COMMENTS

Austria

Among the announcements published in this issue are some interesting news items that are of particular need to be of some concern to all Jews. The negotiations with Austria, which looked hopeful when they were resumed, have again been held up, because the Austrian Government has still not seen its way to meet the modest requests of the Jewish Claims Committee. No less depressing than the material aspect of the position is the spirit in which the Austrians approach the problem. There is no admission of Austrian guilt in the crimes of "Greater Germany" and there is no genuine urge to try and undo the wrongs. Instead, as one excuse for the present new deadlock, the Austrian Chancellor declared that the Jewish organisations themselves were not united because one organisation had dissociated itself from the Jewish Claims Committee. Against this it must be stated that the Austrian Claims Committee basically consists of the same member organisations as the Claims Conference against Germany, whose authority has never been doubted by the German Federal government. Progress toward the solution of the Austrian Government thinks fit to evade the issue by excuses of this kind. As readers see from the statement of the President of the Claims Conference, the individual organisations united in the Claims Committee have reiterated their claims. They will do everything in their power to try and undo the wrongs. The AJR, which is in constant touch with the Committee's representatives, wholeheartedly endorses their statement. It is not in the interest of any further developments.

Turning to the German scene, the picture is not bright either. The tragedies caused by the delay in settling the individual indemnification claims are vividly described in the other article on this page. In thousands of cases the date of a decision has been and will be a matter of life or death, and the spokesmen of the former German Jews from Germany consider it their foremost duty to safeguard the interests of their over-aged community by pressing for the speedy materialisation of the claims.

Otto Kuester

Unfortunately, disturbing news comes from Germany. The man whose work for the cause of indemnification has been guided by strongest moral impulses, Otto Kuester, has to report to his former office as head of the Baden-Wurttemberg Restitution Department. Whenever, outside Germany, doubts were cast at Germany's genuine interest in settling the individual indemnification claims, the voice of Otto Kuester, who was rightly called "Das Gewissen der Deutschen", had to be heard. Now, when the claims of the former German Jews from Germany are to be administered by their own organisations, we can only hope that the younger generation will follow in the path of this outstanding section of the Jewish people. The AJR reads: "We hope that soon we shall be able to end this long-drawn-out correspondence with Shanghai, the case of which is an example of how to administer the indemnification claims properly."

Under no circumstances can we forfeit our rights, and in spite of disappointments in the past we still hope that the Claims Conference at last recognizes this principle. Only two weeks ago, in its "Mitteilungsblatt" of June 16, the Israeli Section of the Council has reiterated the claim of the former German Jews to a share in the indemnification budgetary considerations cannot be ignored, but the extent, method and scope of indemnification basically depends on the goodwill of those in charge. We hope that a way will be found to resolve this problem in a spirit of understanding which implies an ethical approach to the idea of indemnification with an unsurpassed knowledge of its legal implications.

President Heuss on Indemnification

In assessing the situation, we have also to record the deep understanding for the cause of the German Jews expressed anew in a statement by Professor Heuss, who has just been re-elected President of the German Federal Republic. In his interview with Dr. Bruno Weil, the President has raised two points of the utmost importance: the German global payments must not impair the claims of the individual victims of Nazi persecution; and the Jews from Germany have a right to an adequate share in those payments. The President's statement implies the speeding implementation and improvement of German legislation and will certainly be welcomed by all responsible Jewish circles. The same cannot, however, be said of the second part of the presidential statement. According to the Hague Agreement, which has to be regarded as the main legal text on which the Claims Conference, which receives the German payments according to the Hague Agreement, has not given to the Jews from Germany, represented by the "Council of Jews from Germany" and its constitutents all over the world, including the AJR, the share in the funds to which they are entitled. The statement of President Heuss confirms that, when concluding the Hague Agreement, the Germans certainly, though not exclusively, thought of the plight of those Jewish Nazi victims who were formed their fellow-citizens. We mention this as a historic fact, and we demand that the Council of Jews from Germany and its constituents all over the world, including the AJR, the share in the funds to which they are entitled.

