

AJR INFORMATION

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AJR

Leonard G. Montefiore, O.B.E. :

UNHEEDED WARNINGS

Anglo-Jewry's Efforts during the "Appeasement" Period

The Fourth Volume of "The History of The Times" recalls the policy of "appeasement" towards Nazi Germany. The distinguished author of the following article took a prominent part in the efforts of warning the British public of the imminent danger. The second article of this page deals with the problem as it was seen in those days by responsible Jewish leaders inside Germany.—THE ED.

The fourth volume of the "History of the Times" recently published reminds us of public opinion prevailing in this country in 1933. It was pacifist, and in some places such as Printing House Square pro-German. True, as the History observes, many people were nauseated with the anti-Jewish excesses that had already taken place in Germany, but there was a general desire to believe Hitler's peaceful professions. There was a very real chance that any attempt by Jews to draw attention to what was going on in Germany would be denounced as war mongering. Above all, the British people desired peace and peace involved good relations with the German Government whatever that Government might be. Even now one wonders what would have happened if Hitler, instead of being a megalomaniac madman, had been something of a statesman. As readers of the fourth volume can find out for themselves, it was not till April 1939, not till Hitler marched into Prague, that the Editor of *The Times* and his Assistant awoke in earnest to the German menace. Despite the expulsion of their Correspondents, despite the information which poured into Printing House Square, despite turn-over articles such as the one published after the Nuremberg Trials, the Editorial columns of *The Times* continued to advocate concessions and appeasement. Alone among the national daily Press, the *Manchester Guardian*, denounced openly and repeatedly the persecution endured by German Jews between 1933 and 1939.

It is easy to be wise after the event, and the German Jews themselves were themselves but humans and without prophetic vision. In the spring of 1933 three German Jews came to London to establish contact with the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board of Deputies and Anglo-Jewish Association. Their first step on arrival was to call on the German Ambassador von Hoesch. He received them with courtesy and told them he admired their courage in coming to this country. Von Hoesch was no Nazi, as he once told the writer with his own lips. Though obviously unable to criticise his own Government, he did not conceal his dislike and disgust at what was going on. Probably

he reported to the German Foreign Office that certain sections of British opinion disliked the barbarities inflicted on the Jews, disliked discriminatory legislation and indeed disliked anti-Semitism altogether. But unknown to von Hoesch and unknown to the British Government Hitler was quite impervious to foreign opinion.

Perhaps Whitehall should have known better, but there is at least much excuse for the English Jews believing in those days that, if they could get English opinion, expressed on the platform and in the Press, to condemn the Nazi anti-Jewish measures, such measures might at least be mitigated. Past history is always present in our minds. In 1933, we

Hans Reichmann

TRAGIC PARALLELS

The attempts of the Anglo-Jewish Community to warn the British public and politicians of the Nazi menace, which Mr. Leonard G. Montefiore so vividly describes, recall similar endeavours made by German Jewry long before Hitler's ascent to power.

At a time when the German political Parties still ridiculed Hitler, the "Central-Verrein," the defence organisation of the German Jews, realising the potential danger of National Socialism, took up the challenge. It painstakingly gathered material about Nazi propaganda and methods. It watched their meetings and publications, registered their success in remote country districts, and tried to convince German politicians and the press that adequate measures ought to be taken in time to meet the violent propaganda of that ruthless clique.

Up to 1930, however, the German politicians did not want to heed these warnings. To the Right Wing Parties Hitler was, after all, a welcome ally against the Left, and the Left Wing Parties did not mind Hitler dividing the Right Wing vote. To the Social Democrats the German National Party seemed a more dangerous adversary if it was strong than if it was weakened and flanked by a splinter group of the extreme Right.

The German Jews were, on the whole, inexperienced politicians. They were Liberals, the heirs of the great Liberal tradition of 1848. They had little knowledge of what power meant and they did not realise that the roots of politics were power. They believed in such—obviously outmoded—ideals as right, liberty, and humanism. All that was needed, they thought, was to enlighten their countrymen on the true character of the immoral, nay criminal Nazi Movement, then public opinion and its protagonists would react according to the rules of common decency. What the German Jews did not recognise was that decency had ceased to be indivisible.

remembered the protest meetings held at the Mansion House against the Russian pogroms, the mission sent to interview the Czar and so on. And so relying on past experience, we tried to use the methods which in Blood Libel and Trials and in the Dreyfus case had at least achieved partial success.

We had to be well informed. Therefore a Press Department was established at Woburn House where German newspapers, from the *Frankfurter Zeitung* to the *Stuermier* were cut and filed and used to give information to those whom we sought to interest.

Protest Meeting at Queen's Hall

An attempt was made to organise a protest meeting at the Mansion House, but the request for use of the Egyptian Hall was turned down. Lord Derby, when asked to support the application, replied that while he was personally sympathetic, he did not feel the cause commanded such universal support from all sorts and conditions of men as to justify a Mansion House meeting. So the organisers fell back on the Queen's Hall, where a meeting took place with the Arch-

Continued on page 2, Col. 1

Threats against political opponents, especially against Jews, were followed by deeds. Hardly any National Socialist meeting that did not end in uproar. A private army of brownshirts was mobilised. From election to election more and more millions of voters joined Hitler's ranks. The number of desecrated Jewish cemeteries grew. Blood was shed.

Guilt of German Politicians

No one—so the German Jews thought—could mistake the forebodings of revolution. The so-called "Boxheimer Dokumente" were published. In them, a State official who was a member of the Nazi Party revealed the emergency measures his Party would take immediately after coming to power. Of course, they would arrest political adversaries. Of course, the death penalty would be imposed for the slightest attempts of opposition. Rationing would be introduced and, of course, Jews would not get any ration cards. The Left Wing papers were shocked and did not mince their words. The papers of the Right did not wish to offend Hitler, their potential ally, and suppressed the news.

When Right Wing politicians were asked whether they contemplated forming a Government together with Jew-baiters, hooligans, and political criminals, the enquirer was at first met with an embarrassed silence. He then received a lesson in practical politics. There was a valuable patriotic element in National Socialism, he was told. Their youth would make excellent soldiers. It was high time that a firm hand was applied to Communists, Socialists, and Trade Unionists, and, after all, the wild men of the Hitler Party would best be pacified by being entrusted with a share in governmental responsibility.

A few days before Reichspräsident Hindenburg asked Hitler to form his fateful Government Hitler had publicly called the defendants in a murder trial his "comrades." The Court stated that they had never before seen a murder committed in a vile manner. The Jews and other liberally-minded

Continued on page 2, Col. 2

Continued from page 1

bishop of Canterbury as principal speaker. The speeches were moderate in tone and emphasis was laid on the general decision to do nothing that might trouble good relations with the German Government. The Joint Foreign Committee had an uphill task. Between January 1933 and April 1939 British public opinion favoured tranquillity and was hostile to anything or anybody who could be represented as trouble makers. But even so there were sections of the public who were moved by the arrival of refugees in this country and by the stories they brought with them. The Churches were very sincerely concerned with what was happening in Germany. The Archbishop of Canterbury wrote to *The Times* denouncing a particularly infamous number of the *Stuerner*. At the Church Assembly despite scattered opposition, a resolution was passed deploring the Nazi anti-Jewish outrages. Nor were the Nonconformists and the Roman Catholics less ready to do what they could to make the facts known. The Universities, too, were indignant at the expulsion of Jewish scholars and teachers. Some of them refused to send representatives to German University celebrations.

