrs. O'Donnell in turn were entertained at a Silver Jubilee dinner of the Leeds B-nai Brith, where the Lord Mayor gave high praise for the charitable works by the local Jews.

Education

Their Education Board recently made an interesting innovation by launching a Parent-Teacher Association designed to encourage parents to take a more active interest in the child's progress, ensure his regular and punctual attendance and maintain frequent contact with the teachers. A more ambitious project is under way in Manchester, where the famous Jews School (founded in 1841) is to be rebuilt. There will be an Infants and Primary School for approximately 280 children and a Secondary School for about 400. The expense involved is roughly £250,000, of which £175,000 will be received from the Ministry of Education and the Manchester Education Committee. The Manchester Central Board for Hebrew Education has already opened a Hebrew School, which has an attendance of 120. Rather less satisfactory appears to be the position in Bristol, which has fewer than 120 Jewish families. Here all Hebrew classes ceased two years ago and are only now being revived by a new Minister, the first since 1943.

These facts were revealed by the President of the local Hebrew Congregation in reply to some critical comment by Mr. Harold Sorel, who in his Presidential address to the lively Jewish Cultural Society of Birmingham had quoted a statement by Sir Robert Waley Cohen that twenty small communities in England were threatened with extinction. It would be interesting to know more about these communities.

C. C. A.

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BLOCKED GERMAN MARKS

ENQUIRIES INVITED

Mala Laaser :

WHAT IS "ALIEN" ?

I suppose you have not heard of the old man of Scio? Well, then let me tell you the little story. Once upon a time, there was a village in the mountains. The villagers, all learned people, had settled there only recently, in fact they belonged to a party of elderly folk who had been pushed around from one camp on the Continent to another for longer than they could endure. One day, a very old man—they called him Michael—got his bundle ready and quietly wished his fellows farewell. "Where are you going?" they asked him. And he replied that he had received a message about a desolate mountain village not far away and that he was going to live there on his own, knowing that the inhabitants had all died during the last war. A number of the villagers went with him, and after a search of three days, they found the spot and occupied it. Since there was no indication of a name, they called the village "Scio" and settled down to a new life and to the happy hard-ship of digging and hunting. Michael, the old, lived on his own, and was regarded as the father of the settlement, although he spoke little and kept to himself. One late summer evening when everyone was still out and busy in the fields, a horde of strangers arrived outside the village, ragged people with beards and grim looks. They argued aloud in a foreign language and finally went further up into the mountains to shelter for the night away

from the village. At once, the people of Scio hastened down to Michael's cottage, told him the news and asked him what he thought. They all seemed determined to fight the intruders. But Michael, suspecting the strangers to be some sort of mountain nomads, did not believe in their hostile intentions.

And trying to win time, he asked his fellows: "Tell me more about these people. How exactly would you describe them?" And all the villagers replied: "They are aliens." Whereupon the old man nodded, and scratching his beard, retorted: "What is alien?"

There was not one who could answer straight-away. So Michael sent them home and told them to think and think about his question and not to do anything rash nor come back to his cottage before they could give him their version of what "alien" was. And he shut the door behind them and smiled.

Late at night, one man called back. "Well, what is alien?" Michael asked him, and the villager said something like this:—

"Experience and common sense have taught us to call 'alien' all those things, creatures and humans who are farthest remote in space from our own; the Martian's shape, the killer's lust, the snake of the jungles and the mentality of the tycoon—these are only a few examples. A feeling alien to you or me is one as far beyond our per-

ception as the higher-pitched sounds are to our ear. If we talk of a beast from afar, we call it strange,—this being a word quite void of moral or other associations and therefore always used instead of 'alien' where mere observation is taking place. An alien is supposed to be a man in another country—far, far away as in the fairy-tales; he is known to us by hearsay, but we have nothing whatsoever to do with him. If aliens push into our sphere of life, we can no longer ignore them like Martians their actual presence forces us into a different attitude of mind towards them, and the shadow being gradually turns into a fellow in very many ways akin to ourselves."

"The opposite to 'alien' then is 'familiar'—the old wise man inquired smilingly. "Yes," the other one said, "our own face in the mirror represents the closest connection between our self and our appearance, or at least as close as the relationship between our sight and our fingernails. The chair on which we sit is most familiar to us, so are dog, cat, husband or wife, children, relatives, postman, grocer and the tinker's pony. In short distance, we are taught, alienates, familiarity brings together."

"On the surface, this is quite true," old Michael remarked, "but can you tell me off-hand the colour of your mother's eyes? Or describe your father's face to me?—You can't? Never mind most of us have had experiences of this nature generally, we laugh them off. . . ." "But what, if we didn't?" the villager asked.