The Landesamt for Compensation in Stuttgart (for example, where Dr. Otto Kuester is in charge) was presented with the case of a Jewish refugee who claimed compensation for imprisonment which was granted in the camp in the South of France. As Mr. S. is 81 years of age he is a priority case, even more so as he is ill. By the time he is 82 nothing has happened, except an accumulation of papers and forms and correspondence between Frankfurt, Paris and New York. Finally, on January 19, 1953, a letter arrives which reads: "We hope that soon we shall be able to arrange for the payment of at least a maintenance allowance to the claimant . . ." Now there are further complications, as this allowance was not applied for in the correct manner. Months go by and nothing happens. The office continues to write letters to Mr. S. asking for testimonials. But meanwhile Mr. S. has long since passed away . . .

Must this be so? Is there no other way? Fortunately there are a few offices and people who, without neglecting the interests of the Government, act very differently and there have been cases where compensation for imprisonment has been granted within six weeks and pensions conceded in a relatively short space of time.

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SHATTERED HOPES

Tragedies of Indemnification

The following article is reprinted by kind permission of the "Aufbau" (New York). It is based on investigations made in the United States, but it equally applies to claimants in other countries, especially as the proportion of old people is very high among former German Jews all over the world.

I.

From an investigation which has just been completed into the realisation of the Bundesentschadigungsge nossen, based on cases resident in New York, it appears—

"that more than 40 per cent. of the cases dealt with are priority cases; that, barring a few exceptions, each case takes four years before the claimant receives even a part of his claim; that the older claimants have such a short expectation of life that for the rest of their days only their claims are recognised, or only live for a short while after beginning to receive their pensions; that claims have been held up, because the Austrian Government thinks fit to evade the issue by excuses of this kind. As readers see from the statement of the President of the Claims Conference, the individual organisations united in the Claims Committee have reiterated their claims. They will do everything in their power to try and undo the wrongs. The AJR, which is in constant touch with the Committee's representatives, wholeheartedly endorses their statement. It is not in the interest of any further developments.

Turning to the German scene, the picture is not bright either. The tragedies caused by the delay in settling the individual indemnification claims are vividly described in the other article on this page. In thousands of cases the date of a decision has been and will be a matter of life or death, and the spokesmen of the former German Jews from Germany consider it their foremost duty to safeguard the interests of their over-aged community by pressing for the speedy materialisation of the claims.

II.

The statistics on the length of time elapsing before a claimant receives compensation can only be appreciated if we try to visualise the actual people drawn into correspondence with Shanghai, the cases of which are cases where claimants have died before their cases have been decided.

Mr. T., sixty-seven-year-old H. L. died their claim in 1952 at the Berlin Indemnification Office. She died on December 1, 1952, before a single one of her claims had been conceded.

Mr. T.'s, whose husband was "liquidated," started her fight for compensation on April 3, 1951, and when, at last, she received an advance of 1,160 DM., she died on March 14, 1953.

A well-known Berlin producer died in 1952. His widow has been waiting for three years, in vain, for the granting of compensation which was claimed in 1950.

Then there was Mr. S. from Heidelberg who, in 1941, together with ten thousand fellow-sufferers, was sent to the Gurs Concentration Camp in the South of France. As Mr. S. is 81 years of age he is a priority case, even more so as he is ill. By the time he is 82 nothing has happened, except an accumulation of papers and forms and correspondence between Frankfurt, Paris and New York. Finally, on January 19, 1953, a letter arrives which reads: "We hope that soon we shall be able to arrange for the payment of at least a maintenance allowance to the claimant . . ." Now there are further complications, as this allowance was not applied for in the correct manner. Months go by and nothing happens. The office continues to write letters to Mr. S. asking for testimonials. But meanwhile Mr. S. has long since passed away . . .
NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

Jewish Claims Committee Express Dissatisfaction

The most profound dissatisfaction with the Austrian Government’s failure once again and after more than one year of negotiations to meet the claims of the Jews of Nazi persecution, was expressed by the Joint Executive Board of the Committee of Jewish Claims against Nazis. In a meeting on July 12, 1954, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Nahum Goldmann. The Joint Executive Board declared:

"The Austrian Government gave us specific assurances when the negotiations were resumed on June 1, 1954, that we could reasonably expect them to be satisfactorily concluded within four weeks on all points of issue. By requesting a further postponement toward October, the Austrian Government have regretfully failed to fulfil these expectations.

Despite repeated declarations of its desire and intentions to satisfy the Jewish claims, the Austrian Government has not only not done so, but failed even to maintain the commitments it had already specifically agreed to. This is all the more disquieting, since it is a very course of our negotiations the Austrian Government has neglected or ignored terms and conditions regarding the claims of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

In the hope that better counsel will prevail and that the Austrian Government will still show willingness to meet the just claims of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in Austria, we are therefore prepared to await the proposals which Chancellor Raab has promised to make in October. It is essential, however, that these will require to be definite and complete and that they will meet the minimum of reasonable claims which we have put forward.

