

ISRAEL AND HER ARAB NEIGHBOURS

The author of the following article is an English student of Middle East affairs who has recently toured the whole of that area and seen many of its leading personalities. The views expressed by him are not necessarily those of this paper.

During the past four years I have made two extensive tours of the Middle East. In the spring of 1952 I called first at Israel then proceeded to the Arab States; this year I reversed the process and made Cairo my first, Jerusalem my last, port of call. But on both occasions I had to assume a dual personality in the shape of two passports. With an Israeli visa in my permanent passport I would not have penetrated beyond the airport in any of the Arab capitals. Diplomatically, therefore, the relations between Israel and her Arab neighbours are still, as they were four years ago, non-existent. In some cases this diplomatic breach is reinforced. Several Arab States refuse to grant visas to people of Jewish origin or faith.

This is a peculiar and important feature of the eight-year-old dispute between Israel and her Arab neighbours. Jerusalem, like Berlin, lost its capital status and became divided as a result of a political conflict in which many countries are involved, but Jerusalem is also the victim of a religious antipathy, which the Moslems feel not only towards Jews but towards Christians as a whole. The growing discrimination against Copts in Egypt, the anti-British trend in Jordan and Saudi Arabia, and the refusal of these same countries to come to terms with Israel are all different symptoms of the same malady. The establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 did not create any new problem, it merely intensified an existing one by giving it a concrete shape.

If Israel were to disappear tomorrow the basic problem of Arab-Western relations would still be there. It might become less acute as a result of Israel's removal; the chances are, however, that the appetite of Arab nationalism would merely be whetted and that the mob in Cairo, Amman, and Damascus would howl for more. I do not believe, therefore, that even the most cynical Western politician could regard the elimination of the State of Israel as a practical means of improving Arab-Western relations. Nor do I think that the more responsible Arab politicians seriously desire it.

An Optimistic View

That may seem a grossly optimistic view. It may be a mistaken view. But it is based on long and frank talks with many of the leading figures in the Arab countries, talks which were mainly concerned not with generalities but with specific points of dispute: the ludicrous border that separates Israel from Jordan; the hundreds of thousands of Arab refugees in Jordan and the Gaza strip, who have no other means of self-expression but frustration and resentment; the Cairo-Jeddah-Damascus axis which has so successfully exploited their frustration; and the Johnston Plan, a practical scheme for not only breaking down that frustration but also helping to relax the over-all tension between Israel and the Arab States.

It is, of course, virtually impossible to think of any facet of the Arab-Israeli dispute in which the refugees do not play an important part.

Even the Israeli-Jordan border is primarily a refugee problem, although most of the people who have suffered from this arbitrary armistice line cannot be recognised officially as refugees. A few weeks ago I travelled along both sides of this "frontier." In the village of Tulkharm the mayor took me up to the roof of his office and pointed to the rich fields immediately below, on which most of the villagers once depended for their livelihood. A few miles farther south I walked to the end of the village of Qalquilya and watched Israelis working in the orange-groves which the Arabs of Qalquilya had once owned. A week later I stood in the orange-grove myself and at the Israeli border so near Tulkharm that I could see the people walking in the streets.

The Border Problem

At other points this 330-mile-long border is grotesquely inhuman. Villages are separated from their wells; members of the same family have been living for eight years within sight of each other but without being able to communicate; in the village of Safafa, near Bethlehem, the armistice line runs through the hospital, giving the mortuary to Israel, the remainder of the building to the Arabs.

I found a marked difference between the outlook of these "economic refugees"—there are about 180,000 of them—and the official refugees living in Unrwa camps. The economic refugee sees the land he once owned or cultivated every time he steps out of his house; the camp refugee is frustrated not so much because he hankers after his old village as because he has been given no alternative means of livelihood. A senior Unrwa official in Beirut made the striking remark to me that if the United Nations were to leave the Middle East the great majority of refugees in Syria and the Lebanon would suffer no hardship. Most of them have found work. Although the Lebanese Government, for internal political reasons, gives them no official encouragement, in Syria they enjoy all the privileges of citizenship. In Jordan and the Gaza strip, on the other hand, economic integration is impossible. Even with large-scale irrigation Jordan would only absorb the natural yearly increase in her refugee population. Gaza has no such possibility, however limited. The 700,000 refugees in these two areas, if they ever accepted resettlement, could only find homes in Iraq or Syria—if these countries ever agreed to accept them.

These are, of course, the two great "ifs" that govern the future of the Arab refugees. Their own political importance has increased enormously during the past four years. When Abdullah annexed the West bank of the Jordan and gave the Arab refugees Jordanian citizenship, he can hardly have realised what a profound change he was imposing on the old Transjordan. A country which by character and tradition was Bedouin is today predominantly Palestinian. Whereas King Abdullah inclined

OESTERREICHISCHER AUSWANDERER-HILFSFONDS Kuratorium konstituiert

Am 11. Mai fand in Wien die konstituierende Sitzung des Kuratoriums des oesterreichischen Auswanderer-Hilfsfonds statt. Es ist vorgesehen, den offiziellen Aufruf an Geschaedigte, die Zuwendungen aus dem Hilfsfonds zu beantragen wuenschen, in der amtlichen "Wiener Zeitung" etwa am 10. Juni zu veroeffentlichen. Es ist zu erwarten, dass die amtlichen Antragsformulare gegen Ende des Monats Juni (auf keinen Fall vor dem 20. Juni) in London verfuegbar sein werden. Sie koennen dann bei der United Restitution Organization, 183/189 Finchley Road, N.W.3, Austrian Desk (6d pro Exemplar) angefordert werden.

Eine ausfuehrliche Darstellung des angekuendigten offiziellen Aufrufs wird in der naechsten Nummer von "AJR Information" veroeffentlicht werden. Die United Restitution Organization wird dann auch einzelnen Antragstellern nach vorheriger Verabredung mit ihrem Rat zur Verfuegung stehen.

AJR CLUB

Hours extended to Evenings

As readers have seen from the previous issue of "AJR Information," the Opening Hours of the A.J.R. Club have been extended to the evenings. This will be particularly welcomed by those who are working during the day. The hours are now as follows: Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 4-10 p.m.; Monday and Wednesday, 4-7 p.m. Light refreshments are served in the afternoons and snacks are available in the evenings. There are also facilities to use the garden.

The response to this new AJR venture has confirmed its need among members of the community. Further interested friends will be welcome at the Club (Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3).

towards peace with Israel, the present trend in Amman is, unfortunately, the reverse. With the removal of Glubb the restraint which had been exercised on the Government in Amman and on the Arab Legion stationed along the border was lifted. And on the international plane the policy of rapprochement with a pro-Western Iraq is now openly at loggerheads with a pro-Nasser policy.

