

ISSUED BY THE
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THE MATERIAL HERITAGE OF GERMAN JEWRY

More than once we had to inform our readers about the conflict which, much to our regret, had arisen between the Council of Jews from Germany and the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization (JRSO) in the U.S. Zone of Germany. This organization was established with the sole purpose of acting as a successor to heirless, unclaimed and communal property, because otherwise, according to German Civil Law, the very State which, during the Hitler regime, had been responsible for the murder of Jews, would have succeeded to the property of those it had murdered.

It would have been the obvious course that such a successor organisation should be founded by the Jews from and in Germany, who had built up the communal assets and who were the next of kin of the unfortunate victims. The Jews from Germany had organised themselves in the "Council of Jews from Germany"; they are the overwhelming majority of the surviving German Jews. In addition, the Jews who have survived in or returned to Germany would have been the second partner in such an organization.

However, the Jews from Germany chose a different course. They subordinated their interests to those of the general Jewish community. Their "Council" was represented on the Board and the Executive of JRSO, but they agreed that the leading role should be played by the international Jewish welfare organizations, such as the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine. The "Council" never thought that the right of German Jewry to a share in the assets would be denied; therefore, it did not consider it necessary to assert its rightful claim by securing the largest possible number of votes for itself in the representative bodies of JRSO. Its legal and moral rights were so self-evident that it never conceived the possibility of having to fight for them. Unfortunately, this attitude has proved erroneous.

Our Claims Ignored

Today, the "Council" has to face the sorry fact that the Jews who have emigrated from Germany and all too many of whom are in dire need of assistance have not even received a small portion of the 60 million DM. so far distributed by JRSO.

Four and a half years ago, Dr. Leo Baeck, the President of the "Council of Jews from Germany," proposed to the Board of Directors of JRSO in New York that 20% of the net proceeds from the realization of heirless and unclaimed Jewish property should be allocated to the "Council" to implement, at last, social projects prepared by the constituents of the "Council" in practically all countries of immigration. This request was repeatedly made, for the last time over two years ago in New York, when Dr. Baeck personally pleaded for our right—in vain.

In a few weeks' time the Executive Council of JRSO will meet in New York, to decide on a motion by the representative of the "Council of Jews from Germany," Mr. Frederick W. Borchardt, that JRSO may at last allocate to the Council a share of its recoveries. On 30th November Mr. Borchardt made a statement before the Executive Committee of JRSO, from which we quote the following:—

The fact is that no definite decision has so far been made by JRSO. In our opinion, the matter cannot be delayed any longer, in view of the fact that, as was stated by the Director General of JRSO, in his report of November 1, 1953, entitled: "After Five Years," the restitution program in the U.S. Zone of Germany borders on completion.

The claim of the Council is based on legal as well

as moral grounds. So far, the Council has stressed the moral aspect rather than the legal bearing of the matter because in its opinion disagreements or differences of interest between Jewish groups should be viewed and settled primarily on the basis of moral merits. For this very reason the Jews from Germany have never tried to go their own way in seeking compensation for the tremendous losses they have suffered under the Nazi regime, though there cannot be any doubt that the German Government would have acceded to the representations of their former fellow-citizens. Instead, the Jews from Germany have subordinated their own rights and interests to those of world-Jewry by joining the JRSO and later on the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany. All their actions were and are governed by giving first consideration to Jewish unity. The Jews from Germany will adhere to this principle as long as there is hope that an amicable settlement can be reached.

A Statement by JRSO

In support of the Council's claim I am fortunate enough to quote a statement made by the JRSO itself in a brochure under the title "Betrachtungen zum Rueckerstattungsrecht" or in English "Reflections on Restitution." On page 82 it states that:

"The majority of the surviving Jews formerly settled in Germany has been forced into emigration; the Jewish community life of the past is destroyed. Only in a few places have new Jewish communities been established which are carrying on a commendable and brave struggle for their existence.

"The organizations, foundations, and institutions which formerly were devoted within the sphere of activity of the Jewish communities to religious, humanitarian, and cultural tasks, or to support welfare and charity in the various towns and districts of Germany, therefore are no longer able to serve their original purpose. It is impossible to reconstitute them at the point of their former existence and with an equivalent scope of activities because the Jewish people and their communities no longer exist there in a manner comparable to the former time. The people and their communities who survived the persecution, are scattered all over the world. Nevertheless, their religious, cultural, and social needs continue. The need especially among the elderly emigrants in the United States, England, and Israel is great because their means and their strength are exhausted. They require quick help and welfare assistance, as do also the Jews who are still in Germany.

"It is the task of the large organizations in foreign countries, organized in the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, to provide the means for the service with respect to emigration, settlement, rehabilitation, and charity on a worldwide scale for the Jewish population which previously was settled in Germany, to determine the scale of need within the totality of the need because there is no one else who can do this job."

This statement fully endorses the view of the Council. As stated in the above excerpts from JRSO's own brochure, which was given worldwide publicity, JRSO assumed the responsibility of caring for those German Jews who lost their property and means of livelihood as a result of Nazi persecution, because there is no one else who can do the job. It is impossible and unthinkable that JRSO should change its position now, when a claim

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PRESIDENT HEUSS 70th Birthday on January 31.

Jews from Germany will join in the felicitations to Bundespraesident Dr. Theodor Heuss who will be 70 on January 31. Deeply imbibed in the spirit of German Liberalism and shaped by the democratic outlook of his Wuerttemberg homeland, President Heuss, a follower of Friedrich Naumann, has always been an uncompromising fighter for his ideas. In 1933, he sacrificed his career as a distinguished politician, writer and lecturer, and, together with his late wife Elly Heuss-Knapp, suffered the hardships of Nazi persecution. As an outstanding statesman and thinker, this representative of the "other Germany" became the first President of the new German Federal Republic. German Jews gratefully remember that, at great personal risk, Dr. Heuss kept contact with Jewish organisations and their leaders, when the Nazis were in power. Many public statements testify to his compassion for the Jews and to his deep understanding for the complexity of the Jewish problem. By coining the term of "Kollektivscham" he has defined the attitude, by which Germany should be guided in her reaction to the atrocities committed in her name. To his numerous Jewish friends and their families President Heuss has always been a trusted helper and adviser. One of them was the late Otto Hirsch, with whom he was associated since his student days and whose memory he honoured anew in the moving article this paper was privileged to publish on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Leo Baeck.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Bundespraesident Heuss and wish him many years of undiminished vigour and health.

"VOLUME IX"

"AJR Information" now enters the ninth year of its existence. Its foundation in 1946 coincided with the announcement of the Home Office that pre-war refugees were now eligible for naturalisation. Though, meanwhile, almost all our readers have become citizens of this country, the need of a paper which informs them on their specific problems has never been as widely recognised as in these days. Especially during the past year, the number of subscribers has grown steadily. To some extent, this is due to the topicality of the restitution and compensation problem. Yet beyond this practical object, "AJR Information" tries to preserve the spiritual heritage of Central European Jewry and to deal with the manifold problems of our time under this specific aspect.

In 1953, "AJR Information" has been able to extend its services. This involved an additional burden on our budget. Whether and to what extent we may widen its scope further in 1954 will, in the first place, depend on the co-operation of all AJR members. We thank them for their loyalty in the past and we hope that, in their own interest, they will continue to sponsor the development of this paper.

Continued from front page.

is advanced by the very group for which JRSO was organized, a group which by limiting its claim to one fifth of the total assets at JRSO's disposal proved its willingness to co-operate in the interest of all Jews who have suffered from Nazi persecution.

There is another example to which I would like to refer in this connection. In its appeal to CORA (Court of Restitution Appeals) against the decision of the Court of Appeal in Munich in the matter of the Jewish Community of Augsburg JRSO presents the following observations:

"The assets formerly belonging to flourishing Jewish communities annihilated by the Nazis should not be handed over to a small group of Jews most of whom were never members of those communities... On purpose the legislator has assigned those assets to the Successor Organization established under the Law to be used not solely in the interest of such a handful of persons but for the benefit of the entire group of victims of Nazi persecution including former members of the Augsburg Gemeinde now scattered all over the world. The JRSO is the only legitimate body to safeguard these rights and interests."

Here, too, JRSO acknowledges its liability to take special care of those who were former members of the Gemeinden in Germany.

The Legal Aspect

Furthermore I would like to call your attention to an article "The Heirless Property Paradox" by Abraham S. Hyman, administrative director of the World Jewish Congress, published in "Congress Weekly" of June 1, 1953, which—on page 5—reads as follows:

"... High praise is due General Clay who, as the architect of American policy in the U.S. Zone of Germany during his administration as Military Governor... exercised his prerogatives as Military Governor and promulgated a law which provided that the heirless property shall be turned over to successor organizations for the rehabilitation of the class of persons to which the persecutee owners belonged."

I attach great value to the last notion which, by the way, corresponds to the text of Regulation No. 3 under Military Government Law No. 59 by which the JRSO was brought into being and according to which JRSO

"must use its assets for the general benefit of the members of the group or class which it represents or for such other non-profit or charitable purposes as may be approved by Military Government."

In our opinion, the group or class which JRSO represents is identical with the group or class whose properties JRSO is entitled to claim and realize because the former owners, i.e. the dissolved Jewish communities and organizations and individual persecutees, who died without leaving heirs, cannot claim their properties themselves."

We hope that this time the Executive of JRSO will revise its policy which is neither justified nor fair. It cannot be that assets built up by German Jewry should be used up and the very group which, during its great history, has created these assets should be virtually excluded. German Jewry, always noted for her exemplary generosity, gave freely to its brothers in need as long as it was able to do so. After due priority has been given to other Jewish social tasks, the remnants of German Jewry must have returned to them that comparatively small fraction of the JRSO funds which constitute their material heritage.

