

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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A LOSS FOR THE HOMELESS

Dr. van Heuven Goedhart

"Goedhart" might well be a figure taken straight from "Pilgrim's Progress," a companion of Greatheart and Faithful and the rest who struggle against all kinds of troubles as they seek the Celestial City. Goedhart, therefore, was a fitting name for a man charged to take care of those war victims who had lost their homes, and Dr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhart, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, who died last month, certainly was as good as his name.

He championed the cause of his hapless wards with vigour and vision. He was resolute in his dealings with Governments ever since he was appointed in 1951, and often enough made himself unpopular by his insistence that the problem was the responsibility of the international community and could not be left to the State which happens to harbour the refugees. In 1954 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, because his office was found to have "best promoted the fraternity of nations."

If Dr. Goedhart's work bore success, it was because his fellow-feeling for those who suffer was reinforced by a thorough understanding of the cause of their suffering. He was among the early warners against the danger of Nazidom, and a courageous one, too. In his native Holland he, in 1933, resigned as editor of the daily "Telegraaf," rather than pursue the pro-Hitler policy which the proprietor demanded. When Holland was invaded he joined the Commission for the Care of War Victims, holding an honorary post responsible for housing. He resigned when the Germans imposed the rule that no houses should go to Jews. Thereafter he went underground, but eventually he reached London, where he reported on the resistance movement and became Dutch Minister of Justice.

His labours for the refugees were all too frequently hampered by lack of finance, and in one of his last speeches he bewailed his failure to obtain sums needed to complete work in the first months of a four-year programme. He explained that a deficiency of about £500,000 had to be added to the sum required in 1956; money was coming in so slowly, he said, that he could depend on collecting only 55 to 60 per cent of the total. It was some consolation for him that only a day before his death a substantial contribution arrived from the United States.

Appeal for Refugees

Now that he is gone we feel that he left a legacy which must be fulfilled, particularly by those like ourselves who once were refugees but now, by the grace of circumstance, are able again to give rather than to take. An opportunity of discharging this plain duty offers itself in the Appeal for Refugees to be launched this autumn by the United Nations Association.

It is perhaps not always remembered that there are probably some 30,000,000 refugees in the world today. Some, as in Korea or Western Germany, are in the direct care of the government of asylum. Others, particularly those who come under the mandate of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Arab Refugees, are in the special care of the United Nations working in co-operation with the Governments concerned.

The most urgent need of all is to find a future for the 70,000 people still in 200 refugee camps in Germany, Austria, Greece, and Italy. Fifteen thousand of them are children below the age of 14, another 15,000 old or sick or otherwise requiring special attention. The United Nations and the voluntary organisations have made plans to rehouse and provide for refugee families away

J. Lesser

DOCUMENTS OF THE CRIMES

After so many German apologies of the unspeakable war crimes committed by innumerable Germans, it was high time for this book* to be published in Germany. The editors did well in letting the captured German documents tell their own hideous story, for no paraphrase could convey the horrors and arouse the conscience as do the words of the Nordic heroes of the Third Reich.

The first part of the collection contains the documents on criminal plunder in the West. We read Rosenberg's letter of March 16, 1943: "Filled with the desire to give you some pleasure on your birthday, my Führer, I take the liberty of submitting to you a portfolio with photographs of some of the most precious pictures secured by my *Einsatzstab*, in accordance with your order, from abandoned Jewish treasures." We read similar letters by Goering and Keitel, addressed to the high command of the German Army in France: "Reichsleiter Rosenberg has received unequivocal orders from the Führer, and is entitled to secure cultural goods which appear to him to be of value, and to transport them to Germany." The names of Otto Abetz and Councillor Dr. Zeitschel are also mentioned in this context.

Another interesting document is Alfred Krupp's statement at Nuremberg: "We Krupps are realists, not idealists. There are no ideals. Life is a struggle for bread and power. In this struggle we need strong and hard leadership. Hitler gave us both." The participation of German industrialists in the innumerable crimes committed by the *Herrenrasse* is proved by the letter of Dr. Otto Ambros, of IG-Farben at Ludwigshafen, who wrote of the plunderings in the East: "Dr. Eckell proved true in these things, and, besides, our new friendship with the SS was a great blessing. In the course of a dinner given to us by the commandants of the concentration camp we agreed on all the necessary steps to include the really excellent set-up of the camp for the benefit of the Buna Works." Yet another interesting document is the letter of a certain Dr. Gerigk which he addressed to Countess Sayn-Wittgenstein in Paris in 1943: "When I was last in Paris, we spoke about the origins of Princess Karolyne Sayn-Wittgenstein. There was a rumour spreading recently that the Princess, who lived with Liszt since about 1848, was a full-blooded Jewess. The influence of the Princess on Liszt was very strong but not exactly positive. As it is of equal importance for Liszt as well as Wagner scholars to clear up the

* Leon Pollakow and Josef Wulff: "Das Dritte Reich und die Juden." Arani Verlag, Berlin, DM34.

from the squalor of the camps. So far, about 8,700 refugees have benefited under the four-year plan, and a further 11,000 are to benefit from it shortly. In addition, 20,000 refugees were taken overseas last year by the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration (of which Britain is not a member), while the figure for this year is expected to reach 29,000. It is for all these purposes that funds are needed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

origins of the Princess, I should be most grateful if you could send me definitive material about her. Heil Hitler!"

A separate part of the book shows how the "Final Solution" was prepared—not by the scum of the nation, but by "educated" Aryan heroes, by State Secretary Dr. Freisler, State Secretary Dr. Bühler, Under-State Secretary Dr. Luther, by Oberregierungsräte, Amtsgerichtsräte, Landesgerichtsräte and many SS doctors. State Secretary Dr. Stuckart, too, who in 1935 had edited, with the help of Dr. Hans Globke, a lengthy commentary on the Nuremberg Racial Laws, was among them. Dr. Globke is now State Secretary in Adenauer's Government, although Dr. Arndt, Socialist Member of the Bundestag, said of this commentary: "It is as impossible to write a legal treatise on the injustice of Nuremberg as it would be impossible to analyse the statutes of a criminal gang or the house-regulations of a brothel from a legal point of view."

Atrocities of the "Educated"

What all these Hitler paladins had prepared in many sittings was later put into practice by thousands of other heroes—again not only by the mob, but also by people who had been trained at grammar schools and universities. SS-Untersturmbannführer Dr. Becker wrote of his difficulties with gas chambers which did not function properly. Professor Dr. August Hirt wrote to Himmler asking him for the heads of Jews for his collection of skulls, and giving detailed instructions as to how these heads should be severed from the bodies, packed and sent off to him. Himmler asked Professor Glauberg, who had invented a new method of sterilizing Jewesses without their knowledge, to participate in his hideous activities. Professor Dr. Hippke, Generaloberstabsarzt of the German Air Force, wrote to Himmler: "Dear Reichsführer-SS! I thank you most obediently in the name of German science for your great help and the interest you have shown in our experiments at Dachau. These experiments are of great value and importance to us." Professor Holzlöhner and Dr. Rascher are to be seen on photographs observing the effects of their criminal experiments. Professors Blome and Hohlfelder also took part in the extermination of the Jews.

We read Generalfeldmarschall Reichenau's order: "The soldiers must have full understanding for the hard but just retribution meted out to the subhuman Jews." Generalfeldmarschall von Manstein's order reads: "The soldiers must understand the necessity of the hard retribution on the Jews." Reichenau died

Continued on page 2

Details of the new
FEDERAL INDEMNIFICATION LAW
are published in a special
supplement to this issue

BEDIENSTETE JUEDISCHER GEMEINDEN

Bisherige Richtlinien durch Rechtsverordnung ersetzt
Antragsfrist bis 31.3.1957 fuer neue Antraege

In der dieser Ausgabe beiliegenden Abhandlung ueber den Inhalt des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes 1956 (BEG) ist die Regelung erortert, die in diesem Gesetz fuer Bedienstete juedischer Gemeinden getroffen ist (§112). Die Ansprueche der Bediensteten, die Anspruch auf Versorgung hatten oder ohne Verfolgung erlangt haetten, waren bisher durch die Richtlinien fuer Bedienstete juedischer Gemeinden geregelt. Im Paragraph 31 des Gesetzes zur Regelung der Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts fuer Angehoerige des oeffentlichen Dienstes (BWGoED) waren der Bundesminister des Innern und der Finanzen ermachtigt, eine Rechtsverordnung zu erlassen, die die naecheren Bestimmungen ueber Voraussetzungen und Hoehe der Versorgungsbezuuge sowie ueber das Verfahren regelt. Diese Rechtsverordnung ist jetzt am 6.7.1956 erlassen und im BGBI Nr.34 S.643 veroeffentlicht. Die bisherigen Richtlinien sind aufgehoben. Die Regelung deckt sich im wesentlichen mit dem Inhalt der bisherigen Richtlinien. An Aenderungen ist hervorzuheben: Eine Erhoehung der Versorgungszahlungen und von Mindest- und Hoechstbetrageen, sowie eine Anrechnung von Rentenanspruechen aus der gesetzlichen Rentenversicherung. Der Kreis der Bediensteten ist der gleiche.

Versorgungszahlungen erhalten Bedienstete juedischer Gemeinden oder oeffentlicher Einrichtungen, die in den Grenzen des Deutschen Reiches nach dem Stande vom 31.12.1937 oder in der ehemaligen Freien Stadt Danzig ihren Sitz hatten, sowie ihre Hinterbliebenen. Juedische Gemeinden oder oeffentliche Einrichtungen sind die juedischen Gemeinden, die Reichsvertretung oder sonstigen juedischen Einrichtungen, gleichgueltig in welcher Rechtsform, die von einer juedischen Gemeinde oder der Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland beauftragt oder beaufsichtigt waren oder von solchen Stellen laufende Zuschuesse erhielten.

Berechtigt sind Bedienstete, die kraft Satzung oder Vertrages Ansprueche auf Versorgung hatten oder ohne nationalsozialistische Verfolgung erlangt haetten, wenn sie in ihrem Dienst oder Arbeitsverhaeltnis oder in ihrer Versorgung unmittelbar oder mittelbar geschaedigt worden sind.

Hinterbliebene sind die Witwe, sofern die Ehe vor dem 1.10.1952 geschlossen worden ist, und die Kinder, wenn die Ehe, aus der sie hervorgegangen sind, vor dem 1.10.1952 geschlossen worden ist.

Personen, die nach dem 30.1.1933 aus Verfolgungsgruenden aus ihrem fruerehen Beruf veraeragt worden waren und erst danach in den Dienst einer juedischen Gemeinde oder oeffentlichen Einrichtung eingetreten sind, erhalten keine Versorgungszahlungen.

Versorgungszahlungen und Zulagen

Als Versorgungszahlungen erhalten wie bisher: die Bediensteten 80%, die Witwen 48%, die Vollwaisen 20%, die Halbwaisen 12% des fuer den letzten Monat an den Bediensteten gezahlten Dienst- und Arbeitseinkommens.

Zu diesen Versorgungszahlungen erhalten die Berechtigten die Zulagen, die fuer Bundesbeamte in gleicher Lage festgesetzt sind. Diese Zulagen betragen bis jetzt:

- vom 1.10.1952 bis 31.3.1954: 16% der letzten Versorgungszahlungen
- vom 1.4.1954 bis 31.12.1955: 32% der letzten Versorgungszahlungen
- vom 1.1.1956 ab: 44% der letzten Versorgungszahlungen

Fuer die Versorgungszahlungen einschliesslich der Zulagen sind Hoechst- und Mindestbetrage festgesetzt. Bis zum 31.3.1956 sind die Hoechst- und Mindestbetrage wie bisher. Vom 1.4.1956 an erhoehet sich

- (1) der Mindestbetrag fuer den Bediensteten auf monatlich DM. 275—
- (2) der Hoechstbetrag fuer den Bediensteten auf DM.1.200— fuer die Witwe auf DM. 720— fuer die Vollwaise auf DM. 300—

Werden nach dem 1.4.1956 weitere Zulagen gewahrt, so erhoehen sich die Hoechstbetrage in demselben Verhaeltnis, in dem sich die Versorgungszahlen gegeneuber den bis dahin gewahrt erhaltenen erhoehen.