"Once we have discovered the pattern of convenience behind words and values connected with them," Michael retorted, "we can no longer mechanically accept them as true and absolute. If a familiar face can entirely escape our power of recollection for however short a time, familiarity no longer absolutely represents a satisfying picture of 'the familiar.' And I still do not know what 'alien' is."

"One can only try to put over to others what comes to one's own mind when words like 'alien' and 'familiar' are flashed in front of us," said Michael's visitor, a trifle disgruntled. "Is it not a fact that we can never express precisely and lucidly what is rooted in irremovable emotions?" But old Michael shook his head and sent him away. He got no sleep till early morning. All night long the villagers kept knocking at his door, making speeches only to be dismissed by him for further contemplation. And they were all so busy thinking that none of them had time to remember the strangers in the mountains.

Early next morning, when all the "thinkers" were still asleep, old Michael went round, woke them all up and made them go with him towards the strangers. On the way he told them that to him everything beyond his own habits and thoughts was alien, but that was by far not good enough an answer. The villagers were all terribly tired, and not in a mood for more mental strife, nor for a fight against well slept intruders. And when Michael declared that God seemed to have made all thinkers think in different ways nowadays, and that the peoples of the world had now only lost the privilege of a common language but also that of common thought, the villagers began to get angry and demanded to be left in peace.

Michael smiled and said: "Look up!" There they saw, not far away, a burnt-out camp fire and all the signs of a deserted resting place. The strangers had slept there and gone their way, and Michael, the wise, had saved the settlement, or at least prevented an unequal fight, with his whimsical, talmudistic question "What is alien"?

MARTIN BUBER IN GERMANY

The March issue of the "Frankfurter Hefte" publishes tributes by Eugen Kogon (author of the S.S. Staat) and Karl Thieme to Martin Buber who recently paid a visit to Frankfurt. "I have become used," Kogon writes, "to imagine how a person I am now meeting for the first time would have behaved in the concentration camp, and as soon as I saw Buber, I immediately realised that he would have been an unforgettable example to us: A man of judgment, a well-balanced (frohlicher) man. . . . The University of Jerusalem is to be congratulated on having Martin Buber as one of its teachers. The University of Frankfurt where he taught from 1930-1933, is to be pitied for having lost him. He still knew everything of Germany which unwittingly, or on purpose, is now forgotten here—the good as well as the bad aspects. Only few of his stature are still left."

LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Sunday 11 a.m.—12 noon by appointment.

EXPROPRIATION OF JEWISH PROPERTY AND ENGLISH COPYRIGHTS

A lawsuit involving questions of copyright and conflict of laws has already been given comparatively wide publicity in the daily newspapers, because it concerned the famous music publishing firm of C. F. Peters of Leipzig. This firm had been owned by the Hinrichsen family until, in December, 1938, under the "Law for the Utilisation of Jewish Property," a trustee was appointed by the Ministry of Propaganda and the trustee sold the business in July, 1939, to Dr. Petschull and Councillor Herrmann.

The copyrights belonging to the firm of C. F. Peters enjoyed protection not only in Germany but also in many other countries belonging to the Berne Convention, of whom the United Kingdom had been a member since the foundation of the Convention in 1886. In 1937 Peters had appointed the music publishing firm of Novello & Co. Ltd., as their agents in the U.K. Max Hinrichsen, one of the sons of Henri Hinrichsen, the principal partner of the firm of C. F. Peters, settled in England at the end of 1937 and co-operated for some time with the firm of Novello in regard to their agency of Peters and also had his own publishing firm of Hinrichsen Edition Ltd.

When war broke out, the Berne Convention was one of the few international conventions which remained in force so that German copyrights continued to remain protected in this country; but by a special Act of Parliament the Comptroller of Patents was given power to grant English firms licences to exploit German copyrights in this country. Novello applied for and obtained many licences for the publication of works belonging to the Peters catalogue and various licences are still in force as their duration was not confined to the war period.

Shortly after the outbreak of war, Henri Hinrichsen emigrated to Belgium but, after the German invasion, was deported to Poland and lost his life. Two of his sons met with the same fate but the surviving three sons and two daughters were all living outside Germany after the war and under the will of Henri Hinrichsen shared his estate equally between them.

Max Hinrichsen obtained letters of administration to his father's estate in the United Kingdom and, in his capacity as administrator, claimed to be entitled to the English copyrights of Peters. As the sale of the firm of Peters could have no validity under English law, which did not recognise foreign confiscatory legislation, the English copyrights had remained the property of his father and his brother who was his father's partner in 1939 and, after their death, formed part of his father's estate. Moreover, the German firm was re-transferred by

Herrmann and Petschull after the war to its rightful owners. For these reasons Max Hinrichsen claimed to be entitled to the publication of the works in the Peters Catalogue in this country through his publishing firm, Hinrichsen Edition Ltd.

