

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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“ THE FINAL SOLUTION ”

On January 20, 1942, a conference on the final solution of the Jewish problem took place at the "Grosser Wannsee" in Berlin. It was attended by senior SS-leaders, lawyers and officials, of whom at least eight were graduates of German universities. The chairman of the conference was SS-Obergruppenfuhrer Heydrich, Chief of the German Security Service. An American Jew, who had visited Germany in 1936 as a kind of Scarlet Pimpernel and had been shadowed by Heydrich's agents from the moment he put his foot on German soil, but had nevertheless been received by Heydrich personally, said to me: "We in America haven't got such people." When I replied somewhat incredulously that there were surely murderers in America, he said: "Yes, but they are in Sing-Sing, and not chiefs of the Police."

Heydrich introduced himself to the conference as official in charge of the preparation of "the final solution" of the European Jewish problem. The meaning of the term "final solution" was explained in the minutes of the conference: "The Jews fit for work will be marched to the Eastern territories in large columns, men and women being separated. On the way they will be used for road construction. During the trek the majority will most probably be eliminated by natural causes. The remainder, who will doubtless consist of those with the highest power of resistance, will have to be dealt with appropriately. If they were released, this would mean the nucleus of another Jewish rebirth."

The code word "final solution" therefore really means race murder of the Jews. As long as they are fit for work, they will have to work so hard that the infallible result will be death. Those who still resist will be "dealt with appropriately."

Race Murder as National Task

This is the scheme as it was carried out in almost every territory which fell into Hitler's hands. Race murder was a national task, carried out with the help of university professors, senior officials, judges, lawyers, diplomats, officers, and some thousands of hangmen. Mass murder sounds, of course, much less harmless than "final solution," and therefore the murderers and their accomplices avoided the admission of their deeds by words and terms corresponding to the actual happenings. They held conferences on the most efficient methods of annihilation, they wrote minutes and memoranda, they made reports and carried on correspondence. They argued whether the poison gas Zyklon was a better method of assassination than others, and jealously defended their respective methods. In their written statements, which have now become an irrefutable evidence against them, they dealt with mass murder as if they were concerned with business transactions or the delivery of goods. And yet, they suffered from the inhibitions of the superstitious criminal whom a vague memory of the religious instruction of his youth prevents from calling his sinister doings by their proper name.

"The Final Solution" is now the title of a book showing in detail Hitler's attempt to annihilate the European Jews in the years 1939 to 1945.* There are no adequate words to describe its contents. Nevertheless, this book had to be written, and it is a great merit of the author, Gerald Reitlinger, that he devoted almost four years to the study of the documents on which it is based. There is hardly a relevant court record, diary, or report which Reitlinger has not perused. With the methodical approach of the academic historian and with almost inconceivable calm and detachment he examines his

*Gerald Reitlinger—The Final Solution—Valentine & Mitchell, London (30/-).

documents and assesses their value. He describes almost without bias or emotion what happened during the war years, when Hitler thought himself sufficiently unobserved by the world to accomplish the "final solution" of the Jewish problem.

The result of this research will satisfy the most exacting standards of scholarship. The murderers themselves are called to testify; for murder had become such a matter-of-fact business that, though the term "murder" was shunned, the daily crimes were recorded with the minute care and orderliness of the "bureaucrat." It will be difficult, if not impossible, to contest the objectivity of this book. If Jewish sources appear to be biased, the author dismisses them, and his assessment of the total number of victims is based on his own research. It is somewhat below the generally assumed number of roughly six million, i.e., between 4,194,200 and 4,581,200. Certain German propagandists will perhaps try to make use of this estimate to prove that the massacres are a "Jewish atrocity story." That line of argument is already occasionally met with in Germany to-day. As if it were relevant whether a hundred, a thousand or a million innocent people were assassinated with fiendish planning. Those who juggle with these figures reveal themselves as accomplices of the murderers.

We do not think it appropriate to describe the contents of the book in detail. Those who have the strength to read it will find the preparations to the "final solution" from the pogrom of November 9, 1938, and the first deportations from the Reich to Poland, to the establishment of ghettos and annihilation camps. The "final solution" itself, as it was carried out in the various parts of Europe, from the Soviet Union and the massacres there, via Poland to the West and the Balkans, is described in its various phases. So is the policy of the Satellites with regard to the artificially created Jewish problem. The attempts of resistance made by some governments, authorities or decent officials, the only too rare and abortive counter-orders, the rescue of small groups, as for instance of the Bulgarian Jews, are the only bright spots in this grim document. Deportations in Bulgaria failed due to the resistance of the population, against which even Hitler and Himmler were powerless. "The Bulgarians see no harm in the Jew to justify special measures against him," wrote the German Minister in Sofia who pressed the Bulgarians in vain to start deportations.

Crimes Beyond Comparison

For these happenings there exists no precedent in modern history. Colonial punitive campaigns or the massacres in Armenia repeatedly carried out by the Turks, for the last time under the cover of World War I, remind us of the destruction by fire and sword reported by the historians of Antiquity. But none of these crimes can compare in method and numbers of victims with the annihilation of the Jews.

Inhumanity and scientific method—to quote Romano Guardini—have been combined for the first time in history to annihilate millions of innocent people. If one asks for the reason for this mass destruction of human life, even a book like Reitlinger's fails to supply a convincing answer. None of the men whose daily business it was to kill 6,000 to 12,000 people in slaughter-houses for humans would have been able to give a plausible reason for his actions or for the actions of his Party. When, in the last days of the war, Himmler tried to save his own life by the release of Jews, he said to the representative of the World Jewish Congress, with whom he negotiated, a few stammering and ridiculous words of explanation. Men who, because

GERMAN INDEMNIFICATION LAW Demands of Jews from Germany

At the General Meeting of the AJR on June 18 the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

The Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain demands that the Indemnification Law should be promulgated as long as the present German Federal Parliament is still in session and should meet the rightful claims of the persecutees; furthermore, the funds necessary for putting indemnification into effect should be made available by the Federal Government.

The AJR especially demands:—

- (1) Adequate provisions regarding indemnification for loss of career,
- (2) Indemnification for all discriminatory taxes including flight tax (*Reichsfluchtsteuer*) by the Indemnification Law and not by a future law which has not even been drafted and which is to deal with restitution liabilities of the Federal Government as successor of the German Reich,
- (3) Legislative measures to secure indemnification of claimants at the earliest possible time; whilst priority should be given to old and needy applicants all claimants should receive at least part of the indemnification due to them as soon as possible.

of their official position, knew of the machinery of murder which otherwise was kept a close secret, developed ingenious schemes, as the Secretary of State, Dr. Schlegelberger did, who suggested that half-Jews should be sterilized. The others, those of "pure Jewish race," however, should be dealt with under the plans for "the final solution." Murder was accepted as the fate of the Jew. Part of the Army either participated in the massacres, or did not prevent them, though they knew of them and could have prevented them, had they cared sufficiently. German lawyers and the Church protested against the assassination of lunatics; the number of courageous German men and women who protested against the annihilation of the Jews was unfortunately rather small.