Press Bureau of Board of Deputies

The Press Bureau was kept busy, not only with collecting and supplying information, but also in answering letters sent to the Press by Nazi sympathisers. On the whole, despite German propaganda, letters that sought to justify Nazi treatment of the Jews were never either numerous or important. Nevertheless care had to be taken, that they should never be left unanswered.

Looking back, one feels that the Press Department was an amateurish business, but what was lacking in experience was at least partially made up for by enthusiasm. The Press Department worked long hours carding, filing, sorting information, so that no question addressed to it would remain unanswered.

But there were many, though not the least influential, who did not ask questions and did not seek enlightenment. Writing in 1937, Dean Inge, to take an example at random, said: "In Germany, a declaration of war would release a huge volume of violent discontent against the existing regime. The German bayonets are not for use against France, still less against ourselves. The Germans are honestly afraid of the immense Russian army, and of a Communist rising within their own borders." And there were many who thought like Dean Inge. Even in August 1938 the present Prime Minister of Australia on his return from a visit to Germany issued a statement saying, "It is surely a truism to state that nobody in Germany wants war." That was at a time when the Hitler Jugend were singing:—

"Heute gehoert uns Deutschland,
Morgen die ganze Welt."

It is against the background of British public opinion between 1933 and 1939 as described in the fourth volume of the "History of *The Times*" that the efforts of English Jews to warn their fellow-countrymen of the Third Reich's true character must be judged.

"THE HERITAGE OF GERMAN JEWRY"

Under this heading the General Secretary of the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland," Dr. H. G. van Dam, repeats the claim of the Jews in and from Germany for a share in the heirless assets of German Jewry in an article published in the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung" of the Jews in Germany of May 9. These assets, he writes, have not been derived from the former property of perished American, French or British Jews, but they were originally owned by German Jews. Dr. van Dam regrets that in spite of the origin of the assets the Jewish communities in Germany and the Jews from Germany had not sufficient influence on their distribution. He suggests that in all negotiations referring to heirless property in Germany, the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland" and the "Council of Jews from Germany" should be entitled to participate. It is undignified, he goes on, to degrade the German Jews to objects of charity though they have an unchallengeable legal claim. After describing the achievements of

Continued from page 1

people thought this latest Hitler challenge would be his doom. But neither the titled banker nor the Junkers, nor other politicians of the German National Party who were negotiating with Hitler, had any moral scruples to form a coalition with a partner who had just emphatically made common cause with brutal murderers.

Thus a political criminal suffering from paranoia was made Germany's Chancellor. Though he broke nearly all promises he had made, he redeemed the anti-Jewish ones far beyond the wildest hopes of his most ardent followers. "The night of the long knives" was not followed by a day that restored the rule of law for Jews and other so-called enemies of the State.

"Das Ausland" keeps Silence

As in terror-stricken Germany no help could be expected from any quarters inside the country, the German Jews and all other opponents of Hitlerism placed their hopes for liberation in a magic phenomenon: "Das Ausland." "Das Ausland," the foreign countries, would not tolerate for long a regime of liars and criminals. If the foreign countries only knew what was really going on behind the "Curtain of Silence" which the Nazis had drawn, they would take appropriate measures. A clandestine information service was organised. Young men performed courier services across the borders and informed the free world of what was happening. The echo abroad of those messages was eagerly awaited by the victims in Germany. True, the "Manchester Guardian" and the "News Chronicle" were neither afraid of vituperation and of their correspondents' expulsion by the Nazis, nor of being reproached as trouble makers by their own countrymen. "The Times," however, whose voice Hitler would not lightly ignore, remained silent. The German Jews knew, of course, that the English Government wished to appease Hitler; some of them even had an admiration for the pacifist motives of that policy. However, those who knew Hitler were convinced that the policy of appeasement was doomed to failure. Hitler meant war. A regime that had removed the last vestiges of legal guarantees for its opponents in its own country and indulged in a cult of violence would not respect international law. Today training in violence and barbarism was practised against the Jews, "the Enemy inside the Gates," but to-morrow this training would be applied to the external enemy.

Were the foreign countries blind? Did some of their representatives even connive in the sinister preparations that were going on under the eyes of the foreign correspondents? In spite of previous disappointment one had to try again and convince the influential foreign press that the anti-Jewish outbursts were but a prelude, a mere manoeuvre for battles on a far larger scale to come. An interview with a foreign correspondent was risky. Rumour had it that visitors had been photographed by Gestapo agents. Yet when contacts were established and information imparted one would usually find the foreign correspondents exceedingly well versed in the day-to-day routine of persecution. Hardly anything of importance had escaped their own observations, and their collection of all occurrences which their papers so persistently declined to

German Jewry before 1933 the author recalls that a great number of the expelled Jews is now forced to live in poverty. This is an added reason for which the heirless property should also be used for the benefit of the Jews in and from Germany.

HAGUE CONFERENCE

Leaders of German Delegation resign

Professor Franz Boehm and Rechtsanwalt Otto Kuester have offered their resignation from their posts as leaders of the German Delegation on Jewish claims. In their letters to Bundeskanzler Dr. Adenauer they have pointed out that proper restitution to victims of Nazism cannot be made as long as the German Government links it with other quite different debts. They draw a sharp distinction between settlement of this "debt of honour" and of pre-war and post-war debts.

At the time of going to press it is not certain if and when the German-Jewish negotiations will be resumed.

report was rather impressive. The higher interests of foreign policy, the policy of appeasement, enforced this silence.

On the effect of the policy of appeasement World War II has spoken the verdict of history.

When war broke out a rabbi in the East End of London observed sadly: "When Hitler shed Jewish blood the peoples of the world turned their eyes away. Now they will have to pay dearly for not heeding the warnings which cried out from the blood of our slain brethren."

The reader of the fourth volume of "The History of the Times" takes note, with some satisfaction, of the frank way in which the writer of that history admits and criticises the tragic error of his paper. Indeed, "The Times" was not alone in misjudging the situation. Mr. Montefiore rightly states that the German Jews too lacked prophetic vision. They did not foresee that before 1933 the German non-Nazi politicians would mistake the symptoms of ruthlessness, which the Nazi anti-Jewish attitude abundantly presented. Nor did they envisage that the Allied press and statesmen would be lulled into confidence by a Government that professed peaceful intentions while it persecuted its Jewish minority in a most insidious and brutal way.

