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Heinrich Fraenkel:

## THE GERMAN ELECTIONS

We have asked Mr. Heinrich Fraenkel to comment on the recent German elections. By publishing the following article of this well-known writer and expert on German affairs, "AJR Information" does not necessarily identify itself with the views expressed by the author.—The Ed.

There can be no doubt that Adenauer's electoral victory has had a very good Press indeed, all through the Western World. The C.D.U. (*Christlich-Demokratische Union*) has increased its votes by more than five millions, which is partly explained by the substantially increased electorate. As a matter of fact, the S.P.D. (Social Democrats) can also claim a numerical increase of more than a million votes (from 6,934,975 in 1949 to 7,939,774 last month); yet they have lost about 1 per cent, whereas the C.D.U. has gained about 15 per cent. With 12,440,799 votes cast for them the C.D.U. has scored 45.2 per cent of the total poll.

However, it is evident from these comparative figures that the C.D.U. victory was not won at the expense of the S.P.D.; indeed, the Social Democrats, though they lost some ground even in allegedly "safe" districts, such as Hamburg, have more or less held their own. Once again, they could rely on the solid block of their loyal supporters, but they have evidently failed to make any headway, and they seem to have failed even more dismally to impress the rising generation of those who were too young to vote in 1949 and who went to the polls for the first time. It makes me think of what Ollenhauer, Heine and other S.P.D. leaders told me when, a few months before the elections, I asked them why they did not revive the *Sozialistische Monatshefte* as well as some of the pre-Nazi Socialist Colleges and Schools. Their answer was that no more than a few thousand readers would be prepared to spend one Mark a month for a serious theoretical journal; indeed, the Party leaders seemed to find it impossible to inspire Socialist thought in the young generation. Hence—and this, from their point of view, must be the worst aspect of the situation—the S.P.D. is a party of middle-aged and elderly people, lacking the revitalising effect of a large body of youthful members. Even so, thanks to the solid if uninspired discipline of its loyal members, the S.P.D., i.e., the main Opposition Party, just about held its own.

### Defeat of Extremists

At whose expense, then, did Adenauer score his victory? Well, at practically everybody else's, including his own right-wing Coalition partners, such as the F.D.P. (the so-called "Democratic" Party) and the D.P. (*Deutsche Partei*, roughly the equivalent of the erstwhile *Deutsch-Nationale* of the Weimar Republic). As for the more extreme parties and groupings, on the Left as well as on the Right, they were practically wiped out. The Communists who held fourteen seats in the old House did not get a single one, and the D.R.P. (*Deutsche Reichspartei*, one of the "neo-Nazi" groupings) could not even get its President, H. H. Scheffer, into the new Parliament. The new "Refugee Party" (B.H.E.) also did not do nearly as well as was expected, and the "Centre" grouping is reduced from some twenty seats to three. As for Frau Helene Wessel and some of her political friends who split away from the old "Centre" to line up with Dr. Heinemann (who had split away from Adenauer's own Cabinet and Party), they just did not have a chance, in spite (or perhaps because) of their well-meaning if somewhat vague programme, a sort of "Neo-Liberalism-cum-Pacifism"; they just couldn't live down the suspicion of being tarred with the Communist brush—a quite unjustified suspicion, incidentally, for they are anything but "fellow-travellers."

Now, it is of course the very fact that Adenauer's victory is due to the liquidation of extremism that is being hailed as something to be grateful for. Certainly it is a pleasing thought that neither Herr Naumann nor, apparently, most of the other "wild men" are to sit on the ugly seats of the *Bundeshaus*; not for the time being, anyway. But alas, those who are so very gratified about it and so happily convinced that there is nothing now to worry about in Adenauer's Germany, are overlooking one important point—it is not the "wild men" among the neo-Nazis who are really dangerous, it is the clever men who know better than straying into the political wilderness. The wild men, indeed, are not neo-Nazis at all, they are just ordinary old Nazis who have learned nothing and forgotten nothing. The real and dangerous neo-Nazis know better than that. For them the operative word is *Unterwanderung*, i.e., infiltration.

### Danger of "Unterwanderung"

It is, of course, common knowledge that particularly the F.D.P., i.e., "*Freie Demokratische Partei*," has been consistently *unterwandert* in spite of its pretty name and ever since its foundation soon after the war, it has been much on the Right of the C.D.U.

But even this seemingly obvious statement—like almost anything one can say about the complex and artificial set-up of German party-politics—must be taken with a grain of salt; for it is, of course, impossible to speak of the C.D.U., i.e., Adenauer's reigning Party, as something at all homogeneous. As a matter of fact, there has never been, in the history of politics, a Party with so ludicrously wide an "ideological span" as the C.D.U. This is, basically, due to the fact that soon after the surrender—or the *Zusammenbruch*, as the Germans invariably and significantly call it—as soon as party-political regeneration was permitted under the auspices and control of the Allied Occupation Authorities, the choice was strictly limited and any new (or old) Party with an honestly admitted right-wing label was automatically taboo and ruled out. Inevitably, the potential members of such a Party (along with those who formerly would have belonged to something like the Catholic Centrum or, say, the *Deutsche Volkspartei*) flocked under the roof of the new Party with the non-committal name of Christian-Democratic Union. I shall never forget how very angry Jacob Kaiser—the then Party leader—was when, early in 1946, I asked him what he had to say about the rumours that his Party was the *Auffangbecken* for all those who had no (right-wing) political home of their own to go to. He would not admit it, of course, yet that was exactly what it was. Even though subsequently parties with more right-wing labels were formed, most of those who originally (i.e., in 1945) had joined the C.D.U. simply for lack of any alternative political home further right, have retained their affiliation; this is one reason for the unwieldy size as well as the enormous "ideological span" of the Party. Take two politicians (both ex-Ministers) such as Joseph Müller and Aloys Hundhammer: the one almost "left-wing," the other the prototype of what one might call a die-hard (Catholic) Tory—and yet they are members of the same Party in the same city of Munich, both being prominent Christo-Democrats.

However, what matters if we wish to get the

## MEINHOLD NUSSBAUM

It is learned with deepest regret that Dr. Meinhold Nussbaum, Head of the Legal Section of the Israeli Purchasing Mission in Cologne, died on September 9 as a result of injuries received in a traffic accident. His premature death also means a severe loss for the former Germans Jews. Dr. Nussbaum, who, prior to his emigration to Israel, was a lawyer in Germany, had been associated with Jewish and Zionist activities throughout his life. In Israel, he took a leading part in the work of the organisation of former German Jews (*Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa*) and became its Chairman some time ago. Under the auspices of the "Council of Jews from Germany" he constantly co-operated with the responsible officers of the AJR and of the "Council" in London. Almost immediately after the war he went to Germany for some time as delegate of the Jewish Agency. His initiative at this early stage and his expert legal knowledge helped to pave the way for legislation on restitution and compensation. It is a tragedy that he was not permitted to accomplish the new task with which the Israeli Government entrusted this gifted, kindhearted, and noble man.

whole thing in perspective, is not only whether we should or should not welcome the outcome of the elections but whether we have reason to be glad or sorry about the mood of the West-German nation, as evident from these electoral results.