Novello, on the other hand, claimed that, as licences had been granted to them by the Comptroller of Patents, they were solely entitled to publish the works in England. They brought a test case against Max Hinrichsen and Hinrichsen Edition Ltd. demanding that they should not publish certain Peters publications in this country. The case first comprised various copyrights in works by Edvard Grieg but was later confined to "Rustle of Spring" by Sinding and "Sonatina" by Clementi. Novello took every possible point of German and English law in support of their claim, and the case was heard for nineteen days in the Chancery Division before Mr. Justice Wynn Parry.

On February 21, he gave judgment with costs for the defendants and held that the plaintiffs had no merits in this case. The sale of the business was a confiscatory and penal measure under the Nazi laws to which no effect could be given under English law. Although Henri Hinrichsen had made no formal protest even after his emigration to Belgium, he never was a voluntary party to the sale nor had he confirmed the transaction in any way. Therefore, the English copyrights formed part of his estate and, as all the beneficiaries were outside German territory after the war, the copyrights were no longer subject to the emergency legislation so that no new licences should be granted and the Comptroller of Patents should consider the revocation of the licences already granted.

Although it was not necessary from his point of view, the judge dealt at length with the argument brought forward by Novello that if the sale had the effect of passing the copyrights to the purchasers, the re-transfer of the business to the Hinrichsen family had not been made in the proper form. On the evidence given by experts on German law he came to the conclusion that the re-transfer was perfectly valid.

The judgment is still subject to an appeal but everyone who had an opportunity of listening to the judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Wynn Parry must have been impressed by the understanding shown by an English judge for the grave injustice of the Nazi laws and the suffering these laws imposed on the German Jews. In his own words, he would have been quite unwilling in the interests of justice to allow the plaintiffs to succeed in depriving the Hinrichsen family who had already suffered enough, of their inheritance.

Dr. J. Jacobson:

SELMA STERN: "THE COURT JEW"

When Selma Stern started her study of the history of the Jews of Germany her main aim was a scholarly one: to depict and to clarify the special problems connected with this branch of modern history. But when the star of Hitler began to rise and the fate of German Jewry grew desperate, Selma Stern's research was guided by yet another consideration. She thought it her duty to record for generations to come—wherever they might be—the ideas, deeds and the fate of their ancestors. She describes her new book ("The Court Jew," Jewish Publication Society, Philadelphia) as "A Contribution to the History of the Period of Absolutism in Central Europe." She is concerned with that epoch of the 17th and 18th centuries in which the Princes asserted themselves successfully against institutions and traditions still based on the medieval social system. The mercantilistic system of Central Europe thus came into existence.

The Court Jews assisted the absolute Princes, including Bishops, in their political and economic endeavours, helped them to increase the power and unification of their states and the splendour of their Courts, thereby securing a privileged position for themselves well above the legal status of their co-religionists. They acquired titles and honours and were exempted from many limitations of rights and from humiliations to which the other Jews were subject. But even so the Court Jew remained a Jew and as such he still did not enjoy equal rights with the Gentiles and lacked the firmly established position in society to which his ability, his wealth and the services he rendered seemed to entitle him. Out of necessity the movement for political emancipation and in consequence for cultural assimilation found its leaders and most zealous followers among the members of this economically most advanced group of German Jewry.

They were filled with restless, often reckless, energy, were industrious, intelligent and ambitious, possessed business ability and judgment of men and above all could guard a secret. They were aware of economic and political inter-dependence, had connections with one another and with the most important centres of commerce and politics,

FRIEDRICH OLLENDORFF

Dr. Friedrich Ollendorff, who passed away in Jerusalem, was of the very rare ones who grow conscious of a call and, with a clean heart, receive the claim. He heard it and was aroused, he felt summoned. His eye beamed with joy, and his voice carried the sound of conviction.

He was a man who would not shun any higher demand, ever anew he must answer to the idea. In him there was a buoyant will to live, deeply rooted in his devotion to his real ideal.

His life's climax were the years which he dedicated to the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland," this central institution called into being by Eugen Caspary when the Jewish Community in Germany was brought face to face with the Jewish social problem. A short duration only was granted to this focus of social endeavour, but it represents a remarkable piece of Jewish achievement. Dr. Ollendorff's personality is weaved into it.

He was brought up in old Breslau, and under the parental roof and in his mother's sphere he breathed the air of humanitarian feeling. As a Socialist he entered the social department of the Berlin administration, and a bright career seemed to open to him there. But very soon the Jewish task called for him: he joined the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle"; this was indeed his legitimate place.