Nasser's arms deal with the Soviet bloc found a tremendous echo among the nationalists of Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon, but more particularly among the refugees. It was a blow not only against Israel but also against the West. Differences in Jordan were resolved almost overnight. In Damascus and Amman Socialists and Communists marched side by side in the streets and in their jubilation even set fire to their own leaders' cars.

Demonstrations of this kind can be interpreted in a hundred different ways. Almost every Arab I spoke to gave me a new version of the motives behind these outbursts. But "Schadenfreude" certainly plays a prominent part, whether it arises from a rankling memory

Continued on page 2, column 1

Continued from front page

of the defeat suffered in 1948 such as one finds, not surprisingly, among Egyptian officers, from an equally understandable bitterness among Arabs who lost land and a fanatical determination to whip up their more passive colleagues, or merely from an ill-defined xenophobia born of a sense of inferiority.

To find in this turmoil of emotionalism and half-baked idealism any element of reason at all comes as a surprise and a relief. From my own limited experience I would say it is rare among the younger people but not uncommon among those who can see the Arab-Israeli dispute and even the relations between the Arab countries and the West in some sort of historical—rather than hysterical—perspective. I can recall, for example, conversations with an influential journalist in Cairo, a newspaper editor in Beirut, a Cabinet Minister in Damascus, and the Prime Minister of Jordan, in all of which the attitude to the Johnston Plan for joint Arab-Israeli irrigation was the same. They admitted the political hazards (to themselves) of sponsoring any scheme that involved co-operation with Israel and might even imply recognition of the State of Israel, but they felt that some political settlement was bound to come sooner or later and would have preferred it to bring such material benefits as the Johnston Plan undoubtedly would produce. Unfortunately, for the time being at least, no Arab Government (including Nasser's) seems to feel strong enough to give the lead. It remains to be seen, on the other hand, for how long the scales will stay tipped against a recognition of the status quo and an acceptance of peaceful coexistence.

Policy of the Western Powers

Much naturally depends on the Western Powers. Their Middle East policy is conditioned to a large extent by their need for oil but that of the Arab countries is, in the last resort, almost entirely conditioned by it. It is no coincidence that Colonel Nasser has adopted substantially the same foreign policy as ex-King Farouk, in allying himself with Saudi Arabia. Having deposed one despot, he was compelled by the economics of his own situation to join hands with another. In terms of hard cash it is King Saud's American dollars that are the mainstay of the Egyptian-inspired campaign against the West in North and East Africa and in Jordan, and, by the same token, of the new defensive alliance against Israel. But the West, ironically enough, is also contributing to the Cairo-Jeddah-Damascus axis in other ways. Ninety per cent of the United Nations funds for the maintenance of the Arab refugees comes from America and Britain, a fact which could only be brought home to the Arabs if the West decided to reduce its subsidies. Such a decision would probably have as salutary an effect on ruling circles in the Arab world as Russia's recent reminder that her intervention on behalf of the Arabs was not irrevocable.

There are, in fact, two refugee problems which go to the very roots of the dispute between Israel and her Arab neighbours, the human and the political problem. The human problem of repatriating, resettling or compensating several hundred thousand Arabs is not quite so formidable as one might think. An investigation is now being made by the Palestine Conciliation Commission of the Arab refugees' claims. It is estimated that only some 40,000 families owned property. Many of them if they were offered repatriation would undoubtedly refuse it. It is difficult to see how Israel can avoid giving them the right to refuse. But even if the Israeli Government feels unable to concede that much, it could make a constructive gesture on the Jordan border which might well be deliberately misconstrued by the more intransigent Arabs in Amman but which would appeal directly to some 180,000 economic refugees. In my view individuals like the Mayor of Tulkharm would

U.K. Taxation of Foreign Pensions and Certain Other Overseas Income

The new Finance Bill 1956 contains provisions dealing with the tax treatment of such overseas income which is normally taxed in this country on a remittance basis (i.e., on the amount transferred to this country within a tax year). This basis applies to foreign earned income, i.e., in particular to pensions and salaries. Insofar as "Renten" under the BEG are treated as "earned income," they would fall to be assessed on the basis of remittances as well. Where pensions or such payments were awarded retrospectively, hardship would often occur if the amount remitted in one tax year included arrears for several years. This arose particularly in the case of former German public servants or officials of German Jewish communities who were dismissed or lost their employments under the Nazi régime and have now been awarded pensions dating back to April 1, 1951, in the case of public servants and to October 1, 1952, in the case of the Jewish officials.

This position was dealt with in memoranda submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue by the AJR, in conjunction with the Ex-Service (N.B.) Association. In our issues of December 1954 and February 1956, we were able to report statements made in Parliament by Mr. R. A. Butler, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which he acknowledged that hardship may arise under the existing tax law for the recipients of such income and foreshadowed legislation to adjust the tax liability in such cases. In the meantime, the Board of Inland Revenue had instructed local tax offices that by way of concession any remittances of accumulated pension arrears should be assessed to tax over the years for which the pensions had been paid, if the taxpayer so desired.

The proposed new legislation is now contained in Clause 11 of the Finance (No. 2) Bill 1956. Under the heading "Relief from tax on delayed remittances of overseas income," the matter is dealt with in a general and comprehensive way, affecting all overseas income taxable on a remittance basis. The effect of the clause can be briefly summarised as follows:

- (1) In respect of overseas income, liable to U.K. tax on a remittance basis, a taxpayer may claim within six years after the end of the year in which the income was remitted, that it be assessed for the years in which it arose, i.e., for which it was paid. The claimant must show, as regards arrears of pensions, that he was unable to transfer the income to the U.K. in an earlier year and that this inability was not due to any "want of reasonable endeavours" on his part. For earned income other than pensions, there are

not feel inclined to reject outright a specific proposal for rectifying the border.

Gestures of this kind are, of course, difficult to make in the present atmosphere. Israel cannot afford to be unselfish. But she also cannot afford to be too rigid in her policy. Economically time is probably on the side of the Arabs. If, therefore, the military and psychological effect of Nasser's arms deal with the Soviet bloc were neutralised by a shift in Soviet policy and by the delivery of defensive weapons to Israel—both of which now seem likely—Israel might find the resultant change in climate more congenial for a bold yet practical gesture.