At any time between 1933 and the occupation of the Rhineland energetic measures from abroad would have brought about the fall of the Nazi Movement. In 1938, Thomas Mann still hoped that the world would not allow the Nazis to have their war. Indeed, the German Jews were as naive as Thomas Mann. Both held a childlike belief in moral principles whose gross violation and even abolition neither the Germans, the people of the "Dichter und Denker," nor the world at large would tolerate.

Looking back Mr. Montefiore thinks that his attempts to make English public opinion aware of the Nazi danger had been amateurish. We are not inclined to share his opinion, though his warnings were as little heeded as those of Winston Churchill. As the outbreak of this "unnecessary war" has shown, the violation of moral principles and the maltreatment of minorities are not only the concern of the minorities to whom Human Rights are denied. They ought to be taken as serious symptoms. Governments who commit deeds of this kind will show but little restraint as soon as they are powerful enough to attack their neighbours.

It is to the honour of this country that at least the Church and some academic circles, in defiance of official foreign policy, protested against Hitler's persecution and kept on denouncing Nazi outrages. By a strange coincidence a great humanitarian, Bertrand Russell, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, recalls the support which his grandfather, Lord John Russell, had rendered to Sir Moses Montefiore, the great forbear of the writer of the foregoing article, in the fight against Jewish civic disabilities. It was in the same spirit that distinguished Englishmen of our days—Jews and Gentiles—raised their voices against violence and injustice. The German Jews will gratefully remember these indefatigable champions for the cause of humanity.

RESTITUTION NEWS

LASTENAUSGLEICH

In der dritten Lesung des Gesetzentwurfs ueber einen allgemeinen Lastenausgleich am 16. Mai hat der Deutsche Bundestag eine Regelung angenommen, die dahin geht, dass rueckerstattetes Vermoegen nur insoweit bei der Ermittlung des der Abgabe unterliegenden Vermoegens anzusetzen ist, als sein Wert den Betrag von 150,000 DM. uebersteigt. Darueber hinausgehende rueckerstattete Vermoegenswerte sind fuer die Vermoegensabgabe nur mit 90% ihres Wertes anzusetzen.

Eine ausfuehrliche Darstellung des Gesetzes wird folgen. Ob ausserdem noch in den Vertraegen der Alliierten mit der Deutschen Bundesrepublik eine Freistellung der Angehoerigen der Vereinten Nationen auf die Zeit von sechs Jahren vereinbart werden wird, bleibt abzuwarten.

FORMLOSE ANMELDUNGEN IN BERLIN

Es wird daran erinnert, dass die verlaengerte Anmeldefrist fuer Ansprueche aus dem Berliner EntschaeDIGUNGSGESETZ am 31. Oktober 1952 ablaeuft. Soweit Anspruchsberechtigte kurz vor Ablauf der urspruenglichen Frist (8. Februar 1952) statt der offiziellen Formulare formlose Anmeldungen eingereicht hatten, gelten diese nach Auffassung des EntschaeDIGUNGSAMTES nur dann als fristwahrend, wenn sie klar erkennen lassen, um welche Widergutmachungsansprueche es sich handelt und welches Mass von Widergutmachung begehrt wird. Es wird daher geraten bis zum 31. Oktober 1952 entweder die ausgefuellten Formulare beim EntschaeDIGUNGSAMT einzureichen oder zu mindest eine formlose Anmeldung, die den jetzt vom EntschaeDIGUNGSAMT aufgestellten Erfordernissen entspricht.

DISCUSSIONS WITH AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR

During his stay in London Dr. Leopold Figl, Austrian Federal Chancellor, received at the Austrian Legation Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld, head of the Legal Department of the "World Jewish Congress." Amongst the matters discussed were the formation of a Jewish fund for heirless and unclaimed property, the granting of compensation for the internment of Austrian persecutees living abroad and the allocation of pensions due to Austrians living abroad.

At a reception in the House of Commons Mr. Maurice Orbach, M.P., raised the question of the planned amendment of the Austrian Restitution Law. Dr. Figl promised that he would "see to it that justice is done."

KRAFTLOSERKLAERUNG VON WERTPAPIEREN IN OESTERREICH

Nach oesterreichischem Recht koennen in Oesterreich ausgegebene Wertpapiere, die verloren oder abhanden gekommen sind, fuer kraftlos erklart werden. Das Gericht erlaesst nach Pruefung der gesetzlichen Voraussetzungen ein Edikt, und wenn sich innerhalb Jahresfrist kein Berechtigter meldet, erfolgt Kraftloserklaerung, auf Grund derer die Gesellschaften ein neues Papier auszustellen haben.

In einem dem United Restitution Office bekannt gewordenen Falle hat der Inhaber eines solchen verloren gegangenen Papiers um Einleitung des Verfahrens angesucht. Das Edikt wurde erlassen und nach fruchtlosem Ablauf der Frist wurden die Papiere fuer kraftlos erklart und neue Stuecke ausgestellt.

GERMAN TRADE MARKS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

According to the "Board of Trade Journal" of May 17, the Board of Trade has under consideration a number of questions relating to Trade Marks which were on the Register on September 3, 1939, in the names of German persons or concerns, living or carrying out business in Germany. Persons or concerns in the United Kingdom claiming to have a continuing interest in such Trade Marks arising out of their use since September 1939 in connection with goods manufactured in the United Kingdom are invited to communicate with the Registrar of Trade Marks (German Marks), The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Building, London, W.C.2.

ENTSCHAEDIGUNGEN IM LANDE HESSEN

Auf Grund eingehender Verhandlungen des United Restitution Office, Frankfurt/Main, mit den Hessischen Behoerden sind die nachstehenden Regelungen erreicht worden.

Bedienstete Juedischer Gemeinden und Koerperschaften

Die Hessische Regierung hat folgenden Beschluss gefasst: "Der Minister des Innern und der Minister der Finanzen haben sich geeinigt, dass denjenigen fruheren Bediensteten, die einen Versorgungsanspruch gegenueber den alten Juedischen Gemeinden und Koerperschaften im Lande Hessen erworben hatten und jetzt im Ausland leben, ohne Anerkennung eines rechtlichen Anspruchs aus uebergesetzlichen Mitteln fuer Rechnung dessen, den es angeht, mit Wirkung vom 1.1.1952 monatlich bis DM. 200—gezahlt wird."

Die Einbeziehung von Koerperschaften ist auf Anregung von URO, Frankfurt, erfolgt damit auch die Angehoerigen des Philantropin und aehnlicher Juedischer Institutionen beruecksichtigt werden. Es handelt sich, wie der Beschluss ergibt, um eine vorlaufige Zahlung. Die eingeleiteten EntschaeDIGUNGSVERFAHREN MUESSEN NATUERLICH WEITERGEFUEHRT WERDEN.

HaftentschaeDIGUNG

Bekanntlich sehen die EntschaeDIGUNGSGESetze der Laender der amerikanischen Zone keine HaftentschaeDIGUNG fuer diejenigen vor, deren letzter Wohnsitz in Deutschland in einem dieser Laender war, die aber vor dem 1.1.1947 ausgewandert sind.