There his special knowledge and experience, and first and foremost his distinctive individuality, could vividly reveal themselves. For he was an embodiment of honesty and righteousness, of loyalty and faithfulness.

In the dark years there was shown to him and his wife the way to the land of their lasting hope, the Land of Israel. An old problem, in a peculiar shape, approached him there: the question of the human being above the nations. Here, too, he was not disillusioned, he remained the conscientious objector in the sacred sense of the word.

Our thoughts, full of sympathy, go out to his wife, this brave and noble Jewish woman.

LEO BAECK.

possessed intimate knowledge of personalities and events—not unlike modern news agency correspondents—and could secure money and credit.

The most prominent representatives of the Court Jew at the Imperial Court of Vienna in the last decades of the 17th and the beginning of the 18th century were Samuel Oppenheimer of Heidelberg and Samson Wertheimer of Worms. Samuel Oppenheimer was the first Jew who was allowed to settle in Vienna with his family and staff after the bigoted Emperor Leopold I had expelled the Jews in 1670 from Vienna and Lower Austria. More than ten years before Oppenheimer was granted admission to Vienna, the Imperial Government made use of his services as army purveyor, and his settlement in Vienna is doubtless due to the indispensability of such services to the Austrian State. Oppenheimer was an ingenious planner and organiser of army supplies, possessed immense credits and put them at the disposal of the Emperor and his Government. However, he took big risks and did not neglect his own advantage. But there is no doubt Oppenheimer was the most efficient and able army contractor in all the many wars the Emperor was engaged in. He became Imperial Superior Court and Army Factor, but nevertheless he was exposed to defamations and persecutions and in 1700 the mob was incited to plunder his house in Vienna and to destroy his business papers. He and his wealth constituted a power comparable to that of the Fuggers, but he became a victim of the proverbial "ingratitude of the House of Hapsburg." The Government declined to repay the millions of florins which Oppenheimer had lent them and after his death (1703) his firm was driven into bankruptcy.

Success and Influence

More cautious and more successful was Samson Wertheimer. He was educated at the Yeshivah of Frankfurt (Main), was married to a niece of Oppenheimer and came to Vienna in 1684. He started as Oppenheimer's extremely well-paid employee and business partner, later on he became his rival at the Imperial Court. Besides being Court Jew of Saxony, Mayence, Treves and the Palatinate he inherited Oppenheimer's title and position in the Imperial Court and the Court circles. He prospered and progressively enlarged his influence and wealth. Thinking of men like Oppenheimer and Wertheimer Prince Eugene of Savoye, the famous general, wrote that in this epoch frequently a beautiful woman, a black-robed priest or an imposingly bearded Jew decided the fate of whole nations.

Wertheimer's son, Wolf Wertheimer, had directed his father's banking firm from 1709 on and further increased its importance. But when ambition or imprudence induced him to indulge in large scale business connections with the Bavarian Government he very soon found himself in financial difficulties and neither to him nor to his heirs did the Bavarian State restore the millions of florins Wolf Wertheimer had advanced to the Elector of Bavaria.

The Court Jews Juspa van Geldern, financial agent in Duesseldorf, Baruch Simon of Balbach near Mergentheim, Court Agent in Bonn, and Abraham Uhlfelder of Munich were among the ancestors of Heinrich Heine, Ludwig Boerne and Friedrich Julius Stahl (the Jewish-born founder of the Conservative Party in Prussia) respectively.

About 1645 Diego (Abraham) Texeira settled in Hamburg, to become known very soon as "the rich Jew of Hamburg." Descended from Portuguese Marranos and formerly Spanish Consul in Antwerp he returned in Hamburg to the Jewish faith of his forefathers. He and his son Manuel Texeira acted as advisers and financial agents to the learned, capricious and extravagant Ex-Queen Christina of Sweden, who had shocked her century by renouncing the Crown and the religion of her famous father Gustavus Adolphus.

Connected with the history of Augustus the Strong, Elector of Saxony, is his Court Jew Berend Lehmann of Halberstadt. He helped Augustus to win the Crown of Poland.

Old Acquaintances

Showcase Berlin:—"I wonder how much longer the Americans will pay for this showcase of the West just to annoy the Russians?" said a Berliner. This month's column reaches you from Berlin after a short visit to Duesseldorf and a week's stay in Hamburg. Life in Germany looks still as incredible as a year ago, and more so. A new Kempinski Hotel is going up on Kurfuerstendamm on Marshall Aid, and this is what a third of Berlin's population is living on too. There is nothing you cannot get; the shops are full of goods you haven't seen in London for a long, long time. But they are so expensive that only very few people can afford the prices. You meet the same people in the same posh places again and again; every third person is on the dole. But now austerity seems to be in sight. The Berliners have the impression the Americans will stop putting up more money to show the East what free enterprise can do. But the Six Days race attracted the masses, and the whole town seems to live in a world of make-believe. And no doubt, Berlin still has a certain attraction for visitors because the spirit of the people is unbroken. A first night, for instance, is still a general event, and not an isolated one for the interested few.

