

# AJR INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE  
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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## ZION AND THE DIASPORA

An Appraisal of the 23rd Zionist Congress

The customary question "Has it been a good Congress?" can at least be answered: it has been a different Congress. Different not only as to its venue, the capital city of the State of Israel. For this fact, revolutionary and elating, had imprinted its stamp on all speeches, discussions, arguments and resolutions and put the problem which this highest authority of the Zionist Movement tried to solve—namely the relation between Zion and the Diaspora. The debate, free from the fetters of political and tactical manoeuvring which marred so many of the previous Congresses, returned to the fundamental principles of Zionism. The Israelis demanded that a Zionist should personally realise his idea by aliyah and applied this specially to the Zionist leadership; they urged a chalutzic orientation of Jewish youth in the western hemisphere and unconditional support of the State of Israel by the Zionist Organisation. The Americans maintained that America is not Galut—exile, but Diaspora—dispersion. For, they say, a country cannot be exile from which one is free to depart and where one stays voluntarily. They decidedly denounced the pogrom

### OUR COMMON WAY

THE High Festivals are bound to make us think in wider spaces of time. We remember how we spent these holy days in our former home towns. We realise that our outlook has changed since, but we also know that the heritage of several generations has left its mark on us once and for all. Therefore, our common past is bound to create common problems and common tasks.

This issue reveals again that we have to safeguard our interests in questions of restitution and compensation, and "post-restitution" problems, such as transfer and double taxation, are coming more and more into the foreground. By taking up these and many other questions and by reporting on current developments in "AJR Information," the AJR renders its services to every member of the community whatever his personal position may be. The efforts of securing an adequate share in the heirless, unclaimed and communal German Jewish property for the needs of emigrated Jews present another urgent task.

With the help of those who have built up their lives anew in this country we also have to look after the less fortunate ones in our midst.

If, as before, all our friends strengthen the organisation which works on their behalf, and if they readily respond to the appeal attached to this issue, they will not only give us practical assistance but also encourage us in the performance of our widespread duties.

propaganda "It can happen here," which implies that what occurred in Germany yesterday, might happen to-morrow in America and other western countries, and they warned Congress that this approach would not find an echo with the Jewries of the English-speaking world and the total negation of the Diaspora would alienate them from Zionism. They agreed on the necessity of immigration of Anglo-Saxon Jews into Israel. But they doubted whether it would assume great proportions.

This bi-polarity was most pronounced in the sharp encounter between Mr. Eliahu Dobkin of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem, and Mrs. R. Halperin, leader of American Hadassah on the problem of Halutzit. Mrs. Halperin thought that the principle of equality was led *ad absurdum*, by treating in the same manner Jewish youth from California and immigrants from the Yemen whose ways of life were lagging centuries behind.

### Viewpoints Unreconciled

The Committees in drafting the resolutions arrived at many compromises, which reflect more the good will for common work than a genuine concert of opinions. The opposite viewpoints remained unreconciled. Altogether resolutions do not solve problems, but only tactical difficulties. Perhaps the greatest achievement of the 23rd Congress lay in its attempt to show up courageously the new problems in Jewish life which have arisen through the establishment of the State and to ask the pertinent questions even if it could not find the answers.

While the great principles which were at stake reminded of the early days of Zionism when Herzl, Nordau, Shmaryahu Levin and Motzkin traversed the whole ambit of the Jewish question, the Jerusalem Congress sadly lacked a towering personality. For the first time since 1896, Chaim Weizmann was absent; he had sent a message of welcome but neither his state of health nor his office of President of the State allowed for his active participation. Berl Locker argued that there should be no President of the Zionist Organisation with Dr. Weizmann at the helm of the State, which only added to the confusion as to functions of the State and the Movement. No doubt, it was more the lack of a central personality which left the Zionist Organisation without an elected leader. Ben Gurion held one of the opening speeches, but again, as Premier of the

Leo Baeck :

### ROSH HASHANAH 5712

Seldom has the Jewish people enjoyed firm security, but remaining Jewish has always held its own certainty. One has called us prudent realists, and often indeed necessity has forced us to be the first to see things as they are. But together it is our strong Jewish faith that, as the Bible puts it, we are "borne and carried," "borne by God on eagle's wings," that "underneath are the everlasting arms."

Such is the nature of this people: having both feet on the ground, and yet resting assured that they are "borne." This is the mystery of their historic character, of their vigour as well as of their buoyancy. They are the believing realists. Often some unbeliever here in the care of his substance is more believing than many a believer elsewhere. Out of the depth of their faith they would even dispute with their God.

Thus both are emphasised here: the day 'midst the year, and the year above the days, each particular in life, and the wholeness of life. And this is the meaning of our New Year: to teach us never to confide in the days and never to despair of the years, to look for the new road, and to hold the old ground, and at the same time to believe in our being borne by our God.

Having had such faith year by year we sincerely pray that God may renew unto us another happy year.

Government, he could not partake in the actual "business." There were a number of remarkable lectures but none of the firing, powerful speeches of the former days. Dr. Goldmann exercised his office as Congress President with tact and correctness, but, alas, the genius of his predecessors did not radiate from the Chair. Perhaps the most eagerly awaited contribution to the debate was that by Dr. Silver, but here again, although a formal masterpiece, it did not transcend the limits of the merely interesting.

A number of practical issues were nevertheless clarified, such as the structure of the National Funds, the position of the Zionist Movement versus the Government of Israel, the establishment of National Organisations in various countries, etc. Perhaps the most decisive step forward was not so much the formulation of programmes nor the acceptance of this or the other resolution, but the unanimous agreement of the delegates—that the Zionist Movement has still many tasks to master and that it needs a strong and powerful organisation, to the weal of Israel and the whole of the Jewish people.

# RESTITUTION NEWS

## UMSTELLUNGSGESETZ AND UNITED NATIONS NATIONALS

As reported in the August issue of "AJR Information," the terms "United Nations" and "United Nations Nationals" were re-defined by Law No. 54 and No. 55 of May 31, 1951 (Official Gazette No. 56, June 7, 1951); *inter alia*, the decisive date for the possession of an Allied nationality was changed.

When publishing this announcement, "AJR Information" added that the new laws would affect the legal position of refugees who were naturalised between May 8, 1945, and June 27, 1948, with regard to the Equalization of Burden Levies (Lastenausgleich) and the Immediate Aid Tax (Soforthilfeabgabe). This interpretation was supported by an article of Oberregierungsrat Juergen von Koeller, published in the "Bundesanzeiger," No. 127 of July 5, 1951, which expressly states that the purpose of Law No. 54 and No. 55 could only be achieved if the new definitions were applied not only to Allied laws but also German laws, e.g. the "Soforthilfegesetz."

According to communications which, meanwhile, the United Restitution Office has received from several claimants, some "Finanzaemter" in Germany seem to take a different attitude. It will be necessary to wait for further developments about which readers will be informed.

As far as the uncontroversial effect of the re-definition on the Conversion Laws (Umstellungsgesetze) is concerned, it must be kept in mind that the privilege of United Nations Nationals does not refer to bank accounts but only to other R.M. obligations. Bank accounts, also of United Nationals, are converted at the rate of 6.5 per cent in the Federal Republic and 5 per cent in Berlin.