Der Council of Jews from Germany und das United Restitution Office sind seit langem bemueht, hier eine Aenderung zu erreichen.

Bisher hat nur Bayern ein Ergaenzungsgesetz erlassen, das auch diesem Personenkreis HaftentschaeDIGUNGANSPRUECHE zubilligt. Das Land Wuerttemberg-Baden gewaehrt diesen GeschaeDIGTEN eine EntschaeDIGUNG aus uebergesetzlichen Mitteln, ohne dass eine Aenderung des EntschaeDIGUNGSGESETZES erfolgt ist.

Die Hessische Regierung hat jetzt beschlossen, dass nunmehr auch Anspruchsberechtigte dieses Personenkreises bei Nachweis der Beduerftigkeit aus Mitteln des Haertefonds eine EntschaeDIGUNG erhalten sollen.

Notstandsbeihilfen

Die Hessische Regierung hat sich ferner bereiterklaert ab 1. April 1952 auf EntschaeDIGUNGANSPRUECHE, die rechtzeitig angemeldet und begruendet sind, Vorschuesse bis zu 1000 DM. fuer im Ausland lebende Antragsteller auf ein Sperrkonto zur Abwendung eines Notstandes zu bewilligen. Die Hessische Regierung verlangt fuer den Nachweis der Beduerftigkeit die Bescheinigung des zustaendigen Deutschen Konsulats oder einer charitativen Organisation.

Transferierung

Fuer Unterstuetzung an fruhere Gemeindebeamte ist der Transfer nach England bis zu 800 DM. monatlich ohne weiteres moeglich.

Fuer HaftentschaeDIGUNG und Notstandsbeihilfen haengt der Transfer von Sondergenehmigungen ab, die in besonders dringend gelagerten Faellen bis zu einer gewissen Grenze erteilt werden koennen.

BELATED CLAIMS IN BRITISH ZONE

As readers will have seen from a previous announcement in "AJR Information," the Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany is prepared to restore to Jewish individuals, their testamentary heirs (Testamentserben), or their near relatives, property or compensation received in lieu of such property in cases where the above persons omitted through inadvertence or other good and sufficient reasons to lodge a direct claim with the Restitution Authorities within the time limit laid down by the British Restitution Law No. 59.

It is important that all those who have for some reason not approached the Jewish Trust Corporation so far do it without delay, as only claims received by the Jewish Trust Corporation by September 30, 1952, can be considered.

Correspondence regarding restoration of such property should be addressed to: Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany, Prien Building (Alstereck), Jungfernstieg, Hamburg 36, Germany.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

A Loyal Address from British Jewry was presented to the Queen by a deputation consisting of the Presidents and chief officers of the Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association. They were introduced by Lord Cohen, in whose name a lectureship in English Law is to be established at the Hebrew University.

In a paper on Anglo-Jewry which he read at the annual conference of the British Mizrahi movement, Dr. J. Braude, one of their Treasurers, said the community was to-day the most traditionally-minded in the world, but the outlook for the future was not bright. There was no longer any prospect of large-scale immigration, the birth-rate was deplorably low, and mixed marriages were on the increase. The great majority of Jews in England did not live in accordance with Jewish law, though most institutions were conducted on orthodox lines.

Some, though not all, of these observations were confirmed in an enquiry into Anglo-Jewish Youth undertaken by the *Jewish Observer and Middle East Review*, which found "a widespread fear of inter-marriage inside the Jewish community." Mr. Henry Shaw, religious director of the Association of Jewish Youth, was quoted as having said that "the concept of Jewish social taboo, with all that it implies, is still fairly strong." There is, for example, a general desire to be buried in a Jewish cemetery, and according to Mr. Henry Shaw, "if synagogues ceased being burial societies, membership would drop alarmingly."

Good progress was reported at annual meetings held by constituents of the United Synagogue. The majority had maintained and increased their income. The Central, W., e.g., raised £10,740 (£1,500 more than last year, bringing the surplus to £147); the New West End, £15,818 (surplus £364); St. John's Wood, £21,061 (surplus £779); Cricklewood £13,685 (surplus £291); Golders Green, £18,251 (surplus £350); Finchley, £15,000; and Willesden, £13,353. Bayswater increased by £1,000 (with a surplus of £112), while the income of the Edgware synagogue decreased from £10,392 in 1950 to £9,573 last year, reducing the surplus from £776 to £334. Brixton, with 700 members, had a deficit of £329.

Many synagogues also made handsome contributions to the JPA—Hendon £12,000, the New West End £7,100, and Central £1,140.

Expanded activity and increased membership in all their thirteen constituents was announced by the Reformed Association of Synagogues. The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, which maintains 40 synagogues in London and 12 in the Provinces, reported a deficit of £150 on an income of £2,000.

More serious is the deficit of the Manchester and Salford Jews' Council, which matches an expenditure of £2,200 with an assured income of no more than £350, the gap being made up by an uncertain subsidy. A success was scored when State recognition was obtained for the Cassel-Fox and Broughton Preparatory Schools, two Jewish schools which, together with the Yeshiva, the Jewish Grammar School and the Central Board for Hebrew Education, have secured a third of the Jewish school population of Manchester.

Fascist propaganda continues in North London. Regular meetings are held and half a dozen dangerous periodicals are on sale. An anti-coloured campaign in some districts may also develop into an anti-Jewish campaign.

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BLOCKED GERMAN MARKS AND AUSTRIAN SHILLINGS

ENQUIRIES INVITED

Kenneth Ambrose: HISTORY IN PICTURES

Maybe you came to this country with nothing at all. Maybe you brought a few or even a lot of your personal belongings with you. Perhaps there was a Leica among them? And perhaps there was an old family album with photographs of stiff people stiffly dressed on stiff cardboard, dating from 100 years or so ago? If you own one or both of these items, you may be interested in a book published a short time ago by Helmut Gernsheim,* which illustrates and explains the origins of photography in this country. In the foreword, C. H. Gibbs Smith, Keeper in the Victoria and Albert Museum, introduces the author like this: "Mr. Gernsheim came to this country from the Continent and has made his permanent home here . . . (he paid) us the unusual compliment of studying and collecting the subject (i.e. the history of British Photography) to such effect that, in some six short years, he has accumulated the most thoroughly representative collection in existence. This is a truly remarkable achievement." An achievement, by the way, which found public recognition when a large part of Mr. Gernsheim's collection was exhibited in the Victoria and Albert Museum during the Festival of Britain.

By and large we owe modern photography to the inventions of two men in the thirties of the last century: the Frenchman Daguerre, who was the first to produce a permanent photographic image, but did so on a metal surface from which no copies could be made; and the Englishman Fox Talbot, who managed to get an image on to paper. His first "snapshot," taken in Lacock Abbey, can still be seen in the Science Museum, as can much interesting material bearing on this subject.