During my stay half a dozen stars returned from exile appeared at the same time on the stage. Only Leopoldine Konstantin in Hamburg was unlucky enough not to have the expected success, and had to stop her tour in Hugh Mills' "Strategy and Love." Curt Goetz and his wife Valerie von Martens have already played for over three months in his comedy "Haus in Montevideo," formerly called "Die tote Tante" when I went to see it. The little Renaissance-Theater was full, and people paid up to 12 Marks (One pound) to laugh about their own weaknesses, which are Goetz' target. After an absence of fifteen years Max Hansen appeared again in Berlin, and in the same part of "Leopold" in "Weisses Roessl" which he sang so often in the old days. This comedian has still the same pleasant personality, and seems to be ageless indeed. Ernst Deutsch acted "Robespierre" in "Danton's Tod" at the Hebbel-Theater impressively and wonderfully. And Else Heims, Max Reinhardt's first wife, started at the "Freie Volksbuehne" (formerly called "Theater am Kurfuerstendamm") in "Baeume sterben aufrecht."

In Hamburg we met "Senats-Presseschef" Lueth, who is fighting a lonely battle against the director Veit Harlan. Lueth is, of course, a non-Jew, and just lost his case in the Court of Appeal. By law he is not allowed to ask people to boycott the Harlan picture, but he did, and has to pay the cost of his case. It's unfortunate that all the publicity for Lueth's brave action acts as an incentive to curiosity. The same happened to Willy Forst's "Die Suenderin," which had censorship trouble and attracts the people although it is only a very mediocre film. Many people are going to the Eastern sector to buy more cheaply, but there are no newspapers to be had from one part of the divided city in the other. You never have the feeling that the Berliners are living on the verge of a volcano, and they are definitely not afraid—perhaps because most of the people have nothing to lose.

PEM.

Lehmann's contemporary the Hannoverian Superior Court Factor Leffmann Behrens (Lippmann Cohen) assisted his sovereign, the Duke, Ernest Augustus, to gain in 1699 the title and prestige of a German Elector. The Elector Ernest Augustus was the father of George I, King of England.

The list of the Court Jews of Brandenburg and Prussia is headed by Israel Aron (Geizvogel). He died in 1673 and his widow, Esther, a member of the Schulhoff family of Prague, married Jost Liebmann (Juda Berlin) who became Court Jeweller and, according to Glueckel of Hameln, the richest of all the Prussian Jews. After Jost's death in 1702 Esther, the so-called Liebmannin, a fascinating and domineering personality, inherited his position and influence at the Court of the luxury loving first Prussian King Frederick I.

In Cleve and in Berlin several members of the famous and widely scattered Gumperts (Gomperz) family rendered their services to the Electors of Brandenburg and the Kings of Prussia, whereas the Wulff family, refugees from Vilna, rose to important positions in Dessau as well as in Berlin.

(To be concluded next month)

FROM MY DIARY

The list of aliens who were naturalized in 1949 has now been published by H.M. Stationery Office. The booklet is considerably smaller than the two preceding volumes. Whilst there were 17,772 cases of naturalization in 1947 (each case also including the women and minor children) and 15,108 cases in 1948, there were only 9,592 naturalizations in 1949. This decrease is mainly due to the fact that those pre-war immigrants, who had come from Germany and Austria, had become British citizens during the first three post-war years.

Therefore, for the first time the list is not any longer headed by former German nationals, but by immigrants from Eastern Europe. The statistical abstract according to countries of origin reveals the following distribution: Poland 2,656 (instead of 1,780 in 1948), Germany 1,646 (against 4,438), Austria 1,299 (against 2,733), Russia 1,001 (against 1,176), Czechoslovakia 772 (against 1,348). In percentages the proportion is as follows: Poland 27 per cent. (against 12 per cent. in 1948), Germany 17 per cent. (against 30 per cent.), Austria 13 per cent. (against 11 per cent.), Russia 10 per cent. (against 8 per cent.), Czechoslovakia 9 per cent. (against 8 per cent.).

Amongst the persons who acquired British Citizenship in 1949 is Arthur Koestler (former nationality, Palestine).