GERMAN JEWRY AND JRSO

In an article "The New Germany and her remaining Jews" in "Commentary" (published by the American Jewish Committee, New York), December 1953, Hal Lehrman writes:

"... Organised German Jewry is hopping mad over the distribution of proceeds from the settlements with the Germans on heirless Jewish property and other claims.

Hendrik G. van Dam, executive secretary of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, is the angriest of all, and doesn't mind being quoted. His chief abomination is the "Jewish Restitution Successor Organization." He agrees that the money should be used for the common good of world Jewry, that much of it should go to Israel and other places outside of Germany, and that the shrunken communities are hardly entitled to a major share of what the dead left behind. "But this property, after all, is German Jewish. The least we have a

RESTITUTION NEWS

BUNDESENTSCHAEDIGUNGSGESETZ GILT AUCH IN BERLIN

Durch Gesetz vom 6.11.1953 (veroeffentlicht im Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt fuer Berlin vom 10.11.53) zur Uebernahme des Bundesergaenzungsgesetzes zur Entschaedigung fuer Opfer der nationalsozialistischen Verfolgung (BEG) ist dieses Gesetz mit Wirkung vom 1.10.53 in Berlin in Kraft gesetzt worden.

In dem gleichen Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt sind die erste und zweite Durchfuehrungsverordnung zu diesem Gesetz veroeffentlicht. In der ersten Durchfuehrungsverordnung vom 4.11.53 ist das Entschaedigungsamt Berlin als Entschaedigungsbehoerde im Sinne des BEG erklart worden.

Oberste Landesbehoerde und oberste Entschaedigungsbehoerde ist der Senator des Innern.

Bisher wurde ein Bescheid des Entschaedigungsamts durch Anrufung der Guetebehoerde angefochten. Da das BEG die Einrichtung dieser Guetebehoerde nicht uebernommen hat, bestimmt die Durchfuehrungsverordnung, dass die Guetebehoerde in Fortfall kommt, und sagt: Soweit ein Bescheid des Entschaedigungsamts Berlin im Zeitpunkt des Inkrafttretens des BEG nach bisherigem Recht noch angefochtbar ist, beginnen die Fristen fuer Klagen gegen das Land Berlin am 8.11.53. Diese Klagen sind nach Par. 99 BEG beim Landgericht Berlin einzureichen. Die Frist betraegt fuer im Ausland lebende Antragsteller 6 Monate seit Zustellung der Entscheidung.

In der zweiten Durchfuehrungsverordnung vom 7.11.53 ist bestimmt, dass der Anspruch auf Entschaedigung beim Entschaedigungsamt Berlin anzumelden ist und die Anmeldung unter Benutzung der vorgeschriebenen Formulare erfolgen soll. Beweiskunden sollen in Urschrift oder beglaubigter Abschrift beigefuegt werden.

Bezuglich der uebrigen Bestimmungen der Durchfuehrungsverordnung sei insbesondere darauf hingewiesen, dass das Entschaedigungsamt ohne Ruecksicht auf die Faelligkeit Vorschuesse gewaehren kann, wenn ein Entschaedigungsanspruch wegen eines bestimmten Schadens glaubhaft gemacht ist und die Gewaehrung eines Vorschusses zur Beseitigung einer Notlage erforderlich ist. Der Vorschuss kann in einer einmaligen Leistung oder in einer befristeten laufenden Beihilfe bestehen. Ein Rechtsanspruch auf die Gewaehrung eines Vorschusses besteht nicht. Der Vorschuss ist auf den bevorschussten Anspruch anzurechnen. Ist dies nicht moeglich, so ist er auf andere Ansprueche anzurechnen oder zurueckzufordern.

Fuer einen offensichtlich unbegruendeten Antrag koennen dem Antragsteller Kosten und Ersatz von Auslagen auferlegt werden.

right to ask is a fair share to meet our present needs, and to be decently included in consultations on where the rest should go."

The enlistment of a high-level arbiter whom the Gemeinden will trust, and then some earnest consultations under statesmanlike auspices, ought to be a prime order of current business for the international Jewish organisations involved.

All this apart, I must admit some perplexity over the fact that the Jewish Agency, which is after all really an extension of Israel, is slated for exceedingly substantial chunks of JRSO money, and even of the funds eventually to be paid by Germany under the agreement with the Conference for Material Claims. In the case of the latter payments, I had thought they were to be for the benefit of Jewish victims of Hitlerism residing outside Israel—the specifically Israeli claim having been presumably met by the separate German reparations agreement with Israel. The Agency undoubtedly can produce an argument, if pressed, to make it all seem reasonable and for the greatest good of the greatest number. But if there are ex-German Jews in London, for example, who are old and broken and in need of assistance, it does seem a bit difficult to understand why something like Jewish Agency expenses in Germany should have priority on the proceeds from the liquidation of German Jewish claims against the present German government...."

WICHTIGE TRANSFERERLEICHTERUNGEN

Gemaess dem Runderlass Aussenwirtschaft No. 110/53 vom 19.12.1953 (Bundesanzeiger No. 248 vom 24.12.1953) koennen nunmehr Entschaedigungsleistungen auf Grund des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes bis zu 500 DM. monatlich an im Ausland lebende Entschaedigungsberechtigte ueberwiesen werden, wenn der Entschaedigungsbechtigte dies bei der Entschaedigungsbehoerde ausdruendlich beantragt. Sind bereits vor Inkrafttreten des Runderlasses Entschaedigungsleistungen auf ein Sperrkonto gezahlt worden, so kann die Ueberweisung von 500 DM. vom Anspruchsberechtigten bei der zustaendigen Landeszentralbank beantragt werden.

Ferner ist auf Grund des gleichzeitig ergangenen Runderlasses Aussenwirtschaft No. 111/53 der Transfer von Vermoegensertraegnissen, die nach dem 31. Dezember 1952 faellig geworden sind oder faellig werden, zugelassen. Hierunter fallen u.a. Dividenden, Gewinne aus dem Betriebe von Unternehmungen, Ertraegnisse aus Grundbesitz und Zinsen auf Forderungen aus dem Kapitalverkehr in deutscher Waehrung (zum Beispiel Schuldverschreibungen, Hypotheken). Ausgeschlossen vom Transfer sind Zinsen aus DM.—Sperrguthaben bei inlaendischen Geldinstituten und Ertraegnisse aus inlaendischen Anlagen, die nach dem 8. August 1950 aus DM.—Sperrguthaben erworben wurden, es sei denn, dass das DM.—Sperrguthaben aus dem Verkauf von Devisen herruehrt. Die fuer den Transfer der Vermoegensertraegnisse erforderliche Genehmigung wird von den Landeszentralbanken erteilt.

BLOCKED ACCOUNTS UP TO 10,000 DM. TRANSFERABLE

According to the "Financial Times" of December 30, 1953, the Bank Deutscher Laender has announced that "blocked Mark balances not exceeding 10,000 Marks on December 31 can be transferred abroad in one sum and without proof of hardship excepting, however, acquired blocked Mark accounts."

As the official German wording of this important new regulation was not yet available when this issue went to press, details will be announced in the next issue.

UNTERSTUETZUNGSZAHLUNGEN AUS SPERRKONTEN

Die Betraege, die auslaendische Inhaber von originaeren Sperrkonten fuer Unterstuetzungszahlungen im Bundesgebiet und in West-Berlin verwenden duerfen, sind von 300 DM. auf 1,000 DM. monatlich, und zwar an einen oder mehrere Empfaenger, erhoehrt worden. Die bisherige Beschraenkung, dass die Zahlungen nur an nahe Verwandte der Kontoinhaber geleistet werden duerfen, ist weggefallen.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

As this issue is going to press, the negotiations between the Austrian Government and the "Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Austria" have come to a deadlock. The refusal of the Austrians to accede to the—very limited—Jewish requests for global and individual compensation has caused deep concern in all Jewish quarters. The active, if not enthusiastic, support given by wide circles of the Austrian population to the Nazi regime in general and to the anti-Jewish measures in particular is notorious. Those who suffered from it, the Jews from Austria, will therefore be particularly alarmed at the attempts of the Austrian Government to evade responsibility. A full description of the present position and of any further developments will be published in the next issue.

IN MEMORY OF ABRAHAM HOROVITZ

Remembering Abraham Horovitz we may think of this biblical sentence: "Thy seat will be empty." Steadily having revealed a character of his own he held a place of his own. His main achievement was his personality, an irreplaceable one.

He was an unostentatious man, sometimes charmingly modest. His was that reserve which arises from a warm feeling of decency and would never annoy another person, from a kind sense of humour which likes to take the opponent for a good friend. When there was a debate, usually his final reply was a conciliatory smile; his face was illuminated by it.



What at once impressed people who approached him was the plain sincerity, the clear uprightness of his temper. His very nature, the substance of his mind seemed to be disclosed here. On occasion he could rejoice in dialectics, but never did he allow it

SERVICE TO FRANKFURT

As one of the oldest and may be the only still living brother of the former Marcus Horovitz Lodge in Frankfurt-am-Main, I feel urged to say a few words in memory of our deceased first President Abraham Horovitz. It was only a few months after my removal from my native town Wetzlar to Frankfurt in 1921 that I was asked to take part in the foundation of a new B'nai B'rith Lodge. I complied with this request and in the spring of 1922 the new Lodge was founded. It was called "Marcus Horovitz Lodge" in honour of the well-known and famous late Rabbi Dr. Marcus Horovitz, whose name had a special meaning for me, because thirty years before I had been a regular visitor to the Boerneplatz Synagogue and listened to the sermons of this illustrious Rabbi.