We have, of course, to be thankful for the elimination of the extremists, including the "wild" Nazis ("neo" or not so "neo") and the professional antisemites. That is quite true; but it should be borne in mind that in Germany rather more than anywhere else moderation or "fierceness" of the political climate depends on economic circumstances. Let us not forget that just now Western Germany is experiencing an economic boom which, if we wish to think of a useful historical parallel, is remindful of the mid-twenties, after Locarno. At that time Hitler's Party was quite negligible; when two or three years later they suddenly did shoot up from a mere handful of Parliamentary seats to well over a hundred Brown-shirts in the Reichstag it was largely, not to say exclusively, due to the economic crisis which, by then, had set in. It is important to remember that the ups and downs in Hitler's fourteen years' struggle for power were invariably in a precisely inverse ratio to the economic prosperity of the nation. What really brought him to a powerful position (if not yet to actual power) was the prolonged economic crisis of the late 'twenties and early 'thirties, the seven or eight millions persistently unemployed, so many of whom took the brown shirt, not because it was brown, but because it was a shirt.

The defeat of the extremists in the elections is therefore, to a high extent, due to Germany's present economic position. If, or as long as, this position remains unimpaired, the extremists are unlikely to have a chance. We must hope that, even if a future economic crisis should affect or jeopardise the economic regeneration so quickly achieved, Germany will not forget the lesson of her recent history and remember the fatal results of extremism.



# RESTITUTION NEWS

## HAFTENSCHAEDIGUNG FUER FRUEHERE OESTERREICHER

Die 7. Opferfuersorgegesetz-Novelle vom 18. Juli 1952 sieht die Zahlung von Haftentschaedigungen an Personen vor, die aus politischen Gruenden oder aus Gruenden der Abstammung, Religion oder Nationalitaet in der Zeit vom 6. Maerz 1933 bis zum 9. Mai 1945 inhaftiert waren.

Im Falle des Todes des Opfers steht der Anspruch auf Entschaeudigung den Hinterbliebenen in nachstehender Reihenfolge zu:—

(a) Witwen oder Lebensgefuehrten, sofern die Ehe bzw. Lebensgemeinschaft vor dem 1. Mai 1945 eingegangen wurde; (b) Kindern, deren Lebensunterhalt vom Opfer zum Zeitpunkt seiner Inhaftierung ganz oder zum ueberwiegenden Teil bestritten wurde. Eltern und Geschwistern kommt eine Haftentschaedigung zu, wenn sie mit dem Opfer zum Zeitpunkt seiner Inhaftierung gelebt haben, von ihm erhalten wurden und eine soziale Beduerftigkeit gegeben ist.

Waehrend bisher die Zahlung der Haftentschaedigung nur auf Personen, die noch oesterreichische Staatsbuergerschaft besitzen, beschaenkt war, sieht das Bundesgesetz vom 8. Juli 1953 BGBl. 109 (8. Opferfuersorgegesetz-Novelle) die Zahlung einer solchen Haftentschaedigung auch an Personen vor, die nach dem 13. Maerz 1938 die oesterreichische Bundesbuergerschaft verloren haben und bei Anmeldung des Anspruches auf Haftentschaedigung nicht mehr oesterreichische Staatsbuergers sind.

Im allgemeinen muss die Haft mindestens 3 Monate gedauert haben. Ob auch kuerzere Haftzeiten angerechnet werden koennen, haengt von den zu pruefenden Umstaenden des Einzelfalles ab, insbesondere ob gleichzeitig auch einer der Tatbestaende des Paragraphen 1 (1) und (2) des Opferfuersorgegesetzes vorliegt, z.B. Gesundheitschaedigung, oder Verlust oder Minderung des Einkommens um mindestens die Haelfte durch dreieinhalb Jahre.

Derzeit betraegt die Entschaeudigung 431.20 Schilling fuer jeden nachweislichen in der Haft verbrachten Kalendermonat, fuer Hinterbliebene die Haelfte des Betrages. Entschaeudigungsbetraege, die den Gesamtbetrag von Sch. 3.017 nicht uebersteigen, werden nach Rechtskraft des Zuerkennungsbescheids zur Gaenze fluessig gemacht. Hoehere Entschaeudigungsbetraege, die jedoch den Gesamtbetrag von Sch. 12.068 nicht uebersteigen, werden in Jahresteilbetraegen von Sch. 3.017 fluessig gemacht. Darueber hinausgehende Entschaeudigungsbetraege werden in vier gleichen Jahresraten gezahlt.

Gemaess der 7. Opferfuersorge-Novelle sind Personen, die im Jahre 1950 ein Einkommen von mehr als Sch. 100.000 (ca £1.400) hatten, nicht berechtigt, Haftentschaedigung zu beantragen. Die 8. Opferfuersorgegesetz-Novelle sieht vor, dass die naecheren Bestimmungen ueber die Ermittlung und Umrechnung des Einkommens von Personen, die nicht ihren Wohnsitz in Oesterreich haben, im Wege einer Verordnung geregelt werden sollen.

Die Ansprueche sind unter Vorlage oder Bekanntgabe der Nachweise ueber die erlittene Haft entweder bei der Oesterreichischen diplomatischen Vertretungsbehoerde, in deren Bereich die betreffenden Opfer ihren Wohnsitz (Aufenthalt) haben oder beim Amte der Wiener Landesregierung anzumelden. Die Anmeldung hat bis spaetestens 19. August 1954 zu erfolgen.

Dr. C. KAPRALIK

## LITERATURE ON INDEMNIFICATION LAWS

The "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland (Duesseldorf-Benrath, Hildenerstrasse 35a) announces the publication of a book about the "Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz" with critical comments by Dr. H. G. van Dam (320 pages, £1 10s. plus postage). The book, which may be ordered from the publishers, will also include the texts of other laws and orders relating to questions of indemnification (Auslands-Beamtenengesetz, Luxembourg Agreement, etc.).

Further copies of the supplement to the September issue of "AJR Information," in which the main contents of the Indemnification Law are described, may be ordered from AJR Headquarters, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 (1s. plus postage).

Announcements about Transfer on page 6

## KRIEGSOEFFERVERSORGUNG

### Verwaltungsvorschriften

Das Gesetz zur Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts in der Kriegsoefferversorgung im Ausland vom 3. August 1953, ueber dessen Inhalt in der vorigen Nummer der "AJR Information" berichtet wurde, ist im Bundesgesetzblatt vom 10. August 1953 veroeffentlicht. Die Allgemeinen Verwaltungsvorschriften zur Durchfuehrung des Gesetzes (veroeffentlicht im Bundesanzeiger Nr. 159 vom 20. August 1953) enthalten u.a. folgende Bestimmungen:

Die Versorgung wird nur auf Antrag gewaehrt. Der Antrag ist binnen einer Ausschlussfrist von einem Jahr nach Verkuendigung des Gesetzes, also bis zum 10. August 1954, zu stellen. Ist die Frist ohne Schuld versaeumt, so kann der Antrag binnen 6 Monaten nach Wegfall des Hindernisses gestellt werden. Bei Hinterbliebenen beginnt die Frist mit dem auf den Todestag des Geschaedigten folgenden Tage. Der Antrag ist bei der fuer den Wohnort zustaeudigen Vertretung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, mangels einer solchen Vertretung beim Auswaertigen Amt in Bonn zu stellen.

Eines Antrages bedarf es nicht, wenn der Berechtigte seinen versorgungsrechtlichen Wiedergutmachungsanspruch bereits auf Grund der bis zum Inkrafttreten des Gesetzes geltenden Rechtsvorschriften oder Verwaltungsmassnahmen angemeldet hat. Eines Antrages bedarf es auch dann nicht, wenn auf Grund der Verordnung des Bundesministers fuer Arbeit vom 23. Juni 1952 aus Gruenden der Beduerftigkeit Versorgungsbezaege bereits als "Kann-Leistungen" gezahlt worden sind.