The recently published memoirs of Konzertmeister Hermann Hock, "Ein Leben mit der Geige" (Waldemar Kramer, Frankfurt, to be ordered through English bookshops at 8/6) will be of special interest to readers from Frankfurt, who, in former days, were connected with the musical life of this town. As Konzertmeister of the Frankfurt Opera House and as founder of the "Hock Quartett" the author, who is now 80 years old, can draw on a wide experience. His book is full of vivid anecdotes and of many lively characterisations of people he has met in the course of his long career. The preface is written by Paul Hindemith, and in the epilogue Hermann Hock, whose own wife, Elisabeth Goldstern, was a Jewess, pays special tribute to his Jewish friends.

NARRATOR

IN PARLIAMENT

NATURALISATION FEES

The Home Secretary announced that after April 1 the fee for certificates of naturalisation will be £15 instead of £10, and that £2 instead of £1 will be payable on the submission of the application.

WAR CRIMES

On behalf of the Foreign Office, Mr. Hector Hughes reported that, in 1949, in the British Zone out of 564 sentences reviewed, recommendations for reduction of sentences were made in 107 cases.

Since that date a considerable number of war criminals have been released on expiry of sentence, and over the last eight months 27 have been released in the British zone on clemency grounds. About 230 remain and these will be the subject of a further general review this year. This review is expected to last several months, and no recommendations on individual cases have yet been made.

DEPORTATION ORDERS

In answer to a question by Mr. Geoffrey Cooper the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, stated that during the years 1946 to 1950 the courts recommended the deportation in 1,036 cases and in 617 of these deportation orders were made. In addition, 1,469 deportation orders were made in cases where there was no recommendation for deportation from a court. The total number of deportations during the past five years were as follows: 1946, 290; 1947, 221; 1948, 511; 1949, 537; 1950, 527 = total 2,086.

In answer to a further question by Mr. Cooper, whether the Home Secretary was aware of the growing concern at the number of investigations made by officials and police, and whether he was satisfied with the methods used by his department in dealing with these cases, Mr. Ede replied: I suppose that everything human is capable of improvement, but, so far as I know, the utmost care is being used in these cases, and I am satisfied that substantial justice is done.

Letter to the Editor

REVIEW OF GOLLANCZ'S ANTHOLOGY

Dear Sir,

Dr. Lichtigfeld is, of course, quite right stating that Mr. Gollancz and Maimonides cannot be compared as such. The latter was, undoubtedly, the greater man. His "Guide to the Perplexed" may be considered the greater work. All this I gladly concede. But this is not the point. I still maintain that Mr. Gollancz's anthology has a message for our time comparable to that of the old book, and that his task was even a more formidable one. Philosophical and moral guides do exist outside systems and codes and laws. A "mood," as Mr. Gollancz modestly and modestly called his anthology, was just the right thing. What we need in our times are more "Chassidische Geschichten" and fewer "Schulchan Aruchs." It is the disease of our time that the individual feels helpless outside laws and codes and systems. Hence the appeal and success of Marxism and Fascism. We must learn again to think for ourselves and to find our own way of conduct and behaviour. We have been endowed with the gift of differentiating between Good and Evil. The "literary," the "aesthetic" philosophers such as Plato and Nietzsche, Buber and Gollancz bring the wisdom home to us. So do Maimonides and Spinoza but in spite of their "systems," not because of them.

Yours, etc.,

Dr. Lutz Wellmann.

37 St. Stephen's Road, Ealing, W.13.

INVESTIGATIONS IN MUNICH

According to latest news the investigations of the Landesentscheidungsamt Munich are still going on. It is hoped that the work of the office may be resumed soon. The President of the office Dr. Philipp Auerbach, was arrested on March 10. He is suspected of having committed fraud and forgery of documents. At a meeting of the Christian Social Union in Ansbach the Bavarian Minister of Justice Mueller warned the audience of the danger that Dr. Auerbach's arrest might be abused for anti-Semitic generalisations. He stressed that the terms "D.P." and "Jew" must not be considered as identical.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 15th of the month.

Births

Selo.—A son (Louis Charles) was born on February 18, 1951, to Lore (née Gumpel), wife of Walter Selo, 41 Adolphus Road, London, N.4.

Fabian.—A son (Paul David) was born on March 8 to Mrs. Fabian (née Schmidt), wife of Mr. Fabian, 27 Portland Crescent East, Stanmore (grandson to Mrs. F. Schmidt, 55 Priory Road, London, N.W.6).

CLASSIFIED

Employment

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (annually licensed by the L.C.C.) has on its register men and women (skilled and unskilled), also homeworkers of any kind, sitters-in. Report vacancies esp. for book- and storekeepers. Tel. MAI 4449.

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EXP. DENTAL MECHANIC wants suitable position. Box 999.