Unanimously Aba Horovitz, the son of the Rabbi Horovitz, was elected first President, and our choice was very lucky indeed. He managed the affairs with such a skill that, within a short time, our Lodge was respected by the two older Lodges, which meant a lot in the very conservative circles of Frankfurt. The manner in which Aba Horovitz conducted our affairs can only be characterised by the old Jewish untranslatable word "Chain." When once he recited Grace after a banquet my late wife who came from a non-orthodox family, was deeply impressed by the charming way in which he fulfilled this religious duty. If our Lodge was dubbed the "Lodge of the Intellectuals," this is mainly the merit of our first President. Without wishing to depreciate in any way the services of our subsequent Presidents, it is certainly no exaggeration to state that our first President Aba Horovitz was the most prominent holder of this office.

HUGO SONNENBERG

to encroach on the moral sphere. Consistently he kept to himself. One always knew where he stood.

All this was rooted in a profound religiousness. An unswerving Jewish faith imparted the first impulse and evolved the last answer. His piety remained simple, and thereby became constructive, and, therefore, was unaffected, unassuming. Judaism meant to him wholeness and fullness of his identity, self-evidence of existence. He was the example of the pious Jew.

He was a conservative Jew, firmly, resolutely, bravely. In every task life had set him, he proved to be this brave man. The offspring of rabbis, the son of one of the great rabbis of Frankfurt, he ardently wished to bear witness to them. The old way was his way. Week by week he joyfully took part in the regular study of the Talmud. Thankfully he took delight in every "mitsvah."

A leading personality in the old "Einheitsgemeinde," he had experienced the fruitful variety of Jewish reality. The honesty of his understanding never failed to acknowledge it. All the more he postulated conservatism, the regard and respect for tradition. To him it meant not only a heritage, but also an outlook.

This was the piety of Abraham Horovitz, and the piety was the man. Through it he gave so much to everyone who was near to him. Time and again our "Council" felt deep gratitude for being close to him, for having him in our midst. He was our counsellor and was our witness.

Our warm sympathy goes out to his wife and his children. We, too, loved him. We, too, shall never forget him.

LEO BAECK.

TRADITION AND UNITY

The sudden death of our friend and colleague Abraham Horovitz means an irreplaceable loss not only for his family but also for the Community of Jews from Germany. As the scion of a widely respected rabbinic family he was, throughout his life, a deeply convinced protagonist of traditional Judaism, but at the same time a staunch advocate of the "Einheitsgemeinde." In spite of his manifold professional duties as a lawyer he took a leading part in the work of the "Landesverband" of the Jewish Communities in Prussia and, later on, of the "Reichsvertretung," to whose Presidium he belonged. In addition to these and other conspicuous activities his wise counsel was sought in all questions affecting Conservative Judaism in Germany.

Immediately after his immigration to England Abraham Horovitz devoted his energy and experience to the well-being of the Jewish refugees. It was thus only natural that he was one of the initiators of the AJR and helped to found the B'nai B'rith-Lodge. His strong sense of duty and his fairness were outstanding. It was due to these qualities that he was widely respected both in Germany and, later on, in England. Our Community, which owes so much to Abraham Horovitz, will always remember him with gratitude.

A. SCHOYER

Tribute of Anglo-Jewish Association

Mr. Gershon Ellenbogen, Honorary Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association, writes as follows:—

"Mr. Horovitz was a most valued member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association, whose deliberations he enriched not only by his expert knowledge of Germany and of restitution problems, but also by the evident integrity and nobility of his character."

ANGLO-JUDAICA

No Action on Germany

German rearmament is not at present an issue on which Anglo-Jewry will take action, it was decided by the Board of Deputies. The President, Dr. A. Cohen, said that, while maintaining their opposition to this "menace to democratic progress and world peace," British Jewry should not now intrude on the discussion of a matter which, despite its Jewish implications, had become "simply an international political issue."

The annual National Remembrance Parade and Service of Jewish ex-servicemen was inspected by Field-Marshal Earl Alexander. The usual reunion afterwards was addressed by the Secretary of State for War, Mr. A. Head, who said that the great measure of mutual esteem between Jews and non-Jews in Britain was largely due to the big part the Jewish people had played when the supreme sacrifice was required.

Israel

The needs of Israel are still paramount, declared the Chief Rabbi when he explained why the £200,000 Centenary Appeal of Jews' College had been "soft-pedalled." But while every effort must be made to support the J.P.A., the community should not neglect the needs of its College which will be one hundred in 1955.

£10,000 was raised at the inaugural dinner of the British Committee for Technical Development in Israel, which was addressed by Sir Hartley Shawcross, Q.C., the Labour Government's Attorney General. So far £50,000 has been raised in this country for the Haifa Technion during the last few months.

Two Anglo-Jewish women's societies raised between them £5,800 for the new Jerusalem Baby Home.

The Board of Guardians passed a resolution stating that co-ordination of appeals was not necessarily in its interest, but adding that the Board should not refuse to consider proposals relating to co-ordination or timing of appeals by any other body.

Education

Efforts by Carmel College to be an educational bridge between Israel and the Diaspora were commended by the Israeli Ambassador when he officially opened the College's new buildings at Wallingford, Berks. The Principal, Rabbi Kopul Rosen, also opened new "Isaac Wolfson Laboratories," named, he explained, after the school's greatest single benefactor. The College now has 200 pupils, about a fifth of them from overseas.

An Institute of Jewish Studies was established in Manchester under the direction of the Communal Rabbi, Dr. Altmann. It is to begin its work this month and will serve as a research centre in the field of Jewish religious thought (philosophical, mystical and moral). A series of scholarly publications is planned. Only students qualified for entry into a university are eligible for admission. There will be no training for the ministry, as this is the prerogative of Jews' College.

The lack of learned books in Anglo-Jewry was deplored by Dr. Raphael Loewe, of the Department of Semitics, Leeds University. For the last thirty years, he declared, Jewish scholarship had been hardly treated by Jewish publishers in England. Very few books have been published with the scholar primarily in mind—even by such publishers as have regarded their Jewish publications as a contribution to Anglo-Jewry with virtually no prospect of financial return. Dr. Loewe asked: "Where is the publisher who will do for us what Schocken did for German Jewry until the last possible minute?"

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ENQUIRIES INVITED

Robert Weltsch: IN SEARCH OF PARADISE LOST

Two New Books by Max Brod

The main charm of these two little delicacies* consists in the nostalgic revival of a world which has long passed away, familiar only to elder contemporaries, and yet so characteristic of the Central European middle class before 1914. Despite a slight subconscious uneasiness it did not occur to those people that their whole world was on the brink of collapse. From the Jewish angle, we have now a notable series of literary documents which recall the time between the two wars—the pre-Hitler period. Brod's two autobiographic novels dig farther into the past, though they are written with the full experience of what came later, the Jewish catastrophe under Hitler and the emergence of the Jewish State of which Brod himself is now a proud and loyal citizen. Later events appear only as emotional asides to those vanished days of the youth.

I confess that to somebody who comes from the same surroundings and has known the world which Brod describes, the main attraction of these books consists in meeting some old acquaintances or identifying the characters even where they bear faked names. In one of the books Max Brod calls himself "Erwin" but does not conceal the autobiographical nature of the novel. It is dedicated to the memory of his beloved brother Otto to whom he felt himself spiritually closely linked; it is also an attempt to understand his own parents as human beings who were by no means faultless, and to explain their characters and actions from the perspective of a sensitive child, though the psychological analysis may have been accomplished in hindsight by the searching mind of the mature writer. There is no actual "plot" in "Sommer, den man zurückwünscht," but there is a subtle sense of atmosphere. Against the background of imperial Prague during the last years of the 19th century it reveals the tender feeling of a child, the glorious illusions of puberty, in its first experiences with friend and foe, with love and human fallacies. The most striking traits of the boy "Erwin" were his passionate sense of justice and his musical enthusiasm, both of which never left the author in his later days. He feels compelled to draw a critical picture of his mother mainly because of her frequent injustices towards her children and, worse, towards the servants whom little Erwin tried to defend. This fight is unsuccessful, but it complicates his first innocent encounter with love, because he is in doubt whether he is entitled to fight for a person's right if he does not feel unbiased. He felt more sympathy for his father who lived his prosaic life as a bank clerk and patiently suffered the whims of his wife. During the summer the family used to go for a holiday to the sea-side resort of Misdroy. This was very unusual in Prague at that time, but it gave Erwin and his brother an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the strange world of "reichsdeutsch" customs and manners which were so very different from life in the "K.u.K." Hapsburg monarchy. This was a source of perpetual puzzlement to which the Austrian children reacted with a mixture of admiration and contempt. It even appeared a little comical, this Prussian efficiency and arrogance. At Misdroy, Erwin also had his first experience of antisemitism though as a trifling childish episode which was quickly forgotten, but acquired more significance in retrospect, when Brod had learned more about the Jewish question.

Following the thoughts and day-dreams of the boy in those formative years, the reader gets some glimpses into the mysteries of child psychology. Rarely, Brod says, does it occur to the adult that an unintentional remark may assume terrific importance in a child's ear and may cause much pain and heart-searching. In solitary woods Erwin struggles with the problems of the universe and acquires the fundamentals of his future philosophy of life. In spite of these inner torments, his was a happy childhood, and not even in his wildest dreams could anybody at that time conceive the idea that Otto, devoted to all that is beautiful in life, would end in a gas chamber at Auschwitz.

Another man who perished in Auschwitz was Brod's school mate, Victor Freud, nicknamed "Vicmath" (a combination of his two first names, Victor and Mathias), to whom the second book is devoted. This portrait is framed in the story of a famous high school in Prague, the "Stephans-Gymnasium," which as a microcosm reflected the general character of German society in Prague. This unique community was composed mainly of two groups, the (Christian) civil and military officers of the Austrian governmental establishment, and the predominantly Jewish bourgeoisie: there was no German-speaking "people" around. These local conditions created the fundamental misunderstanding of the Prague Jews who mistook themselves for the "genuine" German people as opposed to the rough elements from the Sudeten provinces. At the time of Max Brod's years at the gymnasium, Zionism just began slowly to penetrate this mental structure by trying to arouse some deeper understanding on the part of the Jews of their own situation. Max Brod himself, as he tells us, on leaving the Gymnasium, inadvertently found his way into the German students' club called "die Halle" while the hero of the novel, Victor Freud, became an ardent pioneer of Zionism and a prominent member of the students' association "Bar Kochba."