Zustaeudig fuer die Bearbeitung sind die gleichen Versorgungsaeemter, die fuer die Gewaehrung von Renten als "Kann-Leistungen" in der erwaehnten Verordnung vom 23. Juni 1952 fuer zustaeudig erkluert worden sind, d.h. fuer Anspruchsberechtigte in Grossbritannien das Versorgungsamt Hamburg. Von dem Erfordernis, dass das Land, in dem der Antragsteller sich aufhaelt, diplomatische Beziehungen mit der Bundesrepublik Deutschland unterhalten muss, sind die gleichen Ausnahmen zugelassen, wie bei dem Auslandsbeamtenengesetz.

## FREMDRENTEN-UND AUSLANDSRENTENGESETZ

vom 7. August 1953

Das lang erwartete Wiedergutmachungsgesetz in der Sozialversicherung ist jetzt veroeffentlicht (Bundesanzeiger Nr. 47 vom 10. August 1953). Es ist mit Rueckwirkung vom 1. April 1952 ab in Kraft getreten.

Gleichzeitig ist das Gesetz ueber die Errichtung der Bundesversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte vom 7. August 1953 veroeffentlicht. Dieses Gesetz ist am 1. August 1953 in Kraft getreten.

### Angestelltenversicherung

Die Rechte und Pflichten der fruerehen Reichsversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte gehen auf die Bundesversicherungsanstalt ueber. Diese hat also jetzt ueber Rentenanaerage zu entscheiden, die sich aus Versicherungszeiten ergeben, fuer die bei der fruerehen Reichsversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte Beitraege gezahlt sind. Die Bundesversicherungsanstalt wird spaetestens am 1. Januar 1954 ihre Arbeit aufnehmen. Bis dahin werden die Anaerage treuhaenderisch von der Landesversicherungsanstalt in Duesseldorf weiter bearbeitet. Es wird sich empfehlen, Anaerage bei der Bundesversicherungsanstalt erst dann einzureichen wenn bekanntgegeben ist, dass sie ihre Arbeiten aufgenommen hat. Bis dahin sollten die Anaerage bei der Landesversicherungsanstalt eingereicht werden.

Wie bekannt, besteht auf Grund des Angestelltenversicherungsgesetzes ein Anspruch auf Altersrente vom 65. Lebensjahr und ein Anspruch auf Rente wegen Berufsunfaehigkeit vom Eintritt der Berufsunfaehigkeit ab, wenn die Anwartschaft aufrechterhalten ist, d.h. wenn in jedem Jahr mindestens 6 Beitraege gezahlt worden sind.

Fuer Naziverfolgte ist die Anwartschaft aus gezahlten Beitraegen ohne weiteres bis 31. Dezember 1949 aufrechterhalten. Fuer die spaetere Zeit muessen freiwillige Beitraege gezahlt werden. Die Zahlung muss in der Waehrung des Aufenthaltslandes erfolgen. Mit Genehmigung der Landeszentralbank kann die Zahlung aus einem Sperrkonto in Deutschland erfolgen. Die Frist zur Nachzahlung der Beitraege fuer die Jahre 1950 und 1951 ist bis 31. Dezember 1953 verlaengert.

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Die Entziehung der Rente muss durch nationalsozialistische Verfolgungsmassnahmen verursacht sein. Die Verwaltungsvorschriften zaehlen eine Reihe von Tatbestaenden auf, die als solche Verfolgungsmassnahmen anzusehen sind und erwaehnt insbesondere bei Juden die Aberkennung der deutschen Staatsangehoerigkeit durch die 11. Durchfuehrungsverordnung zum Reichsbuergergesetz.

Ob die Voraussetzungen der Verfolgung vorliegen, ist von den Entschaeudigungsbehoerden zu pruefen. Ihre Stellungnahme ist fuer die Versorgungsaeemter bindend. Da es fuer die aus dem Gebiet der jetzigen Ostzone Ausgewanderten kein zustaeudiges Entschaeudigungsamt gibt, werden diese Bestimmungen insoweit noch der Ergaenzung beduerfen.

Ausgleichsrenten und Elternrenten werden in voller Hoehe gewaehrt, es sei denn, dass der Lebensunterhalt des Berechtigten offenbar auf andere Weise sichergestellt ist, oder Beduerftigkeit offenbar nicht vorliegt. Die Verwaltungsvorschriften bestimmen, dass der Lebensunterhalt auf andere Weise sichergestellt ist, wenn die sonstigen Einkuenfte des Geschaedigten das Eineinhalbfache des durchschnittlichen monatlichen Arbeitsverdienstes eines gewerblichen Arbeitnehmers im Aufenthaltslande (bei Witwen 60%, bei Waisen 30% dieses Betrages) uebersteigen.

Die Beduerftigkeit im Sinne der Elternversorgung liegt nicht vor, wenn die sonstigen Einkuenfte des Berechtigten das Eineinhalbfache des Fuersorgegerichtsatzes oder des als Existenzminimums geltenden Betrages des Aufenthaltslandes uebersteigen.

Haeufig wird die Frage gestellt, ob es zweckmaessig ist, die Anwartschaft aufrechter zu erhalten. Diese Frage laesst sich nicht allgemein sondern nur nach Lage des Einzelfalles beantworten. Hierbei ist insbesondere zu beruecksichtigen, dass sich nicht uebersehen laesst, welche Bestimmungen das in Vorbereitung befindliche Gegenseitigkeitsabkommen ueber Sozialversicherung zwischen England und Deutschland enthalten wird. Auf jeden Fall hat eine Nachzahlung nur dann Zweck, wenn die Absicht besteht, diese freiwilligen Beitraege bis zum Eintritt des Versicherungsfalles zu zahlen.

Wenn der Versicherungsfall vor dem 1. April 1952 eingetreten und nicht bereits eine Leistung vor diesem Zeitpunkt festgesetzt ist, so beginnt die Rentenzahlung mit dem 1. April 1952, wenn der Antragsteller sich an diesem Zeitpunkt in einem auswaertigen Staate aufhaelt und der Antrag bis zum 10. August 1954 gestellt ist.

### Invalidenversicherung

Wer bei einer Landesversicherungsanstalt versichert war, die ihren Sitz innerhalb des Bundesgebiets und des Landes Berlin hatte, muss Anaerage bei dieser Landesversicherungsanstalt stellen. Versicherte, die bei Landesversicherungsanstalten versichert waren, die ausserhalb des Bundesgebietes und des Landes Berlin gelegen waren, haben keinen Anspruch auf Leistungen, koennen aber Leistungen erhalten. Fuer die Gewaehrung solcher Leistungen erlaesst der Bundesarbeitsminister Richtlinien. Anaerage sind in diesen Faellen bei der Landesversicherungsanstalt Duesseldorf zu stellen.

### Unfallversicherung

Ansprueche bestehen nur aus Unfaellen, die sich im Bundesgebiet oder im Lande Berlin ereignet haben. Im uebrigen besteht kein Anspruch. Es koennen aber Leistungen auf Grund noch zu erlassender Richtlinien gewaehrt werden. Zustaeudig ist die Berufsgenossenschaft, die nach der Art des Betriebes, in dem sich der Unfall ereignet hat, zustaeudig ist, falls der urspruenglich verpflichtete Versicherungstraeger nicht mehr besteht.