The important part the refugees have come to play in Arab policy, both as a political force and as an issue, represents one of the major stumbling blocks to a settlement between Israel and her Arab neighbours. It will never be overcome solely by intervention from outside, whether from the United Nations or from the West, for it is quite simply a question of repatriation or resettlement. Only Israel can answer that question. In general terms she has already answered it. A more specific offer directed not at the Arab Governments but at the refugees themselves would have a wider and at the same time a more direct appeal. Even those Arabs who are not open to reason are usually open to ransom.

the further conditions that the inability to remit earlier must have been due to the laws or governmental action of the foreign country or impossibility to obtain foreign currency there.

- (2) The provisions apply to foreign income remitted in the tax year 1951/52 and onwards. Assessments already made on the old basis in respect of income remitted during the tax year 1951/52 and later years will be reopened on a claim being made by the taxpayer.

It is especially gratifying that remittances of pensions, etc., as far back as 1951/52 will be affected by these provisions. It can be expected that virtually all recipients of pension arrears will benefit by them. The latest date for a claim to be made in respect of the year 1951/52 is April 5, 1958.

It must be mentioned that the Finance Bill is a proposal which will become law only after it has passed the various parliamentary stages and received the Royal Assent. It can, however, be safely assumed that Clause 11 will become law in its present form.

PROFESSOR BOEHM'S GIFT

Stephen Wise Prize for Frankfurt Community

As stated in the last issue, Professor Franz Boehm has received the Stephen Wise Prize of the World Jewish Congress. He has now donated the material award of \$1,000, which goes with the Prize, to the Frankfurt Jewish community.

At the ceremony in New York at which the Prize was handed over to Professor Boehm, Rabbi Dr. Joachim Prinz pointed out he was sure that Professor Boehm, the German Government, as well as the German people would realise that the Jews could not forget what had happened. It is necessary for the German people, he said, to understand why the number of Jews in Germany cannot and will not grow. At the same time, Dr. Prinz paid tribute to those Germans who had opposed the Nazi régime.

Dr. Hans Simons, President of the "New School for Social Research," announced at the function that Professor Boehm had been awarded an Honorary Doctor degree of "New School."

The "Aufbau" also gave a reception in honour of Professor Boehm. Among those present were the Nobel Prizewinner, Professor Otto Loewi, Professor Eugen Spiro, and the German Consul-General, Dr. Adolph Reifferscheidt.

LEBENSVERSICHERUNGSGESELLSCHAFT PHOENIX

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Notiz auf Seite 3 der vorigen Nummer machen wir darauf aufmerksam, dass die OEVAG (Oesterreichische Versicherungs-A.G.) nur den rein oesterreichischen Versicherungsstock der Lebensversicherungsgesellschaft Phoenix uebernommen hat. Policeninhaber, deren Versicherungen uebernommen worden sind, erhielten von der OEVAG im Jahre 1936 eine entsprechende Bescheinigung.

Der Versicherungsstock der auslaendischen Geschaeftsstellen des Phoenix (Deutschland, Polen, Tschechoslowakei, etc.) ist von der OEVAG nicht uebernommen worden.

GHETTO SHANGHAI

Der oesterreichische Verwaltungsgerichtshof hat in einem "Test Case" entschieden, dass die Anhaltung im Lager Hongkew-Shanghai keine Verfolgungsmassnahme im Sinne der Bestimmungen des Opferfuersorge-Gesetzes darstelle, sondern lediglich als eine Sicherungsmassnahme anzusehen sei. Er hat daher die Auffassung des Amtes der Wiener Landesregierung und des Bundesministeriums for Soziale Verwaltung bestaetigt, derzufolge fuer die Anhaltung in Shanghai keine Haftentschaedigung zusteht.

Diese Stellungnahme steht im Gegensatz zu der Praxis deutscher Wiedergutmachungsbehoerden und Gerichte, die auf Grund eingehender Beweisaufnahme den Verfolgungscharakter der Internierung im Ghetto Shanghai allgemein bejahen.

O. H. Greve THE NEW INDEMNIFICATION BILL

The following article is the translated extract from a German broadcast on April 19 of the Federal German Member of Parliament, Dr. O. H. Greve (S.P.D.), who is Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Compensation.

Today, no one likes to discuss the question of restitution for the wrongs committed by the criminal system of National Socialism and its henchman. Why? Not because they are ashamed of what was done, of the liquidation of six million Jews and innumerable others murdered on account of their political or religious beliefs, or of the sufferings of the cripples and orphans who continue to lead a miserable existence in every country of the world, bearing witness for the rest of their lives to the disgrace of the name of Germany. No, the reason why restitution is not discussed is because it is the consequence of crimes which even some influential politicians of the "Bundesrepublik" would prefer to erase from the memory of the German people. In certain quarters today an attempt is being made again to minimise the enormity of the criminal intentions and the extent of their execution. In particular, they are trying to persuade the unprejudiced youth of the country that "it wasn't really as bad as all that" and that the desire for compensation is often nothing more than an attempt to gain possession of material wealth to which the claimant is not, in fact, entitled.

Representatives of such opinions are unfortunately also to be found in the competent authorities and ministries and, until now, it has not yet been possible to unmask them all and show them up for what they are: incorrigible political opponents of our democratic state and vicious anti-Semites. I do not wish to imply that this is unreservedly typical of present-day Germany. I, myself, was young and most impressionable at the time of the Weimar Republic and I must admit that I am glad to see how different the youth of between the wars are from their post-1945 counterpart. But it is some of those who live eternally in the past, whose work is mostly done surreptitiously but who form or help to form the attitude of ministers.

Financial Issue Overstressed

In this connection I must bring up a problem which has, again and again, been the subject of heated debate, namely, the raising of means in order to implement the "Bundesentschädigungsgesetz" and the Amendment to it at present in preparation. But let me preface my remarks by stating quite clearly that for me and for many other honest protagonists of compensation, both from the ranks of the Government and the Opposition, indemnification for loss of life, freedom, health and also for loss of property, for loss of economic and professional status, is not primarily a matter of money. If it is at all possible to provide useful legislation for compensation, it can only be done by someone who constantly keeps in the forefront of his mind the actual victims and their sufferings, their survivors and the inhuman horrors that brought this about; anyone who thinks only of the money to "compensate" for something which is irreparable, is useless as a legislator. For who could name the sum which could compensate for the murder of six million Jews. There can be no penance for that in a material sense, only, to use Theodor Heuss's words, "Scham in der Stille," and I should like to add, a renunciation of the policy of "wanting to forget." What the German people in the Bundesrepublik has done towards compensation and restitution, what it is doing and will do in the future, is not a sacrifice and will not be one! No one has had to make the slightest sacrifice with regard to compensation for the victims of National Socialism, nor will he have to do so. The total payments made and still to be made by Bund and Laender come to DM14,000 million (including DM3,000 million for Israel). This constitutes 39 per cent of the Bund's budget for 1956. If one takes the total expenditure by the Bund for the years 1949 to 1962, the period when all the compensation is to have been paid, as DM450,000 million, the total payments will be less than 3 per cent. In view of the material damage alone, caused by Hitler's persecution between 1933 and 1945, the amount of indemnification is so small that in ordinary court proceedings it would be regarded as totally unacceptable.