Prague's Jewish Milieu

There was no deep thinking on Jewish questions at that time in these middle class circles, and nothing attractive in Judaism. It was a time of decay. Even today, one feels Brod's embarrassment in describing the absurd institution called "Religionsunterricht" and the shocking inadequacy of the religious teacher whom he calls "Rebbe Bloch" (mercifully withholding the real name), which explains the pupils' attitude of indolence, contempt and ridicule vis à vis all things Jewish. The only stimulus of Jewish consciousness was the vague feeling of distinction between Jewish and Christian pupils, and the faint perception of antisemitism on the part of some teachers, noticeable even when they endeavoured to be strictly correct in their official bearing. From this humus arose the feeling which explains Brod's later conversion to Jewish nationalism.

Essentially, the book is a reverent memorial to a decent "unconspicuous" man, a humble straightforward character though with the limitations of a somewhat pedantic schoolmaster. While Brod was "Primus" of his class, Victor Freud did not even reach the degree of "Vorzugsschüler." His most spectacular feat was the rescue of a class mate named Freund who was in a plight when called for examination by one of the professors of Czech origin who could not clearly distinguish between "Freud" and "Freund." It happened to be the professor who sometimes played chess with Vicmath, a separate sphere never confounded with what was going on in school. But on that day, when Professor Sirek again pronounced "Freud" instead of "Freund" and frightened Freund did not know the lesson, Vicmath persuaded the professor not to correct the error, reminding him of "Pièce touchée"—the famous rule of chess which prescribes that a piece once touched has to be moved. This episode gave to Freund a great reputation among his class mates, and to Brod's book its name. Freund himself later became the director of a Gymnasium in the provincial town of Eger in the Sudetenland; that was already in the newly created Czech Republic, and Brod as an active Zionist—as he had then become—sometimes came to Eger as a speaker at political meetings. So the contact with Freund was resumed. Freund had remained the naive honest soul he had always been, a man of duty, devoted even to the insignificant details of Zionist organisational work. Unfortunately, he did not get an immigration certificate to Palestine in time. In Theresienstadt he still read Latin classics with a group of adherents, and when he was deported he took the Bible and Goethe's poems with him. Brod's hallucination of seeing Vicmath arrive at Tel Aviv on the eve of the proclamation of the Jewish State was, alas, nothing but a hallucination. All who have known this good man Victor Freud will be grateful to Max Brod for having set him such a faithful and moving monument which will endear him also to readers who have met him only in this book.

MARCH INTO THE ABYSS

"Wir werden weiter marschieren" is the title of a novel by Gerhard Kramer (Lothar Blanvalet Verlag, Berlin). With sarcastic reference to this haughty Nazi song, according to which one day the whole world was to belong to Germany, the author records the vicissitudes of the Second World War as they are seen through the eyes of the German "Landser." As Nazi aggression against us, the Jews from Germany, already started five years before the outbreak of war and as we have been afflicted by its cruelty more than any other community, we are bound to feel additional inhibitions before we can set out to read a novel on such a subject. We fear that it might be either a glorification or a clumsy attempt at exculpation. Yet once we begin reading Gerhard Kramer's book we recognise that, in his case, our doubts are unjustified. The author, a lawyer by profession, demonstrates his political insight and his artistic skill by keeping aloof from these dangers. The main character of the novel bears autobiographical traces. The focus of the novel is, however, not a single individual, but the war machinery of a totalitarian regime. The particles of this ruthless robot are human beings, good and bad ones, heroes and cowards, Nazis, militarists, non-Nazis and, above all, the average "Landser" who has no specific political outlook. Kramer succeeds in giving a vivid typology of this extremely mixed crowd. The drama opens with the easy-going days in the occupied Western countries when the Germans were the masters, and ends with the collapse, when the chaos within the German units was eased by British soldiers, including Jewish refugees from Germany. Among the innumerable scenes, that of the Army Chaplain who fears that his young only son has been killed and who, shortly after the fight, manages to visit him in a nearby hospital, is a typical example of the author's approach: here, the fate of one single family reflects the constant anxiety of millions of parents all over the world, but only few fathers enjoyed the privileges of the parson who could contact his son immediately. The "Jahrhundert der Bettenbauer, der Marschierer und der Barackenbewohner" comes to life in this novel. The message it conveys is not laid down in "ideological" terms, but the fact that the book has been criticised by several militaristic German reviewers testifies to its political value. It would be most desirable if, in an English translation, it could be made available also to the non-German public.

W. ROSENSTOCK

TWO CENTENARIES

Paul Natorp—Friend of Hermann Cohen

On January 24, 1954, the civilised world will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the eminent philosopher Paul Natorp. We as Jews have special cause to remember him because of his close friendship with Hermann Cohen. When the latter formed his so-called Marburg school of Neo-Kantianism, Natorp joined him and helped him to build up the international repute of the school. When Cohen passed away on April 4, 1918, Natorp, at the funeral at the Berlin-Weissensee cemetery, paid tribute to the greatness of his friend, and soon after made a deeply penetrating analysis of the deceased's work in his treatise "Hermann Cohen's philosophische Leistung."

Raphael Loewenfeld

In 1893 when the anti-Semitic movement had grown strong in Germany, Raphael Loewenfeld, a Jewish writer and theatre manager, called upon his fellow-Jews in a small pamphlet "Schutzjuden oder Staatsbürger?", that they should not rely too much on others, but take courageous action themselves. His appeal stirred the German Jews out of their lethargy and led them to the foundation of the "Central-Verein," the biggest organisation known in the history of German Jewry.

No doubt, Raphael Loewenfeld, eager in the main to propagate the principle of self-defence, did not yet do full justice to the importance of Jewish tradition and the Jewish way of life; however, the "C.V.," owing to the guidance of Eugen Fuchs and Ludwig Hollaender soon made up this deficiency. Nevertheless, it was through Loewenfeld's action that the "C.V." came into existence which, as Ismar Elbogen put it in his 'History of the Jews in Germany,' "raised the self-confidence of the Jews, gave them strength to resist danger anew from day to day, and fought especially the cowardly unfaithfulness to Judaism."

FRITZ FRIEDLAENDER (Melbourne)

*Max Brod: Der Sommer, den man zurückwünscht. Roman aus jungen Jahren. Manesse Verlag Zürich.
Max Brod: Beinahe ein Vorzugsschüler oder Pièce touchée. Roman eines unauffälligen Menschen. Ibidem.

HANS JAEGER:

NEO-NAZIS CHANGE THEIR TACTICS

The result of the German September elections has been interpreted as a crushing defeat of extremism, both of the Right and the Left. That is certainly true. Right radicals were represented by two parties, (1) "Deutsche Reichspartei" (296,000) and (2) "Nationale Sammlung" (71,000). The "Deutsche Reichspartei" (Col. Schaffer, v. Thadden) had a counterpart in Southern Germany, the "Reichsblock" (General Andrae). They tried hard to inherit the prohibited Sozialistische Reichspartei (Dr. Krueger, Major Heller). Well-known candidates were the writer Hans Grimm, author of "Volk ohne Raum," Prof. v. Gruenberg, former rector of the University of Koenigsberg, Wilhelm Meinberg, former Nazi State Councillor, Kurt Matthaei, and Dr. Fritz Schulz-Zwischenahn, a former leader of the expelled party BHE. The "Nationale Sammlung" consisted of the "Deutsche Gemeinschaft" (August Haussleiter), the German Block (Karl Meissner) and the German Social Movement (Karl Heinz Priester), the latter being the German counterpart to Italy's neo-Fascist MSI (Movimento Sociale Italiano). Among the candidates were the former Nazi mayor of Goettingen, Albert Gnade, the Waffen SS. General Karl Brenner, the former "Fuehrer" of "German Handicraft," Ferdinand Schramm, the former Nazi peasant-leader Johann Deininger, Prof. v. Sievers, Willi Weiss-Ruedi, founder of the banned discussion circle of the Waffen-SS., and Wolfgang Hedler. This gives a fair picture of the forces behind the Right.

In order to judge the results in their true perspective one has to bear in mind that Werner Naumann and Col. Rudel could not be candidates. That diminished both Parties' chances. Furthermore, the "Deutsche Reichspartei" did not participate in Baden-Wuerttemberg, nor the "Nationale Sammlung" in Hamburg, Bremen, Lower Saxony or North Rhine-Westphalia. The regulations regarding the number of signatures before the election hampered them as much as the 5 per cent clause of the Electoral Law. Thus, the result does not completely reflect the potential vote they might have been able to gather under more favourable conditions, though one might argue that the difference would only have been slight.

"Vote for Bonn"

What is much more important is that already during the campaign orders were given "from above" to change tactics and to "vote for Bonn." This statement may be surprising but it is a fact. The orders did not reach all quarters concerned in the general confusion of the last days when there was a general regrouping. Feitenhansl, with his Patriotic Union in Munich, was the first one to obey them.

Logically, a number of questions arise from this statement. First of all, who gives the orders? This has, indeed, still to be answered, but the co-operation of former active Nazis, SS. men, HJ leaders and former Nazi officials is closer than one is inclined to believe, whilst a central body of Nazi intellectuals gives instructions and tries to bring order into chaos. This body has a hard nucleus whose authority was acknowledged, according to reliable sources, even by the Naumann circle and the former Gauleiters. Next, one might ask whether this assertion is not contradicted by the enormous number of groups and "candidates" for supreme leadership. But in fact it is no contradiction at all. One can compare it with the early 'twenties when there were also dozens of rival groups like Organisation Consul, Voelkische Partei, Vaterlaendische Verbaende, Reichsflagge, Oberland, Tannenbergbund, etc., competing and fighting each other until the NSDAP managed to smash them.

