

# INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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## TASKS AHEAD

THE important work which has to be carried out by the "Council of Jews from Germany" in the interests of former German Jews all over the world is reflected in the report on the Council's recent Plenary Session and in the resolution adopted at its Public Meeting. If the accomplishment of these tasks only depended on the devotion of those in charge of the Council's work one could look into the future with a feeling of confidence. This confidence is, however, not only modified by unavoidable external obstacles, but also by internal difficulties. The Council is not an organisation with financial resources of its own. It is entirely dependent on the support it receives from its member organisations, especially from the AJR and the corresponding organisations in Israel and U.S.A. As readers see from the resolution it will be one of the Council's tasks to work for the speedy implementation and supplementation of the German legislative programme. The result of these efforts will affect wide sections of the Jews from Germany, e.g. with regard to compensation for their lost careers or for their confiscated lift vans, or, if they come from the British Zone, for any kind of compensation whatsoever. The speedy promulgation of adequate laws is indispensable for rich and poor claimants alike. There are also many whose only hope is the materialisation of those urgent social schemes for which the Council is claiming the necessary funds. Every Jew from Germany, whatever his personal position, will realise that it is our common duty to do everything in our power in the interests of the needy in our midst so that they may spend the rest of their troubled lives in dignity and freedom from discomfort.

It would be fatal if the efforts on behalf of individual claimants and of the community as a whole were hampered by financial considerations. The additional work to be carried out by the Council will also involve additional expenditure. If the Jews from Germany want their voice to be heard the Council must have adequate machinery and its representatives will also have to take an active part in negotiations, many of which are to be carried out abroad. For this reason the Council has appealed to its member organisations for a substantial increase in their contributions to the Council. Here a new liability of the AJR arises. It can only be met by the co-operation of all members, as subscriptions and donations are the AJR's only source of income. Everyone is therefore urgently requested to supplement his contribution which is in most cases still on the 1945 level. By strengthening the organisation, which acts as spokesman of the Jews from Germany, he serves his own interests.

## WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE "COUNCIL"

The Plenary Session of the "Council of Jews from Germany" and the Public Meeting at its conclusion testified to the strong feeling of solidarity among the Jews from Germany and the vital tasks they have in common. The Session was presided over by Dr. Leo Baeck, the President of the "Council." Delegates from abroad included the joint Vice-Chairmen of the "Council," Dr. Siegfried Moses (Jerusalem), and Dr. Max Gruenewald (New York), and further representatives from Israel, U.S.A., Belgium, France and Holland; organisations representing former German Jews in South American countries and in South Africa had appointed London friends as their deputies. Representatives of the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany, Mr. Julius Dreifuss (Duesseldorf), Mr. Harry Goldstein (Hamburg) and Dr. Berthold Simonsohn (Hamburg) attended the Session as guests; in welcoming them Dr. Baeck expressed his appreciation of their successful efforts in building up new Jewish Communities.

### Individual Claims

Two problems stood in the foreground of the Session: the effects of the Luxemburg Agreement on the Jews from Germany and the claim of the "Council" to an adequate share in the heirless, unclaimed and communal property now recovered by the Jewish Successor Organisations, especially by the

Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation in the U.S. Zone (JRSO). A report on the Luxemburg Agreement was given by Dr. Walter Breslauer (London), joint Vice-Chairman of the "Council." Though, as Dr. Breslauer pointed out, the Agreement had many imperfections, it was to be regarded as an important step towards a settlement of Jewish claims. Among the shortcomings mentioned by Dr. Breslauer were the time-table which visualises a period of 10 years for the final settlement of the claims; it was also highly regrettable that the German Federal Government had declined to give compensation to Jewish victims of Nazism from the Soviet Zone of Germany and from Austria. Much depended on the legislation which was now to be promulgated by the Germans in fulfilment of the Agreement. In a Resolution submitted by Dr. Breslauer and unanimously adopted by the delegates, the Executive of the "Council" was urged to make every effort to clarify and improve the legislation, whether by itself or together with other Jewish bodies. "The 'Council'," the Resolution goes on, "feels entitled to take first place in any work to be done by the 'Conference on Jewish Material Claims' (the representative body of the non-Israeli organisations) with regard to the fulfilment of the Individual Claims

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## REQUESTS OF THE JEWS FROM GERMANY

Resolution adopted at the Public Meeting of the Council on October 15, 1952

1. The representatives of the Jews from Germany, assembled at Stern Hall (London) on October 15, 1952, consider the Luxembourg Agreement between Jewry and Germany in spite of its many imperfections an important historical event and urge the Executive of the "Council" to work for a *speedy implementation and supplementation of the legislative programme on individual claims.* Many Jewish Nazi victims from Germany are old and without means. The speedy payment of compensation is the only hope they hold for their remaining years.
2. They express their gratitude to those who negotiated the Agreement, including the representative of the "Council."
3. Those present note with satisfaction that the Presidium of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims have recognised in principle the demand of the "Council" for a *share in the funds which the Federal German Republic will make available to*

the Conference. They trust that this share will be appropriate to cover the *comprehensive social programme* of the "Council."

4. The Executive of the "Council" is, therefore, urged not to abandon its demand for a *share in the heirless, unclaimed and communal property in Germany, built up by the Jews from Germany and their forefathers.*

Those present agree with the attitude taken by the "Council" that the major part of the assets which are now being recovered by the Jewish Successor Organisations, especially by the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation in the U.S. Zone (JRSO), should be used for the relief of needy Jews in general, and in particular of those in Israel.

At the same time the Executive of the "Council" are requested not to relent in their efforts to secure an adequate share in the funds which are the heritage of German Jewry.

(Continued from front page)

programme." Another clause in the Resolution refers to the work of the United Restitution Office; it states that the "Council" expects that the assistance given by URO to individual claimants who require such assistance be continued and that the necessary funds for the enlargement of the work of URO be provided.