## EMERGENCY PAYMENTS TO EMIGRATED OFFICIALS

Whilst a law settling the claims of emigrated officials and public employees is still in preparation, support may be granted already now in cases where the official lives in circumstances so destitute that even by most modest standards he can not maintain himself and his family. The applicant must have been in the service of the "Reich" or another territorial authority ("Gebietskörperschaft") inside the German territory of December 31, 1937. The application has to be submitted to the German Consulate General, 6 Rutland Gate, London, S.W.7; forms may be obtained from the United Restitution Office.

## TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

According to a recent instruction of the "Bank Deutscher Laender," payments of travel allowances from blocked accounts are limited to the period of the actual stay of the traveller in Western Germany and Western Berlin. If the stay stretches over a longer period, the allowance is not to be paid in advance for the whole period, but in adequate instalments, each of which should cover not more than ten days.

## CONVERSION OF REICHSMARK

The time limit for the submission of applications to banks in Berlin for the conversion of pre-capitulation Reichsmark balances into Western Berlin marks has been extended to March 31, 1952.

## "I.G. FARBEN" SHARES

According to the "Board of Trade Journal" of August 25, 1951, shareholders of I.G. Farbenindustrie have to register their shareholdings and "claimed shares." The registration forms which may be obtained from bankers in the United Kingdom have to be sent in duplicate to the Tripartite I.G. Farben Control Group, Secretariat, Registration Office for Stockholders, Mainzer Landstrasse 28, Frankfurt (Main). Completed forms should reach the Registration Office before November 3, 1951, for shareholders inside Germany and before January 3, 1952, for those outside Germany.

## NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA REFUSES COMPENSATION TO EMIGRATED JEWS

The Government of Northrhine-Westphalia has presented to the Diet (Landtag) the draft of an Indemnification Law which excludes from indemnification Nazi victims who are living outside Germany. The "Council of Jews from Germany" has lodged a protest to the Prime Minister of Northrhine-Westphalia and has also brought the matter before the British authorities. It has pointed out that the proposed law stands in contrast to the legislation of the "Laender" in the American and French Zone and of Berlin. A law which ignores the fact that the overwhelming majority of the surviving Jewish victims was forced to leave Germany cannot claim to be termed an indemnification law for victims of Nazism. A protest against the spirit and the contents of the draft has also been lodged by the "Landesverband" of Jewish communities of Northrhine-Westphalia.

The proposed exclusion of emigrated Jews cannot even be justified by fiscal considerations. On the strength of existing laws the "Land" Northrhine Westphalia has already been able to pay more than 170 million D.M. to certain categories of Nazi victims who are resident in the "Land"; it should therefore also be possible to allocate means for the expelled Jews, many of whom are of an advanced age and in dire need.

The "Council of Jews from Germany" and the AJR will do everything in their power to safeguard the interests of the emigrated Jews in this matter.

## RELATED CLAIMS IN BRITISH ZONE

The Jewish Trust Corporation for the British Zone has passed a resolution which enables individual claimants who have not submitted their restitution claims in time to obtain in whole or in part from the Jewish Trust Corporation property now recovered by that Corporation as unclaimed property or compensation in lieu. Claims may be submitted to the Jewish Trust Corporation (Prien Building, Alstereck, Jungfernstieg, Hamburg 36) by the original owners or their testamentary heirs or their near relatives, provided they have omitted through inadvertence or other good and sufficient reason to lodge the claim within the time limit laid down therefor. The Corporation is entitled to make a charge for its services in recovering, administering and distributing such property or compensation in lieu of such property. Near relatives in the meaning of this resolution are the original owner's spouse, parent, child, grand-parent, grand-child, brother, sister and their spouses respectively.

## Dr. BAECK VISITS GERMANY

Dr. Leo Baeck recently paid a visit to Germany. A reception given in his honour by Rabbi Levinson (Berlin) was attended by the representative of the Federal Government, Dr. Vockel, the acting Berlin Mayor Dr. Schreiber, Bishop Dibelius, Probst Grueber and Pfarrer Tomberge. At the Friday evening service in the Pestalozzi Strasse Synagogue Dr. Baeck delivered the sermon. He also took part in the session of the "Zentralrat" of German Jews. Before returning to England, Dr. Baeck followed an invitation of Bundespräsident Heuss, with whom he had a long conversation.

The historical importance of Dr. Baeck's first visit to Berlin was felt by non-Jews and Jews alike. Political and religious leaders welcomed the opportunity of meeting the representative figure of German Jewry. In the deliberations of the "Zentralrat," Dr. Baeck's guidance was considered an invaluable asset. At the same time, the visit of Dr. Baeck, who is the President of the "Council of Jews from Germany," has strengthened the relationship between German Jews inside and outside Germany.

## MEETING OF THE "ZENTRALRAT"

At the meeting of the "Zentralrat" of German Jews, which took place in Berlin on August 19 and 20, 1951, in the presence of Dr. Leo Baeck, the General Secretary of the "Zentralrat," Dr. H. G. van Dam, submitted a comprehensive report. It is a fine record of the manifold activities of this

## BERLIN COMPENSATION LAW

### Amendment and Implementary Order

The Second Amendment of the Berlin Indemnification Law of August 10, 1951, contains several important new clauses. It makes clear, *inter alia*, that the term "Gross-Berlin" refers to all sectors of the city. Therefore, all persons who emigrated before January 1, 1947, may submit their claims, if they had their last residence in "Gross-Berlin."

The Amendment also re-defines the term "illegally hiding," which entitles to a claim for loss of freedom. It now applies to all cases in which people had to go underground because their life, health or personal freedom was in danger.

Furthermore, the Amendment authorises the Indemnification Office (Entschadigungsbehoerde) to decide about the title of heredity (Erbrecht). Whilst, as a rule, claims for loss of freedom are hereditary, they may now be submitted by the next-of-kin of a persecutee who has died on February 9, 1951. A transfer of claim for loss of freedom is now permitted.

The Implementary Order states that claimants outside Germany have to submit their claims in triplicate; the forms are available at the United Restitution Office, 8 Fairfax Mansions, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3 (6d. and stamped envelope). The time limit is also kept if an informal written application is submitted or if the claim had already been lodged with the "Treuhaender" as a restitution claim.

Every claimant abroad must have a "Zustellungsbevollmaechtigten" in Western Berlin of the Federal Republic.

The Compensation Office in Berlin registers claims and sends acknowledgments to the claimants. The Implementary Order also states that difficulties arising for claimants through loss of evidence should be taken into account.

### Compensation for Loss of Freedom

According to the Berlin Compensation Law ("Strafhaft") can only be granted after judgment of the Criminal Court has been cancelled or altered according to the laws about the removal of National Socialist injustice. Such a law was issued for Berlin on January 12, 1951. It refers to sentences which were pronounced by a Berlin Court and to alleged crimes which were committed in Berlin or by persons who had their domicile in Berlin on January 12, 1951.

The application for the cancellation of judgment has to be submitted to the Landgericht Berlin (Berlin-Charl., Tegeler Weg 17/20). The time limit for submitting the application expires on January 12, 1952.

one-year-old central representation of the Jewish community in Germany. The "Zentralrat" has succeeded in establishing close contacts with the authorities and organisations inside and outside Germany. In the question of restitution, where many negotiations have taken place, the report stresses that it has always been the policy of the "Zentralrat" to return against any legislation which tended to exclude emigrated Jews.