These claims are:

1. The elimination of all legislation and measures discriminatory toward Jewish victims of Nazi persecution whether residing in Austria or abroad.

2. Adequate compensation for household possessions lost through Nazi persecution.

3. Compensation for economic losses not indemnified.

4. Payments to rebuild Synagogues and other Jewish communal buildings.

5. Promise of housing for Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

6. Compensation for heirdom and unclaimed Jewish property.

It is lamentable that many years after the war the just claims of Austrian Jews, of whom 66,000 were murdered by the Nazis and more than 100,000 were forced to flee from the Nazi terror, should still remain unsatisfied. We now finally expect that the Austrian Government will show good faith and real intentions to satisfy the Jewish claims.

OESTERREICHISCHE ANGESTELLTENVERSICHERUNG


OTTO KUESTER RESIGNS?

According to news received it is doubtful whether Dr. Otto Kuester will retain his office as "Landesbeauftragter fuer die Wiedergutmachung in Baden-Wuerttemberg." Kuester had been Deputy Leader of the German Delegation at the Hague, but resigned before the negotiations led to the Hague Agreement, because in his view the German Authorities did not sufficiently realise the moral obligation of the German people to undo the wrongs committed. Afterwards, he severely criticised the manifold shortcomings of the Indemnification Law and the bureaucratic difficulties which he encountered in the process. In his own regional office, Kuester tried to remedy the position within the limits drawn by the competence of his office. In an article published in this Frankfurter Neue Presse the leader of the German Hague Delegation, Professor Krauss had been critical of the ethical and uncompromising approach in which Kuester excelled. In the front page article of the Allgemeine Zeitung on July 8, Dr. H. G. van Dam, under the heading "Stimmungsschrauben," stresses the moral credit which the German State has already got by its efforts to help the Jews in the crisis of the Federal Republic.

JEWISH COMMUNAL LEADER DECORATED

The Chairman of the above Jewish Community (Mr. Moritz Goldschmidt) was awarded the German Federal Grand Cross of Merit.

MEETING OF "ZENTRALRAT"

A new Board of the "Zentralrat," the central body of the Jews in Germany, in Dusseldorf, a proposed meeting of the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany, in Dusseldorf, is proposed by the "Zentralrat." The proposed meeting was also addressed by Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck, who paid tribute to the "Jew of Israel" for having built up a new community life.

The meeting passed a resolution calling for the immediate implementation of regulations and amendments to the Federal Indemnification Law.
BETRACHTUNGEN ZUM AUSBILDUNGSSCHADEN

Die Frage der unterbrochenen beruflichen Ausbildung wird voraussichtlich zu einer umfangreichen Rechtsprechung führen. Wenn die Verfolgten die Ansprüche auf eine Beihilfe zu den notwendigen Aufwendungen, die ihnen bei der Nachbildung seiner Ausbildung erlaubt werden, dagegen kann er nicht verlangen, so gestellt zu werden, als hätte er die begonnene oder geplante Ausbildung fertiggestellt erhalten. Dies handelt sich lediglich um eine Beihilfe. Hierbei macht es keinen Unterschied, ob die Ausbildung innerhalb des Gebiets des Bundesrepublik oder im Auslande erfolgt. Die von Van Dam in seinem Erläuterungswerk Seite 119 ausgesprochene Ansicht, dass eine Ausbildung im Inland gedacht sei, steht im Widerspruch mit der Praxis. Wer also für seine Ausbildung eine Beihilfe braucht, sollte sofort einen Entschaedigungsausschuss umgehend einsetzen.


Existentenunter-Darlehen

Nacht erfolgreich abgeschlossener Ausbildung hat der Verfolgte bei Aufnahme einer selbständigen Berufstätigkeit Anspruch auf die Erstattung eines Existenzunter-Darlehens von 5000 DM, d.h. nur nach Massgabe des Entschaedigungsgesetzes zulässig ist. Der Verfolgte kann die Ausbildungserstattung auch dann beantragen, wenn sie nach den Vorschriften des Gesetzes nicht anerkannt ist. Wird dieser Betrag bereits bei der vorberuflichen Ausbildung verbrannt, so kann auf einem Zensus die Ausbildung nicht gerechnet werden.