#### Share in Global Payment

Dr. Breslauer then dealt with the Council's claim to a share in the global German payments. This claim has, in principle, been recognised by the Presidium of the "Claims Conference," and both Dr. Breslauer and the delegates stressed that the share should be appropriate to cover the comprehensive social programme of the "Council." In their Resolution the delegates authorised the Executive Committee of the "Council" to work out and place before the Claims Conference a programme setting out in detail the social tasks to be fulfilled out of the funds allotted to the 'Council,' taking it for granted that all other organisations to which the Conference Funds shall be allotted will be called upon to submit equally detailed programmes." A special clause in the Resolution dealt with the position of the refugees from Austria: "The 'Council' is prepared, if its share is adjusted accordingly, to include in its work the care of the special needs of Jewish Nazi victims from Austria, owing to the fact that there is no representative international organisation of the Jews from Austria."

#### Claim To Our Heritage

The second main item on the Agenda was the Council's claim to an adequate share in the heirless, unclaimed and communal property of German Jewry. It was stated with satisfaction that the Successor Organisation for the British Zone, the Jewish Trust Corporation, has, in principle, recognised this claim. On the other hand it was deeply regretted by all delegates that the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation for the U.S. Zone (JRSO) had so far taken a negative attitude. This, it was pointed out, entailed a great social hardship in view of the manifold needs of Jews expelled from Germany. Being the next of kin to those who perished and having once helped to build up the Jewish Communities in Germany, the former German Jews, represented by the "Council," have an incontestable moral and legal claim to at least part of the assets now recovered by JRSO. The German Jews, it was recalled, had in one period of their history not been able to render help to other Jewries, but had been compelled to accept assistance from abroad. They have not forgotten the generous help received during the years of the Nazi regime especially from the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency. In recognition of their moral debt they had therefore agreed that the major part of the recovered assets should be used for general Jewish relief work. They could, however, not admit that not even a part of the proceeds would be used for the social purposes for which they were designed, viz. for relief schemes on behalf of the expelled former German Jews. Amongst these needs the care of the aged, especially by the establishment of Old Age Homes, was thought particularly urgent. All the delegates con-

#### NAHUM GOLDMANN WELCOMES LUXEMBURG AGREEMENT

The Bulletin of the German Federal Government publishes the text of a statement by Dr. Nahum Goldmann in which he expresses his satisfaction at the conclusion of the negotiations. The signature of the Federal Chancellor Dr. Adenauer gave evidence that the German Federal Republic was willing to contribute to the tragic problem of restitution. With regard to diplomatic relations between Germany and Israel Dr. Goldmann stated that this was a problem of mass psychology which could only be solved in the course of time. The Agreement would, however, have a decisive bearing on the German-Jewish relations.

#### MONEY ORDERS FROM AND TO GERMANY

According to an announcement published in the *Board of Trade Journal* of October 11, 1952, a Money Order Service to the German Federal Republic (including the Western Sectors of Berlin) is now in operation, but remittances may not be sent unless permission has first been obtained. Applications should be made on a special form obtainable at Money Order Post Offices.

Simultaneously, a Money Order Service to Great Britain and Northern Ireland has been started by the German Postal Authorities. It is restricted to the payment of certain "Nebenkosten und Dienstleistungen des Warenverkehrs" and of small imports of books and periodicals in accordance with the existing foreign currency regulations.

sidered it highly regrettable that through no fault of the "Council" a controversy which could have been avoided had arisen. They urged the Executive of the "Council" to take all steps necessary to secure the Council's claim.

#### Two Overcrowded Meetings

The Public Meeting under the auspices of the AJR at the conclusion of the Plenary Session was attended by 800-1,000 persons. This fact in itself reveals the loyalty of the Jews from Germany to the work of the AJR and of the "Council." In addition to the main Meeting at Stern Hall, at which Dr. Baeck presided, an Overflow Meeting with Mr. A. Horovitz in the chair had to be arranged in an adjacent Hall, which was also filled to capacity. In his introductory words Dr. Baeck pointed out that the Jewish people had always held a special position in the history of mankind; equally the German Jews hold a special position in Jewish history. They could look back to a proud heritage, but at the same time they had to face common tasks for the future. The "Council of Jews from Germany" stands for the accomplishment of these tasks. Dr. Baeck gratefully recalled the work of the great international Jewish Relief Organisations in the interest of German Jewry and also paid tribute to the unrelenting services of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the United Restitution Office, Professor Norman Bentwich and Mr. A. G. Brotman. Dr. Siegfried Moses (Jerusalem), Vice-Chairman of the "Council," surveyed the policy of the "Council." The background of the Jews from Germany and the disproportionately large number of aged people in their midst called for special urgent measures. Dr. Max Gruenewald (New York), also a Vice-Chairman of the "Council," stressed that Jews from Germany owed loyalty not only to their new country of residence and to Jewry, but also to the community of the former German Jews.

#### AN IMPORTANT PUBLICATION ON THE HAGUE AGREEMENT

The German and English wording of the Hague Agreement between the German Federal Republic, the State of Israel and the Jewish Organisations has been published by the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland," Duesseldorf-Benrath. The value of the publication both for the layman and for the lawyer who is not familiar with the details of compensation legislation is enhanced by an introduction and comment written by Dr. H. G. van Dam, who attended the Hague Conference as adviser to the Delegation of the "Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany." If a new edition of this most valuable booklet should be published one minor error should be rectified: the regulation providing for indemnification to emigrated former civil servants (*Auslandsbeamtengesetz*) is not an implementary order to the *Inlandsbeamtengesetz* of May 11, 1951, but a special law of March 18, 1952, which is, however, to a large extent based on the *Inlandsbeamtengesetz*. F. G.

#### ASSETS OF GERMAN JEWS IN SWITZERLAND

Assets deposited in Switzerland by German Jews who lost their life or a considerable part of their liberty or their full German citizen rights by Nazi measures will be released on application without deduction, other releases over 10,000 Swiss francs being subject to deductions up to 50 per cent.