Neu eingefuehrt ist, dass Rentenansprueche aus der Rentenversicherung (Angestellten- und Invalidenversicherung) und Ansprueche aus einer deutschen Versorgungseinrichtung angerechnet werden, soweit die Ansprueche nicht auf freiwilligen Beitrageen beruhen.

Der Berechtigte ist verpflichtet, jede Aenderung, die sich auf die Versorgungszahlungen auswirken kann, anzuzeigen.

Die Versorgungszahlungen werden nur auf Antrag gewahrt, der bis zum 31.3.1957 bei der

Bundesstelle fuer Verwaltungsangelegenheiten des Bundesministers des Innern—Entschaedigung der Bediensteten juedischer Gemeinden—in Koeln zu stellen ist. Wird die Frist unverschuldet versaeumt, so kann Nachsicht gewahrt werden.

Die Bundesstelle entscheidet ueber den Antrag und setzt die Versorgungszahlungen fest. Gegen die Entscheidung der Bundesstelle kann binnen 3 Monaten nach Zustellung Einspruch erhoben werden, ueber den die Bundesstelle entscheidet. Gegen diese Entscheidung kann Klage bei dem Landesverwaltungsgericht in Koeln erhoben werden. In dem Verfahren vor den Verwaltungsgerichten werden Gerichtskosten und Vorschuss erhoben. Armenrecht kann bewilligt werden. Personen, die nach den Richtlinien bereits Versorgungszahlungen erhalten, aber nach der Rechtsverordnung keine Ansprueche haben, erhalten die bisherigen Versorgungsbezuuge weiter. Sie nehmen also an den vorgesehenen Erhoehungen nicht teil. Sind die Versorgungszahlungen nach der Rechtsverordnung geringer als nach den Richtlinien, so tritt die Verringerung erst 6 Monate nach der Mitteilung an den Berechtigten ein.

Ein nach den Richtlinien gestellter Antrag auf Versorgungszahlungen gilt als Antrag nach der Rechtsverordnung. Es braucht also ein neuer Antrag nicht gestellt zu werden.

Die nach den Richtlinien bisher festgesetzten Versorgungszahlungen sind neu festzusetzen. Bisherige Zahlungen sind anzurechnen. Es erfolgt also eine Beruecksichtigung der vorgesehenen Erhoehungen, ohne dass es eines besonderen Antrages bedarf.

Ein gegen eine Entscheidung der Bundesstelle bereits eingereicherter Ueberpruefungsantrag gilt als Einspruch. In diesem Falle bedarf es also keines neuen Einspruchs.

Durch dies Regelung ist fuer die Ansprueche der Bediensteten der juedischen Gemeinden eine feste Rechtsgrundlage gegeben.

GERMAN ENEMY PROPERTY

In answer to a question by Mr. Leavey about the distribution of German Enemy Property, the President of the Board of Trade, Mr. P. Thorneycroft, gave particulars about the distribution to British creditors and went on:

"While no further sum will be available for distribution to British creditors and it will no longer be possible to consider applications for the return of the assets of individual Germans who were the victims of Nazi persecution, the Government has decided that it is right to make some provision to help in cases of real suffering caused by this persecution. It is proposed, therefore, to allocate future accruals up to a total of £250,000 to an appropriate charity for the purpose of relieving suffering occasioned as a result of racial, religious, or political persecution by the Nazis in Germany and those countries in which the German Nazi influence predominated. Further accruals beyond the sum of £250,000 will be paid over to the Exchequer. An Order in Council is necessary to give effect to these proposals and will be made in due course."

COMPENSATION TO NON-GERMAN NAZI VICTIMS

On June 25 the Foreign Secretary was asked by Major Beamish about the future status and treatment of non-Germans who suffered Nazi persecution, and by Mr. Anthony Greenwood what further representations have been made about the refusal of the German Parliament to implement the obligation voluntarily undertaken by the Federal Government in the Bonn Agreements.

Lord John Hope replied: "Her Majesty's Government have these matters very much in mind. Her Majesty's Government have made their views known to the Federal German Government at various times in the past. Since the passage of the new legislation, Her Majesty's Government have drawn the attention of the Federal Government to the fact that the problem of compensation of persons of Allied nationality who were victims of National Socialism has not been settled. Her Majesty's Government are now considering, in conjunction with other Governments, what further steps might be taken."

corpses at Dachau, the mountain of ashes at Treblinka.

Professor Gollwitzer asked ten years after the downfall of the Third Reich: "Why were fewer Jews saved by hiding in Germany than in the small country of Holland?" He could have asked the same of the other countries. The last part of this book tells the story of how the 2,000 Jews of Finland and most of the Danish Jews were rescued from the Nazis by their compatriots. All the Dutch workers went on strike when the persecution of the Jews started in occupied Holland. Many Frenchmen, especially students, bore the Yellow Star, when the Nazis forced the French Jews to fix it on their clothes. The King of Denmark threatened to wear it, too, with his whole family, and the Nazis had to drop this humiliating measure in Denmark. Rare cases of help given to Jews by Germans are also mentioned in this book. Especially moving is that of Prelate Bernhard Lichtenberg, who said from the pulpit: "Let us now pray for the Jews, the poor prisoners in the concentration camps and my fellow-priests." For this he died himself at Dachau.

Professor Gollwitzer quotes the words of Christ: "For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again," and says: "Now the Germans were measured by the same measure by which they measured the Jews." Aage Bertelsen, who told the story of how he and his fellow-countrymen rescued most of the Danish Jews from the Nazis, quotes the words of Rabbi Hillel: "Do not do unto others what you do not want to be done to yourself."

J. LESSER.

Continued from front page

during the war, but Manstein is still alive and being praised today as the greatest tactician of the last war. We also read Dönitz' speech of 1944 on the memory of the fallen heroes: "What would have become of our fatherland if the Führer had not united us by his National Socialism. Divided into parties, permeated by the dissolving poison of the Jews, we should have long ago . . ." etc. However, Captain Zenker, the newly appointed chief of the German navy, took the very first opportunity, when addressing the new naval recruits, to say "that no spot is to be detected soiling our former General Admirals." Dönitz' judges at Nuremberg did not call Dönitz' words of 1944 spotless but said: "These phrases of the dissolving poison of the Jews created the intellectual attitude which caused the death of five or six million Jews during the last years."

On some of the most terrible pages we read the statements of children who somehow survived the horrors of the concentration camps. Also the statements of the chief murderers are given in detail, Dieter Wisliceny's and Ohlendorf's (whom Hans Grimm once called "that upright man Ohlendorf"). Another statement tells of the gold, golden teeth, etc., of which the SS robbed their victims and which they sent in sacks to the Reichsbank, to Dr. Funk. One of his officials protested against it, but Funk told him to ask no further questions and keep mum. A number of illustrations show children in the Warsaw Ghetto, the death-gate at Auschwitz with the words "Arbeit macht frei," the crematorium at Maidanek, the heap of naked

Leo Baeck

IN MEMORY OF BRUNO ITALIENER

When Rabbi Bruno Italiener passed away he left the life of many besides his family. A rare and precious gift was in him, and remained through all the vicissitudes of time. He was able to become aware of what another human being may feel and bear and hope. Selflessly he might listen to voices in the soul of the other and thus render him this help, this comfort of knowing that he had a friend who was near to him, who could hear the sound of the inward silence.

These fine talents could take root and grow in Bruno Italiener, since they had their fertile soil in his sense of poetry. The creation spoke to him. In his beloved Regent's Park, the good neighbour to his home, he liked to look at a tree, at its stature, as it were at the composition of its life, at the strength and the weaknesses in it. A charming article in the "Synagogue Review," some time ago, pictured what he had seen.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Defeat for Antisemitism

A London firm's successful refusal to abet the Arab League's anti-Jewish boycott campaign, was commended by the *Evening Standard* for having "given an example of steadfastness in the face of intolerance with implications far beyond this one case": "A resolute refusal to compromise (it was said), a firm adherence to the principles of toleration, will soon defeat (the Arabs') arrogant attempt to enforce racial discrimination beyond their own frontiers."

An emphatic denial that there were any signs of antisemitism in the theatre world was made by four Jewish actors, Miss Thelma Ruby and Messrs. Harry Towb, Alan Tilvern, and Harold Kasket. Some said they felt it was even an advantage in the theatrical profession to be a Jew.

Teachers for North Africa

The Judith Lady Montefiore College, Ramsgate, concluded the first course in its teachers' training department which was established just over three years ago. Most of the successful students—11 out of 13—will return to their native North Africa to teach there.

Centre for Mental Hygiene

The British OSE Society, reorganised and enlarged, is planning to open a Jewish centre for mental hygiene under the supervision of a number of distinguished Anglo-Jewish psychiatrists and social workers.

Sholem Asch at P.E.N. Congress

At a reception held by the Tercentenary Council for Jewish delegates to the International P.E.N. Congress in London, Mr. Sholem Asch, the author, said that a new form of Torah had been constituted by Bialik, Mendele Mocher Sforim and Zangwill, and that Jewish literature and Jewish art are part of the Torah. Mr. H. A. Goodman, the Agudist leader, left the hall in protest against Mr. Asch's remarks.

German P.E.N. Centre Against Neo-Nazism

At their annual meeting the German P.E.N. Centre passed a resolution strongly condemning publications aiming at whitewashing former Nazi leaders and thus giving a distorted picture of the past to the young generation.

Discrimination in Argentine Hospitals

At a gathering sponsored by the doctors of the Jewish Hospital in Buenos Aires, Argentinian hospitals were called upon to end their discrimination against the appointment of Jewish doctors.

Thus that classic book, full of poetry, by Rudolph Otto on the "Holy" in religion at once got hold of him and more and more was to guide his manner of searching. Two years ago an impressive essay on the "Kedushah," published in the "Hebrew Union College Annual," bore witness to this way. Thus he was able also modestly to approach Dante's "Divina Comedia," a holy ground, and time and again he returned to it, trying to enter. An essay on "How a pious man may read Dante" will appear in the "Hibbert Journal" before long. Thus, when as the young rabbi he came to Darmstadt, he soon was attracted by a treasure kept at the Library there, the Darmstadt Hagadah, one of the oldest and finest specimens of the Passover Hagadah. Here in this work, in which poetry has enabled wisdom to speak the language of naivety, he had found a task that was his own. Through years of assiduity he achieved a valuable work on the Darmstadt Hagadah.

Meanwhile his life had begun to shape into a distinct form. In Darmstadt he now had a home, his wife, the beloved young friend from his schooldays—it is a Talmudic sentence: "his house that is his wife"; here their two daughters were born. After the First World War during which he had been a chaplain in the army, he was called to be the rabbi of the distinguished "Tempelmeinde" in Hamburg; and the years in Hamburg became a singular period in the life of the Italieners. In the years of the catastrophe he came to this country, the homeland of the refugees, and he learnt to love it so affectionately. After an instructive time at the Bernhard Baron Jewish Settlement he was nominated a rabbi at the West London Synagogue of British Jews, this "city and mother in Israel." Always, and so sincerely did he take pride in this office.