It may be—contrary to the rules of historiography—that the present, not the future, is better qualified to analyse the motives behind this crime. Owing to the incidental capture of German documents we are in possession of the evidence and do not have to wait decades for the opening of archives. The documents will, however, not reveal the motives of those responsible as clearly as living witnesses can. These witnesses will testify to incredible and atrocious facts. They will testify that a man whose intellectual faculties were undisturbed showed distinct symptoms of emotional disorder. One of these symptoms was his paranoid delusion of a world-wide conspiracy of the Jews against Germany, and of the inferiority of the Jewish race. The Jews were a sub-human race and therefore not to be treated as humans.

It is not correct to assume that Hitler's animosity against the Jews was solely based on propagandistic motives. A man who, from his twentieth year to his last hours, was obsessed by the fixation to persecute the Jews must be considered a paranoiac. The

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Continued from front page.

witnesses will, however, testify to an even stranger fact: that a man who was possessed by paranoid delusions was able to put his ideas into effect and to slaughter millions of people without encountering resistance. They will further report that the henchmen who served this man believed in his delusion and made it their creed. They were actually convinced that the Jews, as an inferior and sub-human race, had no right to live and had to be exterminated. Adolf Eichmann, one of the mass-murderers who are still at large, was surprised to find "important biological material" among the Jewish heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto Revolt. Himmler tried to save an unfortunate young Jew, who faced the firing squad together with hundreds of other innocent victims, because he had fair hair and blue eyes and in no way resembled the type of the Jewish inferior race which had to be destroyed.

Finally, the witnesses who lived under the Hitler regime will have to testify that millions of otherwise decent men who had no inclination to cruelty did not prevent the atrocious crimes of madmen. "We ought to have died," said the German philosopher Karl Jaspers immediately after the war, "when our Jewish friends were dragged away from us." But there were only a very few who tried to stop the raving madmen. Everybody was afraid of his neighbour "and the higher Germans rose, the more frightened they became, till we reached the case of Heinrich Himmler who was made head of the police state almost by chance, and whom Hitler retained just because he was a frightened man who could be informed on and intimidated."

How could it happen?

A book like Reitlinger's, which is written on scholarly lines, keeps away from day-to-day politics. The author leaves it to the reader to draw conclusions, and this coolly and impassionately written book makes one indeed reflect on problems which were not solved by the end of the Hitler regime. One ponders on the question how a people whom one had always credited with intelligence and decency could accept men like Hitler and his clique as their political leaders. Reitlinger accuses Hitler's voters of having too credulously accepted his ludicrous promises, and it could be added: Even before 1933 they should have known that brutality and cruelty were of the essence of Hitler's Party. Those who overlooked this brutality for the sake of material advantages, and those who found even one word of excuse for the Boxheim Documents or the "Stuermer" propaganda must share the responsibility for Auschwitz.

"The Final Solution," this standard work, should be read in Germany as well as abroad. In Germany those who consider themselves *praeceptores Germaniae* should read it. They should ask themselves whether political expediency really pays in the end. Reitlinger's statistical tables show how few of the hangmen were punished altogether and how inadequately they were punished by German courts. Political parties try hard to curry favour with former Nazis. All parties, even those who cannot be suspected of being friends of the Nazis, fight passionately for the release of the war criminals. Have they ever asked themselves whether their propaganda will not soon result in the man in the street thinking the murdered guilty, and not the murderers? Do these *praeceptores Germaniae* not realize the danger of turning squalid butchers into patriots and martyrs?

In an impressive broadcast in Stuttgart on May 26 the German writer Dr. Rudolf Pechel, one of the most courageous opponents of the Hitler regime, appealed to the Germans, who did not want to know of the atrocities committed in the name of National Socialism, to become conscious of the facts. Indeed, there were writers who tried to re-awaken in the former Nazis pride in their deeds and to minimize the atrocities against the Jews.

From the horrors of the concentration and annihilation camps Pechel turned "in eine Luft befreiender Geistigkeit und reinen Menschentums." He paid tribute to our Dr. Leo Baeck on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. Pointing to Dr. Baeck he wanted to show who the men were who became or were to become victims of Hitler's "race-madness." "The Germans will never understand the reputation they have all over the world unless they have the courage to accept the documentary evidence of the atrocities." Reitlinger's book may help them to do so.

HANS REICHMANN

RESTITUTION NEWS

GERMAN INDEMNIFICATION LAW

During the past weeks, the "Council of Jews from Germany" has closely watched the day by day developments in Bonn, where drafts of the Federal Indemnification Law are now under consideration. The representative of the "Council," Dr. F. Goldschmidt, went to Bonn some time ago and has taken part in the negotiations as a member of the "Conference on Jewish material claims against Germany." Some of the demands of the Jews from Germany are laid down in the resolution of the AJR General Meeting.

So far, it is uncertain whether the Indemnification Law will be passed as long as the present Federal Parliament is still in session. According to news received immediately before this issue went to print, the Legal Committee of the Federal Parliament on June 24 accepted the Government Draft of the Indemnification Law *en bloc* as an emergency measure. Further developments will be reported in the next issue.

FIRST DECISION IN TEST CASE AGAINST I. G. FARBEN

The Frankfurt Law Court awarded 10,000 DM. to Norbert Wollheim, who during the war had been a slave labourer in the "Buna-Werke" of I. G. Farben, next to the Auschwitz extermination camp. After the war Norbert Wollheim took a leading part in the work of the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany; in 1951 he emigrated to the United States.

The verdict, whose full wording is not yet available, is not yet binding and subject to an appeal.

The plaintiff had based his claim on the provisions of the German Civil Law (B.G.B.). The suit was conducted as a test case. It is understood that persecutees who were employed as forced labourers by the I.G. Farben Combine may send their particulars for registration to: Tripartite I.G. Farben Control Group, Mainzer Landstrasse, Frankfurt/Main, within six months after the verdict of the test case has become final.

GERMANY AND ISRAEL

At a gathering of the Duesseldorf Press Club the Deputy Chairman of the Israeli Mission to Germany, Dr. Yahl, declared that notwithstanding progress during the last year the relations between Germany and Israel were still affected by great psychological difficulties. In view of the past catastrophe, one could not expect a speedy development. The first declaration of the Bundestag in September 1951 had been received with mixed feelings in Israel; only after differences of opinion inside Germany became evident, Israelis had realised that there were people in Germany who were prepared to fight for the idea of restitution.

STATE PENSIONS FOR LEADING NAZIS

The Bundesrat has rejected an application of the Hamburg Land, according to which former leading Nazi officials should be disqualified as Civil Servants and recipients of State Pensions. In the application Hamburg had maintained that the former Gauleiter Lohse receives a Pension and the former SS Brigadefuehrer Schroeder a monthly State Allowance of 830 DM.

The widow of Reinhard Heydrich was granted a Pension by the Schleswig authorities. In commenting on this decision the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" writes: "Thus the promoter of the 'Reichskristallnacht' of November 8, 1938, whom Hitler put in charge of the ghastly 'final solution' of the Jewish question' is posthumously rehabilitated as a quasi soldier."