The results of the Hague negotiations were reviewed by Dr. F. Goldschmidt (London). They may, he stated, be disappointing for Jewish Nazi victims from territory now under Soviet occupation (e.g. Sachsen and Thuringen) and from Austria, for whom no compensation legislation by the German Federal Republic is visualised; it is also regrettable that Nazi victims from territories east of the Oder-Neisse Line (e.g. Schlesien, Pommern and Ostpreussen) are to get compensation only on a very limited scale. On the other hand the Hague Conference had also resulted in the German undertaking to improve and supplement the compensation legislation for Jews from Western Germany and from Berlin; *inter alia*, future laws would also provide for compensation to Jews from the British Zone. Dr. Goldschmidt paid tribute to the understanding displayed by Professor Franz Boehm, the leader of the German delegation, and Rechtsanwalt Otto Kuester, the deputy leader prior to his resignation. The last speaker, Dr. H. Reichmann (London), Hon. Secretary of the "Council," recalled the great social and cultural achievements of German Jewry in the past. To-day it was the duty of the Jews from Germany represented by the "Council" to render assistance to the great number of impoverished people in their midst and to keep on record the history of former German Jewry. These important tasks could be carried out only if an adequate part of the proceeds from the heirless, unclaimed and communal property and from the German global payments were put at the disposal of the "Council." He moved a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and the full text of which is printed on the front page of this issue. In bringing the Meeting to a close, Dr. Rudolf Callmann (New York) expressed the gratitude of the Jews from Germany to Leo Baeck for the unique services he rendered to their cause by his guidance and his counsel as President of the "Council of Jews from Germany."

# RESTITUTION NEWS

## ENTSCHAEDIGUNG FUER FREIBERUFLICHE TAETIGKEIT IN BAYERN

Die 3. Durchfuehrungsverordnung zum Bayrischen Entschaeidigungsgesetz vom 23. August 1952 bestimmt, dass Verfolgte zwecks Festsetzung der Ausgleichsentschaedigung entsprechend ihrer sozialen Stellung in vier Beamtenbesoldungsgruppen mit aufsteigenden Gehaeltern einzureihen sind. Das durchschnittliche jaehrliche Vergleichsgehalt betraegt bei einem Beamten (a) des einfachen Dienstes 3000 DM (RM), (b) des mittleren Dienstes 4000 DM (RM), (c) des gehobenen Dienstes 6000 DM (RM), (d) des hoeheren Dienstes 9000 DM (RM), in ganz besonderen Faellen 12.000 DM (RM). Der Zeitraum, fuer den die Ausgleichsentschaedigung gewaehrt wird, endet in der Regel mit Vollendung des 65., spaetestens des 72. Lebensjahres. Die Moeglichkeit einer Berufsausuebung bis zur Vollendung des 72. Lebensjahres ist bei Berufen

anzunehmen, die seit 1945 wegen der durch die Kriegsfolgen hervorgerufenen wirtschaftlichen Verhaeltnisse ueblicherweise ueber das 65. Lebensjahr hinaus ausuebt werden.

Die Entschaeidigung wird nicht ueber den Zeitpunkt hinaus gewaehrt, in dem der Verfolgte die Moeglichkeit hatte, die zur Wiederaufnahme oder vollen Entfaltung seiner fruerehen beruflichen Taetigkeit erforderlichen Zulassungen, Bezugsberechtigungen und Geldmittel zu beschaffen. Im Zweifel gilt als dieser Zeitpunkt der 1.1.1946. Auf die Zeit vor dem 30.6.1948 entfallende Betraege werden im Verhaeltnis 5 : 1 auf DM umgerechnet. An Stelle der Ausgleichsentschaedigung kann Verfolgten, die das 65. Lebensjahr vollendet haben, oder mindestens 70 v.H. erwerbsbeschraenkt sind, auf Antrag eine lebenslaengliche Rente gewaehrt werden. Die Hoehe der Rente ist in entsprechender Anwendung des Par. 16 Abs. 2 des Reichsbewertungsgesetzes zu errechnen.

## FAELLIGKEIT VON ENTSCHAEDIGUNGSANSPRUECHEN IN BAYERN

Auf Grund der 4. Durchfuehrungsverordnung zum Entschaeidigungsgesetz vom 23.8.1952 sind Wiedergutmachungsansprueche fuer Schaeden an Eigentum und Vermoegen, fuer Sonderabgaben, Geldstrafen und Bussen bis zum Gesamthoehchstbetrag von 5000 DM zur Haelfte fuer folgende Kategorien faellig: (a) Anspruchsberechtigte ueber 65 Jahre, (b) in der Erwerbsfaehigkeit um mindestens 70 v. H. beschraenkte, (c) auf Wohlfahrtsunterstuetzung etc. angewiesene, (d) auf Antragsteller, die wegen ihrer Beduerftigkeit der Unterstuetzung anderer beduerfen.

Ferner hat das Bayrische Finanzministerium am 16.8.52 die Auszahlung einer zweiten Rate der Haftentschaedigung angeordnet.

## NEW GERMAN "RECHTSANWALTSORDNUNG"

The new "Bundesrechtsanwaltsordnung" has passed the first reading in Bonn. It provides, *inter alia*, that lawyers whose admission to the Bar had been cancelled for racial reasons may, on application, be readmitted and that they should be exempted from the "Residenzpflicht."

## HAFTENTSCHAEDIGUNG IN OESTERREICH

Wie bereits in der Oktobernummer berichtet wurde, ist eine Opferfuersorgegesetznovelle ergangen, die eine Haftentschaedigung fuer Anhaltung in Konzentrationslaegern oder Gefaengnissen vorsieht, vorausgesetzt, dass die Geschaedigten noch die oesterreichische Staatsangehoerigkeit besitzen. Bemuehungen um eine Ausweitung auf Opfer, die nicht mehr Oesterreicher sind, sind im Gange. Das Hoehsteinkommen im Jahre 1950, bis zu dem Ansprueche geltend gemacht werden koennen, betraegt jedoch nicht, wie in der letzten Nummer erwaehrt wurde, 26.000 oesterreichische Schillinge (etwa £350), sondern 100.000 oesterreichische Schillinge (etwa £1,350).

## Letter to the Editor

### FORMER AUSTRIAN BANK EMPLOYEES

Dear Sir,  
I should be grateful for the publication of the following announcement:—

The Association of former Austrian Bank Employees in Great Britain, founded in April 1952, has been working since in the interest of Austrian Bank pensioners.