Bruno Italiener was born a rabbi, as the rabbi he did find himself. To teach and to preach, cheerfully to help and kindly to comfort, to come near to people and to bring people nearer to one another, to see them and to listen to them, to find and meet the young and the old, opening the door and opening the heart, and untiringly to do so, this was his aim towards which all ways of his life should lead—a true friend, one of those who do not wish to rule but to serve. Often he will be remembered.

Faithful thoughts of all of us are with his wife and his daughters.

IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS

Service at Willesden Cemetery

On Sunday, July 15th, a Service was held at the cemetery in Willesden in memory of the victims of Nazism. This Service is an annual event, organised by the Chevra Kadishah of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation. A large attendance was deeply moved by Rabbi Dr. Salzberger's sermon and by the beautiful voices of Kantor Dollinger and Mrs. Johanna Metzger. Mr. Abraham, the Chairman of the Chevra, also addressed the Congregation. The Service ended with a walk round the cemetery, and the Kaddish was recited by everyone present for all those victims whose graves will never be known.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Britain and U.S.A.

The Chief Rabbi who visited the United States to strengthen the cause of Orthodoxy, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by the Yeshiva University, New York. Speaking of his experiences, Dr. Brodie said that he had raised among American Jews "an envy of our institutions and an envy of what we have been able to accomplish in the matter of comparative religious cohesiveness." He had felt that many people deplored the lack of organised Jewish life in the U.S.A.

Regret that some of the best rabbis, preachers and chazanim left this country to take up appointments in the U.S.A. and the Commonwealth because the community did not face up to its financial responsibilities, was voiced by the President of the Association of Ministers (Chazanim) of Great Britain. It was lamentable, the Rev. A. Rosenfeld said, that men of ability should be permitted by the United Synagogue and the community in general to seek their calling elsewhere. There was no longer the reservoir of Eastern Europe upon which to draw, he explained, and the future for British communities was gloomy unless the present drift was stemmed.

Another Royal Compliment

Another Royal compliment was paid to Anglo-Jewry when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother declared open the new £50,000 building of the Alice Model Nursery and Girls' Residential Club in Stepney, E. Her Majesty recalled that it was 18 years since Queen Mary had opened the Stepney Jewish Girls' Club and Settlement. She described the new building as "an example of what can be achieved by generosity, patience and resolution—qualities which have won for the Jews the admiration of the people of this country."

The soundness of Anglo-Jewish family life was stressed by Sir Basil Henriques when he spoke on "Religion in the Home" at the annual luncheon of the Religious Weekly Press Group whose chairman is Mr. David Kessler, Managing Director of *The Jewish Chronicle*. Referring to the well-known fact that juvenile delinquency was extremely rare among British Jews, Sir Basil thought the reason was the absence of drunkenness among Jewish mothers, the extensive work of the Board of Guardians, and above all the place of religion in the Jewish home.

The finances of the Board of Guardians continues to cause great anxiety, it was stated by its President, Mr. Justice Karminski. This year's deficit of £32,000 is over £9,000 higher than last year's.

Charity

A charitable foundation of over £400,000 for the advancement of religion and education and for the alleviation of sickness and disease, was established by Sir Maurice Bloch, former Hon. President and Treasurer of the Glasgow Jewish Board of Guardians and a generous benefactor to Jewish and non-Jewish causes. The first large gift from the "Bloch Trust," £35,000, was accepted by the Glasgow University Court as the endowment of an annual lecture and a Medical Research Fellowship.

Liverpool University received a gift of £50,000 from the family of the late Sir Montague Burton as a tribute to the work of Sir Henry Cohen (who was recently raised to the Peerage).

A triennial lectureship in Jurisprudence at the British Academy was endowed by the Maccabees in commemoration of the Tercentenary. The endowment will help to expand legal study.

Arts

The Ben Uri Art Gallery, probably the only Jewish Art Society outside Israel, celebrated its 40th anniversary by holding a selective exhibition of works by artists who have ever shown there, among them Chagall, Epstein, Liebermann, Modigliani and Pissarro.

"FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT"

Victor Gollancz's New Anthology

In the second volume of his autobiography, Victor Gollancz replies to some criticisms of the first—about the special liking he shows for quotations, and his answer falls in line with a saying of Rilke's to the effect that a great work of art does not invite us to imitate it, but seems to say: "I exist already!" Thus Mr. Gollancz answers: Why write again what others have said as well before, or even better.

The many quotations interspersed in his autobiographies, "My Dear Timothy" and "More for Timothy," spring from two impulses, which are actually the same: from the author's strong desire to communicate and share, and from his delight in having great allies arguing his case, and he who accepts no authority without examining its brief considers them authoritative because they support the good cause he stands for. And it is right to say "the" good cause, for the many good causes he took up are really one and the same: his profound belief in God and in Man's need for this belief. But with only a little exaggeration we might say that this truly religious man would not even have accepted the authority of God had he not found the way to Him by himself and on this way his own salvation.

One could imagine Victor Gollancz in an earlier century as another Spinoza with his passion for pure thought, or as a Hassidic rabbi, with his pansacramentalism, his love of God's earth to be enjoyed "in spite of all," his pleasures in music and poetry, to which he devotes numerous passages in the new anthology and in his other writings. It is not by mere chance that Gollancz's religious philosophy can move between such extreme poles which Martin Buber once called two different answers to a challenge of the same time. Being a child of our more complex century, this publisher, thinker and humanitarian went through many perplexities of modern life on his pilgrimage to God.

Gollancz's two autobiographical books and the two anthologies—the previous one "A Year of Grace," has recently been republished in a cheap Penguin Edition, the new one, "From Darkness to Light" by the author's own firm (668 pages, 15s.)—are facets of the same personality. After reading his candid life story we understand how the state of Grace in his "Year of Wonder" was achieved (not without a hard struggle), and now, before setting out for the third, concluding volume of his autobiographical letter to his grandson he felt the urge to compile this new anthology.

A Confession to Israel

"From Darkness to Light" begins with Victor Gollancz's confession to Israel—in words of Edmond Fleg whose book "Why I am a Jew" he had translated so superbly some years ago: "I am a Jew because, for Israel, the world is not yet completed: men are completing it. I am a Jew because, for Israel, Man is not created: men are creating him. I am a Jew because, above the nations and Israel, Israel places Man and his unity. I am a Jew, because, above Man, image of the divine Unity, Israel places the divine Unity, and its divinity." And the last entry is a prayer in Hebrew letters, the translation of which reads: "Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who doest good to the undeserving, and has done all good to me."

Victor Gollancz's "Confession of Faith in the form of an anthology"—this is the subtitle of the book—can be compared to a tree, the roots of which are in Jewish ground and the branches of which overshadow other religions and nations. Thus we meet passages from Christian and Mohammedan sources, but from others as well not originating from Judaism such as the Zen or the Tao, from modern religious geniuses such as Berdyaev and Reinhold Niebuhr, Gabriel Marcel and Simone Weil, and many others. And the Jerusalem Gollancz and his fellow seekers endeavour to build, is being found on British and German, Russian and American, French and Indian soil and in empires of the past. The writers and poets of many nations comprise all periods of history, from the ancient world to our contemporaries.

Once we have started reading, we cannot put aside the book before studying it from cover to cover, and after appreciating each gem in its

proper setting, we read and re-read it, picking the flowers, the "anthoi" at random; but however beautiful they are, and the beautiful is here synonymous with the True and Good, this self-portrait of Victor Gollancz's spiritual personality has been conceived as a whole by a man who wants the good fight he fought so courageously within his soul to benefit others as well. He is a scholar and an artist who can put together a thousand pieces to form a fascinating mosaic. There are various groups in the picture: the origins of V.G., the Jew, the believer in Jesus, the Heir to the Classical Tradition, and the Englishman. The Theme: from Darkness to Light, words of Hope and Trust, Serenity, Joy and Praise. The underlying idea is that of Unity, which is the outcome of Gollancz's Jewish monotheism, whatever tenets of other religions may appeal to him. We listen to his sermon with the texts "Goodness in Things Evil," "Divine and Human," "Divine Benevolence and Compassion" and "The Glorious Liberty of the Children of God." And that this Earth is the place where Man must prove he is God's Child. In this context Gollancz confronts us with topical issues such as War and Peace, Crime and Punishment and Social Justice.

The quotations from his own books do not suffer in the company of the wise words of other great humanitarians.

DEATH OF "RIDEAMUS"

Dr. Fritz Oliven, the Berlin lawyer, who was better known under his pen-name *Rideamus*, died in Porte Alegre (Brazil), 82 years old. Among the many successful libretti he wrote were "Der Vetter aus Dingsda" and "Drei alte Schachteln." His works also include "Willis Werdegang" and numerous humorous poems which enjoyed a wide popularity.

Otto Zarek

BERLINIANA

Honouring Senator Lipschitz

The "Heinrich Stahl Prize," named after the courageous last Chairman of the Berlin Jewish community who perished in a concentration camp, which is annually awarded to a person of outstanding merit, has been presented, on the day commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto Rising, to Senator of the Interior, Joachim Lipschitz, who, a half-Jew, has shown great energy and initiative in promoting the new compensation laws and improving the lot of Jewish survivors of Nazi oppression in Berlin. Owing to Senator Lipschitz, the so-called *Sternträger*—those who had not been interned, but were forced to wear the yellow star—are now receiving the same compensation as the Jews who had been in concentration camps, for, in Senator Lipschitz's words, "to suffer ignominy of that magnitude was hardly less painful than actual internment."

Senator Lipschitz has accepted the Prize as a token of appreciation of the sympathetic attitude adopted by the whole Senate of Berlin and stressed that, in West Berlin at least, there was no difference of opinion with regard to the Jewish question. The financial gift that went with the Prize—DM 2,000—was passed on to three students at Berlin's University who had lost their parents in a concentration camp.

Martin Buber's Visit

Professor Martin Buber has been the guest of the *Evangelische Akademie*, where he lectured for a week, and of the *Urania*, Berlin's foremost academic society, which invited him to lecture on "Chassidism," in the Auditorium Maximum of the Free Berlin University. No other Jewish, or hardly any other distinguished guest at all, has received a welcome of such spontaneous warmth and enthusiasm as Martin Buber. The great Jewish scholar from Jerusalem was obviously moved by the reception which the audience of Berlin's most distinguished scholars, scientists, and writers gave him.

P.E.N. CONGRESS IN LONDON

T. S. Eliot, Sholem Asch, Maurois, and Priestley were among the 750 members from over forty countries who attended the 28th International P.E.N. Congress which took place last month in London, for the first time since 1941. As, unlike in other countries, that gathering of writers was not financed by the government, the British Centre succeeded in entertaining their guests through the help of newspaper and book publishers, and personalities such as Sir Beverley Baxter and Charlie Chaplin. The Queen Mother, the Government, the Lord Mayor, and the American and German Ambassadors gave receptions. The congress took place in Bedford College. André Chamson, of France, was unanimously elected the new president in place of Charles Morgan, and the invitation of the Japanese Centre to meet next year in Tokio was accepted. The "P.E.N. Centre of German Authors Abroad" had invited Erich Kästner, Herrmann Kesten, and Marieluise Kaschnitz from the Bundesrepublik to read from their works in "Beveridge Hall" of London University, and the entire German-speaking colony made the evening a great success. Afterwards the members and delegates of the three German P.E.N. Centres met at a reception where Dr. H. Flesch and Wilhelm Unger received also the guests from East Germany: Bodo Uhse in place of Brecht, Jan Petersen, H. Ihering, and Wieland Herzfelde.