The reason for which the neo-Nazis changed their tactics was that they considered the time was not yet ripe. They evidently thought to themselves: We have committed ourselves in a useless way and our organisations are being banned. Therefore, we have to do two things: (1) to lie low and wait for a political or economic crisis, when democracy will be discredited and prosperity will have come to an end, (2) to use "mimicry" in order to protect ourselves against persecution and to infiltrate the government parties. Count Westarp (nephew of the deceased Conservative politician), one of the leaders of the SRP, had declared long ago that "we have to be in all parties." He had not only

the FDP in mind, but also the German Party, the BHE, and, if possible, even the CDU, where it might be much more difficult though not quite impossible.

How would this "mimicry" work? They would pay lip service to the Bonn coalition, to the Chancellor, to democracy and, most important of all, to Western integration and the European Defence Community. This would mean abandoning the course of flirting with the East (as the SRP did), or with neutralisation (like the Fuehrungsring ehemaliger Soldaten, Bruderschaft) or the idea of a Third Force. It would bring quite different motives into the idea of remilitarisation. The DRP has followed this course at least since the elections. It has been predicted that even Naumann and Rudel, who will return for good from the Argentine at the beginning of the new year to weld all "national organisations" together, will go "to Canossa." "Nation Europa" was rather outspoken in its comments. This neo-Fascist periodical said frankly that they had given Dr. Adenauer a chance. By so doing they had not in mind the "former" Adenauer (a sinister reference to his "policy of fulfilment") but the man who could become a new "Scharnhorst" by reviving the Wehrmacht. This attempt to claim Dr. Adenauer for themselves is rather significant.

At the same time, former anti-Americanism is replaced by a new advance to the extreme rightists among the Republicans, i.e. to MacCarthyism. Fleckstein, a member of the German-American League, told an extremist audience a short time before the death of Taft, that if Taft had been elected President of the U.S. the right extremists would have made much more progress, as they were the dynamic force one could rely upon. There is another special interest in MacCarthyism. Zogelmann, the former HJ leader of Bohemia, betrayed the secret in "Deutsche Zukunft," Duesseldorf. MacCarthyism had to be used in Germany in order to cleanse the German press and even to get rid of all those who got their licences from the Americans. Anybody who fights neo-Nazism and neo-Fascism is to be made suspect as Communist or fellow-traveller—a clever way of silencing critics, and the exact counterpart to the Communist method which accuses every anti-Communist of Fascism.

We must try and see these facts in perspective. The neo-Fascists are still in a state of confusion. They suffered a blow; but that does not mean that they disappeared. The new tactics make it difficult to test their strength. But as long as there is violent nationalism in Germany, as long as democracy is not yet deeply rooted, the neo-Fascist danger remains. One must not be swept away by the result of a single election. Democracy stands its genuine test in times of crisis. Nothing can be gained by indulging in exaggerated optimism, although what has been achieved this time must not be minimised either.

"LEST WE FORGET"

Under the heading "Nicht vergessen" the "Tagesspiegel" of November 11, 1953, published the following recollection by E. Gogarten.

"Today exactly ten years have passed since we paid a visit to an uncle of my wife. He was a conservative gentleman who had served with the 'Garde.' In those days visits to him were bound to be overshadowed by the threatening deportation or, as the uncle would call it, 'involuntary' emigration. We had just settled down for coffee when the bell rang. When I opened the door a young SS. man stood in front of me and told me that he had been ordered to fetch our hosts. I returned to the dining room and my face's expression must have betrayed my feelings; my uncle only enquired whether 'the driver had arrived and whether they could travel now.' For weeks, their packed case had been ready for the journey. The old gentleman calmly went to his writing table, opened the drawer and put the list of the inventory on top of the desk. Then he got dressed. For the last time the old people looked around the flat in which they had lived for more than 30 years. He locked the entrance door and handed the key to the SS. man.

In the street a great removal van, crammed with other families, was waiting for them. We shook hands, and the vehicle with the men, women and children doomed to death drove away."

Old Acquaintances

Vicky Changes Horses:—Vicky, whose real name is Viktor Weiss, parted company from London's "News Chronicle" after fifteen years; as from February 1st, his political cartoons will appear in the "Daily Mirror" which is the biggest daily in the world with a circulation of nearly five millions. Vicky, who was educated in Berlin, started on "12 Uhr-Blatt," and came to London as a refugee before the war. After working as a free-lance artist he joined the liberal paper and became one of the most penetrating cartoonists in the world; he has good humour, wit, and high indignation. "He has not always been able to see eye to eye with us on a number of things," wrote the "News Chronicle" in a leader a few weeks ago. Before starting work for his new paper Vicky went on a visit to India; his impressions of Russia were published in book-form last year.

Germany:—Leo Mittler, who celebrated his 60th birthday last month, produced Anouilh's "L'Alouette" in Berlin.—Leonhard Steckel directed Oscar Strauss' "Eine Frau, die weiss, was sie will" under the new title "Manon" with Rita Wottawa in Munich.—Gustaf Gruendgens produced Thomas Wolfe's "Mannhouse" in Duesseldorf with himself and Sybille Binder in the cast and with background music by Bernhard Gruen.—In Hamburg Ernst Matray did the choreography for "Lass die Leute leben" by Armin Robinson, after a play by V. Skutezky.—Gertrud Eysoldt celebrated her 83rd birthday.—Film star Magda Schneider married gastronome Blatzheim in Cologne.—Paul Henreid returned from Hollywood to be in Willi Forst's new picture "Kabarett."—Erika Mann played in her father's "Koenigliche Hoheit" which is being produced as a film in Goettingen.

"B.Z." again:—With "Morgenpost" having reached a circulation of 180,000 copies daily, the Ullsteins also revived "B.Z." a few weeks ago. Only two of the old guard are still writing for it: editor Dr. W. Schultze and Walter Kiaulehn. The two million Berliners buy 800,000 newspapers daily, and the Ullsteins have an advantage over all the others because they have no party affiliations. "B.Z." is an illustrated paper and looks like London's "Daily Mirror." In spite of protests by Berlin publishers, the American High Commissioner granted a licence. Socialist "Telegraf" has already dropped by 25,000 copies, and so a lively war of circulation is going on. Besides the numerous party papers, the biggest competition is Axel Springer's "Bild-Zeitung" which is printed in Hamburg, and sells 200,000 copies a day in Berlin alone.

Home News:—Edmund Wolf who works for the German section of B.B.C. went to Berlin to attend the first-night of his new play "Raeubergeschichte" with Theo Linggen in the lead.—Herbert Gruenbaum of Tel Aviv's Chamber Theatre came to London for a visit.—Schnitzler's "Reigen" was published for the first time in English by Weidenfeld & Nicolson.—Charles Goldner went to New York to play in Sigmund Romberg's last musical "The Girl in Pink Tights."

Obituary:—With Rudolf Bernauer who died in London, at the age of 73, after a prolonged illness, the last of the great Berlin producers has gone. The Austrian born author started as an actor with Max Reinhardt at the beginning of this century. He wrote the libretti for Leo Fall's "Lieber Augustin," Oscar Strauss' "Chocolate Soldier," and many other successful comedies. Together with the late Carl Meinhardt who died a few years ago in Argentina, he ran several theatres in Berlin. Bernauer's productions of Wedekind and Strindberg with Maria Orska and Albert Steinrueck are still unforgotten. This fine producer left his very interesting and amusing memoirs which still await publication.—Russian born film producer Dr. Gregor Rabinovitch died in Munich at the age of 64. He was a unique personality who started with Ivan Moskutin, and produced such pictures as "Unfinished Symphony," "Maskerade," and "Quai des Brumes."

PEM

NEWS FROM GERMANY

JUDAISM AND SCHOOL EDUCATION

At the suggestion of the Duesseldorf Society for Christian-Jewish Co-operation a meeting of history teachers took place. It was considered essential that the history books should include facts about the cultural achievements and sufferings of Jewry, especially in Germany. At a public meeting which concluded the session Professor Rengstorf spoke of the incomparable cultural contributions of Judaism to the spiritual life of the German speaking countries.

The first broadcast for schools under the auspices of the "Suedwestdeutscher Rundfunk" will deal with the Jewish problem.

JEWS IN BERLIN GOVERNMENT

After the change of Government in West Berlin, Dr. Paul Hertz, a Social Democrat and a Jew, who under the mayoralty of Dr. Reuter was Senator for Credits and Marshall Plan matters, has retained his functions and been created "Plenipotentiary for Credits." Due to the outstanding record he built up for the past years the Christian Democratic Union and the liberal wing of the Free Democratic Party sought to retain his services.

Another high-ranking Jewish official in Berlin who retained his office is the Press-Chief, Dr. Hans Hirschfeld, also a Social Democrat.

One of Berlin's new Ministers is a half-Jew, Heinz Ullman (Free Democratic Party), the Senator for Transport.

JEWISH UNIVERSITY RECTOR

The newly installed Rector of the West-Berlin "Free University," Professor Ernst E. Hirsch, is a Jew, born in Friedberg (Hesse) fifty-one years ago. He holds a Chair for Civil and Commercial Law.

JUBILEE OF BERLIN PUBLISHING HOUSE

The well-known publishing house R. Friedlaender & Sohn, Berlin, is 125 years old this month. It was founded in 1828 by Raphael Friedlaender, a Jewish children's teacher and head of a private "Cheder." The business was carried on by his son Dr. Julius Friedlaender, and until 1933 J. R. Loewe and other Jewish partners were associated with the firm. The "Jewish" name of the house was abandoned in 1941, but re-adopted after the end of the war.