Another beneficiary of the Federal Republic is the former Police President of Kassel, SA Obergruppenfuehrer and holder of the Golden Party Badge Fritz Pfeffer von Salomon. He receives a pension as "Regierungspraesident z.D." The "Neue Vorwaerts" publishes a letter written by Pfeffer von Salomon in 1933 to a Jew in Kassel who had been tortured by the SS because he had married an "Aryan" girl. The letter reads: "Happenings like these reveal a healthy instinct and I cannot consider them a punishable crime."

KRIEGSSACHSCHAEDEN

URO Frankfurt teilt mit, dass es eine Mitverantwortung fuer die Anmeldung von Grundstuecken uebernehmen wuerde, nicht aber von Hausrat oder durch Kriegseinwirkung zerstoeertes Betriebsvermoegen. Wo im Einzelfalle Hausrat oder Betriebsvermoegen durch Kriegseinwirkungen zerstoeert worden ist, muss der Mandant seine Anmeldung selbst vornehmen.

Die Anmeldefrist laeuft im Gebiete der Bundesrepublik am 31. August 1953 ab, doch wird mit einer Fristverlaengerung bis zum 31. Maerz 1954 gerechnet.

INDEMNIFICATION FOR GERMAN WAR PRISONERS DEMANDED

In a motion submitted to the Bundestag the German Party calls for the Indemnification of former German Prisoners of War to the same extent as for the victims of Nazism. The motion claims that the Bill should be passed in conjunction with the German Indemnification Law.

THERESIENSTADT KAPO SENTENCED

The former K.Z. Kapo Josef Wollenweber, the "Schrecken von Theresienstadt," was sentenced to four years penal servitude.

VERDICT AGAINST MURDERER OF DR. KLAUSENER

The former SS. Officer Kurt Gildisch was found guilty of having murdered the Catholic Ministerialdirektor Dr. Erich Klausener, one of the prominent non-Nazis who were "liquidated" in conjunction with the events of the "Roehm Putsch" in 1934.

COLOGNE RECEIVES FORMER RABBI

Rabbi Dr. Adolf Kober (New York) visited his former Community Cologne at the invitation of the Cologne Municipal Authorities. Under the auspices of the Cologne Historical Society he gave a lecture on cultural relations between Jews and non-Jews in the Rhineland. Dr. Kober was the guest of honour at receptions arranged by the Mayor and by the Jewish Community and also conducted a special service in memory of the Jewish Nazi victims.

HEINE MEMORIAL IN DUESSELDORF

On May 16, a Heine Memorial was unveiled in Duesseldorf, the poet's birthplace. It is a symbolic sculpture, called "Harmonie," the work of the French artist Aristide Maillol.

IN PARLIAMENT

COMPENSATION FOR NAZI VICTIMS

On June 10 Mr. Hector Hughes asked the Foreign Secretary whether the German Compensation Law now under discussion also included benefits for non-German displaced persons. In his answer Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, on behalf of the Foreign Office, stated that responsibility for protecting the rights of D.P.s in Germany was discharged by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees who had been in continuous consultations with the German Federal Government.

NATURALISATION FIGURES

In a written reply the Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, stated that during the period January 1, 1935, to May 31, 1953, 78,973 Certificates of Naturalisation had been granted. The statistical abstract reveals that during the years 1935-1939 the average number of annual naturalisations amounted to about 2,000. The peak years after the war were 1947 (17,700) and 1948 (15,100). After this, the number has steadily declined and in 1952, the last full year under review, came down to 3,500.

MEETING PLACE AT BERMUDA

In answer to a question by Mr. Mikardo, the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, stated that according to an assurance given to him the Mid-Ocean Club in Bermuda, where he is to meet President Eisenhower, did not debar Jews from membership. He added that he would gladly look into the matter further if he received an additional information to the facts at issue.

F. L. Brassloff :

LESSONS OF A GERMAN TRIAL

The tragic story of Jewry's liquidation in German-occupied Poland was unfolded in a dramatic trial before a Bremen jury in April and May. Official Nazi documents and evidence of survivors who came from as far as Israel and Australia, responding to the call of the German court (the expenses were defrayed by the German authorities), built a convincing charge against Walter Hildebrand, former Commandant of the notorious forced labour camps of Drohobycz and Boryslaw. No less than nineteen counts of murder and accessory to murder were listed. Hildebrand was found guilty of accessory to murder; of delivering orders for the killing of Jews and participation in the selections; and of manslaughter, and was sentenced to eight years' hard labour. Circumstantial evidence proffered by survivors on acts of callous brutality such as compelling a mother to decide which of her children might be spared liquidation and which sent to death, was not accepted as "objective proof." The court moreover pronounced that Hildebrand was "a mere cog" in a big extermination machinery and would, under normal circumstances, not have become a criminal.

But the importance of this trial rests not only in the sympathetic treatment of the defendant, who had been an eager promoter of superior orders and even now did not seem to have realised the ghastliness of the deeds committed. Court and counsels for the prosecution and for the defence were clearly aware that a trial of this kind had a wider significance than that of administering, with much delay and rather inadequately, some kind of justice to one of the thousand "cogs in the wheel."

Pronouncing judgment and offering reasons for it, the President of the court stressed that the guilt for

the mass murder perpetrated by the National-Socialist rulers was "a burden for all of us." He continued: "The perpetrators are murderers. Whoever aided and abetted them, is guilty of having been an accessory to whom the law does not accord clemency." Attempts in Germany to minimise powerful evidence on the mass murder of Jews and to denounce it as "foreign propaganda" make it particularly noteworthy that the unpalatable truth of German crimes was brought home to public opinion by a German court.

On the other hand, sentiments and resentments, which some Germans feel on this issue, came to light in the pleadings of counsel for the defence. He was at great pains to stress his own abhorrence of Nazi creed and deeds. However, whilst paying relatively little attention to the sordid and inconvenient facts of the evidence, he found time for an extensive excursion into the realm of "Weltanschauung" and political history. There were reminders to the court of the "Cross of Golgotha," of Shylock and Morgenthau, Sklarek and Kutisker. The destruction of Dresden during the war was put forward as a "counterpoint" which in his view might well outweigh war crimes and crimes against humanity—an argument made frequently in Germany. Defence counsel addressed himself to World Jewry (a representative of the World Jewish Congress attended the trial as an observer) urging them to forgive and forget. The Germans on their part, he generously added, were ready to do the same. . .

The sentence pronounced, pleadings of the defending counsel, some evidence of the German witnesses revealing a deeply rooted Nazi mentality, press reports on the "monster trial," they all, together with the moral courage of the Public Prosecutor gave some picture of the ambivalent German attitude to the uncomfortable chapter of Nazi past. Sincere endeavours of "good Germans" to face the unpleasant facts and to bring the perpetrators of barbarous crimes to justice, no doubt deserve recognition. But we must not lose sight of the very skilful and not rare attempts to evolve a new "objective outlook," denouncing National-Socialism in theory and yet condoning its misdeeds in fact.

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

By the time these lines go to print, the Government crisis in Israel will probably have been solved. But its lesson has still to be learned.