A resolution moved by Joseph Leftwich of the Yiddish Centre and by three centres of writers in exile expressed concern at the number of authors still imprisoned in various parts of the world because of their opinions, race, or language, and called on the P.E.N. to do everything to obtain their release; it was carried with the vote of even the delegates from behind the Iron Curtain. The meeting rose in memory of these victims and also paid tribute to the memory of Thomas Mann. Two resolutions aimed at introducing German as a third congress language, and at excluding all centres from behind the Iron Curtain never reached the open session. The main discussions centred around the themes "How can writers reach the new readers of the present-day world?" and "Literature and Critic." PEM

Theatre Notes

"The Diary of Anne Frank" will be one of the first productions of the winter season in Intendant Barlog's Schillertheater, Berlin's official *Bühne*. The present theatre season at the *Theater am Kurfürstendamm*, the house of the *Freie Volksbühne*, closes with a production of Schnitzler's *Liebelel*. A revival of Schnitzler's dramatic art, which Barlog attempted when he had "Professor Bernhardt" produced, with Ernst Deutsch in the leading rôle, did not prove very successful, but it is expected that "Liebelel," a much better, though less important, play will meet with the interest of the new generation of theatre-goers.

Radio Notes

The Jewish poems by Leon Bernstein, highly praised by Thomas Mann, were the subject of a study by Anna Maria Jokl in the Sender Freies Berlin's monthly half-hour programme devoted to Jewish culture. Dr. S. Roth, General-Secretary to the British Section of the World Jewish Congress, was interviewed during his short stay in Berlin by the same Berlin radio network and gave his opinion on the world situation of Jewry and certain "danger zones."

A remarkable feature of West Berlin's Free Radio (SFB) is a series of radio plays commissioned by the *Sender's* Intendant, Alfred Braun, and featuring "Great German Democrats." The first one, a full-length play on Gustav Stresemann, was written by Dr. Ludwig Berger, the well-known producer, who returned to Berlin from the U.S.A., in conjunction with Axel Eggebrecht, one of the top-ranking German authors who was well known as an anti-Nazi. The second play on Carl Schurz was written by Professor Carlo Schmid, Vice-President of the Bundestag; and the third, which will be produced after the summer holidays, on Albert Ballin, the German Jew and great Director-General of HAPAG, was written by Otto Zarek. It is understood that a *Hörspiel* on Ernst Reuter, first *Regierender Bürgermeister* of Berlin, will then follow.

NEWS FROM GERMANY

DEATH OF
DR. HERBERT SCHOENFELDT

It is announced with deep regret that Dr. H. S. Schoenfeldt, representative in Germany of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, died in Bad Godesberg at the age of 61.

Dr. Schoenfeldt, a former Rechtsanwalt in Berlin, emigrated to the United States in 1939 and returned to Europe with the American War Crimes Investigation Team in 1946. In 1948 he joined the legal staff of J.R.S.O. As Secretary of the legal team of experts of the Claims Conference Dr. Schoenfeldt took a leading part in the negotiations with the Bonn Government regarding legislation on behalf of the Nazi victims. He gained the confidence of Government officials and Parliamentarians alike. He was not only respected for his knowledge and legal ability, but, in the course of the years, also became the personal friend of a number of high-ranking civil servants and politicians. Dr. Schoenfeldt lived to see the results of his tireless labours, the unanimous passing of the new Federal Indemnification Law at the Bundestag session of June 15. Yet, in the evening of the same day he had an attack of coronary thrombosis, to which he succumbed on June 29.

The wide reputation Dr. Schoenfeldt had built up and the sympathy he enjoyed among all those who co-operated with him was reflected in the addresses given at his funeral in Bonn by representatives of Jewish organisations and of the German Federal authorities.

Dr. F. Goldschmidt described the deceased as a passionate fighter for justice and referred to the great number of organisations which will now have to miss his co-operation, especially the Claims Conference, the United Restitution Organisation, the "Joint," the Jewish Agency, and the Council of Jews from Germany. Ministerialdirektor Bernhard Wolff spoke on behalf of the Federal Government, Dr. Arno Blum in the name of the Israeli Mission, Dr. H. G. van Dam as representative of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, as well as of the Zentralrat of the Jews in Germany, and Dr. E. Katzenstein on behalf of J.R.S.O. Professor Dr. Carlo Schmid, Vice-President of the German Federal Parliament, recalled the bonds of friendship which had been developed between Dr. Schoenfeldt and the members of the Bundestag; without Dr. Schoenfeldt's activities, he stated, the Federal Indemnification Law in its present shape would not have been achieved. At the end of the ceremony, which was conducted by Rabbi Dr. R. R. Geis, Rechtsanwalt Otto Kuester expressed his feelings of sorrow at the loss of a sincere friend.

Holiday Home for Jewish Children in Germany

Under the auspices of the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle" of the Jews in Germany a holiday home in Schoenau-Wembach (Black Forest), was opened recently. The home which is the first Jewish Children's Home established after the war by the German Jewish community can accommodate about 100 guests. Apart from providing facilities for recreation, it will enable Jewish children—many of whom are living at small places with only few Jewish inhabitants—to enjoy a Jewish atmosphere and to come into contact with fellow-Jews of their own age.

Anne Frank Youth Centre

The recently opened municipal Youth Centre in Berlin-Wilmersdorf has been given the name "Anne Frank Home" in memory of the German-Jewish girl who has left her mark by the famous diary she wrote when in hiding.

SYNAGOGUE FASANENSTRASSE

Cultural Centre To Be Built

The ruin of the once-famous Synagogue Fasanenstrasse—monument of barbarism and Nazi fury—will disappear. The Executive Board of the Jewish community decided that no new synagogue was needed to supplement the four already in service in West Berlin and that the costs of rebuilding the great Tempel Fasanenstrasse were prohibitive. Its Chairman, Heinz Galinski, suggested that on the site where the remnants of the burnt-down House of God now stand, a Jewish cultural centre should be erected. His plan found unanimous support from the Berlin Diet. All three political parties in West Berlin's Abgeordnetenhaus have just voted a Bill providing the money for putting this project into effect. It is noteworthy that the amount will not come out of restitution moneys, as the Restitution Laws do not allow for using money for such cultural purposes. The considerable amount needed for the establishment of the Cultural Centre will be given by the West Berlin Senate as a token of good will towards the Jewish community.

The Centre, according to present plans, will consist of a lecture hall, schoolrooms, a library, reading-rooms, and community rooms both for children and grown-up persons who, living in reduced circumstances, will welcome such an opportunity of meeting their kind in pleasant surroundings.

Former Berlin Community Leader Released by East Germans

Herr Fritz Katten, a former Vice-President of the Berlin Jewish Community who was arrested seven years ago by the East German authorities, has been released and rejoined his wife, who is now in charge of the Duesseldorf Jewish Old Age Home. Katten, who had survived the war in hiding, took a leading part in building up the Berlin Jewish Community after the war. At that time he was also appointed Vice-President of the Berlin Police. He helped to supply Jewish Communities with gifts provided for by the "Joint" and it is assumed that the East German resentment against that American Jewish organisation was the reason for his arrest.

Dr. Leo Baeck Honoured

Dr. Leo Baeck was named an honorary member of the Franz Delitzsch Society, which sponsors the "Institutum Judaicum Delitzschianum" (Muenster). The Institute had been founded in Leipzig in 1886 by Professor Franz Delitzsch to enable Protestant theologians to conduct studies on Jewish subjects; it was reopened after the war at Muenster University by the Protestant theologian Professor K. H. Rengstorf. As reported in the last issue of "AJR Information," Rabbi Baeck recently gave a lecture at the Institute.

Conscription

As the Law introducing conscription applies to all German Nationals between the age of 18 and 45, Jews of German citizenship are also liable to serve with the German Army. The number, affected by the law, will, however, be very small, because most German Jews belong to the higher age groups.

Propst Grueber 65

Propst Heinrich Grueber (Berlin) recently celebrated his 65th birthday. When the Nazis were in power Propst Grueber organised relief work for Christians who were persecuted on account of their Jewish origin. His courageous stand against the tyranny of Nazism resulted in his arrest and he had to spend several years in a concentration camp. His independent way of thinking is also reflected in his present position as a leading churchman both of the Eastern and Western sector of the Berlin Protestant community. Former German Jews gratefully remember his activities in the times of their peril and express their best wishes to him.

Wenige Tage nach Verkundung des Gesetzes erscheint im Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland

Das Bundesentschädigungsgesetz

in der neuen Fassung mit einer Einfuehrung von Dr. H. G. van Dam. Ausserdem enthaelt die Broschuere das vom Bundeskabinett bereits angenommene Bundesgesetz zur Regelung der rueckerstattungsrechtlichen Geldverbindlichkeiten des Deutschen Reiches und gleichgestellter Rechtsraeger, ca. 160 Seiten—broschiert—DM. 7,80 oder 14/- einschl. Porto

Einige Wochen spaeter erscheint ebenfalls im Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland der grosse Kommentar zum

Bundesentschädigungsgesetz

von Dr. H. G. van Dam—Regierungsrat Dr. Loos unter Mitarbeit von Oberregierungsrat G. Neumann, ca. 600 Seiten—Ganzleinen—DM. 37—oder £3.3.0.

Subskriptionspreis bis zum 15. August 1956
DM. 32.10—oder £2.15.0 einschl. Porto.

Zu beziehen durch alle Buchhandlungen oder direkt vom Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland, Duesseldorf-Benrath, Postfach 92.

THE BELSEN MEMORIAL

A report in our June issue on Dachau drew attention to the fact that the camp is difficult to find, as there is no signpost. No doubt the International Dachau Committee, which is composed of former inmates from all European countries, will see to it that the place, hallowed as it is by the sacrifice and heroism of so much suffering, shall not be given over to oblivion.

More serious appear to be reports recently published about the graves at Belsen. A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* who went there was grieved to see "this grim memorial in the first stages of decay." "Is it not tragic" (he wrote) "that this site should be so neglected and thus in a way forgotten in just over ten years? There is no need to make it a morbid showplace, but out of common respect alone something should be done to bring it into line with the high standards of upkeep of military cemeteries. Should this not be done, then (he warned) in another ten years the heather will most surely have reclaimed its own."

Another *Daily Telegraph* reader recalled that while, in 1953, when handed back to the Germans, the memorial site was in excellent order, six months later grass was knee high on the graves, litter was everywhere, and no attempt was made to keep the place tidy. Yet a third reader stated that "as recently as last September, the graves, bunkers, memorials, and plantations at the site were all in a good state of repair," though the road was in poor condition. Every time he had visited Belsen he had found "gangs of labourers employed on maintenance and gardening."

An interesting contribution to this correspondence was made by a former member of the R.A.M.C. unit which had relieved the camp in 1945. He had painted a scene witnessed there at the time: a bulldozer at work among the heaps of dead. This picture was received by many of the public with an indignation which, he writes, "shows only too clearly that we, as well as the Germans, are only too anxious to forget the whole ghastly episode." Old soldiers may never die, he concludes, "but the causes for which they fight are very soon put quietly to death."

It is to be hoped that the condition of the Belsen memorial site will be properly investigated by those responsible for the maintenance of this monument of man's inhumanity. It may possibly be argued that in an area as vast as the Belsen camp some parts are liable to receive less attention than others, but such a plea cannot mitigate the force of the complaint, and action ought to be taken forthwith to remove the offence. It seems curious, however, that, so far as we remember, the matter was not raised in connection either with this year's or last year's memorial meeting held at Belsen.

Plans for Hamburg Heine Monument

The Hamburg Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation has called upon the local municipal authorities to establish a Heine monument in the city.