FRANKFURT HONOURS JEWISH MAYOR

A life-size portrait of Dr. Ludwig Landmann, the last pre-Hitler Lord Mayor of Frankfurt, who is considered one of the city's greatest officers, has been displayed in the City Council Chamber. Dr. Landmann, who was not a member of the Frankfurt Jewish Community, was expelled by the Nazis as a Jew and died in Holland.

NEW HAMBURG LORD MAYOR

The new Hamburg Lord Mayor Dr. Kurt Sieving was for almost twenty-five years an Executive of the well-known Warburg Bank. The newly elected Hamburg Parliament includes three half-Jews: Alfred Levy, Herbert Samuel and Erich Blumenfeld.

JEWISH PAINTER'S EXHIBITION

Pictures by the Jewish painter Arthur Kaufmann, formerly head of the Duesseldorf Municipal School of Applied Art, were exhibited in Duesseldorf in the presence of the artist. Arthur Kaufmann, who is 67, now lives in the United States.

MEMORIAL IN KASSEL

To commemorate "the political, racial and religious victims of Nazism as well as the young people who had to give their lives during the war," a Memorial was dedicated in Kassel, with Professor Hermann Brill of Frankfurt as the main speaker at the function.

JEWS IN AUSTRIA

According to a statement of the Federation of Jewish Congregations in Austria the number of Jews in Austria at present amounts to about 10,000 as against 180,000 before 1938. 60,000 have perished in deportation camps and only 120,000 had been able to emigrate.

GERMANS AT THE ISRAEL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Germans have been invited to submit musical compositions for the International Festival to be held in Israel next May. A fair number of entries is expected and the composer of any pieces approved for performance as well as German official delegates will attend the Festival. This would be the first instance of Germans being invited to Israel, apart from a few personalities who were admitted on account of their merits for Jewish causes.

EX-GAULEITER FORSTER STILL ALIVE

The Belgian paper "Libre Belgique" recently reported that the former Nazi Gauleiter of Danzig, Albert Forster, who had been sentenced to death by the Poles, had not been executed and was still alive in Danzig. According to news received from Poland he is kept in the Danzig Military prison.

HITLER'S SERVANT CLAIMS SOUVENIRS

Anni Winter, who from 1929 to 1945 was in charge of Hitler's flat in Munich, took legal action against the Bavarian Government and claimed certain presents received from him, among them five copies of "Mein Kampf," five paintings, messages of congratulation, etc.

PENSION FOR NOTORIOUS NAZI

A former member of the "Volksgerichtshof," Dr. Wildberger, was one of the German prisoners of war recently released by the Soviet Union. He now draws a monthly pension equal to five times the average German income.

Dr. Arthur Straus, formerly Oberregierungsrat in Heidelberg, was appointed "Ehrensator" of Heidelberg University "in recognition of his devoted and selfless services to the University after the war." Dr. Straus, who has always been actively interested in Jewish affairs was for some time after 1945 trustee of the Jewish assets in Baden.

Berlin. Under the auspices of the Berlin Jewish Community Dr. Hermann L. Goldschmidt (Zuerich) gave a talk about the life and work of Leo Baeck.

Herbert Freedman:

VISIT TO THE JEWS IN GERMANY

In the hectic, hard-hitting reconstruction venture which is Germany to-day—where do the Jews stand? Out of the 20,000 Jews in the Bundesrepublik, many are social cases, invalids or aged. Others are former DP's from Eastern Europe and not quite assimilated. Not more than a handful have a share in "big business," but quite a number of the returnees are judges and other high-ranking civil servants, lawyers, University professors and publishers. It is not true that returnees from Israel are generally embittered and foster anti-Israel sentiments. Not a few of them take a leading part in Zionist life—if one can speak of Zionist life at all.

It was in 1950 that German Jewry was "excommunicated" from the Zionist ranks. The Zionist Organisation not only ceased to function in Germany, but the Jews remaining there were deprived of their fundamental right to buy the Shekel and to be represented in Congress. The "ban" applied to all and everyone—to the few who preferred the then easier life in Germany to any other country and to the many, who were either former inmates of concentration camps or had led an underground existence and could not leave on account of ill-health, age or family ties. Even to-day, the "ban" has not been lifted and there is much bitter feeling about it.

ERICH LUETH ON ISRAEL

In a booklet "Reise ins Gelobte Land" (Gesellschaft fuer Christlich-Juedische Zusammenarbeit, Hamburg 36, Dammtorwall 41,) Erich Lueth, the promotor of the "Peace with Israel" campaign, gives a vivid and moving account of his recent visit to Israel. To avoid undue publicity he had entered the country under an adopted name. In a chapter "Heroic Israel" he says: "Whoever in the pre-1933 days had discussions with Jewish friends in Germany felt that he talked with members of an ancient people. Yet, if one has the good fortune of visiting Israel today, one feels that no nation is as young in her creative power as the State of Israel." The author reports about talks with former friends who now feel rooted in their new homeland. "I do not know," Lueth says, "who was more moved, the new citizen of Israel or the guest from Germany, but there is no need to answer this question, for it is much more important that it has become possible to talk to one another again." Mr. Lueth says the Germans should not lightheartedly ask to forget, "for none of us could forget his father or his brother if they have been taken from us by the events of the recent past." "Nur in Ehrfurcht vor den Opfern koennen wir Zugang zu den Ueberlebenden finden," he concludes his report. An English version of Erich Lueth's pamphlet "Through Truce to Peace" has also been published by the "Gesellschaft fuer Christlich-Juedische Gemeinschaft in Hamburg."

RECORD OF NOVEMBER POGROM

A detailed 20 page description by Hermann Graml of the pogroms in November 1938 has been published as a supplement to the Government sponsored weekly "Das Parlament" by the Bundeszentrale fuer Heimatdienst (Bonn, Viktoriastrasse 24-26). The publication is a most comprehensive analysis of the preparatory measures leading to the so-called "Reichskristallnacht." A speech delivered by Goebbels at the Munich Meeting of the "Alte Garde" on November 9, 1938, after the death of vom Rath was immediately brought to the notice of the regional party sections. On purpose it was ambiguously worded, but most of the regional officers understood that it was meant as an order to organize systematic atrocities against the Jews. The author also describes the reaction of the Jews, many of whom had, in the past years, been reluctant to emigrate. "These allegedly 'wurzellose und artfremde' Jews were, in fact, Germans, rooted in Germany and so deeply attached to their home country that they were even more afraid of exile than of life at home, however restricted."

The presence of the Israel Purchasing Mission has no doubt strengthened the bond between Israel and the Jews in Germany. Cologne, the seat of the "Shilumim," now also the seat of the Restitution Department of the Jewish Agency, is becoming more and more the centre of Jewish activities, supported by nearby Duesseldorf, where the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany and the influential Jewish weekly "Allgemeine Zeitung" are domiciled. Wherever there are youngsters, they have established youth groups, whilst Jewish University students have also banded together. But the preponderance of elderly people makes youth work a very sporadic affair. Among the young, emigration is a foregone conclusion—the others are going to stay. What they lack in Jewish substance, they try to make good with an efficient organisation, form sometimes taking the place of content. But in this way, they hope to preserve their identity.

A very articulate minority of Germans, among them many Government officials, help them to feel at home and to recover. It is time that the Jewish world, too, should take cognisance of the fact that, at least for this generation, there will be a Jewry in Germany.

THE JEW AND HIS NEIGHBOUR

By MYER DOMNITZ

Secretary and Education Officer of the Central Jewish Lecture Committee

The Central Lecture Committee of the Board of Deputies has recently completed the twentieth year of its activities of promoting understanding and good will between Christian and Jew, and in this connection many leading Christian personalities and organisations have expressed their appreciation of what has been achieved. In this country the work of developing understanding between the Jew and his Christian neighbour has been done so quietly and unobtrusively that the Jewish community generally is almost unaware of the vital work which is taking place. Through the Central Lecture Committee many thousands of non-Jews have obtained their first glimpse of what Judaism means and also learned to appreciate the dangers of prejudices, especially when these are crystallised into anti-Semitism.

Time and again our speakers have been able to give their audiences a real understanding of contemporary Jewish life, which often the general public only learn about through newspaper headlines. In the process of time, our unspectacular approach to the public, which is based on an appreciation of such characteristic qualities of the British people as under-statement and restraint, has resulted in speakers from this Committee being regularly invited to address approximately 500 meetings a year. It is interesting to note that our audiences represent an important cross section of public opinion and that even the smallest group often represents many more than those who are present, since they pass on what they have heard to their friends and neighbours.

Public Trends Analysed

After the talks are given, a careful analysis of all speakers' reports is made, from London and the provinces, including the discussion and questions which follow such talks, and in this way we have collated valuable documentation about the trends of public opinion on varied aspects of Jewish-Christian relations and also with regard to the state of Israel. It is difficult to pay sufficient tribute to our speakers in London, the provincial cities and small urban areas—who have kept open the channels of communication between Jew and non-Jew year after year; and have thus prevented misunderstanding from developing in so many cases.

From time to time, as the Secretary of the Committee, I have been asked to write articles for Christian journals dealing with similar themes to those covered by our speakers. Eventually, these articles were collected in a booklet entitled "Your Jewish Neighbour," and this has had a wide circulation. In the foreword to this booklet, the General Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council stated "I am really pleased to be given the privilege of contributing a foreword to this little book, because I support so heartily all attempts to extend and deepen understanding of the Jewish people and their religion among Christians and others not of the Jewish faith. . . . The chapters of this little book illustrate the high spiritual quality of Judaism and the nature of its remarkable contribution to the world's life and the value of the work which is being done by . . . (the) Committee."