Existentenaufbau-Darlehen

Nach erfolgreich abgeschlossener Ausbildung hat der Verfolgte bei Aufnahme einer selbständigen Berufstätigkeit Anspruch auf die Erstattung eines Existenzunter-Darlehens in Höhe von 5000 DM (Par. 54 BEG). Die Bedingungen der Darlehensverträge sind in der Gesetzgebung (Par. 28 Abs. 5) vorgesehen und auf die im einzelnen nicht berücksichtigt werden können. Wird dieser Betrag bereits bei der vorberuflichen Ausbildung verbrannt, so kann auf einem Zensus die Ausbildung nicht gerechnet werden.

Anspruche bei bereits nachgeholter Ausbildung

Die Verfolgten, die ihre Ausbildung in einem Berufsfach in einem anderen Lande abgebrochen haben, ist gemäss Par. 54 BEG unter Anrechnung von bereits aus östlichen Mitteln gewonnenen Berufserfahren, d.h. sie gäbe gemäss Par. 32 BEG als Zuschuss erhalten haeten, wenn sie die Ausbildung erst nach nachgeholt hat. Diese Ansprüche werden nicht erlaubt, wenn sie aus deutschen östlichen Mitteln stammen, dagegen sind sie in der Regel auch dann zu erbringen, wenn sie die aus östlichen Mitteln der Verfolgten, die ihre Ausbildung abgebrochen und noch nicht nach Par. 55 BEG als Ersatz fuer die fehlende Ausbildung in Anspruch genommen haben, wird den Ansprüchen des Ausbildungsschadens als Ausnahmen auch nicht mehr nach 1950 DM — nicht mehr und nicht weniger — zustandekommen. Hierdurch soll der Verfolgten eine Aussicht auf eine vollständige Anerkennung der Ausbildung nicht mehr versagt werden, dass die beaufsichtigte oder begonnene Ausbildung nicht nachgeholt werden konnte. Eine materielle Schädigung, wenn nicht schon nach der Nachbildung von der Anerkennung und auch noch bewiesen zu werden. Wie der Kommentar von Blessin-Wilden mit Recht betont (Anmerkung 2 zu Par. 55), bleibt der Anspruch dem Verfolgenden auch dann zu, wenn er heute eine wirtschaftliche Position einnimmt, die er bei Durchführung der damaligen gebotenen Ausbildung niemals erzielt haben würde.

Mitunter wird es nicht leicht zu entscheiden sein, ob die unterbrochene Ausbildung als nachgeholt oder als nicht nachgeholt anzusehen ist. Dies hat insofern praktische Bedeutung, als im Falle der Anwen-Dung des Par. 55 BEG, d.h. nur nach Massgabe des Entschaedigungsgesetzes zulässig ist, dass die Ausbildungserstattung auch dann beantragen, wenn sie nach den Vorschriften des Gesetzes nicht anerkannt ist. Wird dieser Betrag bereits bei der vorberuflichen Ausbildung verbrannt, so kann auf einem Zensus die Ausbildung nicht gerechnet werden.
Mendelssohn, by Philip Radcliffe. (The Master Musicians. Dent. 8s. 6d.)

Only a few years after Percy Young's little volume, "Mendelssohn's Modernity" appeared, comes this new biography of a composer whom, after much indiscriminate praise and blame, we are at last beginning to understand. Bernard Shaw, and elsewhere, have regarded this very trait as the greatest and truest mark of Mendelssohn's genius. This view was natural enough for an era which was dominated by Wagner's art and found its place in life in the realm of fantasy. But it is hard to stand for. Our own time, keenly appreciative of quality in structure and design, was bound to come to a realization of the fact that, who, like a reviewer, who (who admired him), was a classicist among the romantics. Radcliffe's "more balanced perspective" reflects itself in a felicitous final remark, Mendelssohn's lyrical movements are credited with a "singularly appealing and heart-winning quality."

Mendelssohn's Jewish origin is dealt with very briefly: "It was in his passionate love for his country, for his people, that Mendelssohn showed what Judaism meant to him, and itself most strongly, though it may also claim some credit for his piety, and even his curial vitality. The extent to which it affected his music is far harder to decide, as Jewish composers differ so greatly on this point, and can never be without some great emotional struggles ... Mendelssohn was more akin to the second of these two possibilities than to the first. He lacked Meyerbeer's bouncing energy and showmanship, but he had finer taste and a more individual imagination."