A communiqué which summarises the reports of the discussions of the "Zentralrat" session expressed the anxiety about the return of former Nazis to political key positions and protests against the attempt of abusing the pending proceedings against the Auerbach (Munich) for attacks against the Jewish ideas of restitution and compensation. The meeting also decided to establish a "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle" of the Jewish communities and appointed a Committee, consisting of Messrs. M. Bernson, Dr. E. G. Lowenthal and Rabbi Dr. Neufeld, for the preservation of historical documents.

Finally the "Zentralrat" expressed its thanks to Mr. Norbert Wollheim, member of the "Dachau Internationales Institut," who is now leaving for the United States. Since his return from Auschwitz, Norbert Wollheim has been one of the most active leaders of the Jews in Germany. It was one of his tasks to strengthen the contacts with the Jewish organisations abroad. In this capacity he was in permanent touch with the AJR and the "Council of Jews from Germany," both of which wish him all the best in his new start.

G. Warburg:

# Refugee Convention

During July, 1951, a Conference of Government plenipotentiaries met at Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations to complete and sign a convention on the status of refugees and a protocol on the status of stateless persons. The convention was eventually completed and signed, the protocol, however, was referred back to the Economic and Social Council for further study.

When it became clear that IRO would cease to exist, the Economic and Social Council appointed an *ad hoc* Committee of thirteen to draw up a convention to define the status of refugees. This *ad hoc* Committee met twice in 1950 and prepared a draft which on the whole was a satisfactory document of genuinely liberal spirit. It laid down the rights refugees should enjoy in the country of refuge, such as right of access to courts, right to work, to own property, right to education, housing, etc. In some cases refugees were to be treated like nationals, in others like the most favoured foreigners, in others like foreigners in the same circumstances. Furthermore, the draft provided for certain administrative safeguards with regard to papers and documents, including travel documents. Then there were political clauses: non-discrimination on grounds of race, religion, nationality, safeguards against expulsion, parti-

cularly against expulsion to a country of persecution, exemption from special measures adopted against citizens of the state whose nationality the refugee still possessed in a technical sense but not in practice. Under this clause, for instance, Jewish refugees from Germany would not have been subjected automatically to measures taken against German nationals. Then there was the most difficult first article defining who was to be regarded as a refugee under this convention.

Twenty-five Governments were represented at the Conference, although all member-states of UN and most non-member states had been invited. The European states this side of the Iron Curtain were represented almost completely, the only exceptions being Spain, Portugal, Eire and Iceland; but only a few non-European countries were represented: five from the Western Hemisphere (U.S.A., Canada, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela), three from the Middle East (Israel, Iraq, Egypt), and Australia.

## Security before Help

As stated above the draft prepared by the *ad hoc* Committee was fairly satisfactory, but as since 1950 the political climate in the world has deteriorated, the states have become even more security-minded. This became very evident during the Conference. Almost every article had some sentence added which provided for exceptions if required in the interest of state security. Even the article prohibiting expulsion of a refugee to a country of persecution was modified by such a clause, although, thanks to the British delegate, it was defined so carefully that only criminals who are a real menace could be subjected to such expulsion. Still, although no one voted against this addition, three delegates as a matter of principle abstained, a strange triumvirate: Israel, the Vatican and Yugoslavia. The representative of the Voluntary Agencies and the Protestant Churches, when addressing the Conference told them bluntly that an outside observer would gain the impression as if the Conference had been convoked in order to defend the poor sovereign states against the all-powerful wicked refugees, who were spies, political agents, currency smugglers and black marketeers.

During the Conference it became evident that two definite groups were present, one progressive and humanitarian, trying to help the refugees without forgetting of course the essential needs of their states; the other thinking only of security and of their states and forgetting the refugees. For a British Jew it was pleasing to note that the acknowledged leaders of the first group where the delegates of Great Britain (Mr. S. Hoare, of the Home Office, the best type of British Civil Servant) and of Israel (Dr. Jacob Robinson, a brilliant lawyer and draftsman), always supported by the delegate of Canada, and often by the Vatican, Germany and Yugoslavia. The restrictive section was led by France, usually supported by Sweden, Norway, Egypt and Colombia.

The non-Governmental organisations (particularly the Jewish and Catholic ones) took an active interest in the Conference. Three of the Jewish organisations (Consultative Council, Co-ordinating Board and World Jewish Congress) were represented throughout. The representative of the Consultative Council made an important and impressive statement—also in the names of the two other Jewish organisations—against a German attempt to have all reference to the London Charter on War Crimes expunged. Under the first article it was provided that war criminals under the London Charter were not to be regarded as refugees. Germany was prepared to accept the substance but wanted the words "London Charter" omitted. They got their way to a certain extent, when an ingenious formula, submitted by Britain, was accepted (only Israel voting against) which refers to the London Charter without mentioning the words. The Co-ordinating Board was particularly concerned about an ambiguous phrase in the first article, which could have made it possible to deprive German or Austrian Jews of the refugee status if they refused to return to Germany or Austria after persecution had ceased. This matter was taken up by Israel and a more satisfactory text unanimously adopted, one of the few improvements of the draft.

## RABBI MANASSEH ON THE B.B.C.

Feature programmes are among the best original contributions which the BBC has made to broadcasting. "Spes Israelis," which was broadcast on September 9 and 12 in the Third Programme, was fully up to the high standard to which we are now accustomed in this particular field. It was an account, mostly from contemporary writings and speeches, of the re-admission of the Jews to England by Cromwell.

We heard out of Cromwell's own mouth that he wanted the Jews to come to England for purely practical reasons: they were among his main intelligence agents in the Spanish wars, and he wanted England to benefit of their trade. Certain religious cranks supported him, and Rabbi Manasseh ben Israel from Amsterdam was kept by Cromwell for many years in a house in the Strand from where he wrote pamphlets and books to strengthen Cromwell's case. Yet all the rest of the country were opposed to the plan. The clergy objected to what they feared would be a pollution of the Christian faith, the merchants were afraid ("If the Jews are as miserable as you make out, why do you fear them?" Cromwell aptly asked), the judges at best were neutral, declaring that they could find no law definitely barring Jews from entry, the people in general were stirred up by anti-Jewish pamphlets, some of which have a familiar ring about them.

In the event, Cromwell was quite unable to overcome this opposition, and it will have come as a surprise to many of us to learn that the portrait Rembrandt painted of Rabbi Manasseh after his return to Holland was that of a disappointed man who thought he had failed, and who was to die only a few months later.

Re-admission finally became fact, in typical English fashion, without any decision of principle, but through a series of almost accidental developments. There had been a colony of Marannos in London, who had been forced to keep up appearances by attending Chapel in the house of the Spanish Ambassador in London. When the Spanish War broke out, they suffered certain disabilities due to their nationality, which had by then become as much of a burden to them as the German nationality was to become to some of their successors in this country. After some agitation they were at last recognised as Jews, as distinct from Spaniards, and thus Jews suddenly lived in this country without anyone having had to take the momentous decision of re-admitting them.