I want to make only one comment on the legal situation regarding compensation: the new

"Bundesentschädigungsgesetz," as it is now called, which was introduced in the Bundestag on December 9, 1955, and had its First Reading on the 14th of the same month, has been discussed in great detail in the Parliamentary Committee on Compensation. At present, the outcome of the Committee's deliberations is being put into its final form. I know that once again many of those who are anxiously awaiting the settlement of their claims will feel disappointed by the delay in putting the new law into practice. However, as it was a question of re-formulating a law which will have to stand without change for some time, in fact, of giving the law its probably final form, the Committee was faced with a difficult choice: either to make some improvements and clarifications in a law whose contents were not altogether satisfactory, and thus produce, in a relatively short time, a compromise solution; or to do a thorough job. It was agreed unanimously by the members of the legislative bodies concerned to take the latter course. This was made all the more necessary through the fact that in applying the present law compensation offices and law courts arrived at wrong decisions, sometimes very serious ones, which the legislators felt in duty bound to make impossible in the future. For it had turned out that the original legislator's desire, that in cases of doubt the decision should be taken in favour of the claimant, had often led to precisely the opposite result. Our main concern with the new law is to make quite clear in each paragraph that it is to serve the purpose of making good the wrongs done by National Socialism in the widest sense possible.

Human Approach Decisive

I know full well, and so does each one of us on the Committee, that what matters is our attitude of heart and mind—and this is the vital factor for everyone who has to deal with the matter, from the Minister down to the typist. In this respect, too, there have been shortcomings among those responsible for administering the Law in the Laender, and such shortcomings will not be entirely avoidable in the future. The Federal Government is not entitled to give instructions to the compensation offices, and we have to face the fact that also in future the Laender will vary in their procedures. On the other hand, the situation becomes untenable in cases such as one that came to my notice several days ago, where, after the official had given his written decision, there was a delay of six weeks, due to lack of staff, before the necessary copies could be made. Furthermore a stop must be put once and for all to the use which is being made of the compensation offices as a dumping ground for inefficient or unpopular civil servants.

We do not presume to have created a perfect instrument with the new "Bundesentschädigungsgesetz," one that will satisfy everyone. In particular, the Committee had to face up to the most difficult problem of all: to decide which of the claims, although justifiable in themselves, should be passed over. The problem had to be carefully weighed and, often, it was painful to have to harden oneself and say "No." This "No" was only said in each individual case, after long debate and inner struggle against the instinctive desire to say "Yes." In view of the many different forms the persecution took, damage to life, freedom, and health had to take precedence over damage to or loss of fortune and property.

We have now dedicated ourselves and our work for one and a half years entirely to compensation, and we have tried to fulfil a hard but noble task, even if this task must remain incomplete.

We hope that the Plenary Session of the "Bundestag" and the "Bundesrat" will not raise any obstacles to prevent its speedy implementation when it has its reading. But I wish to make a special appeal to the Prime Ministers and Ministers of Finance of the Laender, to see to it that budgetary considerations do not lead to politically impossible and harmful decisions. We all want to give expression to our heartfelt desire to right the wrongs that were done, and to let the victims realise from our actions that our desire is a genuine one.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Work for Israel

The Jews of Britain will, with the full knowledge of the sacrifices entailed, give the utmost support to Israel and help her to beat off her enemies. This was said by Mr. I. M. Sieff, Hon. President of the British Zionist Federation, in an address warning the Federation's 55th Annual Conference that "the war against Israel will gather around it all the enemies of the Jewish people wherever they may live; for not only Israel is at stake but the fate of millions of Jews all over the world."

The Conference approved a project to establish a £1,000,000 British corporation to promote the industrial and agricultural development of Kiryat Gat, the future centre of the economically and strategically important Lachish area in Israel where the group settlement of a few hundred Anglo-Jewish families will ensure the absorption of thousands of North African Jews within a Western milieu and under the leadership of a skilled element.

Mr. A. I. Richtiger was elected Chairman of the Federation, in succession to Dr. I. Fox.

Approach to Russian Leaders

An effort by the Board of Deputies to obtain an interview with Messrs. Bulganin and Khrushchev during their recent visit to London, was not successful. Similar attempts by other Anglo-Jewish organisations—Agudas Israel and World Jewish Congress (British Section)—also failed. The Board did however send the Russian leaders a memorandum, signed by the President and the Chief Rabbi, "expressing the interest of the British Jewish community in the religious, cultural and national situation of Soviet Jewry; its recognition of certain improvements in that situation as manifested by such developments as the opening of new synagogues, the printing of prayer-books, the appearance of Jewish singers at Jewish concerts, and the permission given to a number of Jewish citizens of the Soviet Union to join their relatives in Israel," etc. A similar memorandum was submitted by the World Jewish Congress.

The episode aroused considerable criticism in the Jewish press. While the prospect of any intercession was rated slight, fault was found particularly with British Jewry's failure to make a united approach. The fact alone that several organisations had proceeded separately, said *The Jewish Chronicle*, "weakened the force of any appeal and reduced its importance in the eyes not only of the Russians but also of those in responsible positions who were approached to make Jewish intervention possible. From all accounts, the Jewish organisations here had not consulted one another in advance, as they should have done."

Labour Party's Concern

The cause of the Jews in Russia was championed by Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, the Leader of the Opposition, when he asked the Russian visitors, at the celebrated dinner, about the Social Democrats imprisoned in Eastern Europe. He added: "The Labour Party is also concerned about the position of the Jewish minority in Russia." He asked if this matter could be looked into.

Glowing sympathy for Israel was avowed by Mr. Alfred Robens, M.P., the Labour Party's spokesman on foreign affairs, when he spoke on his impressions of a recent visit. "If I were a Jew and had sons," he said, "I would, in addition to my monetary contribution to Israel, like them to give at least two years of their life to the building up of the Jewish State."