## SILESIAN CITIES 1953

### Breslau

During the siege of Breslau more than two-thirds of the city was totally destroyed. The southern part, famous for its historic buildings, remains a wilderness-cum-ruins, extending from Brockau to Gross-Mochbern. The Castle, the Archbishop's Palace, and all the churches west of the Königsplatz and south of the Garten Strasse, lie in ruins as also the fine buildings of the Concert Hall and the Theatre. But, miraculously preserved, the Town Hall (now occupied by the Polish authorities) looms above the "Ring" with its pinnacles and battlements.

An impartial observer will admit that the Poles have at least done something for the reconstruction of the Silesian capital. They have rebuilt some of its important landmarks, for instance the Cathedral, and all traffic centres have been cleared of rubble. Not much progress, however, has been achieved in housing, and new buildings in the centre of the city have been confined to workers' flats and housing estates for civil servants. Everywhere one sees

primitive booths and flimsy stands amongst the wreckage. New State shops are constantly being opened in the Garten Strasse, but prices for shirts, shoes and dresses are quite beyond the purse of most inhabitants. Traffic in the centre is heavy; the Schweidnitzer Strasse, now again a main shopping thoroughfare, is congested with cars.

Breslau has become the shop window for reconstruction to all visitors from the East, and, on account of the reputed "good food and drink," is preferred as a venue by delegates from Iron Curtain countries. Indeed, they have opened special restaurants for the V.I.P.s, where beverages and delicacies are obtainable that have become a mere memory to the rest of the population. Ordinary life seems to become increasingly intolerable. Since even the slightest criticism is interpreted as treason, an atmosphere of mutual distrust prevails. Every demonstration is organised by coercion of the masses. In spite of the much vaunted German-Polish friendship, the 1,500 Germans still living in Breslau are treated as enemies and suffer the severest hardships and privations.

### Riesengebirge

The Silesian mountains are very popular with the Poles. Thanks to a lively propaganda campaign, the lovely mountain resort of Hirschberg is attracting a large number of tourists; you will meet in the streets not only Poles from all parts of the country, but also Czechs, Austrians, Hungarians, Roumanians and Russians. Contrary to expectations, convalescent workers form the smallest part of the clientele of the State-run hotels. As accommodation is strictly limited only few workers can make the acquaintance of this "holiday paradise for the working class," and not more than a handful of Poles are in a position to pay for their stay out of their own pockets. This is because the once so reasonable and excellent boarding houses no longer exist, since nationalisation of the entire hotel trade. But even 35,000 Poles living in Hirschberg have not been able to alter the character of this German town. The past still lives in the ancient buildings and typical arcades surrounding the Market Place. Many new shops have been opened to cater for tourist traffic, but there are only 200 Germans left, elderly people, unwilling to leave their native soil.

Besides Hirschberg, Krummhübel and Schreiberhau are specially favoured by the Poles. Bad Flinsberg, a mountain health resort 35 km. from Hirschberg, has become a holiday centre for members of the Polish Government, who spend their vacations here.

### Waldenburg

Whilst 250,000 Germans once used to live in the hilly country of Waldenburg, there are to-day only 100,000 inhabitants, most of them Poles. Waldenburg, called "Walbrzych" by the Poles, is one of the few towns in Silesia which the Poles were able to absorb intact and without fighting. To-day it is inhabited by 45,000 Poles from the East, amongst whom there are 10,000 miners repatriated from France. Occasionally one finds German miners, many of whom were compelled to adopt Polish nationality. The Victoria mine is strongly guarded on account of recently increasing sabotage. Apart from Polish street names the town seems much as before. The Town Hall Square, with its beautiful flower beds and attractive benches, looks as pretty as ever. The largest store in Waldenburg, "Merkur," is State-owned and includes an hotel, whilst the one-time Customs Institute has been transformed into a hospital.

### Gleiwitz

The outward appearance of the Upper Silesian industrial town of Gleiwitz has preserved to a remarkable extent its ancient German features. Only the signs in the streets, the newspapers and the conversation in public and in factories belie, in Polish, that this is a German city. One becomes aware of this on a tour of Gleiwitz, the population of which has grown again to 130,000.

The Allerheiligen Church is still the centre of this Upper Silesian metropolis and now as before the view is dominated by the pitheads of the Gleiwitz coal mines and the towering furnaces of the former "Vereinigten Oberschlesischen Hüttenwerke."

JUERGEN SCHUELER  
in "Die Gegenwart."

To be continued

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### The Board of Deputies

The "decline" of the Board of Deputies was prominently discussed in a "Jewish Chronicle" editorial, quoting in evidence "the frequent lack of purposefulness in the Board's debates, the difficulties which it experiences in raising funds even among those who are most clamorous in professing support, and the trespassing by other bodies on a field which it considers its own." The sad change was seen to have begun when "independent organisations" lost the leadership of a "small group of disinterested philanthropists," although admittedly this had been made inevitable by "the wide extension of the community's activities."

### Education

The state of the community was also discussed at the 26th Annual Summer School of the Inter-University Jewish Federation, the only representative body of Anglo-Jewish students. Their host, Mr. Henry Shaw, Religious Director of the Association for Jewish Youth, found nothing provoked so much cynicism among the 80 students present as the old cliché that they were "the future leaders of the community," when, as one of them put it, the community does nothing to see that they have the chance to do anything. In the discussion on the School's basic theme, "Aspects of Modern Jewish Life," no anti-Zionist views were expressed, but neither was any preference shown for personal aliyah.

On his return from a study tour of Israel, Dr. I. Fishman, Director of Jewish Education, said that something like a Jewish University, modelled on the new Bar-Ilan University, was essential in Britain since little regard was being paid to the provision of Jewish higher studies for adolescents and University youth. He thought that more must be done in this country to spread the knowledge of Hebrew.

A Hebrew Seminar attended by some 180 pupils was held at Oxford under the auspices of the Jewish Agency's Department for Education and Culture. Among the lecturers conducting the various courses was Dr. Ernst Simon, Professor of Education at the Hebrew University.

### Cultural Activities

Anglo-Jewry's cultural maturity was the subject of some pertinent reflexions in the second issue of the "Jewish Quarterly." Criticising those "loudest" critics who had doubted whether a serious cultural magazine of this kind could long survive, the editor, Mr. J. Sontag, asked what they had done, or were prepared to do, to help break down apathy and indifference: "One is left with the uneasy suspicion that at the back of their minds lies a deep-rooted disbelief in the possibility of popular education and, perhaps too, in their own ability to contribute towards it."

Jewish artists and visitors to the International Festival of Music and Drama at Edinburgh were welcomed at a reception organised by the local B'nai Brith. The reception, the first of its kind, is to become an annual event.

When the Chief Rabbi explained the purpose of his Kol Nidrei appeal before a large gathering of ministers and wardens, he said that fewer than 13,000 had contributed to the J.P.A. this year; last year the number had been 28,000. He spoke in the home of Mr. Isaac Wolfson, who also stressed the need for gaining the full co-operation of spiritual leaders in the campaign to aid Israel. Mr. Wolfson, chairman of the Great Universal Stores Group, recently set up a £2 million trust for his family. He began his career 42 years ago, at the age of 14, when he left school to help in his father's furniture works in Glasgow for 5s. a week.

### THREE JEWISH BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES

The three Jewish members of the outgoing Bundestag were re-elected; all are members of the Social Democratic Party. They are Jakob Altmaier (Hanau), Peter Blachstein (Hamburg), and Mrs. Jeanette Wolff, who was chosen by the City Assembly as one of Berlin's delegates to the Bundestag.