Old Acquaintances

Ten Days in Berlin:—When I returned eight years ago for the first time I took a car to see the bombed city, not yet divided, and explained my rather good German to the driver by saying: "Though I went to school here, I wasn't here during the past twenty years . . ." He interrupted me with the words "You didn't miss a thing." ("Da haben Sie nichts versaeumt"). One day somebody should prove in a book that the Berliner doesn't belong to the Germans. That sense of humour is a strange attraction for every returnee even today when the town looks new again and ends, except for the theatregoers, at the Potsdamerplatz. "How is Berlin nowadays?" I asked the driver this time. "What do you want to hear?" he answered like a shot. Though the rebuilt Kurfuerstendamm is more or less a shop-window directed towards the Eastern sector to show off the best sides of free enterprise there is life in the people who are proud to have survived Hitler, the war, and the Russian blockade. "Arnold Mueller" is bankrupt, also "Queens," the "poshest" night-club in Grunewald, the prizes are rising all the time, and a lot of people are still on the dole. Wertheim is now in Steglitz' Schlosstrasse, and a circus tent for catchers stands where the "Romanische Café" used to be. To brighten things up many congresses now take place in Berlin, and the Film Festival was an exciting event. For ten days Berlin played at being a capital again, with the fans besieging the hotels and shouting for Gary Cooper, Bob Hope, and Linda Christian. Rebuilding is going on everywhere, in the "Hansa-Viertel," in Gatow, and Spandau. Everybody is speaking of reunification, but nobody really believes in it. No wonder Ernst Deutsch who is the darling of the theatre likes to be back, and even a Hollywood director like Robert Siodmak is doing his second picture here; the first was Hauptmann's "Ratten," the new one is "My father the actor," with star Mr. I. O. W. Fischer, a sure box office winner. Sigurd Lohde, back from Australia, has opened a little bar, and Hermine Sterler who, for seventeen years, was a nurse in the States, returned to the place of her stage successes.

Returns topped the "Berlinale":—Your columnist was invited to Berlin last month to attend the VI. International Film Festival which opened with the distribution of the so-called German "Bundespreise" for the best efforts in 1956. Lilli Palmer who became a star after only one German film ("Firework") received not only the prize as the best actress of the year, but her latest picture, "Devil in Silk," based on a story by fellow-refugee Gina Kaus, got also the prize as one of the two outstanding films. It was scripted by Jochen Huth, who also returned from exile and got the prize for the best author. Artur Brauner, the courageous producer of "July 20th," was another winner. Of the numerous films shown at the Festival the Berlin public voted "Vor Sonnenuntergang" the best picture of the competition, though we didn't agree with that decision. It is directed, as his first German effort, by Gottfried Reinhardt, Max Reinhardt's son, with Hans Albers in the lead. If you think that Otto Sonnenfeld, as the first official representative of Israel, belonged to the jury for the documentaries you can imagine our feelings. Altogether the Festival was a big success, and it a courageous idea to screen in Berlin the French film "Nacht und Nebel," which shows the hell of the concentration camps realistically, the picture which was stopped in Cannes through the intervention of the Bonn Government.

Requiem for the Living:—It was a splendid idea of the Hamburg illustrated weekly "Der Stern" to invite the oldtimers, the films stars of yesteryear to Berlin as a thanksgiving for the pleasures they once gave us. "Titania Palast" was sold out when the inimitable Hans Albers introduced his colleagues, but to be quite frank, we wouldn't have recognised anyone of them except Liane Haid and Henny Porten, who couldn't help looking exactly like Liane Haid and Henny Porten, while Dita Parlo, Lilian Harvey, and Camilla Horn only tried to imitate themselves and didn't quite succeed. Gretl Theimer looked like Maria Paudler and Hanni Weisse like everybody's good, old aunt. Fern Andra alone, now married to an American officer, kept her own old style by throwing flowers into the stalls with a great gesture. Nobody remembered that Johannes Rietmann marched in S.A. uniform through the streets of Berlin, and nearly everybody was surprised to see Paul Heidemann,

Ex-German Jews in the News

French Award for Bruno Walter

In recognition of his interpretations of four Brahms symphonies, Mr. Bruno Walter, the conductor, was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque at a ceremony at the Théâtre des Champs Elysées. The award was made by the Charles Gros Academy, Paris.

Rabbi Altmann's Article

A striking feature of a recent *Observer* issue was an article entitled "What is Judaism?" by Dr. Alexander Altmann, Communal Rabbi of Manchester. It is a long time since readers of a national newspaper were so conspicuously enlightened on what the author rightly says "to many must be a *terra incognita*." The necessarily concise exposition was masterful, and from the propagandist point of view from which, on that especial platform, it must chiefly be judged, it could hardly have been better, though zealots of the strictest orthodoxy may have found scope for a learned gloss here and there. Particularly impressive was Dr. Altmann's interpretation of the Chosen People concept as one ensign of a "living faith destined to benefit not only Jews but the whole of the human race." The article worthily bore out Dr. Altmann's standing as one of the foremost spiritual leaders in Anglo-Jewry.

Professor Isaac Heinemann 80

Professor Isaac Heinemann, leading authority on Hellenistic studies, was 80 recently. Born in Frankfurt-on-Main, he was a professor at the Rabbinical Seminary and the University of Breslau, and since 1920, editor of the *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums*. He lives in Jerusalem. Last year he was awarded one of the Israel Prizes for Jewish Studies. His numerous publications include an edition of the works of Philo of Alexandria, "Darkhei Ha'aggada," and "Ta'amei Hamitzvot Besifrut Yisrael," the second volume of which appeared a few weeks ago.

Professor Curt Sachs 75 Years Old

Professor Sachs, who was born in Berlin 75 years ago, was up to 1933 the Director of the collection of musical instruments at Berlin University. Now he lives in New York. In 1913 he published an encyclopedia of musical instruments which still is a standard work. He first emigrated to Paris, where he lectured at the Sorbonne. In New York he completed the greatest of his books, "Commonwealth of Arts." Starting from music and musical instruments as ethnological phenomena, he tries to prove the community of all arts in the world.

On the occasion of his 75th birthday the Free University in West Berlin has conferred upon him an honorary doctorate.

University Chair in Buenos Aires

Dr. Guenther Ballin has been appointed Professor of German Literature and Director of the "Instituto de Literatura Anglogermana" of the Buenos Aires University. Dr. Ballin comes from Berlin where he took a leading part in the work of the German Jewish Youth Movement. He studied at Berlin University and, after 1933, was a teacher at several Jewish schools in Berlin. In Buenos Aires he is the Vice-President of the "Juedische Kultur-Gemeinschaft" founded by

Carl de Vogt, Ludwig Trautmann, and Bernhard Goetzke alive and in good form; after all they were already to be stars when we sneaked into a cinema for the first time. It was a little sad to see one's own wrinkles and grey hairs in the mirror of the darlings of yesterday, but not all embarrassing because everybody seemed to be happy to stand in the limelight again, even if only for a few minutes. The retired and half-forgotten stars mixed with the still active survivors like Gerda Maurus, Kaethe Haack, Paul Richter, and Fritz Schulz. "Das gabs nur einmal . . ." and "Fuer Jugendliche ueber 40 Jahre" was the motto of the evening, and everybody enjoyed every minute of it even when Henny Porten nearly broke down and made a tearful speech acting like "Rose Bernd" and apparently meaning it. . . .

PEM

the immigrants from German-speaking countries and a Board member of the local Jewish National Fund.

Fritz Haber's Assistant

Dr. Joseph Weiss, a native of Vienna, Reader in Mechanism of Chemical Reactions at Durham University, was appointed to a personal Professorship of Radiation Chemistry in the Newcastle Division of the University. Dr. Weiss, aged 49, had been once assistant to Professor Fritz Haber at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, Berlin-Dahlem. When Haber left Germany in 1933, Dr. Weiss accompanied him to Cambridge, where he took up an honorary appointment at the University. He has been at Durham University since 1937.

Appointment of Selma Stern-Täubler

Dr. Selma Stern-Täubler, the German-Jewish historian, received the honorary degree of Humane Letters at the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, where she is now archivist of the American Jewish Archives.

Pioneers in South Africa

The death occurred in Johannesburg of Mr. Bernard Kaumheimer, who was recognised for nearly half a century as the doyen of German Jewry on the Rand. He was Hon. Life President of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage and of Our Parents' Home, and had been the Chairman of the Fund for German Refugees in South Africa. Prominent in S.A. commerce, he is particularly remembered as Chairman of the Sugar Exchange and a member of the wartime Price and Rent Control Committee. Born in Bavaria in 1877, he came to South Africa in 1894. He left £418,000, with many bequests to charitable institutions, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

The death also occurred in Johannesburg of one of the younger generation of German Jews, Franz Guggenheimer, 44, a native of Munich, who was making an important contribution to local leather-craft. He had come to South Africa in 1933 and was already known as one of the top-ranking representatives in the handbag industry.

From Gilbert Harding's Memoirs

A meeting on board a ship with Jewish refugees fleeing from Nazi Germany in 1933 is described by Mr. Gilbert Harding, the radio and TV star, in his autobiography "Along My Line." It was in the hold of a vessel taking him to Cyprus, says Harding, that a rabbi conducted a Shabbat morning service. The singing of the Hebrew songs was most touching and, remarks Harding, increased his already strong loathing for totalitarianism and racial prejudice. He also pays tribute to the industry of Jewish refugees who had settled in an arid part of Cyprus.

Notable Book Exhibition

"England Her Friends and Visitors" was the title of an interesting exhibition organised by the National Book League in honour of the 28th International P.E.N. Congress last month in London. The catalogue referred to "those great writers and artists of Jewish blood driven from Central Europe by the intolerance of the past 20 years." Freud, Stefan Zweig, and other eminent Jewish writers, musicians, and artists were included.

The Film "Nacht und Nebel" in Germany

This film could not be shown at the Cannes Festival as the German Federal Government objected. Now it was shown to an invited audience in Bonn under the auspices of the *Bundeszentrale fuer Heimatdienst*. A documentary to a great extent, the film pictures life and death in Nazi concentration camps.

The audience in Bonn were given questionnaires where they should state if they were in favour of a general release of the film and what they thought of its truthfulness. A great majority voted in favour of a release and described the film as objective.

Recently, "Nacht und Nebel" was shown privately in West Berlin. On account of the great success the show was repeated several times.

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

EMIGRATION FROM ISRAEL

Facts and Causes

A problem, till now shunned by the public, has suddenly burst into the open; it dominates conversations from Jerusalem's Rehavia, over Tel Aviv's Ben Yehuda Street, up to Haifa's Ahusa; it has entered the columns of the Hebrew press, has brought about a resolution of the Histadrut Executive, and led to statements and declarations—emigration from Israel.

What are the facts, and which are the causes?

Nothing seems to happen in Israel which has not happened before. In the chequered history of Jewish settlement in Palestine, emigration is no novelty; it has ranged from individuals leaving the country for health and family reasons, to a large-scale exodus twenty years ago: the fourth aliya was followed in the years 1926 and 1927 by a mass return of new arrivals to Poland, reaching half of the total of the then considerable immigration.

As compared with this, the present movement is only of very modest proportions. It started in 1951, the year which saw a moral and economic crisis as a sequel to the mass immigration. After an unprecedented aliya in all its forms—organised, illegal, indiscriminate, individual, idealistic, and utilitarian—a new word was floated: "Yeridah." While the olim came in, the "yordim" began to get out. All this is far from disquieting. On the contrary, it is a normal phenomenon in every country which has a free "two-way traffic." Each immigration wave has a certain amount of "wastage," and that proportion is lower in Israel than in other countries of immigration.

Since 1948 55 per cent of the newcomers have left—either for their countries of departure, or they have re-emigrated to other lands. The total figure of persons who registered officially for emigration is approximately 60,000, with only the years 1951 and 1952 slightly topping the 10,000 margin. These figures, however, do not include two important categories—tourists who have come to Israel with a view to settle and, after some years of residence and work, decided to return home; and citizens who do not declare their intention to emigrate, but disguise their leaving the country as temporary absence. In some cases, this is an obvious camouflage for moral and other reasons; in other cases, only time will reveal the real motives.