Defence

When he explained the differences of Jewish defence work in Britain and the U.S.A., Mr. John Dight, Chairman of the Board of Deputies Defence Committee, said that in the U.S.A. the approach was of a semi-militant nature; in England it was quieter and unobtrusive. He was opposed, he said, to attempts to press the Board into militant defence against antisemitism.

One of the main questions raised at this year's Conference of Anglo-Jewish Preachers was the relationship between the Orthodox and Reform and Liberal congregations. The Liberals were criticised for allegedly solemnising marriages which would not be permitted by Orthodox synagogues. "There is no room for spiritual co-existence in the sphere of religion between us and them," Rabbi Dr. Gottlieb declared in the Conference sermon.

LUTZ WELTMANN:

THE DEAD SPEAK TO THE LIVING

A German literary review began a recent article by saying that the most important and most interesting books of 1955 had been posthumous publications, those hidden in drawers and other places during the years of tyranny. And today the voices of the dead speak to new readers who are willing to listen to them.

Alfred Wolfenstein

The Mainz Academy for Science and Literature added several new volumes to their series "Verschollene und Vergessene" (Franz Steiner Verlag, Wiesbaden), of which the volumes about Mombert, Lasker-Schüler, Karl Kraus and others have already been reviewed here. One of them is devoted to Paul Scheerbart (1889-1915), a most original writer and personality; another to Rudolf Borchardt (particularly well selected and edited by Hans Hennecke), an edition which has paved the way to a Rudolf Borchardt Society and to a publication of his collected works. There is one volume on Alfred Wolfenstein, a leading poet of the expressionist movement, whose philosophy of life is well represented by the editor Carl Mumm. He counts Wolfenstein among those whose thought, knowing no bounds, led to Nihilism. Yet, at the same time realising the limitations of intellectualism, he overcame vitalism by discovering and confessing sympathetic and understanding love. Thus the editor does this political activist full justice, and his portrait corresponds with my own impressions from frequent meetings with the poet in Berlin; his was a radical mind and a tender soul. His last book which he sent me from his first exile in Prague was a small volume of prose with the characteristic title "Die gefährlichen Engel." Both his themes, his attitude and his concentrated prose reminded me strongly of Kafka, and Carl Mumm elaborates on this spiritual relationship. He tells us the story of Wolfenstein's dangerous life in his French exile, his refusal to leave Europe, his rescue at the end of the war and his death in despair, exhausted by his suffering. The selection, however small, is good and contains the great moving document of refugee existence "Exodus 1940," but we miss specimens from his beautiful translations of Rimbaud.

Gertrud Kolmar

The Darmstadt Academy for Language and Poetry has published "Collected Poems by Gertrud Kolmar," aptly introduced by Jacob Picard (Lambert Schneider Verlag, Heidelberg, 352 pages, DM 16.50). Else Lasker-Schüler's mantle would have fallen on Gertrud Kolmar, had the latter survived the elder poetess. She was a woman in the shadow. Few knew her. She shunned fame and society, though her father, Justizrat Chodziesner, was a well-known Berlin personality, for whom she sacrificed herself after her mother's death. His deportation to Theresienstadt preceded hers from which she never returned. She was not yet fifty years old when she died, rejecting the possibility of rescue because she wished to go the way of the Jewish people to the end.

A few recognized her greatness: Alfred Richard Meyer ("Munkepunkte," who died recently) risked publishing a group of her poems as late as 1934, and Erich Lichtenstein gave a good cross-section of her poems under the title "Die Frau und die Tiere" in a special publication of the Jüdische Buchgemeinschaft, whose literary adviser he was. Amongst much mediocrity published at that time, her poems were a revelation of genius as was her personality which we will remember from a poetry reading in a private Jewish house: a little "Alraune" with large, dark penetrating eyes, made to live a life in Rahel Levin's salon. Her soul was as passionate as it was profound, and recalled the hidden emotions of another "Fräulein," Annette von Droste-Hülshoff.

Her consciousness of the Jewish destiny intensified her feeling of loneliness. There are not many Jewish themes amongst her poems, but in such masterpieces as "Die Jüdin" and "Wir Juden," Jewish destiny and Jewish humanity speak to us in German poetic language at its most perfect; they were created just at that fateful moment when the ties between Jewry and Germany were cut by force. Gertrud Kolmar sings of the homeless, the vagabonds, the robbers' maid, of plants and animals, of landscapes and continents sometimes with an almost wild paganism, sometimes relating the phenomena of the outer world to her inner life. She could be inspired by nature as well as by culture, by her extensive reading, and only by expressing her visions in verse could she exist. Her mind wanders from the little

township in the Mark to the scenery of Asia which indicates both the range and the direction of her talents. Her poetry is an elemental eruption, and although it sometimes conjures up pictures we seem to recognize, Gertrud Kolmar speaks always in a voice entirely her own: "Die Tochter" reminds us of Beer-Hofmann's "Vater-Kind-das bleibt doch," her lines "Meiner Brüste Knospen spülte nicht Regen, Kein Strahl riss sie auf: Diese Gärten sind abgelegen. Kein Abenteurer hat noch meiner Wüstentäler goldenen Sand besiegt Und den Schnee, der auf hohen Oeden jungfräulich liegt" of Rilke's "Stundenbuch: Da blühen Jungfrau auf zum unbekanntem." And who would not think of Walt Whitman's dedication when reading Gertrud Kolmar's words to the reader: "Der du dies liest, gib acht: Denn sieh, du blätterst einen Menschen um. Doch ist es dir aus Pappe nur gemacht."

Hugo Jacobi

Hugo Jacobi, born in Strassburg, soldier of the first World War, opting for Germany after the War, leaving Germany in 1938, died in Zürich in 1954. His memory is being honoured not only by a small selection of his poetry "Gedichte" (Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Köln-Marienburg, 74 pages), but by an annual Poetry Prize bearing his name, which was awarded recently for the first time. He was an émigré through-

out his life. Ferdinand Lion tells the story of this lovable man, a friend of Thomas Mann and Albert Schweitzer and calls him an Eighteenth Century Chevalier. His poetry flows clear and pure, is a true mirror of his gentle character. His life was a successful struggle to establish himself and to help others, in times so unsuited to his mentality and sensibility. But he loved life with all its metamorphoses, and although he, like so many others, had to adjust himself to the hardships of a refugee existence, he turned his experience into poetry which was never embittered. In his best poems, the group "Venezianische Spiegelungen," he praised the beauty and vitality of Venice, finding new tunes and holding his own in spite of the verse and prose of great masters whose song preceded his.