The Communist Party, which did not obtain sufficient votes to be represented in the Bundestag, had amongst its candidates two members of Jewish origin, Walter Frisch and Emil Carlebach.

The new Bundestag will also include the non-Jewish—Professor Franz Boehm (Christian Democratic Union), who headed the German delegation at the Hague negotiations; Professor Boehm is a proven friend of the Jews, and recently accepted an invitation by the Government of Israel to visit the Jewish State.

### NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT HEUSS

In his New Year's Message, published in the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland," Federal President Dr. Heuss stated that during the past year progress had been made in the establishment of a new relationship with the Jews, especially by the Hague Agreement and the enactment of the Indemnification Law. The year, the President recalled, was also marked by the 80th birthday of Leo Baeck, "the outstanding man, to whom tribute was paid on that occasion."

### HIGH FESTIVAL SERVICES IN GERMANY

During the High Festivals, services were held in more than thirty German towns. Some congregations had the visits of Rabbis from Great Britain; Rabbi Broch and Rabbi Dr. Schreiber officiated in Berlin, and Rabbi Dr. Eschelbacher conducted the service in his former congregation of Duesseldorf.

### RABBI IN COLOGNE

Rabbi Dr. Azarja-Helfgott was inducted as Rabbi of the Cologne community. Dr. Azarja is also head of the Cultural Department of the Israeli Mission in Cologne. After the end of the war he was Rabbi in the Bergen-Belsen DP-Camp, from where he emigrated to Israel.

### SYNAGOGUE IN EAST BERLIN

On August 30 the re-built Ryke-Strasse-Synagogue in East Berlin was consecrated. With a capacity of 1,200 seats it is supposed to be now the largest Synagogue in Germany.

### SHARETT AGAINST RACIAL HATRED

The Israeli Parliament has adopted a Law by which the six million victims of the Third Reich are posthumously awarded the Israeli Citizenship. In the course of the debate the Foreign Minister, Mr. Sharett, spoke against a motion of the Extremist Cheruth Party to replace the term "Nazis and their followers" by "Germans and their followers." The Minister said that racial hatred should not be continued in Israel.

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## THREE GERMAN JEWS

### EUGEN TAEUBLER

After prolonged suffering Professor Eugen Taebler died in Cincinnati on August 13. With his passing the academic world and Jewry have lost an outstanding personality. His remarkable talents were coupled with extraordinary industry. He possessed great knowledge as well as a lucid, creative and artistic mind. The splendour of his intellect was equalled by the strength and integrity of his character.

Eugen Taebler, who was born on October 10, 1879, in Gostyn in the province of Posen, was educated first in Lissa and later at the University of Berlin. His prize-winning study of 1902 made it abundantly clear that he had two chief interests: the study of the Ancient World, and the history of the Jews and Judaism. He became the first director of the "Gesamtarchiv der deutschen Juden" and was also lecturer at the "Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums"; for a short time, after the first world war, he was director of the "Forschungsinstitut der Akademie fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums." In the meantime, he had obtained a lectureship in ancient history at the University of Berlin. In 1920, he went to Zurich as Professor of History, and in 1924 he was elected a Professor Ordinarius of the University of Heidelberg. He resigned after Hitler's accession to power. In 1940, he emigrated to Cincinnati where he could continue his professorial activities at the Hebrew Union College.

In his scholarly work he sought and often found new and independent ways of explaining institutions, motives and tendencies in the life of nations. The range of his studies was world wide, as can be seen from his book "Tyche" (1926). This universality of interests was of great benefit to his Jewish studies.

Eugen Taebler was exceedingly painstaking in his writings. He always demanded the most strenuous efforts of himself and was not easily satisfied either with his own labours or with those of others. One can hardly exaggerate the stimulating influence of his lectures and beautifully styled speeches which sparked with ideas and brought his audience under the spell of his charming, sincere, and uncompromising personality. The last speech he delivered in Berlin was given to a select audience on the Purim eve of 1940. It was dangerously bold and raised the spirits of a rather despondent community.

When to-day we mourn the loss of Eugen Taebler our thoughts turn to his widow, Selma Stern-Taebler, a historian of no less fame. She has shown herself as the great follower of her distinguished husband. She will, we hope, find consolation in keeping alive his memory and his spiritual heritage.

JACOB JACOBSON

### ADOLF REIFENBERG

Professor Adolf Reifenberg, the Head of the Department of Science at the University of Jerusalem, died recently, aged only 54. He was one of nature's born favourites. Very tall and strikingly good-looking, charming and full of humour, he would have been an impressive figure in any sphere of life. It was his good fortune that the importance of things near to his heart increased steadily during his lifetime.

Born in Berlin, he was in his teens the beloved "Klobe" of girls and boys in the "Blau-Weiss." He studied soil chemistry and, in 1920, went to Palestine, where he first worked as a farm labourer. Afterwards, he joined as one of the first the teaching staff of the newly founded Hebrew University. The "redemption of the desert" became a world concern, and Reifenberg was a leading authority in this field, consulted and quoted by experts all over the world. He grew up with his country, knew every spot, every important personality—in fact, he knew Palestine inside out, both her present and her past. The long buried witnesses of this past, its coins and seals and stones were his loving concern. He had one of the finest collections and wrote about "Denkmaeler der juedischen Antike," "Ancient Hebrew Seals" and "Portrait Coins of the Herodian Kings."

During the Second World War, Reifenberg served with the Eighth Army; he was torpedoed off Malta

and had a heart complaint ever since. He held various consignments with the Haganah and was a Major during the Arab-Israeli war.

He never did anything in his own interest; he was an idealist in every respect. Many German Jews who came to Jerusalem in 1933 and after had the same address in their pockets, that of Adolf Reifenberg; they could always rely on his helpfulness.

He was happily married to a young wife who, coming from a distinguished Russian Zionist family, shared all his interests. She managed with efficiency and love a house always open to, and full of, callers, a happy house in which they lived with her parents and sisters and his mother and their two sons.

GABRIELE TERGIT

### WERNER WEISBACH

Many former Berlin students will remember the profound and colourful lectures of Professor Werner Weisbach, who passed away recently; his favourite subjects were modern European paintings and art history of the Baroque period. Hailing from a well-to-do Jewish family—his father Valentin Weisbach was a renowned art collector—Professor Weisbach could, as a young scholar, pursue his studies undisturbed by economic considerations. As assistant to Wilhelm von Bode he acquired his wide knowledge and power of judgment; then he went to Italy for further study, and finally became a Reader in Art History at Berlin University.

In his first great work "Impressionismus. Ein Problem der Malerei in Antike und Gegenwart" (1910/12) he tried to trace the origin of modern painting back to its very roots in ancient times. Later, while engaged in a study of Rembrandt, he realized that he could not get an insight into the character of the master's work without subjecting the whole art of the Baroque period to a penetrating analysis. This he achieved in his book "Der Barock als Kunst der Gegenreformation" (1921). The volume on Baroque art he contributed to the monumental "Propyläen-Kunstgeschichte" is an all-encompassing survey of this striking period.

It was significant indeed that Weisbach dedicated his "History of the Baroque" to the memory of his deceased friend Ernst Troeltsch. For he had applied Troeltsch's method of the so-called "Geistesgeschichte" to his subject by embodying all essential features of the epoch. It may be taken as a symbol that he died in Basle, the town distinguished for the cosmopolitan spirit radiating from the Manes of the great Jacob Burckhardt.