The author of this programme acknowledges his debt to Lucien Wolf, who first assembled the data "Rabbi Manasseh ben Israel's Mission to Oliver Cromwell," and among the excellent cast who made his slice of history come to life we are especially indebted to Laidman Browne (Cromwell) and John Slater (the Rabbi).

K. A.

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### The Clergy

A Minister of 30 years' experience recently wrote about "the annoyances and vexations a Minister suffers as a result of the commercial policies of commercially-minded boards of management and committees, with their emphasis on the member, like the customer, being always right, and their stress on finance rather than religion."

This was not a capricious plaint improperly generalising. Many Ministers during the last few years left this country for precisely these reasons. Some felt that the Ministry in the United Synagogue has degenerated, that Ministers are regarded by the all-powerful Wardens as employees who have to carry out orders according to mechanical regulations, whereas, they say, Ministers ought and desire to be free men with opportunities to exercise their duty and initiative independently. The Minister is, for example, forbidden to represent his synagogue on extra-synagogal bodies. He cannot even represent it on the Board of Deputies, or—a still more obnoxious disability—on the Council of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education. He is in effect denied the right to take part in shaping the Community's educational policy.

### Salaries

Others again feel strongly that finance makes it impossible for them to live in accordance with the elementary decencies and dignities commonly associated with their office. They often are forced to supplement income by gifts of one kind or another, a predicament which many consider too humiliating to endure.

Actually the average Minister's salary to-day is under rather than over £1,000 per annum. The Leicester Hebrew Congregation recently advertised a superannuable post for £750-£1,000, and the Ilford Synagogue offered £725, rising to £825. At Streatham the salary is to be £550, and a Chazan-Shochet at Sunderland will receive £726. (By contrast, North Rhodesia and Hong Kong are prepared to pay at once £1,200, which includes a rent-free furnished house and a car.) Similarly, teachers of the London Board of Education receive, in the highest grade, £425, rising to a maximum of £575; in the lowest grade from £300 to £400—a salary which has been described as that of a child-minder rather than that of a teacher. The United Synagogue not long ago increased its scales by approximately 10 per cent plus a 10 per cent temporary cost-of-living bonus; pension benefits also were improved and a family allowance will be given for each child.

### Fighting for Their Rights

If it be any comfort, Jewish Ministers must be thankful to know that at least they are on the whole better off than their Christian colleagues, whose average earnings are rather less than £9 a week. In towns full-time employment is not unheard of among the wives of canons and archdeacons, let alone among those of ordinary clergy.

But the root of the evil is not the poor money but the Minister's poor status, and it would be worth examining whether it is for this reason that the profession fails to attract sufficient recruits.

Jewish Ministers at all events will have to fend for themselves to secure the rights and dignities which are their due. They have begun to organise themselves in London as a group to be recognised and reckoned with by the Hon. Officers of the United Synagogue. These efforts will have the support of such of their professional organisations as already exist, e.g. the Conference of Anglo-Jewish Preachers which is held, under the presidency of the Chief Rabbi, every other year and met for the ninth time last May.

C. C. A.

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ENQUIRIES INVITED

## Dr. Ernst Feder (Rio de Janeiro): REMINISCENCES OF JAMES SIMON (Born September 17, 1851)

A special significance attached to the name of James Simon in the Germany of before 1933. He was known as a business man, a benefactor of art, a citizen of exemplary social sense, an organiser of practical social aid.

He developed the cotton business, founded by his father and uncle in Berlin in 1857, until it achieved world fame, and there was a time when "Gebrueder Simon" was the biggest taxpayer in Berlin, ranking even higher than the Deutsche Bank. The importance of the firm did not only derive from its size: it also embodied the old Hanseatic conception of the "honourable merchant."

His art appreciation and patronage were of a singular kind. In his social contact with Wilhelm von Bode and other art experts, he became himself a first-rate connoisseur to whom directors of museums talked as one colleague to another. Whenever he bought something on his own account he had in the back of his mind the gift of the object to a Berlin museum. For some time he enjoyed it in his own home and then he would make a presentation of it; the lower floor of his house at 15a Tiergartenstrasse was converted into a picture gallery which he had always intended to present to the nation, and which he in fact immediately donated, when the inflation and the economic crisis deprived him of most of his wealth and forced him to sell his house. The "Kabinette James Simon" were one of the highlights of the Berlin museums.

The extraordinary collections of the Near Eastern and Egyptian departments, which attained world fame (we recall for instance the Processional Road of Babylon and the Tel-el-Amarna sculptures), would have been impossible without his generous patronage.

The foundation of the German Orient Company which organised these extensive excavations and which often held its discussions in his offices in the

Klosterstrasse, was due to his initiative. It was important for its development that Simon knew how to interest the Kaiser for the company. He did not care personally about the favour of the Court. Titles and decorations, longed for by most in Imperial Germany, and offered to him repeatedly, were refused by him. He was glad, however, of his Hon. Doctor bestowed by Berlin University.

Two utterances illustrate his friendly relationship with Wilhelm II. Simon said, "The Kaiser treated me like an elder brother," and Wilhelm II once remarked, "Every time I have met Herr Simon I have learnt something from him."

He interested the Kaiser from time to time in Jewish matters. When he invited him to visit the new Fasanenstrasse synagogue, Wilhelm II asked, "What will the people say about me going to Jewish institutions so often?" James Simon replied, "Perhaps the rabbis will believe that your Majesty has the intention to adopt Judaism." Whereupon the Kaiser retorted laughingly, "I didn't know that those gentlemen had pushed their expectations that high!"

James Simon presented his home town of Berlin with valuable social institutions: he created the first public baths and founded the exemplary Berlin Holiday Colonies. Every enterprise and every collection to which he lent his name received the stamp of respectability and worthiness.

### Founder of Hilfsverein

In 1901 he founded, together with his friend Paul Nathan, the Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden, which he led from its foundation to the last day of his life, and which assisted the Jews of Eastern Europe materially and morally through the establishment of schools and of a planned system of emigration.

Wherever the need arose, James Simon helped without regard to religious or ideological differences,

## LAW and LIFE

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

### JOINT ACCOUNTS

Very frequently two or more persons open a joint account with a bank. For a husband and wife to have a joint account is a common occurrence; joint accounts of other relatives, friends or business associates are also frequent.

Whether cheques from such joint account can be drawn together only by all the parties in whose names the account stands or by each of them separately can be arranged at will, and arrangements under which each holder may draw cheques have been found to be very convenient.

If one of the owners of such joint account dies the principle of "seniorship" operates. According to that legal principle property held by two or more persons jointly becomes property of the survivor or survivors, independently of the question who is the successor-in-title of the deceased holder under the general rules of the law of succession. Accordingly the banker is justified, in case of death, in allowing the survivor to draw any balance standing to the joint account.

This rule, however, is subject to a very important qualification in the most important and most common instance of a joint account, namely, where the holders are husband and wife. In that case the object with which the account was opened has to be considered. In the leading case, for instance, decided in 1815, it was held that the transfer of the account originally held by the husband in his and his wife's joint names was not intended to be a provision in favour of the wife, but merely a mode of conveniently managing her husband's affairs, and consequently that the account did not belong to the wife, but was part of her husband's estate. In another case, decided in 1920, the judge came to the opposite result after examining the facts. He said: "It is difficult here to find any motive for transferring the account from the husband's name into the joint names except that the wife should take the money if she survived her husband."