Alfred Krüger

Alfred Krüger who died in Copenhagen in 1953 was a successful newspaper correspondent of "Berliner Tageblatt." He belonged to the expressionist generation of Wolfenstein, Blass and Trakl, but, in the small volume "Gedichte," edited by his sister (Limes Verlag, Wiesbaden, 81 pages), seems most akin to the almost forgotten Alfred Lichtenstein. Torn between homesickness and despair, between love for the country that gave him refuge and the feeling of strangeness even in the most intimate relations with Danish friends, he wrote now in a melancholic vein, now in a grotesque mood, and we recognise experiences of his own in his touching poems.

Sentimental Journey into German Painting

There is no use pretending. I didn't go to the exhibition of "A Hundred Years of German Painting 1850-1950" in the Tate Gallery as a detached observer. I deliberately wanted to relive experiences which accompanied decades of my life from my student days in Berlin, where the Kronprinzen Palais was just opposite and the National Gallery just round the corner. We humans live and change (at least, that's what we think), but so do paintings. On what terms would we meet again after so many years? Rayski's young Count Einsiedel still looks at us, brilliantly painted, with his aristocratic detachment. Menzel's "The Balcony Room" (1845) remains a wonderful picture. Its stillness delights, its simplicity and at the same time its poetry, austere à la berlinoise. Turning to another early painting of his, "The Theatre du Gymnase," we wonder what would have become of him if he had continued his own impressionistic manner instead of becoming a semi-official court painter. With him everything seems so uncomplicated and natural.

Hans von Marées is a different proposition altogether. He never ceased to struggle for his own mode of expression, determined to rediscover the secret of classicism. This permanent conflict, this never being satisfied with his achievement makes him very modern. "The Oarsmen," the great Triptych "Saints Martin, Hubert and George" are moving by what they say and all that they had to leave unsaid. Feuerbach and Boecklin look so much more "classical." It is easy and perhaps fashionable to shrug them off. But have a good look at Feuerbach's "Mirjam" and you will see what a fine piece of painting her green shawl is. Everybody knows how painstakingly Leibl portrayed his Bavarian peasants. But the "Portrait of Graefin Rosine Treuberg" reveals him as a most sensitive artist who could vie with Renoir in quality without the Frenchman's sensualism.

And then the German impressionists. It is true they have rarely attained the heavenly luminosity and brilliance of colour of their French contemporaries. But Slevogt's illustrations stay unforgettable, Lovis Corinth's power grips as in the old days, and Max Liebermann's "Self Portrait" (1925) and his "Garden in Wannsee" reveal a master. Liebermann has often been reproached for being too cool, too detached, for not displaying any real feeling. Yet in at least one water-colour he burns up a fireworks of colour and passion, something one

would not expect from the caustic Berliner.

A later generation, of course, made emotion and expression or dreaming and imagination their watchwords. Feininger, who died a few months ago, is represented by the wonderful "Barfuesser Kirche in Erfurt" (1927). His sense of crystal colour and its shadings, of form and composition creates something like "disciplined" dreams. Macke and Marc let go. I prefer Macke's glowing colours in his pictures of woods with people, a small canvas of this kind is in the exhibition. Marc still charms us by the innocence of his animals which—bless them—are quite unaware that human beings exist. They are ageless like the surrounding hills, plants, trees, too primeval almost to be described with the sophisticated word "landscape." Highest sophistication and disarming naivete are Paul Klee's hallmarks. Much has been said about his "Goldfish," which was sold by Hitler as "decadent" and has been rebought for a handsome sum from America by the Hamburg Kunsthalle. (Some paintings are marked "zurueckerworben.") And we should not overlook Paula Modersohn-Becker (she was born exactly 80 years ago and died at the early age of 37). Many years ago her "Briefe und Tagebuchblätter" was one of the most popular books in Germany. This independent and very courageous woman who dared to be far ahead of her times is represented by a "Self-portrait with Camelia," painted in 1907, shortly before her death. She was too much of an artist ever to allow "Heimatkunst" to slip into sickly sentimentality.

And so I could go on mentioning names and recalling memories. People like ourselves can hardly help asking: what is the Jewish contribution to German painting? At the exhibition only three Jewish painters are represented: Liebermann, Curt Hermann (we spoke about him recently on the occasion of a special exhibition), and Rudolf Levy, the pupil of Matisse, who disappeared in a Nazi camp. I think none of them has given decisive new impulses to the development of German painting. We remember that Hans von Marées had a Jewish mother. But looking at Corinth's pictures, his Jewish wife, Charlotte, comes to one's mind, a distinguished painter in her own right, and out of Franz Marc's enchanted garden creatures the sad, dark eyes of his "Prinz Jussuf," Else Lasker-Schueler, seem to look at us.

A. ROSENBERG.

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

24th Zionist Congress

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

On the second day of the Zionist Congress, Dr. Nahum Goldmann expressed from the platform the hope that the weather would be warmer, as—by Israel standards—it was extremely cold. His expectation did not materialise. The chilly atmosphere which enveloped the proceedings from the beginning continued to the very end, when delegates and some hundred onlookers sat right through the closing session, from the early evening till almost eight in the morning, shivering and shuddering. The unseasonal cold in late spring, when the country usually swelters in "Hamsinim," accentuated the state of incompleteness of the Convention Centre, where the Congress took place—the absence of floor covers, the rawness of the walls, the temporary devices for doors and windows, through which draught and wind crept unchecked.

The low temperature without was matched by a fridity within for which the weather cannot be made responsible. Not long after the traditional three beats of the gavel, declaring the Congress opened in the presence of a galaxy of State and foreign dignitaries, the excitement and expectation died down. Mr. Berl Locker, who, as the then co-Chairman of the Executive, opened Congress, expanded the remarks of a Chairman into a veritable address; the speech by Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, in a more conciliatory mood than at the previous Congress and free from invectives for the Zionist representatives from abroad, covered much well-known ground in a very elaborate fashion; after greetings were tendered by President Ben-Zvi and the Chief Rabbis Herzog and Nissim, who vied with each other in exceeding the allotted time, the huge auditorium comprising 3,500 seats began to empty with people streaming into the restaurant, bar, the lobbies, or starting their journey home before Dr. Goldmann began his statesmanlike address.