As may be recalled, the two great coalition parties—the General Zionists and the Labour Party Mapai—agreed on abolishing the present "trend" school system in the country according to which almost every school is affiliated to a political party. Instead, a new law was to be promulgated, setting up State schools with a unified "minimum" syllabus. At the last moment, the General Council of Mapai instructed its parliamentary representatives to insist on labour holidays, on hoisting the red flag in addition to the national flag, wherever the majority of parents demanded so, and on singing the labour hymn after the national anthem. As the result, four ministers—the General Zionists in the Coalition—left the Government.

Public comments on these happenings varied. Grand, some said, here is a nation which, in a world dominated by economics, power politics and threat of war, can get excited over a piece of cloth and a song, ready to impair its unity and international prestige for the sake of what one once called "ideals."

Disgusting, said the others, a spectacle of naughty children in a world of adults. Five years is not a long time to get used to having a state, but these parties behaved as if they were still waging a propaganda war as in the olden days of the diaspora. No mature nation would have acted like this at a time like this.

Whichever of the two opinions one may share, whether one calls it romanticism or immaturity, it seems that Israel cannot afford either of them. America's public seized the issue with a tremendous "do" and made out of the harmless old socialist flag, a blood-red communist banner, adding just out of sheer inventiveness, a hammer and sickle.

The parties concerned, quite disturbed by the uproar they created and the consequences they did not foresee, are licking their wounds and ponder over the extent of their blunder. After the damage has been done, a compromise will, no doubt, be found. In the meantime, Foster Dulles prepares his statement to the House of Representatives on his Middle-East trip; in the meantime, the war along the borders goes on, with daily and nightly skirmishes and a mounting list of casualties; in the meantime, unemployment grows, the prices rise and the coffers of the Treasury are empty.

Bella gerant alii. Tu, felix Israel—sing and wave the flag!

HERBERT FREEDEN

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Coronation Honours

Several Jews were among those who received honours on the occasion of the Queen's Coronation. A knighthood was conferred on Col. L. H. Gluckstein, O.C., President of the Liberal Synagogue. The Senior Jewish Chaplain to H.M. Forces, the Rev. Isaac Levy, was made an O.B.E., so was Mr. Leonard Stein ("for political and public services").

Others honoured were Major Edward Beddington-Behrens, for services to the Economic League for European Co-operation (a C.M.G.); Messrs. Isidore Graul, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Food (C.B.); Moss Dancyger, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Pensions (C.B.E.); Joseph Tumim, Clerk of Assize, Supreme Court of Judicature (C.B.E.); Augustus Cave, Senior Executive Officer, General Post Office (M.B.E.); and Isidore Civval, Inspector of Taxes, Board of Inland Revenue (M.B.E.).

London has three Jewish Mayors in Coronation year: Alderman Rich in Wandsworth, Councillor Fisher in Stoke Newington, and in Hampstead Councillor Emanuel Snowman, who is a director of Messrs. Wartski, the Court jewellers.

Outside London, Alderman Abraham Moss, a Vice-President of the Board of Deputies, was installed as Lord Mayor of Manchester, and Alderman Dr. J. Shlosberg as Mayor of Salford.

Recruitment of Ministers

New heads have been elected to both the United Synagogue and the Federation of Synagogues. At the United, the late Sir Robert Waley Cohen is succeeded by Mr. Frank Samuel, hitherto Vice-President, and the Federation's new chief is Mr. Morris Lederman.

Mr. Samuel's first duty was to present a Report on the Recruitment of Ministers which suggested that the oft-deplored shortage of personnel could be relieved by an average annual intake into Jews' College of six students; at present the average is no more than four. The Report finds that few parents are "anxious that their sons shall adopt a career in which the Sabbath and Festivals can be strictly observed"; altogether, it is thought, "there does not appear to be . . . the sense of a call to service for Judaism." The United Synagogue will now bestir itself and set aside £2,000 per annum for the purpose of recruiting and supporting no fewer than four candidates.

Another £2,000 grant will be received by Jews' College from the Jewish Memorial Council which equally provides (£1,600) for some in the growing number of Yeshivot, e.g. the best-known of all, at Gateshead (£600) and those of Sunderland (£150), Manchester (£100), Glasgow and Liverpool (£50 each).

Support for Jews' College, by way of contributions to its £200,000 Centenary Appeal, was also pledged by leaders of Commonwealth Jewry while in London for the Coronation.

Both Dr. Brodie and the Communal Rabbi of Manchester (Dr. Altman) urged President Eisenhower to reprieve Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

The second Textbook Survey Conference held under the aegis of the Council of Christians and Jews, decided to investigate the treatment in Scripture textbooks of the Crucifixion story as it was felt that too many of those books are still, albeit perhaps unwittingly, abetting anti-Semitism. Attention was also drawn to the cheaper type of novel popular with young people which was said to be presenting Jews in "shocking terms."

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TWO GERMAN - JEWISH POETS

Karl Wolfskehl and Ludwig Strauss

The name of Karl Wolfskehl brings into relief with a special, an almost poignant sharpness the tragic conflicts of the German-Jewish writer in exile. Wolfskehl's whole intellectual and emotional background was perhaps still more exclusively German than that of many other exiled German-Jewish writers. He not only studied Old-Germanic languages and literature and wrote his doctor's thesis on "Germanische Werbungssagen" but devoted a considerable part of his later years to the study of old German poetry.

Even more important, however, for Wolfskehl's formation not only as a scholar but as a poet was his meeting and lifelong friendship with Stefan George, whom he met as early as 1893. He became and remained one of George's most faithful and ardent disciples so that even to-day we still think of Wolfskehl as one of the most representative figures of the "George-Kreis." His close and intimate association with this peculiarly German phenomenon, the George-Kreis, seemed to accentuate even further all that which, in his natural disposition and intellectual attitude, anyhow appeared most strongly and typically German.

We know what became of George's poetic and metaphysical vision of a "New Reich": When it turned into the dreadful reality of Hitler's Third Reich, George himself turned his back upon it in horror and disgust and went to Switzerland. This is not the place to probe into the question of how far the purely idealistic philosophy of the George-Kreis contributed, nevertheless, to the all-too real historic misfortunes of 1933 and thereafter. At that time, Wolfskehl, who lived in Munich where, in 1930, he had published a deeply penetrating book of literary criticism "Bild und Gesetz," also happened to be in Switzerland. He never returned to Germany. For a while, he lived in Italy until the hazards of exile drove him to New Zealand where, with his German and European background, he must have felt very much like the exiled Roman poet Ovid on the shores of the Black Sea—that is to say, rejected to one of the remotest corners of the civilized world. Here he lived for a number of years, a lonely and half-forgotten man, and died in 1948 at the age of 79. (He was born in Darmstadt in 1869).