All former Austrian Bank Employees who are not yet members of the Association are requested to join and send the annual subscription of 5/- to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Gruenfeld, 70 Cholmley Gardens, N.W.6.

Important discussions are at present taking place with competent authorities. A meeting of the members will be held on Sunday, November 9, 1952, at 10.45 a.m., in the Conference Room of the World Jewish Congress, 55 New Cavendish Street, W.1. Former Austrian Bank Employees are asked to attend in their own interest.

Yours very truly,

Walter Augenfeld,

71 Avondale Avenue,  
N.12.

Secretary.

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### Communal Leadership

"Who Runs Our Community?" asked a recent article in the *Mizrachi Jewish Review*. The writer, Mr. Peter Elman, a young lawyer and scholar, found that almost all major and many minor Anglo-Jewish institutions are, and have for generations been, governed by one or more members of a handful of closely inter-married families. He suggests that the community, while adopting what appeared to be a "process of democratic election," has in fact a "system of natural or hereditary selection." He believes that an increasing and ever more vehement challenge is proceeding from the immigrants: he urges the old leadership to "encourage and if need be train new elements to participate effectively in running the affairs of the community."

More concerned still is an article in the general *Zionist Jewish Observer* which asks, "Is this the last century of Anglo-Jewry?" Mr. Emanuel Litvinoff, the assistant editor and also one of Anglo-Jewry's better-known poets, notes a "woeful lack in men of calibre"; according to him a generation of British Jews has been lost through the "powerful disintegrating force" of Britain's "gentle liberalism." A spiritual revival, he says, is due but unlikely to issue from the synagogues whose religious appeal was blunted by scepticism and whose social character had gone. The revival would rather come through a "re-interpretation of Jewish tradition and history to embrace the new conditions created by Israel."

But, the writer wonders, "who is to re-interpret? And who is to accept the re-interpretation? Men of 30 and 40 do not readily become converts, and the exceptional qualities of inspiration and leadership which might accomplish such a conversion, do not exist."

The Zionist Federation has launched a national membership campaign. It is assisted by Mr. Berl Locker, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Executive, Jerusalem, who is addressing public meetings in London, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Glasgow and Brighton.

### Jews and Christians

At the tenth anniversary dinner of the Council of Christians and Jews held at the Mansion House, the Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, Q.C., spoke of the need for Christians and Jews to be "drawn together by the recognition of the dangers of antisemitism, as indeed of any form of racial or religious intolerance, not only to its immediate victims but also to the community as a whole." The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Fisher, presiding, said the Council was not only resisting intolerance and hatred but positively striving for understanding between religions and races. Extolling the City of London as a champion of liberty, the Lord Mayor, Sir Leslie Boyce, recalled that it was due to the City's determination to return Lionel de Rothschild that Jews were finally admitted to Parliament.

Several Jews have been appointed Justices of the Peace—in Leeds, Mr. L. E. Wigoder, twice President of the Leeds Lodge of B'nai Brith, and Mr. E. Ziff, President of the Talmud Torah there; in Manchester two ladies: the wife of Mr. Leslie M. Lever, M.P., and Mrs. R. Wigoder, an active Zionist.

### MAGNUS DAVIDSOHN, 75 YEARS OLD

For all those who know Magnus Davidsohn or had the privilege of seeing and hearing him at the High Festival Services it will be hardly believable that this man so full of vigour and activity will celebrate his 75th birthday on November 2. Magnus Davidsohn symbolises the dignity and the tradition of German Chazanuth. He conducted the Services at the beautiful Berlin Fasanenstrasse Synagogue from the date of the consecration to the day of its destruction in 1938. In this country he resumed his work for the benefit and to the delight of those German Jewish immigrants who are members of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation, London. Apart from being the "Cantor" and a trusted personal friend of his congregants, Magnus Davidsohn is also an authority on the history of synagogal music and a prolific writer and speaker on Jewish cultural and religious subjects.

On the happy occasion of his 75th birthday the AJR joins his friends and followers here and abroad in their heartiest congratulations.

## Letter from Jerusalem

**The Way of All Flesh:** The news that the meat ration will be reduced to 100 gms. per month has caused some consternation—especially among Israel's butchers. With just over a kilo per head of the population to sell over the whole year, it wouldn't be worth their while to keep their shops open. So far, only the sweet shops—in the absence of chocolate—have had to supplement their trade with stationery and tourist souvenirs, and no suggestions have yet been made to keep the butchers going. Jerusalemites still remember, from some years ago, the sign in a butcher's shop in Rehavia: "I slaughter myself twice weekly." It is feared that, in the meantime, the man might have learned English and make good this threat—just once.

**Sad Record:** Israel has the sad distinction of holding the world record in fatal traffic accidents. While there are only 23 cars to 20,000 citizens, 18 persons out of 100,000 were killed on the road last year. Comparative figures in the U.S.A. are 264 cars and 22 fatal casualties; in Britain, 75 cars per thousand with 9 killed per 100,000. And yet, one cause of accidents is almost unknown in Israel: driving under the influence of drink. For the Jewish State is the country with the proportionately smallest number of alcoholics. The world's heaviest drinkers are in France which has 22 drunkards for every 1,000 people.

**Passports, Please!** In the tale of Jewish suffering, passports play a sinister part. Because of the absence of official documents, our people were caught in the traps of persecution. The "man without a country," as the Jew in the Gohal has so aptly been termed, was essentially a man without papers.

The issuance of the first Israeli passports in Jerusalem, was, therefore a visible reminder that one of the most harassing chapters of Jewish homelessness had come to an end. When at a ceremony at the Ministry of the Interior, the first slim, dark blue Israeli passport was handed to Pinkhas Koplowitch, a former Polish Jew, who works now at the Ministry, he recited the traditional thanksgiving.

Together with the other recipients of the first three Israeli passports, Y. Pnueli of El Al, and H. Silberstein, a paper importer, he saw to it that this milestone will have its place in Jewry's annals: the event was inscribed in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund.