Photography and Painting

When the French artist Paul Delaroche heard of the new invention, he is said to have exclaimed, "From to-day, painting is dead!" In the event this proved a somewhat rash statement to make, but the reactions of photography on art and *vice versa* were certainly intense. There was a strong tendency for some time to judge painters by their photographic rendering of detail, and on the other hand many of the early photographs have all the pictorial qualities of works of art. This is hardly surprising, as quite a large proportion of the early photographers were in fact artists, many of whom did not see anything wrong in painting from photographs. As photography became sufficiently fast—some two decades or so later—for the taking of instantaneous shots, painters benefited greatly by being shown how to capture movement, and how pictures could be composed with less orderly and asymmetrical grouping. As with most new inventions, it took decades until photography was judged by its own standards and allowed to develop free from the conventions of painting.

A calendar of the technical progress made during the first 50 years of photography makes impressive reading: Invention of the art, 1839, two years after Queen Victoria's accession; the first book to be illustrated by photographs (Fox Talbot, "Pencil of Nature"), 1844, four years before the revolutions of 1848; the first war photographer to take the field in the Crimean war of 1853; instantaneous snaps became possible in 1857, four years before the American Civil War; street photographers are on record by 1876, when the Franco-Prussian War had only been over five years; and at the same period Muybridge conducted his experiments with photographing fast moving animals.

The feature that strikes one most about the early photographers is their versatility. We have already seen that many of them were painters at the same time. One of the best known at the time was O. G. Rejlander, whose work includes such diverse subjects as children, nudes, a study of hands and vase, and large composite pictures which are now considered the height of tastelessness. Roger Fenton photographed the Kremlin in 1852, the following year he took his bulky equipment, which was accommodated in a photographic van, to the Crimea to record war scenes there; but he also took pictures more peacefully of the exhibits in the British Museum. Francis Frith took an expedition 1,500 miles up

* Helmut Gernsheim, "Masterpieces of Victorian Photography" (Faidon Press, 25/-).

the Nile and reported such heat in his dark room tent at times that his chemical solution boiled when poured on to the glass plate, to say nothing of the occasional sandstorm. Meanwhile Samuel Bourne hired sixty coolies to carry his apparatus, chemicals and provisions over 18,000 feet up in the Himalayas. If you look at the Heath Robinson equipment of those days in the Science Museum, you don't wonder at the size of this expedition. Perhaps the most versatile of all was the Rev. Lutwidge Dodgson, better known to us as Lewis Carroll, author of "Alice in Wonderland," clergyman, Professor of Mathematics at Oxford, and a first-rate photographer, especially of children.

Victorian Scenery

All these things we learn from a study of the short history and the notes about individual photographers which Mr. Gernsheim gives us in his book. But the bulk of the book itself is taken up with reproductions of actual photographs, and these are to us invaluable illustrations of life in this country under Queen Victoria. As our grandparents cannot have told us about this, we should be doubly grateful for the direct insight they afford us. Thus we can look at Margate beach in 1858, complete with bathing machines, or at "Camping by the Thames" in 1885, which could have been an illustration for Jerome's "Three Men in a Boat." Or we can see long-skirted women with sombreros crossing the Mer de Glace in Chamonix before the days of foreign exchange troubles. There are also a number of illustrations of the life of the poor in the sixties and seventies, of which two are included in this volume, "Poor Woman with Baby" and "Ha'penny Ices." An impressive range of first-rate portraits of celebrities completes our picture of the period. We may stare at David Livingstone as he stares at the camera, 1864 model, and we cannot fail but detect real genius in Mrs. Cameron's pictures of Tennyson, Longfellow, Sir John Herschel and Charles Darwin. Robert Louis Stevenson (remember your "Treasure Island?") is also there, and it makes a change to see the real Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as they were in 1861, rather than Anna Neagle and Anton Wallbrook—with all due respect to their acting ability. Altogether, the pictures prove that technical development may help a good photographer, but cannot make one. In this pioneer stage of photography pictures were turned out of which many a modern studio could be proud.

When you put this book down it is hard not to feel that it contains a slice of English life which it would be a pity to miss. One up for Mr. Gernsheim for having made it accessible to us in this attractive as well as scholarly form.

TWO BOOKLETS OF VERSE

Two Jewish authors from Central Europe, one of them now in Israel, the other one in the United States, recently published collections of some of their poems in German. Under the heading "Leid und Aufschwung" (Martin Feuchtwanger, Tel-Aviv) Otto Klepetar expresses the sorrows of an uprooted persecutee and his intense love of Israel, the country which has become his new home. "Abschied von Prag" is one of the best poems of the collection, and it is most appropriate that the introduction has been written by the author's famous fellow-countryman Max Brod.

The author of the other booklet, Hilde Marx ("Bericht," New York, 1951) will be well remembered by readers from Germany as a gifted writer of the younger generation. Many of her poems and feuilletons were published in German Jewish papers between 1938 and 1939. The present small volume enables us to follow up her production between 1938 and 1951. Migration, war and persecution are signposts of this period, and they are also the subjects of the verses. And yet the most tender and beautiful poems centre around a personal experience of the authoress: her motherhood. It is in the poems dedicated to her children that Hilde Marx is at her best.

W.R.

Lutz Weltmann:
IN MEMORIAM:

ALBERT BASSERMANN

With Albert Bassermann, who died in Zurich at the age of eighty-three, the greatest German actor of our time passed away. Theatre-goers witnessed there his unimpaired vitality not so long ago, when he performed his famous part of Mephistopheles. His latest part was in Berlin, the place of his greatest triumphs, as Attinghausen. As a young actor he was Gessler, whose cruelty he tried to make somewhat more palatable—coming drunk from a hunting picnic. And he was Tell in Jessner's memorable production when harbingers of the brown pestilence were booing and hissing. In an improvised speech he stood up for his producer, shouting: "Turn out the paid riff-raff!"

During the last years he was touring the European Continent, but his admirers in England saw him last in the film "The Red Shoes," in the small, but most impressive part of an old gentleman, whose mellowness was as delightful as his English, which was almost without any foreign accent, but with the unmistakable intonation of his native Mannheim idiom. Though he was not granted a carefree old age, he was happy to show his gratitude for the blessing he enjoyed in married life: he acted in a play written by his wife, and he was Manders to her Helene Alving, after he had been Osvold for more than three decades, Else Bassermann then being his partner as Regine.

I saw him on the stage for the last time—terrible to say—in Johst's "Schlageter," and he could not help making even this reactionary, wire-pulling excellency amiable. So was his shrewd "Dictator" in Jules Romain's play of the same title; the ethical standards of his opponent, though played by a first-rate actor, could not get the better of him. The Nazis tried to bribe him, intending to glorify him as the first actor of the Third Reich. But although willing to "tolerate" his marriage, they did not allow his Jewish wife to play—and therefore he left Germany in spite of his old age. He had a gift of turning even scoundrels and fools into creatures who evoked our sympathetic smile. Never a propagandist in words, he was an advocate of humanity, a teacher of tolerance *par excellence*.