During the past five years there have been a number of notable developments in the Committee's work. An interesting experiment took place in 1948 when a small Exhibition depicting the Jewish way of life was organised in connection with the Lambeth Civic Week and this proved to be an eye-opener to many Christians who attended. This was followed by a Jewish Book Week in 1948, which enabled Christian visitors to learn of the great literary wealth of the People of the Book. This Exhibition took place at Woburn House, in conjunction with the Jewish Museum, and a permanent result of this Exhibition was that, as a regular activity, visits are arranged from time to time to the Jewish Museum for Christian youth and adults to appreciate the remarkable symbolic treasures which Judaism provides.

The Committee has been particularly concerned with the need to relate its work to our educational system in this country, from the primary school to the teachers' training college. In outlining our programme of providing children, through their

teachers of course, with what one might term a sensible appreciation of Judaism, I should point out that the need for this is stressed time and again in reports which our speakers drew up indicating how many adults have grown up with the most extraordinary ideas about the Jewish Way of Life. Teachers of religious instruction, having heard of our programme through a leading organisation of Christian education and from various publications, have been provided with various pictures, illustrating Jewish religious practices and also with appropriate notes dealing with many aspects of Jewish festivals, etc. We receive regular requests from teachers who are anxious to have accurate and detailed information about Judaism, and this will surely be regarded as a heartening sign. Visits have been organised to many London and Provincial Synagogues by school children; and the Ministers and Rabbis who take the Christian children around their Synagogues have been most effective in explaining to them the background of Jewish worship and the purpose of the Synagogue. The idea that there is some mystery attached to the Jewish sacred edifice is one which we are thus able to dispel in a greatly appreciated fashion. In passing, reference should be made to the fact that we also provide from our lending library pictures depicting the background of life in Israel and these are very popular.

Intergroup Education

A further aspect of this Committee's educational work and probably one which has the most far-reaching implications is its studies in the field of what is called intergroup education. This branch of knowledge has been intensively worked out in the United States, where there are literally hundreds of studies, including many aspects of the social sciences, religion, history, etc. For a number of years the Central Lecture Committee has explored the possibilities of making known such work in this country, provided that it was suitably adapted; especially to apply the results of research projects regarding the formation of prejudices and to indicate the promising practices to counteract them. To this purpose there has been, in the first instance, a continuous investigation of a number of fundamental studies in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, many European countries, and of course the British Isles. For this mass of information there has emerged clearly the fact—and this is one which will be welcomed—that educationists in very many cases are greatly concerned that education itself should play its proper role in the vital field of promoting good human relationships.

The Committee's various surveys in this field have been well received. The most recent publication "Education in Human Relations" is thus described in his foreword by Professor J. A. Lauwerys, of the University of London and a leading authority on comparative education: "(It) analyses the nature of the problem, collects relevant data from the social and human sciences, surveys attempts that have been made in various countries to forge more securely the links that unite the groups, proposes measures that would undoubtedly serve the national welfare in this as in other countries." This booklet, which has had a world-wide circulation, is now in its second edition and is being developed into a book-length study, covering all the educational phases from infancy to the adult stage, with the encouragement of many leading experts in education and the social sciences.

What this programme in the study of human relations stresses is that education is not only a means of imparting information, but should ensure through various media that young people will learn, through a suitable educational environment, to become adults who will appreciate the need for the diversity of qualities which make up humanity, and to realise how rich life is when we have a variety of view-points, social ideas and beliefs.

The Committee has been glad to learn that its activities in social education have already borne fruit; and this, together with its work in the sphere of adult education, may be regarded as a suitable contribution towards the diminution of the intergroup tensions of our times.

COMMONS DEBATE ALIENS POLICY

"The Expiring Laws Continuance Bill," which, *inter alia*, provides for the continuance of the orders regulating the admission and residence of aliens in Great Britain, was adopted recently. In a preceding discussion Mr. R. T. Paget recalled Great Britain's record as a refuge for the oppressed. He also acknowledged the fair attitude taken by the competent authorities, but expressed the view that the administrative powers of the Home Office should not be unlimited and that decisions against individual aliens, especially deportation orders, should be subject to an appeal. Mr. Leslie Hale said that "a world which contains anything like an alien or which talks about foreigners is a bad world." Mr. Sydney Silverman stated: "I am not the least qualified Member to pay tribute to British hospitality to aliens, since I happen to be the son of one who came here, and I recognise, therefore, in my own person, the merits of British hospitality to refugees. Whether the nation has had an adequate return for its hospitality is a matter on which, perhaps, there may be more than one opinion."

On behalf of the Home Office Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth stated that since the war no fewer than 250,000 aliens had been admitted to come and live here on a permission basis. The main part of them were refugees or displaced persons, about 120,000 of them Poles. "The essence of our system is," he said, "that it permits of each case being considered upon its own merits."

The first class were temporary visitors, such as tourists and students. Then there was a second class of visitors, who came in the first place temporarily to earn their living under the Ministry of Labour permit scheme; in the ordinary way, after four years' approved employment, the conditions were removed and these aliens were able to stay under exactly the same conditions as any ordinary resident. There was also the class of persons who wished to come here permanently from the start. At present this class was limited to the compassionate case in which near relatives are living in this country. These cases were by their very nature not capable of precise definition. There was an enormous range of extraordinarily different cases.

ABSENCE ABROAD OF NATURALISED CITIZENS

In view of some enquiries received from naturalised citizens of the United Kingdom who take residence abroad for a longer period, attention is drawn to the provisions of the British Nationality Act, 1948. According to this Act, the Secretary of State may deprive any person naturalised in the United Kingdom of his citizenship, if the person has been ordinarily resident in foreign countries for a continuous period of 7 years and during that period has not registered annually at the United Kingdom Consulate.

THE JEWS OF POSEN

A Symposium about the "Geschichte der Stadt Posen" edited by Dr. Gotthold Rhode of Marburg University includes an interesting article by Dr. Jacob Jacobson about the history of the Jews in that city. The article gives a vivid picture of the ancient days when the community enjoyed administrative powers under Polish Sovereignty. When in 1793 the Jews of Posen ceased to be Polish Jews because the province became part of Prussia, their number amounted to about 6 per cent of the total population in the Posen district. They lived in altogether 100 towns and townships in the district, the largest Jewish community of 3,700 being Lissa and the second in size (3,500) Posen. Three towns, amongst them Schwarsenz, had more than 50 per cent Jewish inhabitants in those days, and in nineteen townships more than one third of the population was Jewish. The author recalls the outstanding services of Rabbi Akiba Eger and of Jewish personalities who took a leading part in the municipal administration and in commerce, such as the "Stadtverordnetenvorsteher" Dr. Joseph Landsberger, Justizrat Dr. S. Lewinski, Justizrat Julius Orgler, Justizrat Julius Salz and Justizrat Michael Placzek, and the Kommerzienraete Michael Herz and R. N. Kantorowicz. The book is adorned by one picture, that of Adolf Warschauer, the Jewish Historian and Professor at the Posen Academy.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HON. LILY H. MONTAGU, O.B.E., J.P.

If the noblest aim that a human being can try to achieve is the fulfilment of the prophetic saying: "To do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly before the eternal Lord" Lily H. Montagu has come as near to this aim as ever a religious person did. As a Justice of the Peace, as the "Club Mother" of the West Central Club and Settlement, as the first woman to become a Minister in a Jewish congregation, she has shown a rare ability to combine human understanding and religious devotion with organisational work. She lives her faith and practises it in her daily work.

Miss Montagu is the President of the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues in Great Britain and the Hon. Secretary of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. She instigated the establishment of these two organisations and has exercised in their activities a decisive influence.

On December 22 Miss Montagu will attain the status of an octogenarian. Throughout the world friends and admirers of this unique Jewish woman of our time will be with her on her birthday in their thoughts, will send their hearty congratulations and good wishes and express their feeling of gratitude for true comradeship. With them will join very many refugees from Nazi oppression. Just as her father Samuel Montagu (Lord Swaythling) was a constant help to the Jewish immigrants from Russia in all their religious and social problems in

PERSONALIA

Dr. Erich Eyck received the German Grand Cross of Merit on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

An appreciation of the painter **Else Meidner** by Judith Japha is published in the "Jewish Chronicle" of December 4. Else Meidner's work, the author says, received considerable recognition in both Berlin and Cologne where she was the winner of a number of art prizes. The article pays tribute to Else Meidner, whose deep understanding for the persecuted Jew is reflected in the drawings, but who also made delightful landscape paintings.

the last century, so Miss Montagu has helped the new immigrants of our time. She is the President of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation, whose Rabbi, Dr. G. Salzberger, says in a tribute to her: "No one who has asked Lily Montagu for advice or help has left her empty-handed. We former refugees know this more than anyone. She has been to us a never failing source of advice and help in the hard task of rebuilding our lives."

May the Lord grant many more years of health and work to His humble servant, the great Jewess whom thousands call "our" Lily Montagu.

BRUNO WOYDA

Two works by **Berthold Goldschmidt** will be broadcast on the Third Programme of the B.B.C.: a String-Quartet (January 1) and, on February 9, a Concerto for Violin and Orchestra (first performance), conducted by the composer with Erich Gruenberg as the soloist.

Dr. Heinemann Stern, formerly Director of the Jewish Boys' School, Berlin (Grosse Hamburger Strasse), was 75 on December 21. Dr. Stern, who now lives in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), was also Chairman of the "Reichsverband der juedischen Lehrervereine" and took a leading part in the work of other Jewish organisations.

Mrs. Johanna Meyer, well known for her recitations, will be eighty on January 13. She now lives in Philadelphia (1923 Mont Vernom Street, Phil. 30). Many former German Jews will remember her recitals and her courses in literature as well as her popular fairy-tale afternoons. She still holds evening classes in German and also works voluntarily for a Peace Organisation.