That is about all. But this question of Mendelssohn's Jewishness can be enlarged upon. But it is important that we should not even think of devoting a whole book to a subject on which so much ink has been spilt in Germany, from Wagner onwards. The English author's recent treatment of this question, which had become all-important in the racist atmosphere of Germany, might well assist us in regaining a sense of proportion.

W. H. FREYHAN.

IN MEMORY OF LUDWIG FORERD

Ludwig Forerder, the former Breslau lawyer, died in Jerusalem after an operation. In the days of the First World War, he had been a supporter of the Centralverein, and was by no means irrelevant in this connection. His friendly relations with Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort are almost symabolical; no other composer of his rank is more truly representative of the Victorian age. One could find no better illustration for this than the words of an English clergyman of the period, which Radcliffe quotes: "... In this age of meretricious effect or one impure association."

Certainly, the "Juedisch-Theologische Seminar" in Breslau, by which he is chiefly remembered in the Jewish historical literature in modern times, is always to be the credit of Zacharias Frankel that it was "able to do justice to the divergent shades of opinion."

As the reputation of a seat of learning always depends on the quality of its readers, it has been Jewish savants of the first order who have won the "Seminar's" fame. Beside Frankel, Heinrich Graetz, who had commenced to publish his "History of the Jews" in 1863, taught there, as well as masters of the humanitarians like Jakob Bernays, a teacher of Wissowitsch, and Manuel Joel. The high esteem in which the "Seminar" enjoyed was on the one hand proved by the fact that prominent scholars joined its teaching staff: Marcus Braun, as successor of Graetz; I. Heinemann, the expert on Philo; Albert Lewin, the naturalist of the history of the Jewish philosophy; Guido Kisch, an authority in the field of Jewish history; and on the other hand proved by the fact that eminent jurists and rabbis, who for long years were leaders in the figures of Judaism and Jewish science: Hermann Cohen, Israel Lewy (the great Talmudist), Leo Baeck, the founder of the "new" Judaism, Oscar Nauck, the noiseur of the philosophy of Judaism), and Ismar Freund (the historian of Jewish literature).

In 1856, the "Juedisch-Theologische Seminar" spread into a landmark of Jewish study, research and inspiration. Its publications reflected a high degree of Jewish scholarship and knowledge. Mendelssohn left its mark on many generations of rabbis not only in Germany, but also in other parts of Europe and especially in the U.S.A.
ENEMY ALIENS 40 YEARS AGO

Many and melancholy though the trials were of German Jews in England during the recent war, they were few and light compared with the tribulations that befell Jews in Germany in England during the First World War. Now, barely arrived, they were "enemy aliens." According to the letter, but in spirit they were "foreigners," and the enemy of none as much as Nazi Germany. A generation earlier things were vastly different. Most of the German-born Jews who lived in England were here for many years; many were securely established (or had good reason to think so), and nearly all were naturalised. To them Germany had not yet been revealed as the fatherland of barbarism, and while they cherished their British citizenship they were not oppressed, as they were later, by their association with Germany. They therefore laboured devotedly to avert the terrible clash which they felt would break out.

Work for Anglo-German Understanding

Sir Alfred Mond, founder of the Imperial Chemical Industries, foretold a "huge industrial and financial crash" through corruption of trade between two countries which were each other's largest customers, and warned that "Germany's strong man, Sir Edgar Speyer, the banker, who wrote in 1912: "The world nowadays is so intimately united by common interests and bonds of sentiment that each country's necessity is necessary to all and to each. What is hurtful to one is hurtful to all." Such thought was made all but inevitable by the course of history. For Prussia had never won on England. G. K. Chesterton has drawn a caricature, but one which perhaps carries his remark that Victorian England considered herself "but a little branch on a large Teutonic tree." The erstwhile German Jews were being remorselessly overtaken by the powerful tide of affairs. Sir Alfred's father, the founder of an Anglo-German Institute or his colleagues (like Sir Felix Schuster) and the directors of The Times, were pathetic performances, and they found no charitable judges. Their most virulent antagonist was L. J. Macoe, editor of the National Review, who in crude terms voiced opinions that were widely whispered in clubs and other bastions of society. In August, 1911, he denounced "Jews who simply use the English language to intrigue against British interests." The Centralblatt was my own offspring, and it was also a jesting whim of the greater homelessness which has dogged the life of Jews so long. It was also a jesting whim of the Jews who had risen so high under the old King. Their association with Germany. They therefore laboured devotedly to avert the terrible clash which they felt would break out.