His success was a triumph of will; his hoarse voice, an impediment which would have been an unsurmountable obstacle to any other actor, became a powerful instrument through his skill and imagination. Analysing souls with profound psychology, he had a sense of style at the same time, some inheritance, perhaps, of the upper middle-class family (the Liberal Member of the Reichstag was a relative of his) which was his background. But more than that: he was from top to toe a "Kavalier," and it was, I think, his fine biographer Julius Bab who so aptly said that you cannot play a "Kavalier" without virtually being one. (Whereas you may convincingly play an *homme à femmes*, and yet be a scrupulous, devoted husband!)

Here lay the secret of Albert Bassermann's art.

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"BET WILFRID ISRAEL"

Just nine years ago, a plane from Lisbon to London, which the Nazis suspected of carrying Mr. Churchill, was shot down. Among the victims was Mr. Wilfrid Israel, who had gone to Lisbon to negotiate on behalf of the Jewish Agency the transfer of refugees to what was then Palestine. Thus Wilfrid Israel died for a cause to which he had devoted so much of his young life—a unique blend of humanitarianism and Zionism, which found its finest expression in the rescue of children. A son of the owner of a great department store in Berlin and great-grandson of the English Rabbi, Dr. N. M. Adler, he was a practical man and at the same time a dreamer, an artist in his own right and a man of action.

PERSONALIA

Dr. Mark Wischnitzer, formerly General Secretary of the "Hilfsverein" of the German Jews, recently became 70 years old. Author of various standard works on Jewish migration, Dr. Wischnitzer is now Professor of Jewish History and Sociology at the Jeshivah University, New York.

Mrs. Helene Lehmann, née Hollaender, 69 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.3, will celebrate her 90th birthday on June 19. She is the only surviving sister of Gustav, Felix and Victor Hollaender.

Mr. Isaac Plessner (formerly Breslau, now Ramat Gan, Israel) will be 80 years old on June 26. He was an Honorary Officer of the Tikvin Synagogue and the B'ne B'rith Lodge in Breslau and has an almost unique knowledge of Synagogue music. Mr. Plessner's son, Dr. Martin Plessner, is a well-known Arabist who holds an appointment with the Oriental Institute of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

The publisher **Oscar Neruda** (London) was 70 years old on May 10. For some time he was Director of the "Vertriebsstelle des Verbandes der deutschen Buchhenschriftsteller" and, later on, of the foreign department of the "Universum Verlag," Prague. Many playwrights in Germany and Czechoslovakia owe their successes to his activities.

Mr. Ralph Blumenau (London) has been appointed Director of the Institute of Youth of UNESCO in Munich.

Obituaries

It is learned with deepest regret that **Dr. Simon Kallenbach** died in Hove recently. Dr. Kallenbach was in charge of the Old Age Home for Refugees in Richmond and later on in Hove. He was not only the warden and medical adviser but also the sincere friend of those in his trust. The atmosphere of the Home has been determined once and for all by his humanitarian spirit and his deep-rooted Jewish feelings. Dr. Kallenbach established close contacts between his Home and the AJR and as a Board member, took an active interest in its general work. He will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

Dr. C. C. Itzig (formerly Danzig) passed away recently. He took a leading part in Jewish affairs and was for some time President of the Danzig Jewish Community. Dr. Itzig was associated with the work of the AJR since its inception as a member of the Board. Before he moved away from North-West London he was in close contact with the day-by-day work. He will always be gratefully remembered by those who had the privilege of co-operating with him.

Dr. Hans Redlich (Epsom, Surrey) passed away at the age of 58. He was a well-known lawyer in Berlin and took up legal practise in this country some years ago. He was actively associated with the work of the AJR as a member of its Board and was a most helpful friend to many of his fellow refugees.

Dr. Moritz Elsas passed away in London recently. He was Head of the German Rockefeller-Institut fuer Preisgeschichte in Frankfurt (Main), and the author of a well-known standard work issued by the Institute. His field of research included population statistics and housing problems. He continued his scientific work after he had settled in this country.

Dr. Hugo Fliess died in Carshalton (Surrey). Before his emigration, he was a well-known specialist for ear diseases in Berlin.

Of the settlements in Palestine he loved most Hazorea, at the foot of the Hills of Ephraim, which was founded in 1934 by a group of "Werkleute" from Germany. He even thought of settling there one day and devoting himself to the pursuit of painting. In his last will, he provided that his art collection be transferred to Hazorea and kept in a building which at the same time should serve as a centre for cultural activities. Two years ago, the first two wings of the "Bet Wilfrid Israel" were completed. One part houses the collection and, in addition, serves as a hall for various exhibitions; recently, interesting archaeological finds in the neighbourhood were on display. The other part is a reading-room, well equipped and furnished, in which reference books and journals in many languages are available. The two wings are linked by an arcade which can also be used as a stage for theatrical performances. The blue-print foresees two other wings to be added in the future.

Life at Hazorea

I had not been to Hazorea for six years and both the settlement and its surroundings have changed. Not far, in the valley, aluminium huts of a ma'abara have sprung up and the nearby historic site of Yokneam has grown into a veritable township. The settlement itself has not only become larger but more beautiful. Green lawns and flower gardens now line the houses and most of the veteran settlers live in solid, permanent stone structures, a room each for a couple with such luxuries as a radio and a bookshelf. There are 150 "Werkleute" in the kibbutz. Altogether, it has a population of 210 settlers, some of them from Bulgaria, 181 children and 33 old people, parents of the settlers. At present there are also two youth groups of 50 and 15 respectively in training there. The area consists of over 7,375 dunams of Jewish National Fund land, half of which abandoned Arab property which was recently transferred to the Fund. The bulk of the land is grown with cereal. There are also large orchards, vineyards and olive-groves. Hazorea has now a prosperous air. Its livestock comprises 130 cattle, 300 sheep and 7,000 chickens. No less impressive are its 10 tractors and two huge combines. Twenty people are working in a carpentry shop which specialises in school furniture and is a regular supplier of the Government and the municipalities.

As in all collective settlements, the youngsters live in children houses, according to age groups. The local school cares for the first six forms; later, the school at the neighbouring Mishmar Haemek takes over which, like Hazorea, belongs to the Hashomer Hatzair Movement. There is such a variety of cultural activities during the evenings that the settlers have as little time for themselves as harried people in a city. There are council conferences and discussion groups, a chamber orchestra and a choir, film-shows and recorded concerts, theatrical performances and general meetings. One of two "resident" painters, Yohanan Ben Yaakov, was rewarded last year with the Dizengoff Prize. The linguistic difficulties of the first years have long been overcome and Hebrew has been fully adopted as the common language.