"Sang aus dem Exil"

But the destruction of all the values he had believed in and built upon, the crumbling of the very foundations of his physical and spiritual existence did not silence the poet in him. On the contrary, they seem to have released the voice of his innermost. His volume of posthumous poems, published by Lambert Schneider in Heidelberg under the title "Sang aus dem Exil," is in many ways a unique testimony. It shows the very personal and, at the same time, universally valid response to the challenge with which Wolfskehl was confronted in exile. It is as though his very despair gave him the power to fuse into a higher union the two elements of his being, the German and the Jewish one. Wolfskehl always represented a type of poet who, under the influence of George, conceived of the role of the poet as that of a priestlike seer. But this conception is here, in his latest poetry, heightened and enhanced by the re-appearance of a much older figure, that of a biblical prophet and visionary. So much so that, in this "Sang aus dem Exil," Wolfskehl speaks to us in a genuinely German voice with the true accents of the Old Testament prophets.

This strange and beautiful harmony between the conflicting elements of his being which, in the end, he achieved as the result of much suffering and even despair, enabled him at the same time to evoke, in a magnificent vision which he called "Mare Nostrum," all the elements, Graeco-Roman as well as Judaeo-Christian, of our Western cultural heritage. His deep concern with the decay of its values, his passionate care for their preservation inspired him with some of his most moving and significant poems. And in this context, it is particularly poignant for us to hear the poet speak of his own origin in these words:—

"Am Frankenhein sog ich lateinischen Hauch
In Rheins Wein löscht ich mit der Väter Brauch
Das Sabbathlicht."

"Sang aus dem Exil" is more than a mere collection of poems. It tells a story, the story of a

"Wandlung," of a change of heart and transformation from unrest, revolt and despair to acceptance, resignation and peace. In one of his last poems, "Glocke vom Strand," Wolfskehl tells us how, one day, he found, on the shores of New Zealand, an old, discarded Gothic church bell. And this is, he says, what it taught him:—

"Verschlagne, mahnst den Schicksalsgleichen!
Ich lausche, deine Stimme spricht:
Heil den aus Armut Ueber-Reichen,
Heil Ueberwindenden, Heil dem Verzicht!"

If Wolfskehl represented the German tradition of the poet as a "Künder und Mahner," Ludwig Strauss, a German-Jewish poet living in Israel, keeps alive another German poetic tradition, that of the "Lied" and the folksong. In his volume of poems "Heimliche Gegenwart," also published by Lambert Schneider in Heidelberg, it is a most strange and illuminating experience to see how the Southern-German, the Mörike-like tones are transposed to the Biblical landscape, how this historic and majestic scenery is praised and celebrated in the simple, "innige" expression of German folksong. The result is often entirely happy. Both the ancient Jewish country and the tradition of German lyrical poetry appear in a new, highly personal and poetic light. The vistas of the Holy Land seem opened up and freshly seen through these verses of an intensely German lyricism.

A STIMULATING "FESTSCHRIFT"

The "Festschrift" published by the Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany* is a most sensibly pleasurable addendum to the proceedings of Thanksgiving which have marked the eightieth anniversary of the birth of Dr. Leo Baeck. One cannot help feeling that the expert Dr. Baeck would be the last to deny how appropriately the Committee in charge of the publication (Drs. Italiener, Eva Reichmann, Rosenstock and Wiener) have handled their assignment. They have abstained from a repetition of eulogies however deserved. They have secured the co-operation of witnesses who are not only qualified to do justice to their respective topics, but who have also known Dr. Baeck intimately enough to add valuable insights into his character. This appears particularly true of Dr. Italiener's dictum that basically Dr. Baeck is a lonely human figure. It is equally gratifying that the past episodes no longer related to Dr. Baeck's present phase, such as his years as a military chaplain during the First World War, have been re-established in their historical context. The present writer, then an adolescent, will not forget the visual impression of Dr. Leo Baeck, holding the Torah in his left arm at a supplication service in the Fasanenstrasse Synagogue in Berlin on August 4, 1914.

A Lasting Record of German Jewry

And thus, the various contributions from various countries of new domicile proceed unhurriedly to recapture the spirit of communities, institutions and organisations which once contributed to shape Dr. Baeck's character and which Dr. Baeck helped shaping, until their catastrophic annihilation. Prof. Taebler recreates the atmosphere of Lissa, Dr. Baeck's birthplace. Dr. Baeck's colleagues Kober, Eschelbacher and Italiener write about the rabbinical colleges in Germany, the sociological background of congregational life and the historical role of the rabbi in Jewish congregations. W. Breslauer, G. Salzberger, F. Goldschmidt and Hans Reichmann reset the communal and political scene over which Dr. Baeck has moved, in articles on the Jewish Community Berlin, Jewish Religious Liberalism, the Order B'nai B'rith and the Central-Verein. Follow K. Alexander and H. E. Fabian on Reichsvertretung and Reichsvereinigung, and three contributions from A. Loewenstamm, W. Hamburger and Siegfried Moses on aspects of the post-war situation.

Pathos and rhetorics are shunned; but the mosaic is true to life, in its outlines as well as in colouring. The Festschrift testifies both to the human qualities of the individual Dr. Baeck and

Strauss seems less happy where he tries to grapple with contemporary and topical issues: here, the natural flow of his lyrical language becomes sometimes halting or turgid, his thought sometimes coloured by commonplaces or sentimentality. On the whole, Strauss' poetry is at the opposite pole to Wolfskehl's. Strauss is tender, intimate and elegiac where Wolfskehl is tragic, mythical and visionary. At one point, however, the two poets do meet: in their concern for the word, more precisely for the purity, one could almost say, for the holiness of language. The debasement of words through the means of modern mass communication (radio, film, press, etc.) is, as we know, one of the most serious danger signals of the decay of our civilisation. In this context, it is most illuminating to compare the closing lines of one of Strauss' poems:—

"Von mir gesunken ist in sein Felsengrab
Das Wort. Sie sagen wohl, es erstand und fuhr
Zum Himmel auf und lebt. Wo ist es?
Leer muss ich dauern im leeren Winde."

with the first three lines of one of Wolfskehl's poems:—

"Das Wort hat seine Zeit gehabt,
Hat alle seine Zeit gehabt,
Das Wort ging ein und aus."

In this endeavour to rescue not only the artistic but above all the spiritual value of the word, both Strauss and Wolfskehl are representative of a particularly Jewish contribution to Western culture and tradition.

to the human group whose fate he shared. One wishes that each survivor would acquire his own copy. One would also desire that the Festschrift be translated into, at least, English and Hebrew so that one could "talk of it to one's children" and one's newly acquired neighbours and friends. This, obviously, is a wishful thought, but in itself a reflection of a good job well done by the Editor, Dr. Eva Reichmann, and the other members of the Editorial Committee. The proof of an impressive lecture is the discussion it provokes. So the quality of a fine book is demonstrable by the avalanche of questions it raises in the reader's mind. The present "Festschrift" has recorded essential material for a history of German Jewry and for a biography of Dr. Leo Baeck. But underneath the classical facade of German Jewry, as herein presented, there were disturbing feelings and impulses to which the scholar Dr. Baeck himself would probably urge us to evaluate. Heinrich Heine, in a poetic parable, talked of the pine-trees still dreaming about a far-away palm. We must not disown the social protest voiced by leaders of the political opposition who were of German-Jewish origin either. We cannot gainsay the spiritual kinship of at least one generation to Kurt Tucholsky's maxim "Learn to laugh without crying." All this "ferment of decomposition" was provocative to the Nazis and, if for no other reason than that, might have been well within our Committee's jurisdiction. We are also involved in that basic mystery of human life and struggle and survival which changed respectable and self-respecting former German Jews into Refugees, Friendly Aliens, Naturalised Citizens and Returnees to Israel.