HERBERT FREDEN

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ENQUIRIES INVITED

Paula Galliner :

## HEINE'S VISIT TO ENGLAND

"I have seen the most curious thing in the world—London," wrote a young man in the year 1825. "Please," he continued, "please send a philosopher to this town, but, by Jove, not a poet! If a philosopher stood near the corner of Cheapside, I am certain he would learn here much more than from all the books to be bought at the Leipziger Messe, and surrounded by a crowd of people, he will perceive the heart-beat of the whole world—for if London is the right hand of the world, the mighty right hand, so is this street, leading from the Bourse to Downing Street, the artery of the great world. But a poet! Never send a poet to London! He will be pushed from one corner into another with a mild 'God damme!'"

It was with an arrogant pen, dipped deep into the ink of sarcasm, that Heine wrote these words, and though much truth was in them, we ask ourselves: why then, why did he make the crossing to England, to a country where, as he complained, the people were cold and stiff—ate nothing but beef, cold fat mutton and watery vegetables? Where the women were angular like horses and walked about ungainly on their long narrow feet?

One sound reason for this journey was surely that he simply wanted to pay a visit to England, the country which was the true and only home of free speech in Europe, the country to which a writer, who looked upon himself as a prominent liberal, might very naturally wish to undertake a pilgrimage.

But there was another, much more important, much more far-reaching reason.

## Shakespearean Soil

Heine worshipped Shakespeare! He longed to tread upon Shakespearean soil, he wanted to experience Shakespeare's England, Shakespeare, upon whom he looked as the Emperor of all Emperors in the world of poetry and prose.

On the whole, this visit was far from proving a fresh source of inspiration. However, there are some amusing and intelligent descriptions of his stay in London to be found in the "English Fragments"—which he wrote for the "Allgemeine Politische Annalen" in Munich.

"How odd we human beings are," he wrote. "At home, in the old country we grumble, and everything makes us boil, but as soon as we are really away from the homeland and somewhere else in the world, we think of home with sorrow and pains, and want to return again to the old house and the old atmosphere! I had the same feeling during my journey to England—as soon as the German coast faded away in the distance a funny love for the Teutonic Schlafmützen und Perückenwälder awoke in me." And he continues with his biting wit to describe the oddities of the English people.

"In spite of opposite spiritual opinions of life" he continues his observations, "one finds in the English people a unity of disposition which consists of the fact that they all feel like one nation. The new dandies or coxcombs may envy and despise each other—but they do not cease to be Englishmen. And as such they are a unity and hold together like plants, flourishing and blossoming in a common soil and wonderfully interwoven with it. Therefore the mysterious accord of the whole life and movement in England, which at first view seems a scene of confusion and contradiction—extreme wealth and misery, orthodoxy and incredulity, freedom and servility, barbarity and culture, honesty and swindle—these extremes in their absurd oppositions and—above all—the grey, foggy sky; all these are so connected, that we cannot imagine one without the other! And what in its isolation excites astonishment or laughter, appears as something quite ordinary and serious in its union."

## John Bull's Features

Indeed! John Bull's features are as profound and acrid as those of a Greek coin. And wherever we will find him, may it be in London or Calcutta, may he be a society man or a butler, he cannot be mistaken. He is always a being, very trustworthy, but cold and stiff. He is always grumbling—and if there are not the politics of the Commons or Lords or the churches, he grumbles from the beginning of the year to the end about the weather, and the climate!

But one thing has John Bull's full support and love: the Fleet! The warships! 'Old England's Wooden Walls'! And those he loves, because they made England what it is—and they maintain what it is!

And now Heine devotes himself to his idol—to Shakespeare. He is continuously reminded of this great poet during his stay in London, he visits all the remarkable spots and curiosities of the town, and every lion reminds him of the greater lion—of Shakespeare.

It seemed to the travelling poet that every place he visited lived in Shakespeare's dramas—and that everyone he met played his or her part in the poet's great tragedies. It may have been the fat "Beef-eaters of the Tower," who showed him the prison in which Richard's nephews were murdered, or perhaps the Sexton, who guided him throughout Westminster Abbey, talking all the while about Shakespeare and his Kings and Queens, who now lay so stonily and silently in their sarcophaguses, their statues regarding him peacefully, all for an entrance fee of one shilling. And then there was entrance fee of one shilling. And then there was he himself, the great poet, life-size he stood, a tall and sublime figure with meditative eyes, the roll

of parchment in his hands on which were written some magic words. And thus Heine wandered through the cathedral, and in his inner mind heard the midnight peals from above calling down into the dark Halls, and the white lips of the poet move and he conjures up all the dead ones, who rest during the day in their magnificent tombs—and they all rise and follow the poet's call—some in their old harness, some in splendid Court fashion, the Knights of the White and the Red rose, and the beautiful ladies of the various Courts and many epochs—and then the Halls filled with laughter and gaiety—and there was a clashing of swords, and a resounding of curses. Speeches were made and toasts were drunk, the exact replica of the many scenes produced at Drury Lane Theatre, where Kean, the famous actor, so moved Heine's soul in running despairingly across the stage shouting the words: "A horse, a horse, my Kingdom for a horse!"

Yes, it was Shakespeare's country, and Heine could not devour enough of it, nor could his tongue remain silent in his great admiration of the King of all poets!

Most interesting, though not often read, are his essays on "Shakespeare's Girls and Women." Shakespeare, at that time, was not too well known on the Continent, and Heine was asked by the French publisher Delloye to write a German text to a beautiful collection of engravings just published from English plates in England and in France, plates, which represented the most delightful of Heine's contemporary Shakespeare-actresses in their original parts.

Heine's adoration for the greatest of all poets found its high light in these essays on "Shakespeare's Girls and Women," where he described the poet as the intellectual sun which glorified England with his golden light and blessed rays, and it is in these essays that Heine, the German poet, gives his views and throws a light on Shakespeare's position in the English and the general literature of the world.

Indeed, one should read Heine's essays on Shakespeare! There may be scholars, scientists or writers, whose opinions on this characterisation and representation may differ from those of the German-Jewish poet! But one cannot doubt Heine's profound knowledge of Shakespeare's world and work, Shakespeare, Heine's admired genius who crowned the realm of poetry and drama with his plays.