Most Speakers Israelis

The political debate which followed the next morning and which, after two days, was wound up by Foreign Minister Sharett, was marred not only by the much-publicised incident between Herut and Mapam. Mr. Hasan, a Mapam leader, maintained that everybody preaching war committed a crime against Israel. Speaking as he did immediately after Beigin, head of Herut, who had advocated an activist policy, Herut took offence and made the continuance of his address impossible. As Mr. Hasan declined to withdraw his remarks under such pressure, one afternoon and one evening session were lost in the ensuing negotiations on and off stage so that Congress had to be extended by one day. Considering, however, that the date of the Congress, on the insistence of Israeli groups, had been advanced by six months, in order to give the Zionist Movement abroad the opportunity to declare its solidarity with Israel in her hour of emergency, many delegates viewed this spectacle between two members of Israel's Parliament with mixed feelings and wondered whether they could not have fought their private battle either in the Knesset or at some other place before or after Congress. Altogether, looking at the list of speakers who participated in the political debate, one finds an overwhelming majority of Israelis—notwithstanding the fact that not they but the Zionists of the dispersions were asked for a declaration of solidarity which was solemnly read out.

This by no means remained the only contradiction and inconsistency. Dr. Goldmann's second address laid down the trend for future Zionist work abroad: to instil Zionism in the Jewish world with a new impetus by shifting the emphasis from exclusively Israel-centred activities to a fuller programme in the Diaspora, such as fight against assimilation. As Dr. Goldmann put it: "This Diaspora work should take two directions: it must

assure the survival of Jewish life in the Diaspora, and link all Jewish life with Israel, both collectively and individually . . ."

While the debate on the Agency's budget and the Four-Year Plan, which formed the second part of the agenda of the Congress, proceeded at a rather pedestrian pace, and the discussion on Dr. Goldmann's organisational proposals—territorial federations; abolition of the Shekel; inclusion of non-Zionists in the Executive—moved along the customary party lines, negotiations about forming the new Executive were held not only in the lobbies of the Convention Centre, but also at the offices of a number of members of the Government.

The New Executive

Dr. Goldmann's original plan to form a wall-to-wall coalition, including Herut, was, I learnt on authority, approved by Ben-Gurion, with whom he first ventilated the issue. However, other members of the Cabinet and high-ups in the party hierarchy, foremost Levi Eshkol and Golda Myerson, opposed such a project. The obstruction by Herut of Congress proceedings during Hasan's address was already the reaction to those efforts and not, as has been asserted, the cause for them. There was even a time in the Standing Committee when a proposal to form a coalition without Mapai, comprising General Zionists, Herut, and Mizrachi, was seriously considered. Sprinzak, Locker, and Meir Argov stepped in and predicted that such a coalition would lead the Zionist Organisation into an open break with the Israel Government. Arguments that just such an Executive would act as a supplement to the labour coalition in Israel and thus give all elements in the Zionist front a representation, remained of no avail.

Finally, the Executive was formed on the old familiar lines, with here and there a fresh face taking the place of a predecessor on the respective party list.

That Israel by now has learned to arrange international conventions was again proved by the smooth technical procedure of the Congress—from the walkie-talkies, with their simultaneous translations in four languages (Hebrew, English, Yiddish, and French), to the well-organised, impressive tour of the delegates to a frontier settlement near the Gaza strip. For the first time in the history of Zionist Congresses, a daily Congress Journal in English, in addition to one in Hebrew, made its appearance, greatly appreciated by the English-speaking public, both delegates and tourists. That the many constructive suggestions, the host of ideas and stimulating proposals, and, last but not least, the resolutions remain not on paper but are translated into reality, is the task of the Zionist movement for the next period.

ZIONIST CONGRESS ON GERMANY

At the Zionist Congress in Jerusalem the Herut-Revisionist group introduced a minority resolution calling on the Government of Israel to refrain from establishing any formal relations with Germany. The Political Committee recommended to the Congress that this resolution be accepted but not voted upon, as a vote against Herut would imply a wish for the establishment of relations. The Herut motion was tabled by a vote of 175 to 88.

No Plans for German-Israeli Diplomatic Relations

When asked about the results of the recent conference in Istanbul attended by all German diplomats accredited to the countries of the Middle East, an official spokesman of the West German Foreign Office declared in Bonn that neither the Federal Republic nor Israel have the intention of establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries at the present time.

Old Acquaintances

The Abraham Mystery:—After 23 years' absence from Germany and ten years in an American mental hospital Paul Abraham, the Hungarian composer of "Viktorja and Her Husar" and "Ball im Savoy," returned last month to Hamburg as a patient in the clinic of Professor Buerger-Prinz. Although his many hit-songs still earn royalties, the apparently incurable musician is destitute because he sold the rights when he needed money. Of course, he is entitled to restitution, and they speak of 100,000 marks. A reception committee waited with flowers and music on the airport, but the 64-year-old Abraham didn't take any notice. The German press gave the returnee a lot of morbid publicity, and an especially formed association collected 6,000 marks for him.

News from Everywhere:—Marlene Dietrich will appear again in two pictures: with de Sica in "Monte Carlo" and in London in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution."—Carl Zuckmayer returned to the States to finish his autobiography and a new play about the life of artists in the 'twenties.

Germany:—Trude Kolmann, who used to run a guest-house in England and returned to Munich five years ago to open and make a success of the cabaret "Kleine Freiheit," will take over a new theatre there in the autumn.—Erika Mann will write about the last year of her father's life for publication with S. Fischer.—Falk Harnack will direct "Anastasia" with Lilli Palmer in the lead.—Leo Mittler produced Hofmannsthal's "Der Schwierige" with Anton Walbrook and Sybille Binder in Düsseldorf with tremendous success.—London's Rudolphe Cartier-Katscher will go to Stuttgart to direct "By Gaslight" with Marius Goring on TV.—Ernst Deutsch recovered from his recent illness and appeared as "Nathan" in Hamburg.—74-year-old Lucie Hoefflich suffered a heart attack, but is on the way to recovery.—Ludwig Marcuse, who arrived as guest-lecturer in Berlin, published a book about Freud with Rowohlt.

Obituaries:—Actress Gisela Werbezirk died in Hollywood at the age of 81. She was equally well known as a wonderful comedienne in Vienna and in Berlin. Her unpronounceable name alone gave her publicity in the States, and, liked by everybody, she even played small parts in pictures.—88-year-old German painter Emil Nolde, whose real name was Emil Hansen, died in Schleswig.