Dr. Baeck knew in 1933 that a chapter had been closed. All that German Jews could have stated about themselves, then and since, is that they have, again, become clay in the potter's hands. To have offered himself as clay to the divine Potter is perhaps the most inspiring message that can be derived from Dr. Baeck's biography so far. Fortunately enough, it is too early to write Dr. Baeck's biography while he busies himself to prepare new chapters for it. Whatever its subject matter, however, a motto already comes to mind. At least its sources and its vocal contents he shares with us, though we may have to struggle hard to convey an appreciation of its melody to our children. And this is how it would read:

Neuen Lebenslauf beginne
Mit hellem Sinne,
Und neue Lieder
Toenen darauf.

HANNs REISSNER

* Obtainable from AJR Headquarters, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3, 7/6, 112 pp.

TWO FAMILY TREES

THE FEUCHTWANGERS

Do you know much about your family, where they come from, what sort of people they were, how they lived, multiplied and died? I have often wondered about my own, but all I have managed to gather are the few facts that my father had from his father and these are little enough to go on. The Feuchtwanger family, of whom I am also a scion, have, however, done things much better. An enthusiastic group in Israel set to work and with painstaking energy and perseverance have managed to trace 1,395 members of the family, descendants of Seligmann Feuchtwanger who was born at Fürth in 1786.

The result of their researches has now been published in a sumptuous volume by Edition Olympia—Martin Feuchtwanger, Tel-Aviv, and copies have been distributed to members of the family throughout the world.

In this country alone there are nearly two hundred descendants, so that a good few volumes must have reached these shores. Those who have received a copy for themselves or who have managed to borrow one from a friend, have found themselves delighted in recent weeks to have new source material for that ancient Jewish pastime "Mishpochology," tracing their remotest relationships with people they hardly know or with whom they had previously only had bonds of common acquaintanceship.

The publication of this research has, however, more importance than providing material for a harmless parlour game. It is a source-book of Jewish history, the history of a tragic and momentous epoch, one which will no doubt be studied, considered and analysed long after the surviving members of the family are dead and buried.

Seligmann Feuchtwanger was a simple sort of man, more interested in the Law than in his silver-smith's shop. In fact, it is related of him that he used to close his business immediately he had earned enough to support his family for the ensuing week. His wife was a daughter of the wealthy Amschel Wassermann from Wallerstein, later the banking firm of A. E. Wassermann, Bamberg. They were blessed with eighteen children, most of whom had progeny of their own.

What would Seligmann think if he could look around his extensive brood to-day? Firstly he would be astonished but perhaps not surprised at their disappearance from the German scene. Emigration was already in the blood. His sixth child, Abraham, was last seen haranguing the

Munich mob from the barricades in the 1848 Revolution. Thence he disappeared to the United States, where he was reported to have done well for himself, though contact with his descendants has now been lost. Twenty years ago about 80 per cent of the family lived in Germany, now but six individuals.

Seligmann would, however, hardly be surprised to find the banking spirit so much alive in his family to-day. After all he introduced it by his marriage to Fanny Wassermann. In fact he would probably be proud to learn that three of the leading banks in Israel are owned or operated by members of his family, while other family bankers are active in various European capitals. As a scholar himself, he would be justifiably proud of the international renown of Lion Feuchtwanger, the famous novelist.

Space is too short to enumerate all the careful statistical tables which have been prepared to show countries of domicile, age structure, victims of Nazi persecution, occupations, etc., of the members of the family. It is enough to say that they are now scattered over more than twenty countries, principally Israel, Great Britain and the U.S.A., that fifty were murdered by the Nazis, two were killed in the fighting in Israel and that over a thousand are alive to-day.

In the space of 170 years wars and revolutions, disasters and economic crises have come and gone. Members of the family have served, some with distinction, in rival armies in opposite camps. Yet despite these cataclysms the family has continued. For that is the particular Jewish way, the cult of the family, than which no bond is closer and no net more all-embracing.

How interesting it will be to read of the families' further history in another century or two.

WALTER SCHWAB

THE LEVISONSONS OF SIEGBURG

It is gratifying that the noted historian Professor Wilhelm Levison (formerly Bonn), who died in Durham six years ago, devoted his scientific skill and experience also to the past of his own family, and it is a kind of moral restitution that, in 1952, the "Institut fuer geschichtliche Landeskunde der Rheinlande" of Bonn University honoured the memory of its late distinguished teacher by publishing his manuscript ("Die Siegburger Familie Levison und verwandte Familien," Ludwig Roehrscheid Verlag, Bonn). This work of 187 pages to which 19 genealogical tablets are attached, includes about 600 names. The fact that some of them also appear in the genealogy of the Feuchtwanger family which hails from a different part of Germany, reaffirms the old experience that common family bonds are more frequent among German Jews than it is often realised. One branch of the family is descended from Heine's grandfather Gottschalk van Geldern, the first Jew who, in 1751, obtained a medical doctor's diploma at Duisburg. As the book also records particulars about families who are only related by marriage, the net is cast very wide and many well-known names appear in it. To quote only a few examples at random: Albert Einstein, Eugen Mittwoch, Alfred Apfel, the bankers Leubsdorf, the industrialists and manufacturers Sonneborn, Netter and Lobbenberg. There have also been long standing connections with England, especially through the family of Karl (later Sir Charles) Oppenheimer, who went to London in 1856.

Some of the author's ancestors had been resident in Siegburg since the middle of the 17th century, but as Jews in that part of Prussia adopted family names as late as 1845, his paternal grandfather was the first bearer of the name. On the other hand, integration into the professions and economic success began comparatively early. They loosened the bonds with Judaism in its traditional form, yet most members of the family remained faithful to their community in whose work quite a few of them took an active part. The eclipse in 1933 resulted in a dispersion all over the world and in the deportation of those who had remained in the country in which they were once deeply rooted. Thus this chronicle of one family is at the same time a contribution to the history of German Jewry.

WERNER ROSENSTOCK

Old Acquaintances

Weizmann picture:—Emmeric Pressburger and Michael Powell, the well-known British producers, accompanied by designer Hein Heckroth, went to Israel to study the possibilities of producing "Trial and Error," the autobiography of Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann. His widow is prepared to advise, and the producers call their venture "the success story of a man and a nation." Pressburger is a born Hungarian who started his career in Berlin, and Heckroth hails from Essen.—Maria Riva, Marlene Dietrich's daughter, is also in Israel to prepare a series of television pictures.