Under these circumstances it is advisable for husband and wife who are holders of a joint account to make it clear to their bank that the survivor

may draw freely from the account. This can be done without prejudice to the question whether and to what extent the survivor or the estate of the deceased or partly the one and partly the other shall be entitled in relation to one another. It is equally advisable to give directions on that question in the last wills both the husband and wife should make in any case if there is an appreciable estate to be expected; this advice applies to cases of joint ownership generally, not of husband and wife only and not only if referring to bank accounts. Obviously the joint owners may be quite unaware of the principle of survivorship and may wish to dispose of the funds in a different way. Furthermore the law has developed various legal presumptions, in favour of a wife—but not of a husband—of a legitimate child, etc., which modifies the mentioned principle. Again the parties concerned may be quite unaware of these legal presumptions. Thus it is better that they make matters clear themselves in good time.

Most recently a case concerning joint banking accounts of husband and wife was decided when both were alive but got divorced and started quarrelling about the funds. In that case, in 1941, the husband, who was about to go on service overseas authorised his wife to draw on his bank account. Thereafter the account was operated as a joint account in that both parties drew on it for their requirements, while both paid their earnings and income into it. In this case the Court came to the result that another legal principle, "the principle of equality," ought to be applied and that the wife was entitled to one half of the final balance and one half of the value of the investments existing at the date when the account was closed. The judge rightly remarked that when there is a joint account between husband and wife, it is not consistent with that conception that the account should be picked apart and divided up proportionately to the respective contributions of the spouses. This decision, patently just in the case in question, may, however, easily be subject to modifications if circumstances are different.

with his wealth, with his person, and with the example he set.

He made the act of giving beautiful. He gave in a manner which almost made him appear as if he had been receiving the gifts. When a friend once mentioned ingratitude in his presence he said: "Gratitude is a burden with which we must not load anyone down!"

When he celebrated his 80th birthday at Bessingen on September 17, 1931, he was the object of numerous demonstrations of respect. He died a few months later, on May 23, 1932, and thus he did not have to witness how in 1933 his bust and his presentation plaques were removed from the Berlin museums, and how the gifted art historian Dorothea Westphal lost her moderate post in museum because she was the granddaughter of James Simon, the biggest contributor to its collections.

He remained true to his artistic and social duties until the last. He was sceptical about the development of Germany. "I cannot even see any more of our Epigons," was one of the last utterances I heard from him. He felt that with him an epoch was closing and that he had contributed to its splendour.

### IN MEMORY OF GEORG HERMANN

The once famous author of the Old-Berlin novel "Jettchen Gebert" and "Henriette Jacoby," "Kubinke" and the five volume series which began with "Einen Sommer lang," would have celebrated his 80th birthday on October 7, 1951, if he had not died a victim of the Nazis in Auschwitz.

His success with "Jettchen Gebert" will remain unforgettable, and there will be hardly a Berlin of the old generation who does not remember this best seller which was translated into many languages and was read all over the world.

Georg Hermann, whose full name was Georg Hermann Borchardt, came from a respected Jewish family in Berlin, and with his natural, humorous disposition he represented the typical "Sprach-Athener." He spent most of his life in his home town, but a few years before Hitler he moved to Neckargemuend near Heidelberg, where he devoted himself entirely to his work. After Hitler's accession to power he had to flee from there, for his Jewish Nazi outlook was only too well known to the regime. He was hospitably received in Holland and he spent a few pleasant years in the charming little town of Hilversum, honoured and popular not only among his former compatriots but also among the Dutch who esteemed his spirit and his humour. He led a quiet, retired life in the midst of his antique collection, the only thing he had been left, and was happy when friends or followers visited him with whom he could talk of the good old days; his collection of anecdotes was inexhaustible. Unfortunately, his irrepressible optimism deceived him: instead of being able to write once again in Germany, as he had believed, he was transported to the East with thousands of co-religionists, and like all of them, he met a tragic end there.

ELSE DORMITZ

### CHRISTOPHER FRY'S BIBLICAL PLAYS

When I reviewed Christopher Fry's Moses-Drama "The Firstborn" here four years ago, the author was very little known. He has become England's leading dramatist since then.

His latest play, *A Sleep of Prisoners* has been expressly written for St. Thomas' Church (Regent Street).

Four prisoners-of-war stay in a bombed church over night. Following on the clash of their temperaments (aggressive, submissive, protective) a reading of the Bible, on playing the organ, on the atmosphere of the place and the dangerous situation in which they find themselves, they begin to dream. One of them changes into Cain, King David, Abraham, the other into Abel, Isaac and Abraham of the third into Adam, Joab and the Angel who spares Isaac's life. The fourth is the fool of the play, a sort of "Compère," but it is he, who speaks with the voice of the Lord and announces the poor message of his belief in the final victory of the Good.

This play is the best English drama of the Festival year, but it may well turn out to have a lasting effect such as Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" written in 1935 for Canterbury. It knows about the essentials of a dramatist's craft and how to apply this knowledge convincingly, the tradition of religious drama from "Everyman" to "Samson Agonistes" and "Cain" to "Murder in the Cathedral," he blends an element of classical antiquity with it.

LUTZ WELTMANN

# Werner Rosenstock : JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

It would be preposterous to base an analysis of the present position in Germany on a brief visit to that country, and though it goes without saying that the special problems with which the remaining Jews in Germany are faced were discussed with Jewish communal leaders, the following report is only meant to convey some general impressions and to sketch the present appearance of a few places which many of us may remember from former days.

A journey to Germany is bound to create conflicting feelings. Which Germany do we visit? Is it the country in which our relatives and friends were murdered, or is it the land where we spent our formative years? We would offend the memory of our nearest ones and we would sacrifice our self-respect if our emotions were not invariably determined by the horrors of the past decade. Yet we would deceive ourselves—and perhaps also succumb to Hitler's "ideology"—if we did not become aware again of the deep roots we once had in that country. However, to make this clear beyond doubt, the past can never become present again. The view of the ruins reflects our own conclusions: our previous world has sunk once and for all, we cannot start again where we broke off in 1933.

Ruins in Germany are not what they used to be in this country. Not only, because the proportion of damaged or destroyed buildings is incomparably higher, but mainly, because in many districts, especially in Berlin, the walls of the solidly built high houses are still standing. A nightly walk

through a Berlin street where the facades look down upon you is a ghastly experience, recalling shots from "The Third Man" or "The Murderers Are Amongst Us." On the other hand, you often see bombed sites or basements of destroyed houses which have been converted into open air pubs or cafes. The speed of re-building is surprising, but it would require an expert to judge whether residential building schemes benefit from this activity to the same extent as business enterprises and entertainment establishments.

The first town we saw was Bonn, a provincial place which suddenly has been promoted to Capital. A large board opposite the railway station gives the addresses of the ministries. The "Bundeshaus" is beautifully situated; once the building housed the Pedagogical Academy. Will education to democracy succeed? You may see through the huge glass walls into the Assembly Hall. Where Westminster has two opposing rows of benches, Bonn, according to the Continental party system, has the semi-circle of seats and tables, and speeches are delivered from the rostrum.