Dr. F. FRIEDLAENDER (Melbourne)

## HOMAGE TO MAX REINHARDT

On September 9 Max Reinhardt would have been eighty. His work, though his house in Berlin still stands, has been destroyed, and only his name survives in the Deutsche Theater, now called "Max Reinhardt's Deutsches Theater." How many people, visiting the Schumannstrasse to-day, will have seen the performances he directed? His influence on the history of the theatre, however, is still a living reality. Without him, contemporary stage producing would not have achieved its development as an art in its own right. Many great producers of our time have experimented in different directions, but they are all Reinhardt's spiritual heirs.

Reading "Max Reinhardt, Bildnis eines Theatermannes," by Heinz Herald, conjures up both happy and nostalgic memories. This book has just been published at an extremely low price (DM 5.80) that will make it widely available and at just the right moment: as a souvenir for the old and a work of reference for the new generation of theatre enthusiasts. It contains eight illustrations, but it is very much the words that matter. The publishers are the Rowohlt Verlag, Hamburg, who have already played a leading part in the revival of Germany's literary tradition and in the fostering of a spirit of adventure, from the publication of Musil's "Mann ohne Eigenschaften" to that of the complete works of Wilhelm Borchert.

Heinz Herald, who for many decades collaborated with Reinhardt, writes the biographical introduction, with an appreciation of his character and genius. Reinhardt is himself represented by two

## A DENTAL SCHOOL AT THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

The last meeting of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University resolved to proceed with the establishment of a School of Dentistry which will be attached to the Faculty of Medicine. The need of such a School is as urgent as that for a school for training doctors. The population of Israel, as we all know, has more than doubled since the establishment of the State, while the number of qualified dentists has not risen in proportion. Few of the immigrants from the Oriental countries, who have been by far the largest part of the Aliyah since 1950, are professional men and women. And since 1938 no Jewish student could qualify as doctor or dentist at the universities of Central or Eastern Europe. It is said that the average age of the dentists practising now in Israel is 56. Young and active men and women are required for medical and dental service, particularly in agricultural settlements.

Last year when the International Dental Congress was held in England, the Jewish dentists from many countries who attended it formed a World Federation for an Israel Dental School to be built, equipped and maintained as part of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In the United States there is a special society of Jewish dentists, the Alpha-Omega, and they are pledged to make an immediate effort for the School. They have promised to raise a sum of 300,000 dollars. With their help and that of the dental association of Israel, the Hebrew University is preparing to start the first year's course for dentistry in the next academic year beginning in November. Recently a Dental Group of Friends of the Hebrew University has been formed so that this country may take its fair part. It is hoped that every Jewish member of the dental profession will make it a point of honour and pride to join the Group. The Chairman of the World Federation is Dr. B. Schrotter, L.D.S., who practises in London and has given the impulse for the formation of the English group. The Chairman of the Group is Dr. George Cowan, F.D.S., and the Committee includes Mr. W. Grossman, L.D.S., Mr. S. Blairman, L.D.S., and Mr. G. Woolf, L.D.S.

NORMAN BENTWICH

### DEKAN MAAS VISITS ISRAEL

Dekan Hermann Maas (Heidelberg), who during the Nazi regime organised underground measures in Germany to help Jews, paid his third visit to Israel. He was the first German to be invited by the Jewish State after the war.

of his speeches in tribute of the actor's art and craft, and by the dignified letter he wrote to the Nazi government when he turned his back on Germany and his life's work. Two great actors, the late Alexander Moissi and the aged Gertrud Eysoldt (what a Puck!), commemorate their experiences with Reinhardt as personality and producer. Hugo von Hofmannsthal, whose importance as a dramatist he was one of the first to recognise, writes on the artistic implications of Reinhardt's theatre; Helene von Nostitz about the social éclat of his first nights; and Thomas Mann discusses the impact Reinhardt made on the world outside the theatre. (He, incidentally, staged Thomas Mann's only drama "Fiorenca.") Two critics, Siegfried Jacobsohn and Maximilian Harden, who later were to become politicians, bring to life the essential Reinhardt, the former dealing with his Shakespeare productions—a particularly rewarding study for comparison with the quite different treatment by such English interpreters as Granville Barker and Tyrone Guthrie. An article on similar lines by Arthur Kahane (one of the loyallest of the loyal!) deals with Reinhardt as producer of Molière's plays.

The book arrived whilst I was engaged on urgent work that ought to have been completed that night, but I could not resist browsing in it until the early hours of the morning, and I prophesy that my fellow refugees will not be able to put it down either until they reach the last page!

LUTZ WELTMANN



Paula Ali Galliner:

## PORTRAIT OF A JEWISH WOMAN JUDITH MONTEFIORE

There are Jewish women whose courage and excellent work in the service of their community, their fellow men and fellow women, give us a striking example of devotion to the cause of humanity. Such an example is Judith, Sir Moses Montefiore's wife. It was only some months ago that members of the Bevis Marks community celebrated the 250th anniversary of their Synagogue, the oldest in England; we have heard of famous members of this Sephardic community who worked for their fellow men and women with great zeal and keenness, but none achieved the same world-wide esteem and distinction in the circle of Jewish and non-Jewish men and women as Sir Moses Montefiore. This Ambassador of Anglo-Jewry was blessed in marriage with an Ambassadors equally beloved, equally worthy, Judith, his wife. She shared her husband's work of welfare and relief of the poor and needy everywhere, but her foremost passion was the welfare of Palestine, the ancient Jewish home. Seven times she left England on the side of her husband to accompany him to Palestine, to Damascus and Greece, Egypt and Russia. Her heroism, her compassion for the suffering fellow Jews, made her truly an "Eshet Chayil." Judith was the daughter of Levi Barent Cohen of Great Prescott Street, a wealthy merchant, who came from Amsterdam and had settled in England. He was father of ten children, one of them being Judith, born on February 20, 1784. The girl was given an excellent education; she spoke French, Italian, German, translated correctly the Hebrew language of her prayers, and from her early youth devoted herself to the service of the deserving and needy. And when in 1812 Judith Cohen married Moses Montefiore, the young successful stock-broker, who was soon to become an authority of high standing in the financial world, a union was founded of infinite happiness which was to last throughout the fifty years of both their lives.

So happy indeed was this union that in later years when Sir Moses fulfilled his many philanthropic works, he always fixed the date for laying the foundation stone of a house of prayer or a charitable institution on the anniversary of his wedding day.

Young Judith Montefiore devoted herself at once to responding to every appeal for help. It was in 1827 that for the first time she accompanied

her husband on his visit to Palestine, to see and explore the present condition of the Holy Land. From a privately printed journal one can find the description of every stage of this journey until, conquering weather and discomfort, they arrived in the Holy City; everything was noticed and noted; complaints of poverty among the Jews were eased through numerous gifts, the lack of proper schools and hospitals distressingly observed, and an entry in the diary says:—

"We fully intend to dedicate much more time to the welfare of the poor. . . ."

Hardly had she settled down again in London when the fight for the emancipation of the Jews began; in France and Germany the Jews had secured some civil rights—not so in England. Meetings with influential persons had to be held at her home, and she had to accompany her husband on visits to well-known Gentile people to debate with them the preparation of a petition which was signed by the deputies and then forwarded to the King. "Many of the nobility," the diaries say, "with whom we conversed on the subject, expressed themselves much in favour of the application."

The Montefiores meanwhile had bought East Cliff Lodge in Ramsgate and settled there for the greater part of the year. It was Judith's main residence henceforth to the day of her death. Ramsgate, beautifully situated, was a small fishing village, with cottages and a few larger estates and a lovely view on to the wide sea. The house stood in the midst of nature, surrounded by gardens, with 24 acres of land belonging to it, where soon the building of a synagogue was started.