## A NEW HOELDERLIN STUDY

Messrs. Bowes & Bowes, Cambridge, have started a series of "Studies in Modern European Literature and Thought" (6s. each), edited by Prof. Erich Heller, of Swansea University College. Among the first volumes, which include Baudelaire, Valery, Croce, Unamuno and Lorca, two monographs deal with German Literature. Besides H. E. Holthusen's subtle essay on "Rilke," one volume may be of special interest to our readers: Before becoming Mrs. Wittenberg, Dr. Lore S. Salzberger (formerly lecturer in German at Cambridge University) published her fine study about Hoelderlin.

As our readers know, the authoress is a daughter of the Rabbi of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation, but if this fact is mentioned here it is not because it is a "family affair," but on account of a striking family likeness and outlook: Miss Salzberger has inherited her father's skill to say profound things in a dignified and, at the same time, simple manner. It may be claimed that nothing has been written in English about this poet that can serve as a better introduction, although various excellent and more ambitious appreciations exist.

Miss Salzberger traces a much older tradition from which Hoelderlin's work has sprung than the Hellenic and the Christian: the Jewish Prophets. She deals with the changing conceptions of the idea "Poet" through the ages, and she points out "the language and rhythms of the Bible, the Psalms and the Lamentations in the cadences of 'Hyperion.'" There are interesting comparisons with Blake and Wordsworth, Shelley and Matthew Arnold too. Hoelderlin's tragedy was that he was "wrestling like Jacob with the angel, but never received the blessing," being no prophet although he possessed "vision, holiness and the power of words." Hence the disintegration of his mind, which is a modern phenomenon.

Miss Salzberger's portrait of Diotima, drawn by a woman with intuition who understood the poet even better than the real one, shows that a new Margaret Susmann is in the making.

L. W.

## LAW and LIFE

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

## "Shall I Form a Limited Company?"

Clients often ask this question. Briefly, a company has two major advantages: (1) the company is a separate legal entity and if there are unforeseen liabilities or the business fails, the proprietors can extricate themselves more easily; (2) by means of shares and debentures, large numbers of persons (limited in the case of private companies) can be given rights of various kinds in the company's assets and profits, such shares being easily transferable.

On the other hand, (a) it costs money to form a company (stamp duties, registration fees, account books, etc.); (b) certain returns have to be rendered which, being open to public inspection, may involve some publicity; and (c) the tax consequences need watching.

Sometimes a limited company will bring a tax advantage, but in other cases it may have the opposite effect. In recent years companies have been singled out for special taxes like profits tax and excess profits levy. On the other hand, while individuals are liable to surtax, the majority of trading companies never attract surtax liability.

For most traders the advantages of limited liability still outweigh any possible tax or other

disadvantages, but regard must be paid to the particular facts of each case, and business men are advised not to form companies until they have seen a qualified accountant.

## Buying an Existing Company

As an alternative to forming a new company, it may be possible to acquire a controlling shareholding in an existing but inactive company. Accountants and business transfer agents often know of such companies; there is also a specialised company transfer agency in North-West London.

Such a course will save formation expenses, but care must be taken that the vendors look after all unpaid liabilities to third parties, and that the company has a suitable constitution ("memorandum and articles").

Advertisements offering companies for sale often add, "Substantial tax losses." "Sole asset, tax losses," etc. However, for income tax purposes, such losses can only be set against future profits in the same business. If the new trade is different or there has been a non-trading interval, the tax authorities may refuse a carry-forward. Somewhat similar restrictions apply for excess profits levy. Though valuable tax-savers at times, past losses are, therefore, a rather contingent asset.

Lutz Weltmann

## IN MEMORIAM: ALFRED NEUMANN

For the third time in succession, I appear in these columns with an obituary: Death has a great harvest among the writers and artists of the Emigration. Alfred Neumann was only fifty-seven when he died; next to Lion Feuchtwanger he was the leading modern author of historical novels. A comparison between the two—between Feuchtwanger's "Goya" and Neumann's "Napoleon III" must be left for a later date, when the concluding volume will come out (Neuer Verlag, Frankfurt). Let us hope that he has been able to complete it—it is his greatest work. The first part, "Neuer Caesar," has been published in England under the title "Man of December."

When thirty years old, he was awarded the Kleist-Prize for his novel "Der Teufel"—with King Louis XI of France and his barber-councillor Le Dain as heroes. A similar relationship exists between them as between Feuchtwanger's Jew Süss and his Duke; but although Neumann's first success came, perhaps, under Feuchtwanger's sway, he was, as a writer, quite independent and his interests, style and characterisation were entirely different.

There is much drama in his novels, as there is in the works of the poet in whose honour he had been crowned. The short-story, "The Patriot," has been dramatised (with Kortner and Wegener), and screened (with Jannings): the conspiracy ending with the murder of Czar Paul I. His play, "House Danieli," was made out of one of his best tales: "Konig Haber," the story of a Jewish Banker who is the lover of a German Grand-Duchess and father of her child (after a true "scandal")—performed in 1930, with Kortner, Käthe Dorsch and Gründgens it was highly topical and dynamic.

Less convincing were his plays "Königsmaske" (about Louis XVII) and "Frauensuh" (about Lola Montez), and there is something missing in his straight biography (about "Queen Christina of Sweden"), although the unrest of life in the emigration might have played a part here.

Alfred Neumann liked the atmosphere of Putsch and Rebellion, of political plotting and revolutionary conspiracy—from the Italian Risorgimento to Modern America, from the Rathenau Murder to the Bravery of the Munich Students, the first to rise against Hitler. His heroes and heroines live dangerously, their nerves are tense, directed towards one purpose and diverted through the imponderables of life; this gives a rare intensity to his language, which elucidates the mysteries of human character and captivates the reader at the same time. All his books have in common that they will serve future

generations as exemplary historical novels, showing masterly control of the material and building it up anew with a creative poet's imagination.

Somewhat symbolic is Alfred Neumann's literary fate: in 1932 his "Narrenspiegel" was published, a picaresque novel about Duke Henry II of Liegnitz seen through the eyes of his knight and friend Hanns von Schweinichen—a book, "German" to the core, such as Till Eulenspiegel and Münchhausen. In 1935 he was in exile, wrote his best book "Neuer Caesar," which became known in Germany to some fortunate Jewish readers only. It grew out of new political wisdom gained from contemporary events, the background of which we sense likewise in works such as Stefan Zweig's "Erasmus" and "Castello." And there is a Balzac-like atmosphere in the story of this Napoleonic existence.