Travelling via Mainz along the Rhine (the landscape was not National Socialist and deserves unchanged praise) you arrive in Frankfurt. One of its peculiarities is the re-erected Goethe House: it had been bombed, but now it stands there again, built up according to the old plans and partly with the original material, the furniture having survived the war at a hiding place. It would be futile for a non-Frankfurter to try to grasp the atmosphere of a town which he did not know in previous days. He should rather save his efforts for that city which once had a message for everybody who, by birth or domicile, had come under its irresistible spell: Berlin.

### Arrival at Tempelhof

One arrives at the Tempelhof Airport and enters the city as it were through the back door. You pass the bombed sites of Schoenberg and Wilmersdorf (somewhere there was once a Prager Platz), but when you have reached the Kurfuerstendamm, you are in a neighbourhood almost as full of life as it used to be in the old days. There are gaps and burnt-out houses, but the cafes and shops give the impression that Berlin's Piccadilly has again become an organic entity. On the other side of the "Gedaechtniskirche" (now a towerless ruin) the re-building of the Tauentzienstrasse is also making headway, and familiar names such as Arnold Mueller and Zuntz have been revived. The "Kade We" has also been re-erected, and on two floors, business is already going on. A few yards behind, however, the desert starts; the "Alte Westen" has more or less ceased to exist. The same holds good for parts of the North West; the "Hansaviertel" is as dead as it was last year, and there are no signs of its reconstruction. And what a strange feeling it is to re-visit the "Tiergarten," where, before the landslide, one knew every path. The topography of this park has changed: there are open lawns and newly planted small trees where there had been alleys and paths. Walking through the "Charlottenburger Chaussee" you can look as far as the ruins of the "Tiergartenviertel" on the one side and of the "Reichstag" and "Moabit" on the other.

The atmosphere of the city is determined by the tension between East and West. At the time of our visit the streets of the Soviet sector were full of marching youth groups who were attending the International Youth Rally. Posters with slogans in several languages and pictures of Communist leaders were displayed on the walls of the ruined ministries in the Wilhelmstrasse. The Castle by

# Old Acquaintances

**Tragic End** :—For years we never met although Paul Demel also lived in London. Of course, we followed his career. The young actor, born in Breslau, came to England in the thirties, and made a name for himself on the stage, in pictures, and with the German section of the B.B.C. He was married and had two little children, and it was not easy for him to make a living. A few weeks ago he was introduced to me in Munich, where he was happy to work in his own language again in a Bavarian picture, "Wild-West in Bayern." Twenty hours later Paul Demel died alone in his hotel room of heart failure; he was only 45 years old. With all his friends in England, there was hardly anybody present in Munich to bury Paul Demel—really a tragic end of a returnee.

**Courageous de Kowa** :—A few weeks ago the German actor Viktor de Kowa spoke over Berlin radio station: "I am one of those who did not care very much what other people were doing, but was only interested in my own profession and my own life. . . . I am one of those who raised their right arm in front of a cross. . . . I did not see the direct way from the Olympic flame in Berlin to the gas ovens in Buchenwald. . . . Again and again I have to beg everybody's pardon who had a bad life through my apathy. . . ." It is so seldom that anybody regrets his past in Germany that de Kowa's words should be put on record although personally this actor behaved very well during the Hitler years.

**It's never too late** :—For over ten years, Curt Goetz, the German Noel Coward, a Swiss citizen by the way, lived in Hollywood and went from office to office to sell one of his plays, so successful in Germany once; but nobody was interested. A few years ago he returned to Europe, acted again in his own comedies, and made a picture, "Dr. med. Prätorius." This film scored such a success that Joseph L. Mankiewicz of "All about Eve" fame, bought the remake rights, and made "People Will Talk" after Goetz' picture, which is now widely praised everywhere. He had to return from the States only to be recognised by Hollywood. On the other hand, the young and gifted actress Hildegard Knef went to California on a contract a few years ago, but did not get one single part to prove herself. So she returned to her native Germany, where she made two pictures with Willi Forst and played a small part in Anatol Litwak's "Decision Before Dawn." Only now has Hollywood noticed her talent, and offered Hildegard Knef a job in a Fox film with Tyrone Power. The ways to fame and glory are sometimes long-winded indeed.

### PEM.

the Spree was blown up recently and its site has doubled the size of the "Lustgarten" (now Marx-Engels-Platz). The Law Courts in the Neue Friedrichstrasse (now Hans Littenstrasse) display a poster: "This building is being re-erected, after having been destroyed by American bombers."

The microcosm of the political world situation is the Potsdamer Platz; here Eastern and Western sectors meet and Soviet enclaves on those Western pavements which lead to the Underground Station add to the confusion. If one stands on the Western side, one looks upon the propaganda slogans of the East, and if one stands on the Leipziger Platz, one reads the running news service on the roof of a Western building.

One of the few organisations in which people of all four Berlin sectors are working together is, apart from the Churches, the Jewish Community. It has offices in the old Oranienburger Strasse Headquarters as well as in the Joachimsthaler Strasse building (before the war used, *inter alia*, as a Jewish school for languages). The Hospital and Old Age Home in the Iranische Strasse are amongst the institutions which, due to the work of the "Gemeinde," are functioning again; we emigrated Jews have to be particularly grateful for the diligence with which the Weissensee Cemetery has been brought into a good condition.

For good or evil, we have to face the fact that there are about 30,000 Jews in Germany (approximately 8,000 of them in Berlin), and that there can be no wholesale liquidation of German Jewry as we were made to believe during the first post-war years. It is our duty to strengthen those Jewish communal workers who, without selfish motives, carry on under very difficult internal and external conditions.

## PERSONALIA

**Dr. Bernard Homa, L.C.C.**, who has been adopted as Labour candidate for South Hendon, has been well-known for many years in various spheres of public life, both general and Jewish. Dr. Homa took an active part in the work of the Jewish Refugees Committee and, as Hon. Secretary of its Medical Sub-Committee, gave great assistance to many refugee doctors and dentists to settle down again in their professions.

**Rabbi Dr. M. Warschauer** (formerly Berlin, now 34 Claremont Avenue, Woking, Surrey) will be 80 years old on October 26. As a distinguished religious leader he gave guidance to several generations of Berlin Jews. His sermons in which he harmonised modern spiritual trends with the eternal values of Judaism have left an unforgettable impression on the former congregants of the "Oranienburger Strasse" and other Berlin Synagogues. By the dignity he gave to his office and by the deep human understanding he displayed towards all those who needed his advice he was one of the most respected and beloved Rabbis of the Metropolis. The AJR with which Dr. Warschauer has been associated since its foundation, and his numerous former followers and pupils wish him happiness and health in the years to come.

**Professor Dr. Nathan Stein** (formerly Karlsruhe, now New York) was 70 years old on October 1. In Germany, he was well known as a Banker and Honorary Professor of the Karlsruhe Technical University and as a leading figure in German Jewish life. His offices included the Presidency of the Jewish "Oberrat" in Baden, and he was also closely associated with the work of the "Reichs-Verbreitung" and the "Central-Verein." After his emigration, Professor Stein continued his activities as a trusted worker for the cause of German Jewry. He is the President of the "American Federation of Jews from Central Europe" and a Vice-President of the World Council of Jews from Germany. In these capacities he is closely co-operating with the London Headquarters of the "Council" and of the AJR. His wisdom, experience and selfless devotion make his counsel and assistance invaluable in the manifold endeavours to safeguard the interests of the Jews from Germany. The AJR and the "Council" extend to Professor Stein their most cordial congratulations.