Two Books to Recommend:—Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London, published "Nothing for Tears" by Lali Horstmann, the widow of a German diplomat. It is the story of the last year of the war and the first year after the war, and shows what happens in a civilised community when suddenly the bulwarks of security are shattered and the barbarians break in. The authoress comes from the well-known banker family von Schwabach; her husband died in a Russian prison. The two left the diplomatic service after Hitler took over. The book is a human document and a warning to the free world.—George Mikes, born in Hungary and naturalised in Britain, became famous after his first book "How to be an Alien." Now he has published "Ueber Alles: Germany Explored" (with Allan Wingate), but it is not as uproariously funny as his other satires. Visiting the new Germany, he was more startled than amused; even professional humorists cannot laugh when finding out that of 1,100 Jews in Worms only four survived. Mikes formulates again remarkably well; to him East-Berlin conveys the impression of a permanent Bank Holiday of a people who have no banks. "The German lack of a sense of humour has created two world wars," he says, or "The Germans are always offended and everything is somebody else's fault." He calls Bonn the capital village of Germany, and concludes a chapter "I am not afraid of old Nazis; I am only afraid of new democrats." You should read Mikes' book.

Obituaries:—In East-Berlin the actress Margarete Kupfer died, aged 69; in West-Berlin Walter Jankuhn, the well-known tenor, aged 62. In Stockholm Charles Bruell, the music publisher, died suddenly, aged 58.

Moral Restitution:—Thomas Harlan, a son of Veit Harlan and his first wife Hilde Koerber, who lives in Paris, visited Israel with a Turkish passport and, financed by Baron James de Rothschild, prepares a picture there. He declared that by his production he wants to make amends for what his father did under Hitler.

London News:—Dr. H. P. Gebhardt, who runs Montevideo's German Radio Hour, came to London on his trip to Europe.—Anton Walbrook will go to Berlin to act in a remake of Anet's "Ariane."—Josa Morgan, widow of the composer Paul Morgan, who died in Buchenwald, has arrived from the United States; she covered the Coronation for American papers.—The London publishers Cassells will print Szoek Szakall's autobiography "My life under Emperor Francis Joseph, Adolf Hitler and Jack Warner."—Carl Zuckmayer, who has left for his farm in Vermont again, is writing a new novel with an American background; he will be back in London for the First Night of his "Devil's General" with Trevor Howard in the lead.—Viktor Skutezky will produce "The Weak and the Wicked" for "A.B.P." here.

U.S.A.:—Gottfried Reinhardt wrote "My Father's Castle," the story of Leopoldskron.—German actress Reva Holsey, backed by the Dieterles, will produce Georg Kaiser's "Floss der Medusa" in Hollywood first on the stage, later on as a picture.

Germany:—Emmeric Kalman's new operetta "Arizona Lady" will be produced in Hamburg; the composer is living in Paris now.—M. Brenner, of London, is cutting "Hollandmaedel" for C.C.C. in Berlin.—Peter Berg, of London, is producing television films for McEldowney, of Renoir's, "The River" fame in Berlin.—Berlin's "Sportpalast" and "Titania" Cinema will become theatres.—Fritz Kortner is preparing O'Casey's "Preisepokal" in Berlin.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LOYALTY

Sir,

In a recent address Rabbi Dr. Baeck paid tribute to those German domestics who, during the fateful years after 1933, remained loyal to their Jewish employers in spite of all threats and adversities. May I be allowed to recall an incident of that kind which stands out in my memory and should interest readers? As a member of the then "C.V. Hauptvorstand" I received, soon after the "Machtergreifung" the attention of the Gestapo, and while I was absent my home was searched. When two of the search party started to scatter correspondence on the floor, "Hilde" (this was her name) lively intervened shouting at them that it would be her job afterwards to tidy up the place. The officials meekly complied with her request. When the search of the flat was nearly ended, Hilde, much to the surprise of my wife, pointed out to them that they had forgotten to search the top of one of the huge and tall old Berlin tiled coal stoves. She suggested that something after all might be found there. When the leader of the "Commando" asked for steps, she urged them to fetch the ladder from the kitchen themselves. All this was quietly complied with. On the top of the stove a bundle of scorched old newspapers was found. Puzzled what to do about it the men were somewhat perturbed when

Hilde loudly advised them to take the parcel to their headquarters since no doubt this would be important Communist literature. But, alas, in this case she failed to reach agreement, and the parcel remained untouched. Finally, our loyal friend ordered one of the heavily armed S.A. men covering the search party to take the steps back to its proper place. This he did. They never came again until my final departure in 1938.

Yours faithfully,
F. G. Salomon.

Somerset Villa,
10 Newbridge Road,
Bath.

A CORRECTION

Sir,
May I correct a slight inaccuracy in your column Anglo-Judaica of June 1953? Mr. L. G. Montefiore's statement regarding the impact of German Jewish refugees was made by him at the recent Conference of the Association of Synagogues in Great Britain and not in his capacity as Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

Yours faithfully,
Rabbi C. E. Cassell.

33 Seymour Place,
London, W.1.

KOM(M)OEDGHEN IN LONDON

The Duesseldorf Cabaret "Kom(m)loedchen" has paid its second visit to London and, until July 5, presents "More Whisky—Less Vodka" at Park Lane Theatre (45 Park Lane). Though, on their previous visit, they offered a more stimulating mixture, labelled "Between Whisky and Vodka," and though Germany's political post-war cabaret does reach the artistic level of the pre-1933 days the performance is most enjoyable. One of the funniest scenes is that of the commercial office where former Nazis who are looking to appointments may adapt their embarrassing curricula to the requirements of Western and Eastern Germany. A parody of German and American "Kitsch" films is also very amusing. The outstanding artist of the six members cast is Lore Lorentz who, together with the producer Kay Lorentz, also wrote the script.

W. R.

SUCCESS OF MAX BROD PLAY

There were forty curtain calls at the Deutsche Schauspielhaus (Hamburg) after the premiere of "The Castle," Max Brod's dramatisation of Kafka's novel.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birth

Strauss.—On May 5, a son Edwin Robert Alfred, was born to Mrs. Ingeborg Erika Strauss, wife of Mr. Charles S. Strauss, of 41 Hillside Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex.

Marriage

Singer—Masri.—The marriage took place on June 8 in Montpellier (South of France) of Vera Elizabeth Singer, younger daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Singer, 49 Lightwoods Hill, Birmingham 41, to Ibrahim Albert Masri, younger son of Mme. R. Masri of Cairo and the late M. Masri.

Death

Mr Herbert Eger (formerly Rechtsanwalt in Berlin-Pankow), of 1 Parkfield Road, Manningham, Bradford, passed away on May 26 at the age of 70, deeply mourned by his wife, son and daughter.

Consecration

The tombstone in loving memory of the late **Mr. Salomon Klausner**, of 99 Merrion Avenue, Stanmore, will be consecrated on July 9, 1953, at 3 p.m., at Bushey Cemetery.

CLASSIFIED

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Saturday, July 4, 11 a.m., at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28 St. John's Wood Road, N.W.8

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PUBLIC SESSIONS

on Sunday, July 5, at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28 St. John's Wood Road, N.W.8

THE RELIGIOUS APPROACH TO WORLD PROBLEMS

10.30—1.30 RABBI Dr. LEO BAECK ... Introduction.