Outcry of a King's Physician

But the most distressing is probably the story of Sir Felix Semon. He had been among those few who kept the peace in 1914. When it did happen, he was discomfited. He confessed: "What my dear wife and I feel defies description." After the sinking of the Lusitania, he records in his diary: "I most deeply feel the sense of burning shame that my native country within one generation could have sunk so low." He then wrote his letter to The Times, and as a result of it suffered what was to him the most grievous blow: the publishers of the Centralblatt for Laryngologie, Berlin, which he had founded in 1884, removed his name from the masthead. The Centralblatt was his own offspring, and it was indeed bitten to be disowned by it, he writes in his diary. "It is a sad day for me because I have had the courage of my opinions, I have been ostracised by my native country; because I was a Jew, I was attacked by my own country... What a sad decline of a once richly blessed life!

COMMITTEE OF NATURALISED SUBJECTS

Schuster's name may well stand for many others. To say that at no time were they untrue to their British allegiance would be a commonplace labouring the obvious. They did not think it necessary to affirm their loyalty until the frenzy of public opinion forced them to do so. After the sinking of the Lusitania, it was put to them (incidentally a fellow-Jew, Sir Arthur Piper, was put in a similar position) that he expressed regret at the presence of Germans in the ship. Presently a crop of loyalty letters appeared in The Times; by Sir Felix Semon, Sir Carl Mayer, Professor of Sociology at Cambridge, Sir Felix Schuster, E. F. Schiff, Leo Bonn, L. Oppenheim (Professor of International Law at
Jews in Western Germany
Four Recent Events

Düsseldorf
At two recent gatherings connected with, or at least indirectly related to, German Jewry, the Professor Dr. Theodor Heuss, the President of the German Federal Republic, was in the audience, thus again proving his profound interest in Jewish affairs generally.

In Düsseldorf the evening of July 7 was a public event of extraordinary spiritual splendour. The 750th anniversary of the death of Moses Maimonides was in the main programme of the Meeting of the Parliament of North-Rhine/Westphalia. At the initiative of Professor D. Karl Heinrich Rengstorff, Munster i.W., the "Institutum Judaicum Delitzschianum," of which he is the director, jointly with the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschlaud," the Israel Mission (Cologne) and the Düsseldorf Jewish Community, had arranged the Memorial Meeting.

Dr. Leo Baeck, the principal speaker, who had come over especially from London, linked up both the personality of that outstanding medieval Jewish thinker and his manifold achievements with the spiritual successions and developments of his time, and described the impact of his activities and his teachings on the academic world. A packed audience, listening intently to Dr. Baeck's most excellent outline of medieval culture, was visibly impressed by his far-reaching historical and philosophical conclusions and, still more, deeply moved by the octogenarian's speech, introducing with great vitality for more than an hour without any notes.

Amongst those present were Mr. Karl Arnold, the Minister President of North-Rhine/Westphalia, accompanied by some of his Ministers and by all the State Secretaries of his Government, as well as leading representatives of the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland" (Düsseldorf), the Israel Mission (Cologne) and the Düsseldorf Jewish Community, had arranged the Memorial Meeting.

Mr. Karl Arnold, the Minister President of North-Rhine/Westphalia, accompanied by some of his Ministers and by all the State Secretaries of his Government, as well as leading representatives of the German Federal Government, of the Diplomatic Corps, the Universities, the Churches and the Düsseldorf Community. A delegation of the Israel Mission was headed by Dr. Chaim Yahil, its deputy chief (who has meanwhile taken up a new position in the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs). The Jewish community of Germany was particularly well represented, since on the same day, the 18th of the Month, London, linked up both the personality of that outstanding medieval Jewish thinker and his manifold achievements with the spiritual successions and developments of his time, and described the impact of his activities and his teachings on the academic world. A packed audience, listening intently to Dr. Baeck's most excellent outline of medieval culture, was visibly impressed by his far-reaching historical and philosophical conclusions and, still more, deeply moved by the octogenarian's speech, introducing with great vitality for more than an hour without any notes.