### The Plague in Jerusalem

In November 1838 they set out for another journey to Palestine. On arriving in Jerusalem they found the city full of dead and dying people, as the plague had befallen the town. Everything was in a distressing state; the greater part of Judith's days was taken up by charitable work, gifts were distributed, medicines and bandages bought and brought. Later on (1839) Moses Montefiore set out on his mission to obtain an interview with the Pasha at Alexandria for the purpose of claiming security for the Jews at Safed and Tiberias, where they were continuously robbed and insulted.

Some months later a petition received from the Hebrew congregation of Riga implored the Montefiores to intercede on their behalf with the Emperor of Russia. ". . . The Ucase," they wrote, "ordering the Jews to remove from the frontier provinces, affects nearly 100,000 persons."

As the number of petitions increased, the decision was made to begin another missionary journey abroad. Medicines were disposed of and many more ordered to be sent; the Emperor assured Moses Montefiore in an audience that he would ease the restrictions and raise the Jews in the estimation of the people. Poor Judith suffered a severe cold, but bore illness and deprivation of comfort heroically.

Because in 1845 a Christian child disappeared from Damascus (the child was afterwards found), the Jews there were accused of murder and persecuted. The Montefiores interceded on their behalf with the French Government, the Christians in Syria being generally considered to be under the protection of France. Without delay they started for Paris, where the King promised to have strict inquiries made into this matter.

In June 1862 Judith celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of her wedding; letters, gifts, addresses, from all parts of the world arrived. But she was too weak to attend even a special service in her own Synagogue. "The absence of my dear Judith was a severe drawback," Sir Moses wrote; "may she be soon in better health! May she enjoy renewed strength!"

She did not recover. On the eve of the new Jewish year, the Sabbath lights were already lighted (September 24, 1862), Judith Montefiore, the noble, truly pious Judith, closed her eyes for ever.

## Old Acquaintances

**Two Continental First Nights** :—Richard Duschinsky, the Austrian playwright, produced his new play "The Loyal Traitors," written in English, at the "New Lindsay." We still remember his "Komparserie" in Berlin and his "Kaiser Franz Joseph" with Edthofer, directed by Otto Preminger, in Vienna. "The Loyal Traitors" shows the conflict between the old and the new order, and is set (date 1925) in one of the republics resulting from the split-up of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire. Political blackmail, old-world spivery, romance, and humour are a little overloaded with sub-plots, but it is effective theatre nevertheless.—Carl Zuckmayer's "Devil's General" started its run in Edinburgh prior to coming to London's "Savoy." The production was a considerable success, and not only because of Trevor Howard's brilliant "Harras" (Udet). For the first time, the Third Reich is described by a refugee author. "The Devil's General" was a tremendous success all over Germany after the war, and shows Zuckmayer at his best. How the playwright manages to use the German Air Force slang so convincingly is a miracle.

**Milestones** :—Last month Sir Alexander Korda celebrated his 60th birthday. Born in Hungary, "Alex," as he is called by his many friends, started his career with Count Sascha Kolowrat in Vienna, and came to Berlin in the twenties with his wife, beautiful Maria Korda. With the production of "Henry VIII," featuring Charles Laughton, he gave new life to the British film industry. Churchill had him knighted during the war, and his own film company, "London Films," came of age only a few months ago.—Physician and novelist Alfred Doebelin, now living as a French citizen and a Catholic in Mainz, recently celebrated his 75th birthday. During the war years, the author of "Berlin-Alexanderplatz" lived in the States, and later returned to Germany as a French official.

**Home News** :—Henry Koster, who started as Herrmann Kosterlitz in Berlin and is now a top director in Hollywood, came on a visit to London; his newest production "The Robe" in 3 D will be shown soon.—Peter Illing scored a personal success in "Anastasia" which Sir Lawrence Olivier staged at the "St. James's," after the B.B.C. had televised this story of the impostor who claimed to be a daughter of the Czar.—Forty-year-old Robert Jungk, who lived in Switzerland during the war and quickly made a name for himself as journalist and author, arrived from Hollywood for a six months' stay here.—Secker & Warburg have published Franz Kafka's "Letters to Milena" edited by Willy Haas.

**News from Everywhere** :—Reinhold Schuenzel is writing his autobiography under the title "Vom Gendarmenmarkt zum Broadway."—Gerhart Hauptmann's "Before Sunrise" will be produced on Broadway soon.—Billy Wilder's next picture will be "Sabrina Fair" with Audrey Hepburn.—Kurt Hirschfeld directed "Dial M for Murder" in Zurich's Schauspielhaus.—Max Hansen and Oscar Karlweis are appearing in "By Candlelight" in Berlin.

**Problems of the Returnees** :—Former Germans and Austrians who acquired U.S. citizenship and returned to Europe after the war are in a difficult position, facing the problem of reintegrating their lives with that of their former fellow-countrymen. First of all, they have to make their names known again, because the new generation has never heard of them. Secondly, the Germans sometimes resent their coming back, which they attribute to failure abroad. Even more important for them is, however, the passport question. According to U.S. law, they are permitted to stay in their country of origin for only three years, or five years in any other country; if they do not return to the States before that time they lose their nationality. Passports are not renewed outside the United States and there is no ruling on how long they have to stay in America in order to get a new passport. So they have either to return after three or five years respectively, even if they have nothing to do in the States, or they lose their nationality and are re-instated as Germans or Austrians. Ernst Deutsch, Helene Thimig, Fritz Kortner and Hans Jaray are again Austrians. Returnees from Britain do not have to face this problem, and their number is anyhow smaller than that of their American colleagues.

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**TRANSFER VON VERMOEGENSERTRAEGNISSEN**

Nach 1931 Ausgewanderte noch nicht eingeschlossen

Im "Bundesanzeiger" vom 1.9.53 teilt das Bundesministerium fuer Wirtschaft folgendes mit: "Im Anschluss an das in Kuerze zu erwartende Inkrafttreten des Abkommens ueber deutsche Auslandsschulden, durch das im wesentlichen auf auslaendische Waehrung lautende Kapitalschulden geregelt werden, soll in gewissem Umfang auch der Transfer von Vermoegensertraegnissen wieder aufgenommen werden. Nach der in Aussicht genommenen Regelung sollen laufend nach dem 1. Januar 1953 faellige Ertraegnisse aus alten Vermoegensanlagen, wie Dividenden, Gewinne, Miet- und Pachtzinsen, zum Transfer zugelassen werden. Ausserdem soll der Transfer von Zinsen auf alte Kapitalschulden in deutscher Waehrung wieder aufgenommen werden. Dies gilt nicht nur zugunsten von Glaebigern in OEEC-Laendern, sondern auch zugunsten von Glaebigern in anderen Laendern, insbesondere den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika. Voraussetzung ist jedoch, dass das Wohnsitzland des Glaebigers dem Abkommen ueber deutsche Auslandsschulden vom 27. Februar 1953 beigetreten ist.

Transferbegueenstigt sind Ertraegnisse aus solchen Vermoegensanlagen, die den derzeitigen Berechtigten bereits am 15 Juli 1931 als Devisenauslaender gehoert haben oder die der Berechtigte im Wege der Gesamtrechtsnachfolge von einem Devisenauslaender erworben hat, der an dem genannten Stichtag Inhaber der Vermoegenswerte war. Ertraegnisse aus Sperrguthaben und aus Vermoegensanlagen, die mit Sperrmark erworben worden sind, nehmen an der Transferregelung nicht teil.