There is also, on a small scale "though," something like a "second aliya"—a few of the emigrants again return to Israel, even subsidised by the Jewish Agency: the incident among a group of Jews from India obtained much publicity who went on hunger strike in Israel because they wanted to go back to India, and in India, they went on hunger strike because they wanted to return to Israel. Altogether, there are between 200 and 300 such returnees per year, amounting to about five per cent of the emigration.

Figures Not Alarming

These total figures, in themselves not impressive, let alone alarming, assume quite a different complexion on a closer analysis. Out of 54,565 registered emigrants (from 1948 to Sept, 1955) over 8,000 went to the U.S.A., over 6,500 to Canada, 2,271 to Great Britain, 1,868 to Australia and New Zealand, and 626 to South Africa. The number of immigrants from those countries is pitifully small—since 1948 1,900 came from the U.S.A., just over 2,400 from Britain, 700 from South Africa and 350 from Canada. These figures include both immigrants and tourists who later registered as immigrants, but is exclusive of the large number of tourists who, as stated above, did not take this final step although they came to Israel with the intention to settle. Even without this—unknown—quantity, the 2,000-odd emigrants to England and the 700 to South Africa must have a substantial proportion of returning nationals, in view of the stringent immigration laws in these two countries. Although the figures from the U.S.A., Canada, and Oceania are largely made up of "quota" immigrants, there is no reason to assume that returnees among British and South African Jews are proportionately higher than among U.S.A. and Canadian Jews. Therefore, aliya from the English-speaking countries is a failure not only measured by the small number of incoming people but even more so by the high percentage of "yordim."

Another factor which gives a different connotation to the emigration complex, is the "yeridah" of veterans—people who have been in the country before 1948, some of them even twenty years, and longer. It is this fact more than the normal "wastage" of new immigrants, which is beginning to disquiet the public.

It is apparent from the official emigration records for the year 1955 that over 25 per cent of the emigrants had been in Israel since before 1948. Out of this group, over 60 per cent consists of persons who had come to the country between 1933 and 1939. Yet it is even more difficult to ascertain the real extent of the movement of the veterans than that of the new immigrants, because the resentment of their environment makes it even harder for them to divulge their real plans, and not a few go abroad for unspecified periods, without registering as emigrants. Some of them, so the public argument goes, owe their lives to Eretz Israel; others had come without a penny and are now well-off. Instead of showing a certain gratitude, if not patriotism they leave Israel at a time when she needs every man and every piastre.

Share of German Jews

The problem, however, is much more complex and cannot be judged by sentiments. A large percentage of the 1930-1939 group, which forms roughly 15 per cent of the total emigration in 1955, is made up by former German Jews. The ca. 80,000 German Jews in Israel are by far the largest group of Western immigrants. Most of them came during the Nazi régime when there was no return and no chance of re-emigration into other countries. The world war, of course, completely halted any migration, and the first few years after the war saw the world in a melting pot, with the situation in Eretz Israel in constant flux, culminating in the great national drama of the birth of the State. Only in very recent years have external and internal circumstances crystallised which are favourable for emigration—consolidation in the world, and the establishment of definite social, political, and economic trends in Israel. Considering that the emigration tendencies among the aliyah from Germany had been penned up for fifteen and more years, without any outlet, one should have expected a much more violent reaction. That the emigration movement is of a rather modest extent, is a sign of the loyalty and the strong bond which links this group to Israel. What is more, it is proportionally trifling as compared with those of the other Western aliyoth. It is at present in the foreground only because the lid has been lifted from the "bottle" which, for so long, was hermetically sealed. (1,378 persons have—officially—returned to Germany, and 1,584 to Austria.)

For which motives do people leave Israel? There are mainly two causes, and both are to be sought both inside and outside the borders of the State. The one reason is the unprecedented prosperity of Jewry in the free world—except in Israel. Jews abroad, including refugees and recent immigrants, benefit, together with the population as a whole, from the great boom which is sweeping the Western countries: Israel is no Western country, and has no part in this boom.

The second cause is more of a political nature. Jews everywhere are enjoying an era of philo-Semitism; they feel secure in their Jewish position and they feel bodily secure, too, now that the danger of a third world war has been banned; they plan again for the future, and for the careers of their children; they see themselves physically and socially safe. Co-existence has been established not only between East and West, but also between the Jews and their environments. There is no co-existence between Israel and her neighbours: the situation is tense and, for the individual, unpredictable: he does not know what the morrow may bring. The borders remain unquiet, and the

"second round" might yet have to be shot out.

Some of those who emigrate, do so for "private" reasons—health, especially now that many of the elder German Jews have received restitution which enables them to eat up their pensions or capital in a more salutary climate; or the rejoining of families, who have "made good" in their new countries of adoption, benefiting from the general prosperity. But coming to causes of public interest, it would be simplifying the matter, as has been done, by ascertaining that income tax is the decisive factor which drives people abroad. True, the tax-paying capacity of the Israelis is stretched to its limit but it would be naïve to single out one scapegoat. Many reasons combine to make Jews leave Israel.

Changes in Nahariah

Just to give one example: Nahariah has come into the news lately. This village, established by German Jews twenty years ago, has been a model for middle-class settlement in the country. It is said that 25 per cent of the founder families have emigrated; another 25 per cent contemplate emigration. Last year alone, twenty families left for abroad. There, the closely knit and homogeneous community was suddenly swamped by an influx of thousands of new immigrants, greatly changing the character of the village in which its founders took such a pride.

"Zionuth has lost its pull in Israel," one of the veterans said. "People laughed at me when they heard that I was still working my farm, milking the cows every morning. What, in a country where smart business people in Tel Aviv are making millions: and I, milking cows! That's something for new olim, for work villages, for immigrant settlements, not for a man of fifty who had a big textile shop in Germany. Little is left of the ideals of our youth—the youngsters here are a fine crop, surely, but they want to make careers, just as much as their contemporaries in America. The time for middle-class farming has passed. That's why the old Nahariah is breaking up."

Whatever the causes—economic, political, social—one thing is clear: it is important to establish the proper perspective—neither is it good to magnify the problem, nor does it serve any purpose to minimise it. It certainly cannot be solved by pious resolutions, nor by putting official obstacles in the way of would-be emigrants. On the contrary—the more pressure is exerted against emigration, the greater will be the wish to emigrate. What is needed is a frank discussion, starting from the top, down to the bodies representing the various *landmannschaften*, in a common effort to remove at least some of the causes which drive valuable citizens abroad.

FROM THE AUSTRIAN SCENE

Restitution

The Association of Jewish Communities in Austria adopted a resolution in which they urged the Austrian Government to carry out loyally the clauses of the State Treaty which pertain to restitution. Furthermore, the Government is called upon to take effective measures against the remnants of racial hatred and discrimination. The Association declared its indignation about the former Gestapo-Kriminalrat Sanitzer being at large. An Austrian Court had sentenced him to lifelong imprisonment as a war criminal. Since he returned from Soviet captivity he has not been arrested. The Association demands the just punishment of all those who committed crimes against humanity.

Desecration of Jewish Cemetery

In the Jewish cemetery of Floridsdorf unknown rowdies overthrew eight tombstones. The Vienna Jewish community, which only a few months ago had restored the cemetery at great cost, has notified the police.

Amnesty for Nazis

The newly-formed Austrian Cabinet approved the draft of a Law amnestying former Nazis and providing for the restitution to them of confiscated property. Similar Laws had been vetoed by the Allied Council in previous years.

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WORK FOR ZION

A Memorable Meeting in Berlin 30 Years Ago

THE relation of the German Jews to Zionism is a matter of history, and a searching judgment will be assessed on it one day. Those who occasionally presume to anticipate the historian do not always strike a sound balance, and some have been notoriously unjust. It is, therefore, perhaps well not to bypass the anniversary of a memorable meeting held in Berlin 30 years ago, when leaders of all sections of German Jewry revealed their view of what was then called *Das Palästinawerk*.

The meeting, held at the representative former *Herrenhaus*, was organised by the Keren Hayesod, and its purpose was admittedly to counter misconceptions that were making themselves felt. There had been talk of Palestine being a "foreign country," a "British colony," in which German Jews could not be expected to take a practical interest, and fears were heard that a German Jew might be considered less German and of "divided loyalty" if he concerned himself with matters not exclusively German. These trends of thought were vigorously exposed not only by confirmed Zionists such as Kurt Blumenfeld and Albert Einstein but also by some prominent non-Zionists.

Justizrat Julius Magnus, the well-known lawyer, argued that precisely because they were Germans they must see to it that the "tremendous international work" enacted in Palestine should benefit from the influence of German industry and culture—just as was done by British, American, and French Jews on behalf of their countries. It would be disaster, he thought, if Germans, of all people, represented by their Jews, were neglecting Palestine. Though an intensely German patriot, Magnus ventured the interesting suggestion that what was arising in Palestine was "perhaps for the first time in world history, not an international but a supranational pattern of life," which, he said, ought to fill every Jew with the "unutterably proud feeling that all this had been achieved by the Jewish members of the various nations concerned."

In contrast to his approach the spiritual obligation was stressed by Professor Gotthold Weil, the Orientalist, who spoke of the significance of the then newly founded Hebrew University. He recalled the strong impulses that went forth from the German universities of the nineteenth-century, notably from the University of Berlin, which was established for the avowed purpose of replacing through spiritual power what had been lost through political impotence. So, too, he declared, the University of Jerusalem, the symbol of the unity of Jewish thought, would be like a flame spreading warmth among Jews all over the globe, and it was up to the German, rather than any other, Jews to lend substance to that exalted conception of the Hebrew University.

Oscar Wassermann's Plea

Indeed, the whole enterprise in Palestine would "invigorate" and increase respect for Jews everywhere, said Oscar Wassermann, the banker, presiding in his capacity as director of the German Keren Hayesod. Consequently, he asked, how could any German Jew hope to draw benefits from the "unmatched idealism" revealed there, if he failed to associate himself with it? There was no validity in the demand, Wassermann said, that German Jewish money should be used for Jewish purposes in Germany rather than in Palestine. They were concerned with far more than relief for individual distress; they were out to safeguard Judaism, and in that respect there was little they could do inside Germany: "The upbuilding of Palestine is the best we can possibly do for Judaism."

The same idea was stressed by Georg Bernhard, editor of the *Vossische Zeitung*, a non-Zionist, who pointed out that "the collapse of the Palestine work would have unimaginable consequences for the whole of Jewry"; it "would serve as the source of a new hate-inspired campaign against us," etc.

But the fundamental and abiding considerations were expounded, in classic terms, by Dr. Baeck. He spoke of the freedom of man to do as he pleased. But, he inquired, what was the opposite of freedom? Not unfreedom, but more often than not cowardice—the cowardice that will not stand

face to face with new ideas or ideals. Not all could hope to fulfil the ideal in terms of self-sacrifice and martyrdom, but all were able at least to show respect for the ideal when it was seen, as it was seen among those Jews, young and old, who went out into a land where neither they nor their children could hope to find ease or advantage. "Let us stand in awe of them. Whatever our differences—let us be one in awe of this idealism."

It is, in many ways, a pathetic experience to read these proceedings, and it sometimes requires an effort to appreciate that they took place in our own day, as recently as 30 years ago. Ground into ashes are many of the pleas and arguments, though not all have lost their force among Jews living in much the same settled security as were German Jews in 1926. It was, of course, a counterfeit security on which bleak shadows had already fallen. Nine years previously the infamous "Jew statistics" had been instituted in the Imperial Army. Just now "Mein Kampf" was being written, and another nine years hence its mad theories were translated into the Nuremberg Laws. Those who spoke in Berlin 30 years ago could not look into the future, nor did they presumably care to remember too much of the past. But though they did not see the shadows in their own country, they saw the greater light that had been kindled elsewhere, and they bore witness that among German Jews Jerusalem was unforgotten.