With this work Alfred Neumann upheld the glory of German contemporary literature. After the war, he was one of the founders and judges of the René Schickele Prize, an award set up by writers in exile for authors in Germany. He returned to his native country, after which he had been longing as he did, once whilst still in Germany, for the sun of Italy.

## EPSTEIN AT THE TATE GALLERY

Epstein, who was born in the United States in 1880, is still developing and changing his style. Like Picasso, he is one of the timeless young artists, characterised by a seemingly endless capacity for self-renewal. This is evident in the present exhibition, which shows a well-selected range from the sculptor's work, including portraits, monumental sculpture, small models and almost unknown drawings. Epstein, the eternal free-lance, shows here among other works impressive studies for a projected group symbolising captivity and desire for liberation, named "Slave Hold," of 1946. One wonders whether no public body is considering the erection of the completed scheme, which seems to cry out for a worthy site. Would Epstein be willing to work for a monument to the Unknown Jewish Martyr? Here it should be remembered that the figures of Jesus and Mary as represented by Epstein seem to express their prophetic rather than Christianised background, and the same attitude is found in "Lucifer" and "Genesis." "Jacob wrestling with the Angel" and "Lazarus" are unfortunately not exhibited, not even in model form or drawings. The eternal child, congenial to the artist, is represented by Epstein in a vividness unknown to European art since Rubens.

HELEN ROSENAU, Ph.D.

## Old Acquaintances

Chaplin's *Limelight*: After the press show of his new picture, Chaplin thought he had to excuse himself for his clowning, and promised to give us a really funny film next time. But from the last ten minutes of his "Limelight," when Buster Keaton and Chaplin perform a variety act ending with a fall into the big drum, two clowns could make a living for the next ten years—so delightfully funny is that act. The story of "Limelight" is eternal and really very, very old, but that doesn't matter at all. The ageing clown in decline in love with a young and pretty dancer makes place for the younger man. Claire Bloom is enchanting and a wonderful personality; Chaplin's son, Sidney, has only a small part. Charlie is unique although the film is sometimes sentimental, too long, and in the middle talkative and moralizing. When the down-and-out clown meets a colleague who lends him some money, and he, really moved, wants to thank him with a handshake, forgetting that the other has two hands; or when Chareli prays behind the stage, and murmurs "I lost my button" when he is caught—these are scenes only Chaplin can create. And there are many such highlights in that picture. There is no space here to go into details; you must simply go and see it for yourself—it's one of those rare events in the history of the cinema for which we wait so long.

"Meine Schwester und ich":—London's little "Blue Danube Club" produced Ralph Benatzki's musical comedy with the many familiar tunes we have not forgotten through all these years; it's still the only musical of its kind which needs nothing more than a piano, and was never meant for an orchestra. H. J. Steindam directed lightly and entertained the audience. Rudolf Offenbach was charming in the part Oskar Karlweis made famous once, and Herta Seydel sang delightfully. It's a pity Rolf Carston appeared only in the second part; he was very funny, and didn't try to imitate Bressart who played this part in the old days. Martina Mayne has temperament, and Rudolf Inlaender acted the Hungarian aristocrat.

Obituaries:—During the first night of "The Firstborn" in Berlin Dr. Hans Feist died, aged 65, after a stroke. [Not identical with the A.J.R. Executive member, our friend H. J. Feist, London.—The Ed.] He translated Pirandello and Christopher Fry, to name only a few of the many he helped to bring to the German stage; during the war he lived in Switzerland.

London News:—Dr. Hans Flesch-Bruningen became President of the German section of P.E.N. Club in London.—Hans Jaeger was elected Chairman of "Club 43" here.

PEM

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**THE SABBATH OBSERVANCE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU**

The 1951 report of the Sabbath Observance Employment Bureau, Woburn House, W.C.1, reveals, *inter alia*, that a number of skilled craftsmen with no immediate hope of finding employment in their own industry should be drafted into other trades, but that there was the difficulty of finding sufficient firms to train these men. The greatest proportion of vacancies registered with the Bureau, the report goes on, are for clerical staff. Altogether, 913 situations were filled during the past year.

**GERMANS COLLECT BOOKS FOR ISRAEL**

The Union of German Publishers and Booksellers has issued an appeal for books for Israel.

**RESTORATION OF JEWISH CEMETERIES**

The German Federal Ministry of the Interior has announced that 100,000 DM. will be allocated during the current financial year for the restoration of Jewish cemeteries.

**LEGACY FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN**

As readers will remember from a previous announcement, a legacy has been bequeathed to the AJR by Mr. Simon Rubinstein, who died in London some time ago. In his will Mr. Rubinstein expressed the wish that the legacy should be used for the relief of refugee children. The AJR Executive has meanwhile laid down the rules according to which the fund is to be administered. It is visualised that the money should be used for the benefit of refugee children up to 16 years or in exceptional cases up to 18 years. Any applications have to be addressed to AJR Headquarters.

**CLOTHING FOR ISRAEL**

Readers are reminded that the AJR Relief Department was wound up several months ago and that, therefore, no gift parcels should be sent to its former premises at Compayne Gardens or to AJR Headquarters. Clothing for Israel is, however, needed as badly as before and should be despatched to WIZO, 107 Gloucester Place, London, W.1. (Tel. WELbeck 0506).

**PERSONALIA**

Mr. Paul H. Emden has been appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature (F.R.S.L.). "AJR Information," which has had the privilege of publishing several most valuable contributions by Mr. Emden, conveys to him its sincerest congratulations on this well-deserved distinction.

Mr. Thomas Corder Catchpool lost his life when on a climbing tour in Switzerland. His manifold services as a Quaker for the cause of humanity included relief work in Germany, where he was Head of the Berlin Quaker Mission during the first years of the Nazi regime. Victims of Nazi persecution have special reason to commemorate gratefully his devoted activities on their behalf.