EXP. STOREKEEPER wants similar work. Box 1000.

INTELLIGENT LADY, used to work on her own, wants suitable commercial part-time work. Box 995.

WANTED. Working-Housekeeper for bachelor business gentleman. Mid-April. Five-roomed house. Slough. References required. Apply, with full particulars, to Box 1003.

ADVERTISING AGENT wanted by Jewish monthly paper. Box 991.

CAPABLE LADY shorthand-typist for West end office wanted. Knowledge of German an advantage. Box No. 1005.

COMPANION HOUSEKEEPER, nursing experience, wants position, non-residential preferred. Box 1002.

Accommodation

ACCOMMODATION of any kind wanted. AJR Social Service Dept.

BED-SITTING ROOM wanted by elderly working couple near Swiss Cottage. Box 992.

SINGLE ROOM vacant, h. & c., All conven. Full or part board. Cont. cuisine. Large garden. Nr. Willesden Green Station.—WALLACH, 123 Dartmouth Road, N.W.2. Tel.: Gladstone 2107.

Miscellaneous

ALTERATIONS, Remodels. Dressmaker, Mrs. Cohn, now 130 King Henry's Road, N.W.3. Please write for appointment.

TO SELL—2 Trunks, size 43 x 21 x 17. Good condition.—Wolff, 29 Chandos Road, N.W.2.

ADVERTISER with two offices in West End of London is open to entertain sound propositions in Wholesale Agency or Import-Export; only fully experienced persons apply. Also small office with telephone to let. Box 994.

FOR SALE Belt Factory, old established, firstclass accounts, trained staff, small capital required, easy terms, excellent living for the right man. Apply Box 1004.

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YOUNG GIRL, Switzerland, wants to come over for 1 year into a kosher house. Fond of children. Must have an opportunity to improve her English. Box 997.

Personal

I AM LOOKING for a suitable Jewish partner for my sister, with view to marriage. My sister is a Jewish working girl, 30, tall, fair, good figure. (Refugee from Germany, 1939.) She is a very decent, sincere, home-loving and affectionate girl and is modest. Please write in full confidence to Box No. 993.

LONELY MAN (50) desires to marry. Widow with business considered. Box 989.

AJR RELIEF DEPARTMENT

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Mayer, Anneliese, née Kraft, born 22.10.19, for lawyer in Berlin.

Koerbel, Edith, born in Vienna 1898, for Jewish Community Hamburg.

Anders, Rudolf, formerly lawyer in Berlin, for friend in Los Angeles.

Schlesinger, L., and Greenbaum, Mrs. F., Dental Surgeons, for Continental Dental Society.

Enquiries from HIAS

1 Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London, W.1

Steinbock, Paula, emigrated to England in 1939 from Italy, for Ursula Tenenbaum, Italy.

Lazar, Herta, formerly Vienna, about 32 years of age, for William Suchman, New York.

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AJR AT WORK

AJR GENERAL MEETING

As readers may see from the announcement on the front page, the Annual General Meeting of the AJR will take place on Monday, April 16th, at 7.45 p.m., at 1 Broadhurst Gardens, London, N.W.6. The following candidates are proposed as members of the Executive and Board:—

Executive: A. Schoyer (Chairman), Dr. H. Reichmann (Vice-Chairman), M. Pottlitzer (Hon. Treasurer), Dr. H. Capell (Trustee), P. Goldschmidt (Trustee), Dr. E. G. Lowenthal (Trustee), W. M. Behr, Dr. R. Bienenfeld, Dr. H. J. Feist, A. Horowitz, L. Ullmann, A. Wechsler, Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary).

Board: Dr. P. Abel, Rabbi Dr. A. Altmann, Rabbi Dr. M. L. Bamberger, Dr. M. Bergenthal, Dr. H. Berlak, Dr. W. Berlin, K. Bernstein, Dr. W. Breslauer, Rabbi I. Broch, Rabbi C. E. Cassell, S. Demuth, A. Dresel, Dr. F. R. Engel, J. Erlanger, Rabbi Dr. M. Eschelbacher, Dr. F. E. Falk, Dr. G. Fein, S. Felsenstein, A. Feuchtwanger, K. Friedlander, Dr. R. Fuchs, F. Godfrey, Dr. F. Goldschmidt, E. Gould, Mrs. Gertrude Hamburg, E. Haymann, A. Heller, Dr. C. C. Itzig, A. Kaufmann, H. H. Kochmann, L. Kritzler, Dr. H. W. Kugelmann, F. G. Lennhoff, H. Littauer, J. Loewenthal, Dr. F. Mann, E. Marx, Rabbi Dr. J. Maybaum, P. Y. Mayer, Mrs. A. Minden, Dr. E. Norton, H. Pels, Mrs. H. Philipp, E. Plaut, Dr. Eva Reichmann, A. Reimann, J. Sachs, Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, R. Schneider, H. Schwab, E. Speyer, Benno Stern, Dr. A. Straus, Dr. H. Tauber, Dr. H. J. Turkheim, Rabbi Dr. D. A. Winter, William Wolf, B. Woyda, Rabbi Dr. W. van der Zyl; furthermore representatives of the affiliated organisations and of the local groups.