**Mrs. Gertrud Schachne** recently celebrated her 60th birthday. She was the Matron of the recently dissolved Old Age Home at Dartmouth Road, and the homely atmosphere of the Hostel was mainly due to her devoted labours.

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# FROM MY DIARY

By a strange coincidence I received a copy of the "Juedische Nachrichtenblatt" of May 1941, published for the Jews in Germany in the period of their greatest humiliation. It must have been an ordeal for the editor to issue this "Ghetto" periodical, to give, on the one side, strength and hope in a hopeless situation and to avoid at the same time any allusions which might serve as a pretext for retaliations. In a long-winded article the editor writes about the duties of the Jews, appealing for financial sacrifices and voluntary social workers. The column "Law and Economics" reports about the latest deprivations of Jewish real estate owners. Two full pages are filled with the weekly death announcements, adding each time the enforced "Israel" and "Sara" to the actual Christian name.

Having gone through this Memento, it is impossible to digest an advertisement in the "Tagesspiegel" of September 4, 1951, by which the Delphi Cinema in Berlin announces the first performance of the Anti-Fascist Italian film "Critical Years" with the words: "The Time under Hitler and Mussolini mirrored in the experience of a family, full of humour and thrill."

When I was in Berlin I also paid a visit to Wannsee. The place is as peaceful as it used to be before the war. The steam ships of the Stern Company are running again, and you may enjoy the unique view of the lake from the Kaiser Wilhelm Tower to Gatow and Kladow and the Pfaueninsel. Nevertheless politics leave their marks also on this blessed plot. The trouble arises from the fact that, from Kladow onwards the right bank of the Havel belongs already to the Soviet Zone, whereas the left side, up to the Glienicke bridge, is still in the American Sector. Posters in the middle of the river warn paddlers not to drive too far to the right because, on various occasions, boats which inadvertently had come into Soviet territory had been seized.

Another German river has recently been given new publicity in this country by S. F. Hallgarten's book "Rhineland Wineland" (Paul Elek, London, 21/-). The author, coming of an old-established German-Jewish wine dealers' family which settled in London after 1933, gives expert and vivid information on all questions directly or indirectly

# NEWS FROM GERMANY

## "PEACE WITH ISRAEL"

In a most impressive article published by the Munich "Neue Zeitung" and the Berlin "Telegraf," Erich Lueth, who has taken a leading part in the fight against the performance of the new Harlan Film, stresses that the first steps towards a new relationship with the Jews has to be taken by the Germans themselves. A detailed summary of his moving appeal which has already met a ready response in various German quarters, will be given in the next issue of "AJR Information." Herr Lueth is supported in his efforts by Rudolf Kuestermeier, who wrote a similar article in the Hamburg "Welt."

## APPRECIATION OF S. FISCHER

On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the establishment of S. Fischer, the Literary Supplement of the "Neue Zeitung" reminds readers of the present generation that this enterprise which has always been of the greatest importance for German culture, was founded by a Jew.

## AGAIN GERMAN "FREICORPS"

The establishment of the "Freicorps Deutschland" was announced in Hamburg recently. So far, it consists of 11 units ("Freischaren") of 112 men each in Western Germany and in Berlin. The names of the units are, *inter alia*, "Doenitz," "Werl," "Landsberg" and "Marshal Petain."

connected with the production, preservation and enjoyment of Rhine wine. The Appendix records the site names, their meaning and their location (from Zell's "Black Cat" to Kroev's "Nude Bottom") and the vintages in regard to qualities in the last 100 years. The book will be of greatest interest not only to those who are working in the trade and might wish to have a fuller knowledge of its background, but also to the ordinary consumer. It is written with much knowledge, understanding and love and enhanced by beautiful pictures of the Rhineland scenery.

An interesting, though controversial, lecture on "The Forgotten Pictorial Language of Israel" was given by Mr. Heinz Edgar Kiewe at the Ben Uri Art Gallery, London. Mr. Mosheh Oved was in the chair, and the talk was supported by illustrations of Mr. Klaus Meyer.

NARRATOR

## A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

According to the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland," the Munich "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" has published a letter in which a reader regrets that on the occasion of Julius Bab's lecture tour through Germany no reference had been made to the outstanding contribution of the Jews to the spiritual and cultural life of Germany before 1933. He recalls that writers such as Ernst Toller, Stefan Zweig and Kurt Tucholsky had preferred suicide to exile, and also mentions the achievements of Alfred Kerr. "Why has nobody called on men like Bab—and there are hundreds like them in exile—and asked them to return to their actual and spiritual home? Such a step would also to some extent correct the effects of the spiritual 'Aderlass' which Germany suffered after 1933."

**Berlin.**—In memory of the victims of the Theresienstadt Concentration Camp, a meeting took place in the Assembly Hall of the Jewish community on September 6, 1951. Addresses were delivered by Prediger Hermann Klein, Probst Grueber and the representative of the Catholic Church, Pfarrer vom Berge.

**Stuttgart.**—A new "Betsaal" was consecrated in the re-built Headquarters of the Jewish community. The sermon was delivered by Rabbi Dr. S. Neufeld.

**Koeln.**—The re-erected Cemetery Hall was consecrated in the presence of the Lord Mayor Goerlinger and the Mayor Dr. Kleppe. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Levy and the Chairman of the Community, Moritz Goldschmidt.

## MORRIS FEINMANN MEMORIAL TRUST

The Trustees of the above fund are prepared to consider applications from students who are about to start their University studies or who are already attending College and who are in need of financial assistance to maintain themselves during the period of their training.

Applications in the first instance should be addressed to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. A. S. Jacobs, 77 Singleton Road, Kersal, Manchester 7.

## FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 18th of the month.

### Marriage

**Stern—Marx.** The marriage took place on September 9, 1951, between Richard, son of the late Mr. Heinrich Stern and Mrs. Stern, of Welwyn Garden City, and Irene, daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. Alfred V. Marx, of Frankfurt/Main.

### Death

**Mr. Siegfried Fritz Bandmann,** 222 Devonshire Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23, 74 years, suddenly passed away following a heart attack on July 16, deeply mourned by his wife, sons, daughter-in-law, and grandson.

### CLASSIFIED Employment

**MECHANICAL ENGINEER** (University Education), with great experience as Works Organiser, Efficiency- and Costing Expert and General Manager, seeks responsible position. Box 1094.

**YOUNG MAN** wants position with prospects. Experienced commercial and technical, at present in radio factory. Box 1095.