The rising slopes of the kibbutz, from which one can look down far into the Emek Jezreel, have not always been so quiet and peaceful as to-day. During the Arab riots of 1936-39, the settlement had to ward off many attacks and during the War of Liberation its settlers took part in the battle of Mishmar Haemek and ten of them fell. The hills are now crowned with a green belt—the Otto Warburg forest comprising 120,000 trees and the Mothers' Forest with 60,000 trees and more afforestation projects are planned for the future. One day, the settlers hope that "House Wilfrid Israel" will be ringed by woods and gardens, a living memorial worthy of a great name.

HERBERT FREEDEN

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Old Acquaintances

Swiss Cottage Pie—They take the place of Peter Herz, call themselves "Cosmopolitan Players," and are really polyglot. It is something new that Rolf Carston produced under the title "Swiss Cottage Pie" in English. Egon Larsen-Lehrburger has written the little revue, and Freddie Poser, who runs a launderette in the day-time, scored the many topical songs. Besides being highly entertaining and amusing, that show brings three surprises. First, a beautiful young girl from Jamaica, Tessa Pendergast. Secondly, there is Agnes Bernelle, Rudolf Bernauer's daughter, born in Berlin but a real English comedienne, full of pep, poise, and with a pleasant voice. Thirdly, Desmond Leslie, her husband, a relative of Winston Churchill by the way, who wrote the best and strongest scenes, pointed and with wonderful ideas. Mr. Leslie is a novelist of distinction, and perhaps he did not know himself how good he would be for that sort of topical cabaret. Altogether the little show was a success in Finchley Road, and as good as many in the West End. To prove this point, Agnes Bernelle played in the same week at the Irving Theatre Tagore's "Sacrifice," and showed her versatility.

Obituary—Slowly but surely the generation who represented the great times of the theatre in Berlin is dying out. After Max Reinhardt, Eugen Robert and Heinz Saltenburg, now also Viktor Barnowsky died, aged 76, in New York after a long illness. Born in Berlin he started as an actor in his youth and became a producer of distinction. Barnowsky, who discovered Elisabeth Bergner and directed Ibsen, Wedekind, Shaw, Hauptmann and Shakespeare, taught drama at Fordham University and Hunter College. His wish to re-visit Germany was not fulfilled.

News From Everywhere—Grete Mosheim will play in van Druten's "I am a Camera" at Berlin's "Schlosspark-Theater."—Julius Bab's daughter was killed in a car accident in Los Angeles.—Vicky, the Berlin-born cartoonist of London's "News Chronicle," will publish a collection of his work under the title "Stabs in the Back" here.—Leonhard Steckel's first film, "Balance Hotel," was successfully shown in Switzerland.—Max Opuls got an offer to produce Zuckmayer's "Devil's General" in London.—"Das letzte Rezept," one of the few German pictures shown at the Film Festivals in Cannes, is based on a play by two refugees: Egon Eis who lives in Mexico, and his late brother Otto Eis.

PEM

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"BRITAIN'S NEW CITIZENS"

The Anniversary Publication of the AJR, "Britain's New Citizens," has met with wide response both inside and outside the community. Many AJR members have expressed their appreciation by spontaneous letters such as the following:—

"It was certainly right to compile this record, and some contributions are outstanding through their authors' distinction: itself a heritage from our 'German' past."

Another reader says: "I think the book is marvellously edited, every single article goes to the point of the matter and it is an achievement on your part. I have shown it to several of my Christian friends. They fully appreciated the contents."

This last letter brings us to an important point in which everybody's co-operation is highly essential. We have a sufficient supply of copies in stock and everybody should consider it his moral duty to bring the Anniversary Publication to the notice of non-refugee friends. *It would be a particularly fine gesture if every "new citizen" sent copies of the publication to his four sponsors who helped him to acquire the nationality of this country.*

Quite a few members have sent in the special contribution towards the production costs. There is, however, still a rather considerable portion of members who, so far, have not responded to the appeal; they should send in their share as soon as possible.

AJR Headquarters have sent copies of the publication to a great number of Christian and Jewish friends of our cause.

Any suggestions about Libraries, Universities, local papers or personalities to whom the booklet should be sent by AJR Headquarters will be greatly welcomed.

Last, not least, review copies have been dispatched to a number of national and local daily and weekly papers. Several of them have already published reviews. *Harold Nicolson* devoted almost the

CHANGE OF NAME? GERMAN IN "AJR INFORMATION"

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

At the recent General Meeting of the AJR, a suggestion was made to the effect that the term "Refugees" in the style of the AJR should be dropped, owing to the fact that most members of our group have by now settled in this country, acquired British nationality and consider themselves at home in what was first a country of refuge. This suggestion was, in my opinion, rightly opposed. We are still a special group within the larger community, represented as such by our Association. We should be proud of the quality of refugees, a term with honourable significance in history.

entire "Marginal Comment" of the *Spectator* (May 16) to the publication. Based on the material of the booklet, he analyses the specific position of our community. He recalls the difficulties which, according to our brochure, refugees had to surmount and describes their achievements. "We may gain much by the incorporation of these New Citizens," he says.

The "Jewish Chronicle" deals with the publication in its Leading Article of May 2. Reviews have also been published in the "Jewish Observer and Middle East Review" (formerly "Zionist Review"), "The Hampstead and Highgate Express" of May 16, the "Aufbau" and the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland." Further reviews are to be expected. Readers would render a great service if they wrote to AJR Headquarters whenever they come across any reference to the booklet.

A full summary of the reviews and also of the most valuable comments and addenda received from readers will be given at a later date.

On the other hand, I am strongly opposed to a suggestion, also made at the Meeting, that "AJR Information" or part of it should be published in German. In spite of the point made above, we must be expected to have acquired that fluency of English which is necessary in order to read and assimilate the contents of our monthly. Even those of us who still speak English haltingly, should be able to read and understand English. I am convinced nearly all of us do. Even the aged are eager clients of the public libraries and subscribers to the English press. At any rate, the official publication of our Association which has been in English throughout, should not relapse into German just at this stage, when—as set out in the Anniversary Publication—our integration in the British community has made so much progress. Politically and for tactical reasons, it would be a wrong move for AJR to use German as a medium in our periodical.

Yours faithfully,

31 Muswell Hill Road,
London, N.10.
May 15, 1952.

E. Schaefer.

(By this letter the discussion on two very important questions has been opened. It would be appreciated if as many readers as possible expressed their views, thus giving the Executive and Board of the AJR guidance in their deliberations. Replies may be sent for information only or, space permitting, for publication, and should be marked accordingly. Everybody should take part in this "Gallup Poll.")

To comply with repeated suggestions, some announcements on restitution matters in this issue have been published in German. The readers' view on this tentative innovation which is not meant to anticipate any final arrangements would be also greatly welcomed.—THE ED.)

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Births

Mr. and Mrs. S. Balsam, 27 Lindfield Gardens, N.W.3, announce the birth of their daughter Susan Hannah on April 23, 1952.

Michaels.—A daughter was born on May 17 to Charlotte, née Anker (Danzig), wife of F. Michaels (Magdeburg), of 12 Danescroft Avenue, Hendon, N.W.4.