Ausserdem wird der Transfer von Zinsen und sonstigen laufenden Ertraegnissen sowie von Tilgungsbetraegen auf kuenftige Devisenkredite und auf kuenftige gegen Devisen erworbene Vermoegens-

**SPERRMARKTRANSFER IN HAERTEFAELLEN**

Wie bereits in der Augustnummer von "AJR Information" mitgeteilt wurde, koennen in Haerte-faelLEN Genehmigungen zum Transfer von originaeren DM-Sperrguthaben in Monatsraten bis zu DM 300 nach dem gesamten Ausland erteilt werden. Zur Beschleunigung des Verfahrens hat die Bank Deutscher Laender, die bisher fuer die Entscheidung der Antraege zustaeendig war, die Landeszentralbanken ermaechtigt, ueber Antraege zu entscheiden. Im Zusammenhang damit sind die bereits in der Augustnummer erwaehnten Richtlinien ueber die Transferegenehmigung dahin ergaenzt worden, dass die Antragsteller ihren Antraegen eine Erklarung darueber beifuegen muessen, (1) ob sie originaere DM-Sperrguthaben bei mehreren Geldinstituten im Bundesgebiet oder Westberlin unterhalten (zutreffendenfalls sind diese Konten anzugeben), (2) dass kein weiterer gleichartiger Transferantrag bei einer anderen Landeszentralbank oder bei der Berliner Zentralbank eingereicht worden ist.

Die noetigen Antraege werden zweckmaessigerweise durch die Bank gestellt, bei der das Sperrkonto gefuehrt wird. Antragsteller, die eine Beduerftigkeitsbescheinigung durch die AJR ausgestellt zu erhalten wuenschen, koennen bei der AJR Geschaeftsstelle, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3, vorsprechen; Unterlagen, aus denen sich die finanziellen Verhaeltnisse ergeben, sind mitzubringen.

anlagen, soweit sie mit Genehmigung der zustaeendigen deutschen Stellen erfolgt sind, zugelassen werden.

*Es wird angestrebt, moeglichst bald auch Bestimmungen ueber einen Transfer von Vermoegensertraegnissen zugunsten von Auswanderern zu erlassen, die nach 1931 Devisenauslaender geworden sind."*

**INCREASE OF GERMAN TRAVEL ALLOWANCE**

The travel allowance to be drawn by owners of blocked accounts and/or their near relatives and their servants has been increased to DM 120. per day and person and up to a total of DM 500. per day. Furthermore DM 300. (instead of DM 200.) per person may now be taken out of Germany.

**CHILD ART EXHIBITION**  
Entrances by October 26

Under the auspices of the Jewish Child's Day, an exhibition of Jewish Child Art will be presented at the Ben Uri Gallery, 14 Portman Street, London, W.1, from Sunday, November 29, to Thursday, December 24, 1953. The Exhibition is open to all Jewish children up to the age of 16 years and the work can include paintings, drawings, lino and wood cuts, sculpture and modelling. An entrance fee of 1s. will be charged for a maximum of six entries.

Forms must reach the Secretary of Jewish Child's Day, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1, by October 26, 1953. Each exhibit hung in the Exhibition will receive a certificate of merit.

**TELEPHONE SERVICE WITH EASTERN GERMANY**

The Postmaster-General announces that telephone service is now open with the Soviet Zone of Germany and with the Soviet Sector of Berlin. The minimum charge for a call of three minutes' duration to Berlin and most places in the Soviet Zone of Germany is 12s.

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**FAMILY EVENTS**

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

**Death**

Mr. Kurt Hammerschlag (formerly Breslau) passed away after a short illness on September 2, deeply mourned by his wife, Mrs. Susanne Hammerschlag, 24 Dene Hall Drive, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham.

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**MISSING PERSONS**

**Personal Enquiry**

Günther Philipp, fmly. Wanne-Eickel, Germany, nephew of Julie Rosenbaum (née Schweitzer) and Leopold Rosenbaum, Mühlheim-Styrum, Germany, for restitution claims for Alex Salm, (22c) Wegberg, Rhld., Germany.

**Enquiries from AJR**

Mautner, Hans, born 23.4.98 Berlin, last known address: 3 Newton Road, Bayswater, for sister Margerit Machsheffs, New York.

Bitter, Irene, née Reinhardt, last known address: 123 Brownlow Road, New Southgate, N.11, for URO Frankfurt/Main.

Meckler, Chossel, born at Chodina, Bessarabia, for cousin Issak Meckler, Eutin.

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**PERSONALIA**

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**Death of F. R. Oppenheimer (Bradford)**

By the death of Mr. Fritz Oppenheimer (Ilkley, Yorks.), the AJR has sustained a severe loss. For many years the deceased was closely associated with our work as the representative of the AJR Bradford Branch. Whenever his help or advice was required, we could rely on him. It was more than a sense of duty which induced him to render his selfless services: the work for his fellow refugees was nearest to his heart, and their special wishes, hopes and problems constantly occupied his mind. His imagination and his widespread practical experience enabled him to make constructive suggestions on many occasions. His own life story reflects, to some extent, the story of our community. When only 17 years old, he volunteered for the German army in the first World War. The severe wounds he received resulted in serious sufferings, especially during the last years of his life; they ultimately led to his premature death. Perhaps he could have obtained a new lease of life had he agreed to the amputation of a leg, but the idea of living as a cripple was unbearable to him. His father, who was a well-known lawyer in Berlin, and his mother perished in a concentration camp.

Due to his invincible optimism and his energy Fritz Oppenheimer was able to build up his life anew in this country; he held a responsible position with one of the leading textile firms in Bradford. He also followed up his manifold other interests, especially in arts, literature and politics.

The AJR extends its sympathy to his widow, his son and his daughter-in-law. As a devoted worker for our cause and as a trusted friend to those who co-operated with him Fritz Oppenheimer will always be gratefully remembered. W. R.

**Dr. Arthur Galliner** (London), the well-known artist and art historian, will be 75 on October 9. In Germany, he was Art Master at the "Philanthropin," Frankfurt/M. He is now associated with Ellesmere College and several London Art Schools. Dr. Galliner, who is also a member of the Royal British Artists Club (RBA), and of the Hampstead Artists Council, portrayed many prominent personalities, e.g. the late Archbishop Dr. Temple, Dr. Leo Baeck, Dr. Lazarus Goldschmidt and Prof. Norman Bentwich. The AJR, to whose publication "Britain's New Citizens," he contributed the article about refugee artists, extends to Dr. Galliner its heartiest congratulations and wishes him many years to come of unimpaired health and further activities.

**Mr. Otto Geismar** (213 Woodcock Hill, Harrow) will be 80 on October 30. He was an Art Master at the Senior Boys' School and the Teachers' Training College of the Jewish Congregation, Berlin. He first emigrated to Brazil from where he came to England in 1950. Otto Geismar's own works include illustrations of the Bible, the Hagadah and other Jewish religious books.

**OBITUARY**

The well-known architect **Erich Mendelsohn** died in San Francisco at the age of 66. Amongst the buildings he designed are the former Mosse Headquarters in Berlin, the Einstein Tower near Potsdam, the Hadassah Hospital Buildings and the late Dr. Weizmann's home in Israel and the De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill, England.

**Rabbi Dr. Emil Nathan Levy**, formerly Berlin Pestalozzi Strasse Synagogue, died in Tel Aviv.

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