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Whilst at the beginning of the meeting Professor Rengstorff welcomed the distinguished guests and addressed the audience, the number exceeding 400-500 people, including from the subject and, finally, Dr. Baeck as the central figure of the evening. Dr. H. G. van Rengstorf welcomed the distinguished guests and addressed the audience, the number exceeding 400-500 people, including from the subject and, finally, Dr. Baeck as the central figure of the evening. Dr. H. G. van Rengstorf welcomed the distinguished guests and addressed the audience, the number exceeding 400-500 people, including from the subject and, finally, Dr. Baeck as the central figure of the evening.

On the preceding afternoon, Professor Heuss attended the first public meeting of the newly founded Bouv Society for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, Dr. Franz Boehm, Professor of Jewish History at Mannheim and a Member of the Federal Parliament, well known for his authoritative participation in the Hague meeting, Dr. Caro's widow, Mrs. Alice Wolff, of 221 Hampstead Road, London, W.11, formerly of 3 and 5 Hemstal Road, London, W.11, celebrated her birthday on August 17.

Cologne
To commemorate the thirtieth birth and work of the last Cologne rabbi and Jewish teacher, who perished at Terezin in August, 1943, a Memorial Tablet will be unveiled at the Jewish cemetery at Cologne-Bocklemunne on July 4 in the presence of at least 300 people, amongst them Dr. Caro's widow, Mrs. Alice Wolff, of New York, who had survived the concentration camp. The solemn service was conducted by Rabbi Dr. Zvi Abramova, who was assisted by Mr. M. Kraus (Antwerp). Mr. Moritz Goldschmidt, the chairman of the local Jewish Congregation, was present, together with representatives of the City administration and of the District Government also spoke. The address was given by Dr. Domkapitular Dr. A. L. L. From Home, who in former times had often cooperated with Dr. Caro in the sphere of social work.

FAMILY EVENTS
Exhibits in this column are free of charge. Tests should be sent in by the 15th of the Month.

Birthdays
Mrs. Berta Halberstadt, of 86 Yaakov (near Haifa, Israel), formerly of Halle a.S., will celebrate her 75th birthday on August 15.

Dr. Julius Edgar Boehm, of 56 Brook Street, London, W.1, formerly of Hamburg and New York, will celebrate his 70th birthday on August 17.

Mrs. Alice Wolff, of 3 and 5 Hemstal Road, London, W.11, formerly of 3 and 5 Hemstal Road, London, W.11, celebrated her 70th birthday on July 14.

Rosenbaum—Abraham. — Mr. and Mrs. E. Rosenbaum, of 221 Hampstead Road, London, W.11, formerly of Hamburg and New York, announce the marriage of their daughter Eva to Mr. Mosche Abraham, of 3-5 Hemstal Road, London, W.11.

CLASSIFIED
Men
MAN OF 25, fully recovered after long illness, wishes position as sales man in book or record shop. Training considered. Box 291.

BOOKKEEPER, exp. and reliable, wants full- or part-time job. Box 292.

ATTENTION DISPOSAL: Exp. merchant, wants any kind of occupation. Box 293.


STATIONERY. Man of 54 wants position as storekeeper, packer, benchworker or representative in Stationery Trade, also for toys. Box 295.

ACCOUNTANT, expert, best refer., wants full or part-time, in- or outdoor work. Box 301.


FILM AROUND THE WORLD
A monthly guide to some of the Films showing at your local Cinema.

Best of the Month—Executive Suite.*** Also an old business in its prime, polished, starring practically everybody. Recommended.

Best of the Rest—Night People.*** Against a background of present-day Berlin, "Night People" sets up, in 18 different scenes, three things: (1) That Communism is no good; (2) That Money is no good; and (3) that, in fact, the only thing that is any good at all is a good time. Demonstration successful. "Elephant Walk,"*** on the other hand, demonstrates nothing except how much bigger elephants can do when they get really mad. Has exotic settings, complicated story and poor, Elizabeth Taylor trying to get the elephants off the screen. Not so successful.

As for the British contingent, if you find the Irish (and David Niven) funny, you'll enjoy ***After Ever After***. If you don't, it's agony. *Dance Little Lady* is agony anyway. Ballerina Mai Zetterling so far, and so good, that you can't step. Little daughter Mandy takes over after a lot of tears.

For the Gourmet—At the Cameo-Polytechnic, London, a previewing film called "The Bandit:"*** is pretty sentimental too, but at the same time vigorous and fresh. The other good news is that the Hampstead Rex begins in August a vast season of British successes, including Carol Reed's "Fallen Idol,"*** which is the film I spoke of last month not to be missed this year under any account.