Deaths

Mrs. Emmy Fuchs, née Levi, wife of Mr. Friedrich Fuchs (formerly Stuttgart), passed away on April 27, 1952, at the age of 72, at her home, 52 Chatsworth Gardens, Acton, W.3.

Mr. Jonas Kneip, 1 Polperro Mansions, Lyncroft Gardens, N.W.6, passed away after a long illness on Sunday, May 4, deeply mourned and sadly missed by his loving and heart-broken wife, Elizabeth, son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and relatives.

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JUNIOR ASSISTANT, 18-23, wanted for research library. Knowledge German, typing. Box 1346.

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CORRESPONDENT/Typist, German, shorthand, exp. filing and record clerk, wants position in International Organisation or Agency. Box 1332.

SEN. BOOK-KEEPER, costing and wages clerk, P.A.Y.E., good at figures, seeks post. Box 1333.

LADY, exp. with nursing (good references), also fond of children, wants part-time job. Box 1334.

LADY, French, English perfect, Italian, Arabic spoken, German knowl., typist, with musical interests, good in hand embroidery, wants interesting position, trainee job considered. With or without accommodation. Box 1335.

GEN. CLERK/BOOK-KEEPER, exp., best references, seeks position. Box 1336.

HOUSEKEEPER, refined, exp. good cook, seeks position with business couple or gentleman. Daily preferred. Box 1337.

ELDERLY LADY, clerk/typist, companion or children's nurse, wants part-time work. Box 1338.

RECEPTIONIST/TEL. wants position with reputable firm. Best ref. Box 1339.

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Miscellaneous

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ATTRACTIVE LADY, 30, good business woman, would like to meet gentleman with view to marriage. Box 1323.

FOR MY RELATIVE, widow of good family, at the end of 40, own home near London, seeking acquaintance of gentleman, 50 years old, with view to marriage. 69 Raglan Court, Wembley, Middx.

WIDOW, 42, looks younger, small attractive blonde, no children, would like to meet gentleman view strictly marriage. Please write encl. photo. Discretion assured. Box 1345.

MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Seelig, Lothar and Erna, from Breslau, for Gerhard Stillke, Tecklenburg.

Goldschmidt, Willy, born August 1877, from Berlin, lived with son Herbert at Twickenham, for Jewish Community, Berlin.

Keate, Karoline, formerly Goldhardt, abt. 47, last known address: 6 Chesham Place, W.2, for Gusti Goldhardt, New York.

Sueskind, Dr. Siegfried, Notary from Berlin, may have left England for AJR.

Friends or employees (especially book-keeper Miss Wolff) of the late **Wilhelm Guttman** (firm of Guttman and Napiralla), Breslau, for daughter Susanne Sheridan, London.

Enquiry from HIAS

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

Bindefeld, Rolli, age about 27 years, born in Berl, Germany, for Benno Heimann, of Hollywood, California.

Personal Enquiry

Wolff, Dr. Willy, from Berlin, Solicitor, last address (1940) Bleibtreustr. 38/39, Charlottenburg, for sister Dora Hirsch, née Wolff, 106A Lee Road, London, S.E.3.

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The **AJR Needlewomen Service** has many experienced needlewomen on its list, for any kind of needlework, especially mending, darning, alterations. Phone: MAI 4449 (AJR).

The **AJR Secretarial Service** has on its register shorthand typists, typists, book-keepers, clerks, for full or part-time, in- and outdoor. Phone: MAI 4449 (AJR).

AJR "Save your Time Service" has on its books people who would run errands, do odd jobs, do your shopping and take over any kind of work full or part-time. Phone: MAI 4449 (AJR).

The **AJR Social Service Department** requires a showcase for its permanent handicraft display and a table for its office, furthermore German-Hebrew Prayer Books (Sabbath and Holidays) for a former K.Z. inmate.

AJR GENERAL MEETING

At the AJR General Meeting which took place on May 12 under the chairmanship of Mr. H. J. Feist, Mr. W. Rosenstock reported that the work of the AJR was now mainly centred around four major tasks: representation in general questions of restitution, Social Services, advisory activities and production of "AJR Information." The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Pottlitzer, stated that the income from subscriptions and donations has remained unchanged as compared with the preceding year. On the other hand the liabilities have increased. Mr. Pottlitzer appealed to members to adapt voluntarily their subscriptions which had been assessed as long ago as 1946.

The new Executive was elected as proposed by the outgoing Executive. Three members of the previous Executive did not stand for re-election: Dr. H. Capell, who emigrated to Israel; Dr. E. G. Lowenthal, who holds a temporary appointment abroad; and Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld who, in view of his manifold other commitments in Jewish life, felt unable to co-operate regularly with the Executive. The Chairman paid tribute to the invaluable services of these outgoing Executive members. Two Executive members were elected for the first time: Mr. S. Bischheim and Mr. L. Schurmann. The new Executive thus consist of: Mr. A. Schoyer (Chairman), Dr. H. Reichmann (Vice-Chairman), Mr. M. Pottlitzer (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. W. M. Behr, Mr. S. Bischheim, Dr. H. J. Feist, Mr. P. Goldschmidt, Mr. A. Horovitz, Mr. L. Schurmann, Mr. L. Ullmann, Mr. A. Wechsler, Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary).

After the election of the Hon. Officers, Mr. F. Goldschmidt gave a report on the Claims Conference at the Hague.

AJR MANCHESTER BRANCH

At the General Meeting of the AJR Manchester Branch, Mr. Werner Treuherz was elected Chairman in succession to the late Mr. Bochenek. The other Hon. Officers are: Dr. Sonneborn, Dr. Friedlaender (Vice-Chairmen), Dr. Kroch, Mr. Streat (Joint Treasurers), Mr. Werner, Mr. Abel (Joint Secretaries), Mr. Glaser, Mr. Simon (Joint Chairmen of the Social Committee).

In his report, the Vice-Chairman, Dr. Sonneborn, pointed out that during the period under review the position of the Morris Feinmann Homes, run under the auspices of the AJR Manchester Branch, had been further consolidated. The Homes now cater for 24 mainly elderly residents and additional accommodation if it were available could be easily filled. The relations with London Headquarters had been cordial and tribute was paid to their work.

A Golden Book Certificate was presented to Mrs. Bochenek in treasured memory of her late husband, Mr. B. Bochenek.

AJR FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The May functions of the Club in the new, attractive premises were well attended and most successful. There will be the following meetings in June:—

Sunday, June 8, at 7 p.m.: Concert. Miss H. Aronstein and Mr. O. Sharf.

Sunday, June 22, at 7 p.m.: Talk by Dr. E. Aufricht: "Kann uns zum Vaterland die Fremde werden?"

The meetings take place at 51 Belsize Square (off Belsize Park). Non-members of the Club are always welcomed as guests.

THE "HYPHEN"

Sunday, June 8, at 7.30 p.m., at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. Major SHARON, of the Legation of Israel, will give a "Survey of the Political and Economic Life of Israel."

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