LESSONS OF HISTORY

According to an inquiry by the Institute of Demoscopy (a kind of Gallup Poll) the majority of people between the ages of 30 and 50 did not hesitate to express their contempt for the Weimar Republic and to rate the Nazi dictatorship higher than the Rule of Law in the first German Republic. This result causes the "Schwaebische Landeszeitung" to ask whether a re-nazification is on foot. The paper answers in the negative. It is true, it says, that the generation which will soon take over political responsibility has a deep-rooted distrust of many existing political parties. But most of the old Nazis have been cured of political adventures for ever. The process of political convalescence has been disturbed by several elements: both the lack of a true perspective of National Socialism, and the flood of memoirs and biographies by and about leading Nazis have made Nazism quite pretty and harmless. In addition, international politics has brought about circumstances which made soft pedalling in questions of Nazism expedient. The newspaper concludes by saying that Nazism as an historical event was dead, but that some of its ideology had a chance of survival.

Should We forget?

At one of the last Wednesday discussions regularly arranged in the waiting-room of Cologne Main Railway Station Professor Franz Boehm and Professor Carlo Schmid dealt with this topical problem before an audience of about 800 people. "It is a matter of self-respect not to forget," Professor Boehm stated. He warned against the small and dangerous group which still believed in the criminal doctrines of Nazism and against the large and thoughtless masses of the weak and fellow-travellers. Professor Carlo Schmid said that whilst there could not be a collective guilt, nobody had a right to take refuge in the illusion of a collective "not guilty"; he also stressed the responsible share of the educated classes in having made the rise of Nazism possible.

German Socialists Commemorate Nazi Victims

The German Social Democratic Party Congress in Munich concluded with an international memorial rally for the victims of Nazism and war, at which addresses were given by the Party Chairman, Erich Ollenhauer, by Morgan Phillips, President of the Socialist International, and by speakers from several other countries. The Congress also urged that measures be taken to eliminate formerly prominent Nazis from activities in public life and to stop payment of the large pensions many now draw.

REFUGEES IN FRANCE

German Funds for Flatlet Home

Readers of our brochure, "Dispersion and Resettlement," will recall the unhappy account of the Jewish refugees in France, especially of the elderly people among them who, our reporter wrote, "will not claim the relief to which they are entitled, for fear that this might have adverse consequences, in particular for fear that they might be expelled because they have lived on public funds."

It is therefore gratifying news that at last means have become available that will help relieve some of these old people's needs. A Flatlet Home is to be built for them, probably in Paris, and the money is to be granted by the West German Parliament. The current German budget will earmark DM. 1,000,000 for the purpose, and it is stated that the sum is an earnest of the Bundestag's desire to make special amends to needy refugees living abroad.

The money will go into a fund which has been opened by the South German Broadcasting Corporation after a radio and TV play entitled "The Forgotten" had brought home to the German public the distress suffered by many Jewish refugees in France.

The message of the play was reinforced by a symposium immediately following it in which leaders of public opinion, under the chairmanship of Dr. Eugen Kogon, author of "Der S.S. Staat," dealt with the question, "Have we Cause to be Satisfied with Ourselves?" The subject was well chosen, so was the date of it, May 8, anniversary of the Unconditional Surrender. Said the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*: "The presentation of the misery suffered by human beings whom we owe much more than a few hundred marks of 'Restitution,' came as an effective reminder in the war against our odd self-complacency." Many of those taking part in the discussion were embarrassed, the paper thought: somehow they could not think of much cause to feel self-satisfaction.

Also few of them appeared to know much about the fate of the Jewish refugees, the *Süddeutsche* remarked. But now a great many know, and have done something too. Money gifts have come in from various sections of the people; for example, the Socialist Parliamentary Party in North Rhine Westphalia gave DM. 3,000, the Mayor of Pforzheim DM. 1,000. The fund is to be kept open until August 30, 1956.

The credit for the Bundestag action belongs, in the first place, to the Speaker, Dr. E. Gerstenmaier, who sponsored the proposal and secured Parliamentary support. It is, however, only fair to recall that a "Paris Old Age Home" project was originally launched, many months ago, by those trusty friends of every Jewish cause, Professors Franz Böhm and Carlo Schmid, and it is no doubt due to their vision and perseverance that what was once no more than a pious hope is now becoming a reality.

Naturalisation

It seems that at last something is going to be done in France about the applications for naturalisation filed by Jewish aliens who fought for the country. Pleas for more sympathetic consideration of their case, hitherto all too perfunctorily treated, are now to be "examined," a delegation of Jewish ex-Servicemen was told by M. Tanguy-Prigent. He also promised to look into the anomalous situation of Jewish war widows who are denied a pension because their husbands though killed on active service for France were not French citizens.

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LEGACY OF THE PAST

BONN GOVERNMENT REFUTES CHARGE OF ANTISEMITISM

At a Press conference in East Berlin the Federal Government was accused of being antisemitic. Now the official Bulletin in Bonn rejects this accusation. The Bulletin recalls the "antisemitic campaign in the Soviet Zone" at the beginning of 1953, when 2,300 refugees of the Jewish faith from the Soviet Zone asked for asylum in the Federal Republic. As after the war, the Jewish population in the Zone numbered about 2,500, says the Bulletin, they must have dwindled to 200, mostly sick people and invalids.

NATION EUROPA

The organ of the Fascist International, "Nation Europa," issued in Coburg, publishes a special April number, "Problems of Judaism" (Probleme des Judentums). It quotes from Jewish and non-Jewish sources with an antisemitic bias, in order to prove that in Germany antisemitism has died for ever, but "world Judaism" continues its "anti-Germanistic [sic] business of hatred." "Realising this attitude, we must wonder what sense there is in moral prostration and self-humiliation, in financial tributes, unlimited 'reparations,' confessions of repentance, and in the uninhibited degradation of the German people, if the Jews, with whom we want sincerely to be reconciled, regard all this as repellent attempts at fraternisation." On the other hand, the periodical calls the treatment of the former President of the "Reichsbund juedischer Frontsoldaten," Leo Loewenstein, "unfair and unwise." His "tragic fate" exemplifies the fate of many Jews who felt a deep attachment to their homeland and in 1933 were driven to despair.

GERMAN ANTISEMITE JAILED

The Darmstadt Court sentenced an elderly pensioner, Franz Linder, to four months' imprisonment, because he was found guilty on charges of insult, libel and defamation. He expressed regret that not all Jews were killed by the Nazis.

SS. LEADERS IN WEST BERLIN POLICE

According to a West Berlin Socialist paper, the personal guard of Himmler and leading SS. men succeeded, against the protest of Berlin's Chief of Police, in finding employment with the force. Now the paper urges the authorities to study carefully the records of these men so that they should be disqualified for public service.

A newspaper, published in the Soviet sector, mentions the names of the indicted people. Among them are the former personal guard of Himmler, Hans Jueterbog, now a high official in the political police, and the former SS. Obersturmfuehrer Werner Menzel, now head of the plain-clothes police in the district of Tiergarten.

THE "SO-CALLED" WAR CRIMINAL HITLER

The Austrian periodical "Plattform" continues its series of articles by Dr. Hans Grimm in defence of Hitler. In the June issue Grimm writes about the annexations of the Greater German Empire and the occupation of Austria:

"And what were the territorial annexations which the 'unsatiable' man Hitler added to the Reich up to the Second World War, to this Reich which had to form the Eastern Wall of Europe or should have done so? They were the return of the Saarland, the re-occupation of the Rhineland, the return to the Reich of German Austria, and the handing back of the German Sudetens and the German Memel territory."

Yet the "Plattform" goes further still. It says of Hitler, that he did not deliberately start a war, that he was not a war criminal, that he was not even rapacious. It comes out in favour of his pact with Molotov which made the war at all possible.

The organ of the Jewish Communities in Austria writes: "There are certainly many people in Austria who wonder for how much longer this periodical will be allowed to carry on its Nazi propaganda."

STRASSER'S RIVAL

The Chairman of the extreme right-wing "Deutsche Gemeinschaft," August Haussleiter, said about Strasser's new "Deutsch-Soziale Union" that he considered this organisation and other similar ones as rather funny. On the other hand, his "Deutsche Gemeinschaft," he claimed, had 60,000 members and expanded successfully in Northern Germany; their chances for the next general elections were good.

THE HUPPENKOTHEN TRIAL

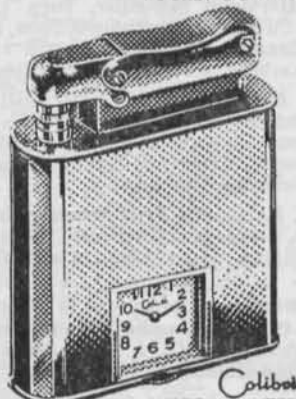
The Federal Court in Karlsruhe gave its final verdict against SS-Standartenfuehrer Walter Huppenkothen and SS-Inspektionsrichter Otto Thorbeck, who were accused of murdering the resistance fighters Admiral Canaris, General Oster, Dr. Sack, Captain Gehre, Pastor Bonhoeffer, and Reichsgerichtsrat von Dohnany. Huppenkothen was sentenced, as an accessory to murder, to six years' penal servitude—one year less than the previous sentence by a lower court. Thorbeck, who previously had been sentenced to four years' penal servitude, was acquitted because of lack of evidence.

HONEYMOON

The "Totschlaeger von Buchenwald" Sommer, the man who was in charge of the prison of Buchenwald Concentration Camp and accused of having tortured or killed hundreds of helpless inmates, has married recently and has asked for an additional payment of arrears of his pension to the amount of 1,000DM. Although 400 persons were prepared to stand witness against Sommer, the trial did not take place. In March, 1955, he was released because of illness. Sommer had been badly wounded in the last days of the war and was put in a convalescent home, but he was declared fit by his doctors to take a wedding leave.



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PERSONALIA

Mr. Gustav Lask who is celebrating his 80th birthday on September 2nd at Woodhall Gate, Pinner, Middlesex, comes from one of the oldest Jewish families established in Kiel. As the head of the well-known and respected firm Michael Lask (Hoflieferant) he was a distinguished citizen of the city and the Gentile population held him in great esteem. That may have been the reason for the Nazi action against him when he was personally attacked in autumn 1938 and shot in the back. The persecutors left him behind considering him dead, but he recovered miraculously and was treated in a local hospital. However, he had to leave Kiel and found temporary shelter in Berlin. He came to England in July 1939 with his wife, and was deeply grieved by her loss in 1948. Of Mr. Lask's four daughters, two live in England and two in Israel. His eldest daughter was for some time very popular as a successful propagandist for Jewish charitable work, mainly in Israel, under the name of Ilse Warburg. We wish Mr. Lask, an interested member of AJR since its inception, many more happy years, surrounded by his large family including grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The architect **Mr. Arthur Korn**, F.R.I.B.A., formerly Berlin, now London, celebrated his 65th birthday recently. In Berlin he was a member of the "Ring der Architekten." As an author he made a name by his books "Glas im Bau" (published in Germany) and "History Builds the Town" (published in England).

Mr. Nathan Schmidt, a well-known figure in pre-war German Jewry, celebrated his 75th birthday in Darlington. Together with his brother, he founded the famous leather factory Alligator and A. N. Schmidt & Co. (Offenbach, Frankfurt, and Berlin). The two brothers emigrated to England, where they started the Alligator Leathers in Bishop Auckland. This new venture has made a name for itself in Britain and the Empire.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birth

Fried.—To Ludwig and Marianne (née Graetz), of 4, Burnside Flats, Burnside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town, South Africa, a son (Ronald Herman) was born on June 24, 1956.