RABBI Dr. I. I. MATTUCK... **The Need for a Sp'ritual Renaissance.**

Rev. Dr. NELSON GLUECK... **Social and International Issues.**

(President of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, U.S.A.)

2.30—5.30 Group Discussion on the Addresses.

8.00 Reports of the Group Meetings and Summing up by the main speakers.

Miscellaneous

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MISSING PERSONS Enquiries from AJR

Tauber, Isaak, from Danzig, for Karl-Heinz Raschke, Germany.

Evans, Henry, formerly Heinz Einoehrl, for Abraham Einoehrl, Tel-Aviv.

Rapoport, Leon, born 23.7.26 Erfurt, engineer, for sister in Israel.

Speyer, Helmut Adolf, born 20.7.26 Allendorf/Werra, lived at Frankfurt/Main, for Herbert Narew, Argentine.

Rochmann, Heinrich, son of Schlome Rochmann, for JRSO, Berlin.

*Silhouette
your figure*

AJR AT WORK

AJR GENERAL MEETING

The well-attended General Meeting of the AJR took place on June 18 at Broadhurst Hall; Mr. A. Horovitz was in the Chair. In his report the General Secretary, Dr. W. Rosenstock, stated that the AJR had prepared a comprehensive social programme which was to be put into effect as soon as funds from the heirless, unclaimed and communal property in Germany and from the German reparation payments have become available; the establishment of Homes for the Aged would be one of the first measures. In the discussion indignation was expressed at the fact that so far the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation (IRSO) had declined the former German Jews' claim to a share in the heirless assets recovered in the American Zone of Germany.

When opening the debate on the election of the new Executive, Mr. Horovitz announced that Mr. A. Schoyer, who had been the Chairman of the AJR since its foundation, had tendered his resignation; he recalled that the achievements of the AJR had been due to a very high extent to Mr. Schoyer's devoted services. In grateful recognition of his work as Chairman, Mr. Schoyer was unanimously elected President of the AJR. He will be succeeded as Chairman by Dr. H. Reichmann, formerly Vice-Chairman; Mr. A. Horovitz was elected Vice-Chairman. Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld, Mr. A. Dresel and Dr. F. A. Mann were elected as new members of the Executive. The other—re-elected—members of the Executive are: Mr. M. Pottlitzer (Treasurer), Mr. W. M. Behr, Mr. S. Birschheim, Dr. F. E. Falk, Mr. P. Goldschmidt, Mr. L. Schurmann, Mr. L. Ullmann, Mr. A. Wechsler and Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary).

The elections to the Board resulted in the co-optation of three new members, Mr. J. L. Feuchtwanger, Dr. L. Guttmann, O.B.E., and Dr. H. Lawton. The following Board members were re-elected:—Dr. P. Abel, Rabbi Dr. A. Altmann, Dr. S. Auerbach, Rabbi Dr. M. L. Bamberger, Dr. M. Bergenthal, Dr. W. Berlin, K. Bernstein, H. Blumenau, Dr. W. Breslauer, Rabbi I. Broch, Rabbi C. E. Cassell, Dr. F. R. Engel, Dr. L. Engel, J. Erlanger, Rabbi Dr. M. Eschelbacher, Dr. E. Eyck, Dr. H. Fleischhacker, K. Friedlaender, Dr. R. Fuchs, F. Godfrey, Dr. F. Goldschmidt, E. Gould, Mrs. G. Hambourg, E. Haymann, A. W. Heller, Dr. A. Kaufmann, Mrs. F. Kochmann, L. Kritzer, Dr. H. W. Kugelmann, Dr. H. H. Kuttner, J. Loewenthal, E. Marx, Rabbi Dr. I. Maybaum,

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Representatives of London Districts: J. Feig, M. Frankel, Dr. E. Kramer, Dr. E. Magnus, L. Mayer, M. Wetzler, and representatives of provincial groups.

In the second part of the Meeting Dr. W. Breslauer, Vice-President of the "Council of Jews from Germany," spoke about the drafts of the Indemnification Law which are now under consideration in Bonn. He summarised some of the main demands of the former German Jews in a resolution which was unanimously adopted and the full text of which is published on the front page of this issue.

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AJR MANCHESTER

The Executive of the AJR Manchester Branch arranged an outing for the 28 residents of the Morris Feinmann House, the Home for aged and lonely refugees run by the Manchester Branch. About 12 private cars were reserved to take the residents to Lymm, where tea was served in the Home for Mothers and Children. The return journey was arranged to take in the Coronation Decorations in Manchester. The residents were greatly appreciative of this delightful afternoon and expressed the wish that similar outings should be made possible in the near future.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR MARTIN WASSERMANN

On April 24, Professor Dr. Martin Wassermann (formerly Hamburg) died in Buenos Aires, 80 years old. He was well known as a pioneer and author of standard works in the field of Patent Law. For several decades he edited the monthly, *Markenschutz und Wettbewerb*. Also after his emigration he published numerous articles on the subject on which he was a widely respected authority. His untiring energy is revealed by the fact that only a few months before his death he contributed an essay on "Streifzuege in Argentinien Patent- und Markenschutz" in the Munich periodical, *Gewerblicher Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht*. His constructive scientific work has left its lasting mark on the history of Patent Law.

Professor Jacques Stueckgold, the famous music teacher, who for many years taught at the "Hochschule fuer Musik," Berlin, died in New York 76 years old.

By the death of Mr. Herbert Eger (Bradford, formerly Rechtsanwalt in Berlin-Pankow), the AJR loses a trusted friend. Prior to his emigration Mr. Eger took an active part in the work of German Jewish Organisations.

TWO BIRTHDAYS

On July 23, Mr. Arthur Hausdorff, formerly Rechtsanwalt in Breslau, will be 75 years old. The AJR, with which he has been closely associated for many years and in whose efforts he has always displayed greatest interest, wishes him many years to come of undiminished health and vigour.

Mr. Hermann Perl, formerly Breslau, was 80 years old recently. The AJR conveys to him its heartiest congratulations.

SOCIAL OCCASION

At a cocktail party given at the International Music Association Club, South Molton Street, W.1, on May 26, by Mr. Frederick Gardiner, of Gardiner Travel Service, prizes were awarded to two students of the Opera School. The prizes, consisting of free trips to, and accommodation at the Richard Wagner Festival Bayreuth 1953, were won by Miss Joy Pierce, of Manchester, and Mr. John Thompson, of New Zealand.

Among the guests were the Earl and Countess of Harewood, The Rt. Hon. the Countess of Rosebery, Lady Mabel Dunn, Lady Jarratt, Mr. Benjamin Britten, the well-known composer, Miss Joan Cross, C.B.E., Principal of the Opera School, Miss Hella Kurty, Miss E. Theilman, Mr. Lawrence Collingwood, C.B.E., Mr. Vilem Tausky, Mr. J. H. Lawrie, and Mr. Norman Del Mar.

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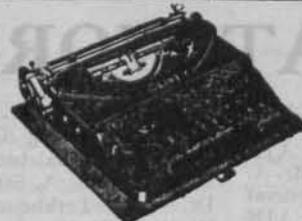


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