**WANTED WOMAN** for baking, occasionally for a few hours weekly, for private house. Box 1092.

**EXP. COOK** wants part-time work. Box 1096.

**MACHINE HANDBAG FRAMER,** woman, experienced, wants work. Box 1097.

**EXP. BOOKKEEPER and WAGES CLERK,** knowledge of typing, wants part-time work. Box 1099.

**EXP. EXPORT and SHIPPING CLERK,** aged 29, wants position. Box No. 1100.

**MANAGERESS FOR WORKROOM** (dresses) seeks post. Box 1110.

**FINISHER** for dresses wants work. Box 1104.

**CASHIER and BOOKKEEPER,** female, exp. resp. wants full- or part-time work. Box 1105.

**SHORTHAND TYPIST,** English/German, seeks position. Box 1107.

### Accommodation

**ACCOMMODATION** of any kind wanted. AJR Social Service Dept.

**CHEAP ACCOMMODATION** wanted by lady for two nights in London. Box 1109.

**TO LET** well-furnished bed-sitting-room. Every convenience. Suit one or two friends. GLA 1507.

**TO LET** furnished single front bed-sitting-room near West Hampstead Tube Station. Moderate. Ring HAM 5826.

**LADY DOCTOR** accepts persons of any age for temporary or permanent accommodation in nice flat, big garden, Jerusalem. Reasonable charge. Box 1101.

### Miscellaneous

**SCHOLAR** teaches Biblical Hebrew on spiritual foundations, reading and interpreting of Biblical texts. Write Box 1093.

**ISRAELI MALE STUDENT** available for Hebrew and French lessons and translations, German shorthand. HAMPstead 3161.

**MUSICIAN** available for piano lessons, accompanying, lectures, Opera-coaching. Box 1106.

**KENNETH AMBROSE** will do your translations or polish up your English. Phone PRImrose 4560, or write . 11 Hilgrove Road, N.W.6.

**ALTERATIONS, Remodels, Dress-maker, Mrs. Cohn,** now 130 King Henry's Road, N.W.3. PR1—6167.

**DRESSMAKING** at your home. Work will be collected. Please write Felt, 93 Westward Road, E.4.

**WARDROBE** wanted for clothes and linen. Box 1102.

**FURNITURE** wanted for elderly couple, who at last found unfurnished flat. Box 1103.

**BOY'S HEAVY OVERCOAT,** navy blue, age abt. 13, hardly worn, on sale. Box 1111.

### Personal

**BRITISH FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY,** 231 Baker Street, N.W.1. Introductions to new friends everywhere. No age limit. Write for particulars.

**LACK OF CONTACT.** Attractive, domesticated doctor's daughter wishes introduction to business or professional gentleman, middle thirties to middle forties, with view to matrimony. Box 1108.

### MISSING PERSONS Enquiries from AJR

**Gruenberg, Bernhard,** heir of Bendix Gruenberg, Lingen, Georgstrasse 14, for Dr. E. Bergen, Leeds.

**Heymann, Hilde and Hanna,** daughters of Max Heymann, Berlin, for Hanna de Zazkis (née Axmann), Montevideo.

**Leyser, Ellen-Marie,** daughter of Gerda Leyser, for Jewish Trust Corporation, Hamburg.

**Garbulsky, Margaret,** last known address 8 Shelley Road, Kettering, North., for Valerie Salomon, U.S.A.

**Fraenkel, Hans-Guenther, Ruth Hilde and Susi Ingeborg,** for Jewish Community, Berlin.

## SINCE 1945

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# AJR Relief Department: RECORD OF SOLIDARITY

The winding up of the AJR Relief Department at 33 Compayne Gardens brings to a close a very important mission carried out by the AJR with the help of the Central British Fund. As early as 1943 the AJR launched a collection of clothing which, through the good services of the High Commissioner for Refugees, were sent to Switzerland. When gradually the Western European countries were liberated, Holland, Belgium and France were provided with commodities. At that time the work of the Relief Department was integrated into that of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad. Eventually, during the first post-war years, the AJR extended and intensified its collection in order to help the Jews in the camps as well as in the "Gemeinden." When the camps in Central Europe were vacated, gifts were sent to other emergency areas, especially to North Africa, as well as to the "Exodus" refugees, then staying in Cyprus.

From 1949 onwards, the relief work was concentrated on Israel, and consignments were sent partly to the Absorption Department of the Jewish Agency, partly to the representative of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad in Haifa, Mrs. Ida Lieberfreund. Within a few months, the Jewish Agency and Mrs. Lieberfreund were able to provide more than 100,000 garments to the newcomers. To indicate the output of the AJR Relief Department it may be mentioned that a half-yearly output amounted to 53 tons of clothing, food and other commodities. Furthermore, about 1,000 valuable books were sent to the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Transhipments of gifts from New Zealand and South Africa were also handled.

Many letters of thanks by social workers in Israel, who were in charge of distributing the incoming

gifts, give evidence of the vital help rendered by the AJR Relief Department.

If it was possible to build up this relief scheme and to increase its output from year to year it was to a great extent due to the strong feeling of solidarity and to the great helpfulness of members and friends of the AJR who, remembering their own experience, felt a special urge to assist their persecuted fellow-Jews abroad. It is therefore not surprising that they formed the backbone of the relief work.

Thanks are also due to Anglo-Jewish communities, organisations and individuals who sent their gifts to the AJR Relief Department. Last, not least, the AJR is indebted to the Central British Fund and to the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad under the chairmanship of Mr. Leonard Cohen for their assistance and co-operation, and especially to the staff under the management of Dr. Julius Meyer for their most efficient and devoted services.

If now the AJR Relief Department has to close down it does not mean that the need in Israel, especially among the newcomers, has diminished. Clothing and other commodities may still be sent to the following two other collection centres in London: WIZO, 107 Gloucester Place, W.1 (WEL 0506), and Federation of Jewish Relief Organisations, 131 Elgin Avenue, W.9 (CUN 0131).

## AJR FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Due to Jewish Holidays on October 14 and 21, there will be only two meetings in October, on Sunday, October 7 (Literary Evening) and on Sunday, October 28, when Mr. H. Brueck will talk about the subject "Wie entsteht eine Zeitschrift?"

The meetings are taking place at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3, at 7 p.m.

## AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

In September we received more offers of vacancies and more applications from unemployed persons. In many cases, however, offers and applications could not be linked up. Employers asked for young people, whereas most of our applicants are not young any longer. Offers referred to full-time jobs, whereas applicants asked for part-time work. Various employers wished to engage strong people, and many applicants are looking for light work. Nevertheless we were able to place the usual number of applicants during the past month.

**Needlewomen Service:** More women have joined the service, and we appeal to our members and friends to make use of these facilities.

**Secretarial Service:** We have still on our books sufficient in- and outdoor workers for typing, shorthand typing, translations and bookkeeping.

### Classes

A new *Shorthand Course* was opened in September for those who know the Stolze-Schrey System.

A *Shorthand Dictation Course* for all systems is also going on. Both courses are taking place in the evening and are free of charge.

A *Belt Making Course* is planned for men and women, especially for home workers. This course will also be free of charge. Those interested should contact the AJR Employment Agency.

### Hardship Cases

Art Needleworker, after long illness, wants home work, especially hand-made ladies underwear.

Secretary, paralysed, wants home work: translations, shorthand typing or manual work.

### THE HYPHEN

**Saturday, October 13, 7.30 p.m.,** at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. A talk by Mr. C. C. Aronsfeld on the work and history of the Wiener Library. Members 6d., friends 1s.

**Sunday, October 28, 7.30 p.m.** Birthday Party. Details from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Margot Fuld, Flat "A," 2 Exeter Road, N.W.2.

**A Note For Your Diary**  
**JEWISH CHILD'S DAY**  
CELEBRATES ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY  
On  
**Sunday, 30th December, 1951**



7th day Chanukah 5712  
Communications to  
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