Barmitzvah

Hahn.—Michael James William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Hahn, 4, South Mansions, Gondar Gardens, N.W.6, at Hampstead Synagogue, Dennington Park Road, N.W.6, on September 1, 1956.

Death

Mrs. Charlotte Clara Blumberg (née Haase), of 61, Belsize Park, N.W.3, passed away at 73 years of age on June 12, 1956. Deeply mourned by family and friends.

Mrs. E. Henschel (formerly Stettin) passed away peacefully after a long illness at Tel Aviv on July 14. Deeply mourned by her family in Israel and at 232 Staines Road, Twickenham, Middlesex.

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BOOKKEEPER; exper.; good ref.; wants full- or part-time position. Box 143.

OBITUARY

Rabbi Dr. Jakob Hoffmann recently passed away in Tel-Aviv. He was 75 years old. Rabbi Hoffmann, who was born in Hungary, officiated as an Orthodox rabbi at the Frankfort community from 1922 until 1937, when he was arrested and forced to emigrate. When, in 1933, the "Reichsvertretung" of the Jews in Germany was founded, Rabbi Hoffmann was one of its leading Board members. After having served for 18 years with a congregation in New York he re-emigrated to Israel.

Mr. Alfred Rosenbaum, formerly Breslau, died in London recently. He was 81 years old. Mr. Rosenbaum was the owner of the well-known "Kronen-Apotheke" in Breslau. He took an active part in public and Jewish affairs of his home town, e.g., as member of the Chamber of Silesian Pharmacists and as Chairman of the Board of the Jewish Hospital. After having come to this country he succeeded, in spite of his advanced age, in passing an examination as a pharmacist. The AJR loses a good friend who, throughout the years, took great interest in its efforts, and expresses its sincerest sympathy to his widow and his family.

Miss Lucie Schott, who was a member of the staff of Self Aid of Refugees for a number of years, passed away peacefully on July 12, mourned deeply by her colleagues and friends. She will be remembered by all who came into contact with her for her devotion to the cause of Self Aid and for the extreme gentleness and unselfishness shown in her dealings with fellow-refugees. She will always be thought of in appreciation, gratitude, and affection.

In London died **Frieda Ehmman** who was better known as "Die Lunte," before 1933 owner of the famous restaurant for artists in Berlin's Eislebenerstrasse. After having tried in vain to revive her bohème place in Paris she came to London and was cook in "Woburn House" before the war. She always smoked cigars and would never deny credit to her customers.

GERMAN YOUTH EDUCATION

Dismissal of Antisemitic Teacher

The West Berlin Labour Court (*Arbeitsgericht*) has just given a verdict which may have far-reaching consequences. The Borough of Zehlendorf had dismissed a *Studienreferendar* (junior schoolmaster) on account of antisemitic utterances. He was alleged to have said in a restaurant that not enough Jews had been gassed. The defendant denied the incident. The Court, however, reached the decision that the schoolmaster had said something to that effect. Therefore his dismissal was justified in the public interest.

With this verdict the principle has been confirmed that a person who is carried away by his antisemitic passion does not qualify for the teaching profession.

Horst Wessel as School Examination Subject

With the consent of his teacher a pupil chose as the subject for his School Certificate Examination essay Horst Wessel, about whom he wrote under the title "Ein vorbildlicher Mensch." He passed the examination on account of this essay, and the Schleswig-Holstein Ministry of Culture confirmed this result.

Youth Organisations of the Extreme Right

Organisations of this type have shown recently a growing activity, although they lack strong leadership. They can be divided into three categories: the fascist groups like the "Wikingjugend" and the "Adler," which is related to the "Deutsche Block"; the nationalist groups such as the "Bund junger Deutscher," the youth organisation of the "Deutsche Partei," and the "Deutsche Jugend des Ostens"; thirdly, the youth groups of the Ex-Servicemen organisations which want to implant in their members the "military virtues." These latter groups have the backing of rather big organisations of adults and for that reason they could, at a given moment, prove a greater danger than the other two groups.

YOUNG MAN exp. in buying and selling, export-documentation; 5 years in prev. job, seeks employment. Box 156.

ACADEMIC PAINTER, specialised in portraits, wants free-lance work as artist, commercial artist, teacher, or for restoring pictures; would also consider suitable full- or part-time position. Box 144.

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HOME TYPIST; English & German; neat worker; Cricklewood district; wants work; quickly done. GLA. 1436 before 10 a.m. and after 3 p.m. Box 145.

WIDOWED LADY seeks position to cultured gtl. or lady as comp.-housekeeper; good ref.; available from September onwards. Box 146.

ALTERATIONS done by exp. woman in- or out-door. Box 147.

MENDING, darning done in- or out-door by neat worker. Box 148.

GERMAN SHORTHAND-typ./clerk (elderly) wants full- or part-time job. Box 149.

ATTENDING work (for sick, invalid people, or children) done by responsible, exp. woman. Box 150.

BOOKKEEPER, good ref., wants suitable position of trust. Box 151.

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Miscellaneous

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"SCHRANKKOFFER" AND "KABINENKOFFER"; almost new; to be sold very cheaply. WIL. 0584.
"ROTHSCHILD SONG." Who can let me have the words of the "Rothschild Song" ("Ich kenne ein Haeuschen in Frankfurt am Main")? Box 157.

Personal

ERSTES JUEDISCHES EHE-INSTITUT Stuttgart 1, Postfach 904. Englaenderin, geborene Deutsche, 30/170, aus guter vermoegender Familie, gebildet, huedsch, musikalisch, wuenscht Neigungs-Ehe. An fragen mit Bild und Rueckporto erbeten.

GOOD LOOKING independent widow, no children, with modern home in Manchester, would like to meet a nice gentleman, age 56-65; companionship and marriage. Box 155.

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ATTRACTIVE WIDOW, beginning 50, feeling lonely, capable of being good companion and sharing business interests, would like to meet gentleman, kind-hearted, between 58 and 65 in good circumstances. Object: matrimony. Box 153.

MISSING PERSONS

Inquiries to AJR

Mr. Werner Cohen, supposed to be a nephew of Mr. Nathanael Cohen (of Dutch nationality), who was resident in Erfurt and owner of the firm H. Meyer & Co. (Ladies' Coats), for Israelitische Kultusvereinigung Wuerttemberg und Hohenzollern, Stuttgart.

Mr. Hermann Schindler, born 12.2.1910, till 1936 in Hamburg-Altona, and **Mr. Bernard Schindler**, also till 1936 in Hamburg, for German Embassy.

Miss Jenny Dahl, born 1.1.1910 in Stuerzelberg n. Neuss/Rhein, last address: Orchards, Kingwood Common, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon., for Germany Embassy.

Lotte, Kaete, and Fritz Schueler, from Halle/Saale, for Charlotte Schueler, née Rieke, Halle/Saale, Laurentiusstr. 2.

Lilo Kaufmann, born 30.4.1913, Stuttgart, Pfeiffstr. (mother's name Grete Kaufmann), for Dr. I. Deiser, Krefeld, Friedrich-Ebert-Str. 57.

Personal Inquiries

Mr. Erich Scharlach.—Does anyone know the whereabouts of this gentleman, who arranged the emigration of various Jews from Hamburg in 1940-1941. Inquiry from Ilse Sinclair (née Guttentag), The Spinney, Grange Close North, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

Mr. Sally May, born September 17, 1892, resident until March 25, 1933, at Frankfurt, Eiseneckstr. 16. Died in London 1948. Relatives wanted by Gustav Hofrichter, Frankfurt a.M.

AJR SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

AJR Club. On July 16th, Dr. and Mrs. A. Horwell gave a talk with lantern slides on "A Journey to Spain." The audience greatly appreciated the wonderful pictures and the vivid explanations given by the speakers.

AJR Handicraft Exhibition. Orders for gifts for the High Holydays are already accepted now as the Holydays will start at the beginning of September. The leader of the Handicraft Group, who was ill for some time, is back again and is prepared to deal with any kind of handicraftwork.

Spring-Mattress for Invalid Wanted. The Social Services Department would be grateful for an offer of a spring-mattress for an invalid woman. Please phone: MAI 4449.

Exhibition of Children's Art

The 4th Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture by Jewish Children, organised by Jewish Childs' Day (London) will be held in Holborn Town Hall from Sunday, December 9th, onwards. Exhibits may be sent in from all Jewish children up to 16 years, and the work can include Paintings (Oil, Water-Colour, etc.), Drawings, Lino and Wood Cuts, Sculpture and Modelling. An entrance fee of 1/- will be charged for a maximum of six entries. All work must have reached Jewish Childs' Day, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1, not later than November 9th. Name, age and title should be attached to the work.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF F.W.V.

To mark the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the F.W.V. (Freie Wissenschaftliche Vereini-

gung) in Berlin, the Association of Old F.W.V.ers in Great Britain held a dinner on the 23rd June, at the Cumberland Hotel.

The Nobel Prize Winner Professor H. Krebs, himself a member of the F.W.V., was the guest of honour. In proposing the toast of The Queen Mr. E. M. Gould, who presided, referred to Tercentenary of the admission of Jews to the British Isles and—quoting from a speech delivered at the Tercentenary Dinner by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh—stressed the feelings of gratitude and loyalty of those who have found a new home in this country in the times of Nazi persecution.

The toast of the guests was proposed by Dr. H. Blum and responded to by Mr. P. Chapp, Chairman of the K.C. in Great Britain. In a concise and comprehensive address Dr. H. G. Sandheim described the basic ideas of the F.W.V., their impact on German students' life before 1933 and their present-day validity in the light of history. A witty toast for the ladies was proposed by Dr. H. Kochmann. Both the old members of the F.W.V., and the guests who had been invited, thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere of friendship and comradeship by which this pleasant function excelled.

JEWISH SANATORIUM FOR TB PATIENTS

The Jewish Sanatorium for TB patients "Etania" (Davos, Switzerland), established with the generous assistance of Swiss Jews about 40 years ago, is able to accept guests. The prices for full board range from Frs. 12, comprising five meals per day, medical treatment and general nursing costs. Particulars may be obtained from the Etania Office, Zürich, Bahnhofstrasse 57b.

CLAIMS AGAINST I. G. FARBEN

As readers will remember, in a test case, submitted by Norbert Wollheim, the Landgericht Frankfurt awarded D.M.10,000—to the plaintiff, a former prisoner of the I. G. Farben Camp near Auschwitz. The I. G. Farben lodged an appeal against this decision. At the suggestion of the Oberlandesgericht negotiations aiming at an amicable settlement of the claims of former I. G. Farben prisoners have been conducted for some time. The I. G. Farben Combine has now offered to pay a global sum of DM. 30,000,000—to be distributed by the Claims Conference amongst the victims. At the time of going to press the decision of the Claims Conference on the acceptance of this offer is still pending.

FORMER SHANGHAI INTERNEES**Israeli-Japanese Negotiations**

The question of reparations for the former inmates of the Shanghai Ghetto, estimated at present to number 10,000, was discussed at Tel Aviv between the Japanese Minister to Israel, Mr. Kuniyoshi Negishi, and a delegation of the Israeli Union of Victims of Japanese Atrocities during World War II, headed by the chairman, Mr. Louis Horowitz. "We hope that a satisfactory settlement will be reached in the near future." Mr. Horowitz said after the meeting which, incidentally, was not the first of its kind. The Shanghai refugees in Israel, about 2,000, are claiming 25 million dollars reparations which they hope to receive "with the support of the Emperor himself."

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