Frankfurt-am-Main
One of the younger generation of German Jewish economists has been elected Rector of Frankfurt University for 1953/54, Dr. Max Neumark, who in that office succeeds Professor Dr. Max Horkheimer (1922/54), the sociologist, and Dr. Max Weber (1864/94, the surgeon). The Hanover-born specialist on finance and tax problems was 54 on July 20. At the age of 27 he was appointed as the Child of the University of Frankfurt. In 1933, as a Jew, he had to leave his post. Shortly afterwards he was granted a full professorship at Ankara University. During his years of exile he also widely contributed to the literature on economics, writing in French, Turkish and other languages. At the beginning of 1952 his former University in Germany offered him the chair for "Comparative Law." E. G. LOVENTHAL.

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MISSING PERSONS
Enquiries for AJR
Aubrey, Josephine, née Froeblich, div. Lowess, for JTC.
Blumenthal, Beatrice, business agent from Cologne, for Herbert Farwig, Wuppertal.
Goldstein, Dr. Hans, lawyer from Berlin, Zollernhoff 18, for friends in Israel.
Auerbach, Dr. Herbert, lawyer from Berlin, born 1892, and wife Irma, née Kulmar, for friends in Israel.
Heidtmann, Dr. Friedrich, lawyer from Reichenbach, born 1895, same enquir

AJR INFORMATION August, 1954
PERSONALIA

Ministerialrat Dr. Fritz A. Fiegel died suddenly in Bonn on June 26, only 84 years of age. Dr. Fiegel, formerly a refugee in this country, came to this country in 1933. He became a barrister-at-law and later joined the Control Commission in Germany. In 1952 he was appointed to the Federal Ministry of the Interior and placed in charge of its "General Administration Department." While in this country Dr. Fiegel was of great assistance to the AJR as a voluntary legal adviser. His expert knowledge and sound judgment were generally acknowledged and respected. The qualities of his fine and noble character, his supreme decency, truthfulness and goodness made him liked everywhere. We express our deepest sympathy to his widow and mother.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

"New Citizens"

To call ourselves "former refugees" is-as Mr. Schatzky rightly points out (AJR Information, July 1954)—not only clumsy but also impracticable. Yet Mr. Schatzky's letter fails to show that "refugee" is a particularly suitable description of our present status. As the name of our Association ought to give an apt indication of the position of its members, a more appropriate name appears to be most desirable: "Association of Jewish New Citizens in Great Britain" seems to imply our willingness to become integrated into our new community. And to help our members to find a rightful place in this country in 1954—

Mr. Salomon Silberberg, of 84 Summerlee Avenue, N.2, passed away recently. In Berlin Mr. Silberberg was a teacher at the "Juedische Mittelschule," and also well known as a private tutor on Jewish religion. The AJR, in whose efforts Mr. Silberberg took a deep interest, expresses its sympathy to the widow and son of this kind-hearted, modest and public-spirited man.

Mrs. Margarete Goldstein-Bevenisten passed away in London recently. She was the widow of Professor Julius Goldstein (Darmstadt), the founder and first editor of the German Jewish periodical "Der Morgen." Mrs. Goldstein herself also took an active part in Jewish affairs both in Germany and this country.

FIRST PERFORMANCE

On August 16, Berthold Goldschmidt will conduct a B.B.C. Concert on the Third Programme, during which his Concerto for Cello and Orchestra (1933) will receive its first performance. The soloist will be William Pleeth.

CAFÉ DOBRIN REOPENED

This Café Dobrin at the Kurfuerstendamm will be reopened under the ownership of the founder’s son, Max Dobrin, who until recently lived in London.

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The Trustees invite applications from students starting their University Course, or from students attending a University who may need financial assistance to complete their studies provided they have not yet obtained a first degree such as B.A., B.Sc., etc.

Applications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary—Mr. I. K. Sonneboom, Stamford Lodge, Chesham Place, Bowden, Mr. Altringham, Cheshire.

"THE HYPHEN"

During this month we are having mainly out-of-doors activities. "The Hyphen" is a group of young people between the ages of 21-35, mostly of Continental origin, who get together for cultural, educational and social occasions. Further information please contact Miss Helen H. Eisner, 36 Arthur Court, Queenstown, W.2, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.

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