Dr. Felix J. Kauffmann, formerly Frankfurt, died in New York, 75 years old. In his home town Dr. Kauffmann was the owner of the well-known Jewish publishers- and booksellers-firm founded by his grandfather. Dr. Kauffmann also took an active part in Jewish affairs.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birth

Hertz.—A son (Stephen, Solomon) was born on Wednesday, November 25, 1953, to Mrs. Sophie Hertz née Jussem and Mr. Kurt Hertz of 33, Warrender Road, London, N.19.

Birthday

Mrs. Meta Schlesinger, née Hirschmann, of 59, Gunnersbury Avenue, Ealing, London, W.5, (formerly Breslau) celebrated her 80th birthday on 18th December, 1953.

CLASSIFIED Situations Vacant

DENTAL NURSE-RECEPTIONIST wanted part-time, experienced preferred. Box 103.

Situations Wanted

Men

TEACHER OF HEBREW, University Graduate, willing to give private tuition. Highly experienced. Box 127.

EX-JOURNALIST, knowledge of languages, requires position as salesman, clerk in export firm, etc. Box 125.

QUALIFIED YOUNG BARRISTER seeks home or evening work, e.g. secretarial work incl. bookkeeping, legal work, etc. Knowledge of French and German; own typewriter. Box 107.

REPRESENTATIVE with lifelong experience in the textile trade wants new agencies. Box 128.

FORMER CUTTER, STORE-KEEPER requires position as store-keeper, packer, representative, etc. Box 123.

PACKER, STOREKEEPER, elderly man, reliable, hard working, requires position. Box 121.

GENTLEMAN requires part-time clerical work, bookkeeping, typing, etc. Box 122.

STOREKEEPER, fully experienced also as packer, seeks work. Box 126.

HOME OR EVENING OR WEEK-END WORK wanted by intelligent reliable gtl. with several years of commercial experience. Box 108.

Women

HOMEWORK wanted by elderly lady, exp. in pearl stringing, hairnets, knotting fringes, etc. Box 110.

HOUSEKEEPING/SEWING work wanted by middle-aged lady, pref. with single person, adult or child. Box 111.

LANGUAGE STUDENT, 24, wants work as teacher, translator or interpreter; full time pref. Box 113.

WIDOW of 35, w. baby of 19 months, who attends Kindergarten, wants job as Engl. German shorth. typ. 10-5 or less hours, perm. or temp. Box 114.

CHILDREN'S NURSE, exp. and reliable, wants daily work. Box 115.

INJECTIONS of any kind, full or pt. time nursing by qualified woman. Box 116.

DRESSMAKER, exp., wants full or pt. time work. Box 117.

GOOD COOK, wants full or pt. time job, private or restaurant. Box 118.

WIFE OF A BLIND MAN wants homework, translations, typing (own typewriter) or needlework, tapestry. Box 119.

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Miscellaneous

DEUTSCHE BUECHER GESUCHT! R. & E. Steiner, 64 Talgarth Rd., W.14. FUL 7924.

GERMAN LEGAL STANDARD PUBLICATIONS, (e.g. Reichsgerichtsentscheidungen, Juristische Wochenschrift (1904-37), Neue Juristische Wochenschrift, H.G.B. (Staub), etc., to be sold. Box 109.

FOR SALE: 20 years Karl Kraus "Die Fackel." 5 copies missing. £5 or nearest. Box 100.

BELT MANUFACTURING COMPANY for Sale, London, E.C.1. 2 floors approx. 400 sq. ft. each. Fully equipped. Ready for immediate use. Very good opportunity. Box 102.

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Manasse, Sophie née Leers, for Leo Ballin, Germany.

Kaufmann, Arthur and wife Anni née Landsberger, from Berlin, last known address: 10, Midholm Close, for H. Kermezan, Berlin.

Friedlaender, Ernst, last known address 55, Bishopsgate, for JRSO, Berlin.

Vogel, James, last known address 4, Scotts House, 10, Cannon Street, E.C.4, same enquirer.

Diamant, Dr. Max (lawyer), wife Elisabeth, and children Elisabeth and Rudolf, from Vienna, wanted by AJR.

Addresses in Manchester

The AJR is looking for the present addresses of the following persons with last known residence in the Manchester district: Mr. E. Eisenthal, Miss R. Friedman, Mr. and Mrs. Hausman, Miss E. Katzenstein, Mr. L. Krysz, Miss L. Levy, Mr. M. Lichtig, Mr. W. Newman, Mr. C. Rosenbaum, Mr. P. Seligmann, Miss A. Strauss, Mrs. E. Wolf.

Personal Enquiry

Mr. S. Haas, 45 to 50 years old, born in Prag, where he lived until 1939, nephew of the late Friedrich Haas, Vienna, formerly employed by the Export-Import Union Ltd., London, E.C.1. Replies to Mr. Richard Manuel, 14 Monarch Court, Lyttelton Road, London, N.2.

*Silhouette
your figure*

AJR AT WORK

AJR BOARD MEETING

The AJR Board Meeting on November 29th was attended by more than 60 delegates. Mr. H. Reichmann who was in the Chair opened the meeting by paying tribute to those of our friends who had passed away during the year, Mr. A. Horovitz, Mr. H. J. Feist, Mr. H. Berlak, Mr. F. Oppenheimer (Bradford) and Rabbi Dr. D. Winter. Mr. F. Goldschmidt, Joint Secretary of the URO, reported about the efforts of the "Council of Jews from Germany" in safeguarding the interests of individual claimants. Mr. A. Dresel, Executive member of the AJR, reported on a comprehensive social programme which has been prepared by a special committee under his chairmanship. The programme included the establishment of Old Age Homes, Homes for Physically Handicapped and Mentally Defective Persons, Flatlets, and a Social Centre in London. It has been submitted to the "Conference on Jewish Material Claims" which, in accordance with the Hague Agreement, is to receive the German reparation payments and to allocate them for the resettlement and rehabilitation of Jewish Nazi victims outside Israel. Furthermore, the AJR, represented by the "Council of Jews from Germany," has submitted its claims to the Successor Organisations for the heirless property in the American Zone (IRSO)* and in the British Zone (Jewish Trust Corporation). Mr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR, mentioned as one of the new tasks of the AJR the assistance to members and friends in various post-restitution questions (e.g. transfer in hardship cases). "AJR Information" has been slightly enlarged on several occasions and also issued special publications which have been widely recognized. The speaker also reported on an increase in membership. Dr. Adelheid Levy (AJR Social Services Department) spoke about the manifold social and human problems with which the AJR has to deal. The lively discussion centred around the implementation of the social schemes and questions of policy in legislation on indemnification matters.

* See front page article of this issue

MEETING IN MANCHESTER

A crowded meeting, with Mr. W. Treuherz in the chair, assembled on Sunday, December 6, at the Hadassiah Restaurant to listen to Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR, give a masterly exposition of the "Latest Developments in Restitution and Indemnification."

The speaker, introduced by Dr. F. H. Kroch, divided his subject into three parts: the assessment and distribution of heirless property, the collective settlement with Israel and the "Claims Conference," and the individual claims. The "Council of Jews from Germany," a world-wide organisation created through the impulse of the AJR, was continuously negotiating with the West German Government, and the Western Allied Governments, to obtain material justice for the persecuted and expelled. It would be wrong not to recognise the sincerity and goodwill shown by the West German Government in the long negotiations which had led to the agreements made at the Hague and ratified in Luxembourg. The comprehensive legislation passed by Western Germany had many shortcomings, but at least gave some measure of satisfaction. Much had been achieved, but a great deal remained to be done. By contrast, no progress to speak of had been achieved with Austria, Eastern Germany, and other parts of Europe under Russian influence. This left refugees from these countries at a grievous disadvantage and nobody could tell whether time was working in their favour.

On the other hand the heirless property and the German global payment to the "Claims Conference"—the yield of which was payable to refugee organisations—would be used for the benefit of refugees generally, irrespective of their origin. It was hoped that the allocation to be received by the AJR would be large enough to start a number of important social schemes for the old and the needy of all ages.

In that connection the speaker complimented the refugees in the Manchester district on what they had been able to achieve by their own efforts. The Morris Feinmann Homes which he had visited earlier in the day was a fine piece of pioneer work, which he thought should give pride and pleasure

AJR SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Office Hours of the AJR Social Services Department (8 Fairfax Mansions, N.W.3, Tel. MAIda Vale 4449) are: Monday to Thursday 10 a.m.—1 p.m., 3—6 p.m., Friday and Sunday 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Handicraft Exhibition

The exhibition and sale of the AJR Handicraft Group at AJR Headquarters will continue to be open to members and friends during office hours in 1954. We wish to thank all those who bought their gifts at the Exhibition in 1953, and hope that in future even more friends will make use of the attractive and useful articles available at moderate prices.

Library of German Books

More books have been received during the last months and a wide selection of good publications is now available. The lending library is open during office hours (free of charge).

Needlewomen Service

We have on our books several experienced women for any kind of needlework, mending, alterations, etc. They would work in- and outdoors.

Domestic Service

Whilst we cannot offer services of residential domestics we have on our books elderly women for cooking, sewing, attending children, light housework, etc., mostly part-time, but also daily.

Foster-Parents Required

Foster-Parents are urgently wanted for a 12 year old German Jewish girl, who together with her parents survived the Theresienstadt camp. The family now live in Germany and the parents are anxious to have their daughter educated in England.

to all those members of the group whose contributions had created it and kept it going. Having answered numerous individual questions, Dr. Rosenstock returned to the Morris Feinmann Homes to attend a lively Chanukah party, at which the Rev. Dr. F. Carlbach lighted the candles and residents gave toasts in their own humorous verse on their fellow residents, the Matrons and staff.

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