ADMINISTRATION OF REAL ESTATES IN BERLIN

As already mentioned in the February issue of AJR Information, the Board of the Berlin Jewish Community has appealed to former German Jews to appoint whenever possible members of the Jewish Community as administrators of their real property in Berlin. A list of Jewish administrators may be obtained from URO, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3, stamped envelope to be enclosed.

AJR FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A very well attended Meeting of the AJR Friendship Club took place on March 18 at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue. In April the first meeting will take place on April 8, at 7 p.m. at Zion House; a brief talk on impressions of a journey to Israel will be given. The second April meeting will take place on April 29 (not 22) at 7 p.m.

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

During the past month we received more offers than before, but we have still to place:

Men: Bookkeepers, storekeepers, clerks, factoryworkers, homeworkers.

Women: Shorthand-typists, clerks, daily cooks, finishers, linen-repairers, sitters-in.

Hardship Cases

Partially blind man, 55, wants assembling work. Exp. in eng. assembling.

Paralysed lady, exp. shorthd. typist, German, English, French, wants suitable work.

Clerk, female, no longer able to do typing work, wants gen. clerical work, esp. ledger-work and filing.

AJR BOARD MEETING

A Board Meeting of the AJR took place on Sunday, March 18, at 1 Broadhurst Gardens. Reports were given by Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary), Dr. A. Levy (Head of the Social Services Department) and Dr. F. Goldschmidt (Joint Secretary of the United Restitution Office). In the course of a lively discussion it was realised that the important work, especially in the field of social services, faces the AJR with ever-increasing liabilities, and a number of most valuable suggestions were brought forward. Dr. H. J. Feist was in the chair.

SEDER NIGHTS

Families, who could invite single persons for one or the two Seder nights—with or without refund of expenses—should kindly inform the AJR. Tel. MAI 4449.

THE HYPHEN

For details and particulars of activities write to the Hon. Secretary, Miss Margot Fuld, 2 Exeter Road, N.W.2, enclosing s.a.e.

PERSONALIA

Dr. Ernst Feder, the well-known editor, author and lawyer, recently attained the age of 70. From 1919 to 1933 he was Chief Editor for Home Affairs of the "Berliner Tageblatt." He also took a prominent part in the work of the German Democratic Party and of the PEN Club, was a Permanent Judge at the Court of Honour of Journalism in the Hague and Chairman of the Federal Union of the German Press. He left Germany in 1933, and first went to Paris where he was lecturer at the Sorbonne. He now lives in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Dr. Feder is the biographer of Theodor Barth, Hugo Preuss and Paul Nathan, and also author of many monographs and essays on legal, political and historical subjects. He now works on a biography of Stefan Zweig.

Dr. Helen Rosenau has been appointed assistant lecturer in the History of Art at the University of Manchester. In this capacity she will take a decisive part in the building up of the newly established Art Department of the University, a task for which she has been considered particularly qualified due to her Continental experience and her achievements as an author and lecturer in this country. Dr. Rosenau has been closely connected with the AJR for many years and also frequently contributed to "AJR Information."

The Architect **Dr. H. J. Reifenberg** has been commissioned to design the Pavilion for Power and Production of the Festival of Britain Exhibition.

Hugo Heimann, the well-known Social Democratic politician, died in U.S.A. at the age of 91. He was made a Freeman of the City of Berlin in 1926, an honour which was conferred on him anew in 1947.

Rabbi Dr. D. S. Margules died in Cambridge at the age of 67. For many years he was Rabbi at Salzburg. He took an active interest in the work of the AJR in Cambridge.

Gusti Hecht died in Johannesburg, South Africa. She was a very gifted and versatile journalist, architect and editor. Until 1933 she was associated with the illustrated supplements of the *Berliner Tageblatt*. Afterwards she wrote for Jewish papers, especially for the *C. V. Zeitung*.

AJR GENERAL MEETING
Monday, April 16, at 7.45 p.m., at 1 Broadhurst Gardens, London, N.W.6. (See announcement on front page.)

AJR FRIENDSHIP CLUB
Meetings in April at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, on Sunday, April 8 and April 29 (not 22) at 7 p.m.

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