**THE AJR HANDICRAFT GROUP**

Special attention of readers is drawn to the announcement of the AJR Handicraft Group in this issue. It is hoped that, when starting their Chanukah shopping, many members and friends of the AJR will call at 8 Fairfax Mansions, where the articles are displayed.

**FAMILY EVENTS**

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

**Engagement**

Mrs. Kate Danning (née Halberstaedter), 9 Thorncliffe Square, Bradford, has pleasure in announcing the engagement of her daughter Irene to Mr. Ernst Altschuler, Manchester, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hermann Altschuler of Frankfurt/Main.

**Deaths**

Mrs. Marta Silberstein, née Tomski, 14 St. Mark's Hill, Surbiton, Surrey, beloved mother of Mrs. Ellen Wiener and Mrs. Gertrud Hoffnung, passed away on October 9th, 1952, at the age of 77. Mrs. Elizabeth Lechner, née Wolfsohn (London and Oxford), died suddenly, while on a visit to her son in Buenos Aires, on October 7th, at the age of 75. Deeply mourned by her children Kate and Herbert and her grand-daughter Lilli.

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CHEMIST, Ph.D., is free to undertake translations, abstracting, indexing, etc., in chemical and allied fields. Box 1415.  
BOOKKEEPER, best references, exp. also in Ex-Import, seeks post as secretary, supervisor or manageress. Box 1416.  
ELDERLY, reliable woman wants part-time work for sick or disabled people. Has nursing experience. Box 1417.  
EXP. PART-TIME COOK wants work mornings, afternoons or evenings, also weekends. Box 1418.  
SHORTHAND TYPIST, exp., wants part-time work. Box 1419.  
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YOUNG MAN, student, seeks accommodation with family, breakfast, evening meal, away most weekends. Moderate terms, willing Baby-sitter. Box 1409.

**Miscellaneous**

DEUTSCHE BUECHER GESUCHT! R. & E. Steiner, 64 Talgarth Rd., W.14. FUL 7924.  
ALTERATIONS, Remodels, Dress-maker, Mrs. Cohn, 130 King Henry's Road, N.W.3. PRI 6167.  
WANTED Continental divan with bedding drawer, loose cushions (would consider exchange for divan). Trunks (Rohrplatten) for sale. RIV 5135, after 6 p.m.

TWO BEDSTEADS, large carpet and other articles for sale. HENdon 2672.  
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BRITISH FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY, 231 Baker Street, N.W.1. Introductions to new friends everywhere. No age limit. Write for particulars.  
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WIDOW, without encumbrance and lonely, middle fifties, financially independent, would like to meet Gentleman in secure position, with view to marriage. No objection to children. Box 1408.  
WIDOW, cultured, attractive, adaptable, some means (daughter, 5) would like to meet gentleman, 45-55, to share mutual interests. Object matrimony. Box No. 1407.  
LADY (widow) beginning 40, smart looking, cultured, would like to meet gentleman also requiring companionship with view to later matrimony. Discretion assured. Please write to Box 1411.

**MISSING PERSONS**

Enquiries from AJR  
Rosenberg, Dr. Martin, last known address: 275 Davenport Road, Chelymore Estate, Coventry, for URO Berlin.  
Alexander, Siegfried, born Berlin on 5.7.02, last known address: 9 Wilmslow Road, Whittington, Manchester, for Max Alexander, Berlin.  
Mayer, Ella, born on 21.6.26, from Hamburg, for Jewish Community, Hamburg.

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# AJR AT WORK

## PERSONAL SERVICE

In previous notes of the work of the AJR Employment Agency we discussed the difficulties and service needs of the employment and accommodation branch. Another most important aspect of our work is the personal service we try to provide in times of need.

Many of our "customers" live alone in furnished rooms. All goes well until the day on which they fall ill, not ill enough perhaps to be taken to hospital, but sufficiently unwell to be confined to bed for several days or weeks. They become weak and are unable to cook, wash or do their daily shopping. Sometimes they are frightened that their landlord will turn them out, for nobody likes having a sick stranger in the house. In such cases we do what we can to ease the situation. We send them domestic help to do the most necessary things, and if there is landlord trouble we try to smooth out the difficulties or if essential we try to find other accommodation.

In other cases it is the mother of a family who is ill; she may be in hospital for several weeks and there is nobody to care for the family. Here the need is for a reliable and responsible housekeeper who will take charge for a short space of time. The difficulty is to find somebody who will take a residential post for a short time, but in

such cases we are often lucky enough to find one of our own members who will take such a residential post and provide willing service in a time of emergency. Our list is, however, small and we could do with more people who are prepared occasionally to lend a helping hand.

Then, of course, there are the people who find themselves in hospital. Everybody in the ward has visitors but they have none. A visitor is not only needed to cheer them up, but also to buy the few things that they require, to arrange things that trouble the patient and to escort them from hospital when once they are discharged. Then they need help at home for the first few days, perhaps to prepare their food or to arrange a special diet. Sometimes they go on to a convalescent home and have to be escorted to a station. Their luggage has to be packed and in some cases we have to lend them a suitable case.

After a serious illness some people can only do their job for part of the day. They are frightened that they may lose their employment and we discuss the situation with the employer and attempt to make some suitable arrangement. In all these cases we do what we can and co-operate with the lady almoner of the hospital and supplement her service where necessary.

Finally there are the people who suffer from

depressions and other mental difficulties. Here, too, we try to help. A visiting psychiatrist attends once a week and sees and advises such people by appointment.

The field for personal service is immense and we cannot hope to cope with all the problems with which we are faced. We have, for instance, not mentioned here all the difficulties of the aged infirm who provide a problem all of their own. Nevertheless we do what we can and we would be grateful for any assistance that anybody can offer, whether in the way of suggestions, advice, help or material.

A. S.

## AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

Readers are reminded that the AJR Employment Agency has on its books clerical workers, part-time domestic workers and experienced women for any kind of needlework.

### Hardship Cases

A post in the *Textile trade* is required for an orthodox widow of 45, who came here 2½ years ago. She was an inmate of a Concentration Camp, where she lost husband and child. The applicant had, for 20 years, a store of her own in Czechoslovakia, and is willing to take congenial work where she could earn per week about £5 at least. She has still to improve her English.

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