Milestones:—On June 7 Willy Haas will celebrate his 65th birthday. Born in Prague and grown up with Werfel, Ernst Deutsch, and Franz Kafka, whose letters to Milena he published a few years ago in London and Germany, Haas is now on the staff of Hamburg's "Welt" and "Welt am Sonntag." He started as film critic in Berlin and wrote some of the best scripts in the 'twenties, for instance, the first German Grete Garbo film "Die freudlose Gasse" and Hauptmann's "Weber." As founder and editor of "Literarische Welt" he created a new type of literary weekly still unsurpassed in this field. Via Prague he went to India into exile, where he lived during the war. Returning to Europe afterwards he worked for the British Foreign Office in Germany until he joined Axel Springer's newspaper concern. With his profound knowledge and his inimitable style W.H. represents what's best in German journalism and his many friends wish him many happy returns.

Ustinov Preview:—The élite of Golders Green was present when Peter Ustinov's new comedy "Romanoff and Juliet" was shown at the Hippodrome prior to the West End first night at the Piccadilly Theatre. Like his "Love of Four Colonels," it's witty, gay, and bitter-sweet, concerned with the troubles of our time. Placed in the smallest country in Europe the new play shows what happens when the son of the Russian Ambassador falls in love with the daughter of the American Ambassador. Of course, Ustinov wrote a wonderful part for himself and two of our continental friends are also in the cast: Marianne Deeming-Kupfer and Frederic Valk, both of them give brilliant performances. If you want to have an entertaining evening set against a serious background you shouldn't miss "Romanoff and Juliet."

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H. H. Fleischhacker

HEALING THE WOUNDS

Flight and resettlement,* the story of you and me and of some 30,000,000 people all over the world; or, I fear, the story of only a few of us, because many, many millions—including many Jews—have experienced flight but not yet resettlement. It is the story of refugees and displaced persons, the terrible aftermath of the Nazi Regime, and other political upheavals, and of wars following them during the last 25 years.

What makes people, individuals and families, to emigrate of their own free will, before it is too late, when they see the doom approaching? What forces them to flee before the sinister agents, the Gestapo and similar ill-boding institutions, invading armies, or a hostile relentlessly persecuting political power? What compels them to leave their country and to seek refuge, and often the bare maintenance of their life as a consequence of ill-conceived treaties? These questions are covered by one part of the book. How can and do these unfortunates exist and, if they are lucky, resettle, be it as individuals by their own efforts, by the help of friends or Committees, or in masses, by the schemes of Governments? This is described in another part of the book. The attitude of the refugees, their state of health during and after flight, the effect of sex, age, occupation learned and occupation offered, their ability to adapt themselves to the new conditions of the receiving country and their reaction to a new environment—all this is dealt with in other chapters, as are the conditions which the professions, trade-unions and the labour market in general provide, or do not provide, for resettlement.

The book also includes chapters on life in the camps, and on psychological and psychopathological reactions, and on the occurrence of neuroses and psychoses before and after resettlement. It is a very important and interesting socio-psychological study, written by professional people (doctors, social workers, etc.) for professional people who will find a wealth of detail, criticism and analysis of conditions.

But what I missed very much from a book published by UNESCO was a summing up chapter with a constructive synthesis of the analysed material. There is no clear statement as to what, once the conditions for resettlement exist, can and should be avoided, and what can and should be done to make it as successful as possible. This would have been particularly important as the number of successfully settled refugees is only comparatively small whereas much has still to be done.

Mental Maladies of Refugees

We too experienced some reactions which quite a few of us have still not quite overcome and never will: the feeling of being uprooted or unwanted, the feeling of insecurity and suspicion, of being badly treated, or not fully acknowledged. However, taking into account all the circumstances, these are quite "normal" reactions. As far as real "breakdowns" are concerned, I doubt that there have been very many, and I still remember the comparatively small number of nervous diseases, particularly among women, when we were interned as "enemy-aliens" and when the bombs began to fall. That this impression was not so far from the truth is partially substantiated by Maria Pfister, M.D., in her paper on the symptomatology, treatment, and prognosis of mentally ill refugees and repatriates in Switzerland. In this article figures are given on nervous and mental disorders from all kinds of refugees who had found asylum in that country (which at one time had to deal with about 300,000 fugitives) and also of Swiss repatriates who had left Germany during and after the war. Whilst it is unfortunately true that altogether the incidence of nervous and mental disorders among the refugees was four to five times as great as in the corresponding average Swiss population, the all-round incidence among Jews was lower than expected (except for suicides, endogenous depression and organic psychoses, the latter being attributable to the high age of the Jewish camp population and their sufferings in Theresienstadt, Belsen, etc.). Personality disorders and neuroses were very rare amongst Jews.

With regard to the much more important question of resettlement it appears that, even if occupation has to be changed (and usually to a lower type) resettlement is least difficult when the refugee knows as much as possible about the new country and when he finds a new position by his own initiative, or with

the help of friends or of a Committee, that is when external "coercion" is least. On the other hand, it is very important that the population of the receiving country should have some idea of the refugee's background and problems, that people are willing to have social contact with him and consider him in principle and potentially as "one of us," without forcing or expecting him to change from his old nationality to a new one in a comparatively short time. Or in other words: when one does not expect him to become an entirely new person who has to cut all his old ties, whilst making a new start in a new country, but when one respects him as the person he is, and at the same time expects that he on his side will respect the new social and national surroundings and will gradually try to acclimatize himself to his new life. In these, or similar circumstances, resettlement will meet comparatively little external and internal resistance. In this respect, of the countries mentioned in the report, resettlement has been comparatively quick in this country, Canada and the USA.

The Pace of Assimilation

If, on the other hand, the pace of assimilation is forced, then things may go wrong. This is shown by the Australian post-war experience. Theoretically, everything was planned well. The emigrants were given lessons in English and were taught about the new life awaiting them. Employment, although often of lower grade than previously, was guaranteed, wages, etc., being the same as for Australian workers, and naturalization was promised at the earliest possible moment. An ideal project, it seemed. The scheme was successful financially, there was little criminality and unrest among the émigrés, and yet, social resettlement was unsatisfactory. The refugee and the Australians had expected too quick a transformation from European into Australian.

SHADOWS OF THE PAST

FORGET THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS

In the Bundestag the SPD deputy, Mrs. Renger, asked the Federal Government about its objection to a French film on concentration camps. Is the Government not of the opinion, she asked, that by allowing the performance of films of this kind, it dissociates itself from the crimes of National Socialism. The Secretary of State in the Ministry of the Interior, Ritter von Lex, replied that the film could easily help in reviving the hatred against the German people, caused by the National Socialist crimes.

The "Frankfurter Rundschau" comments: Doesn't the Government by its objection associate with those elements who belittle the horrors of the recent past or try to forget them or even shamelessly deny them?

DON'T HURT TENDER FEELINGS

In Tegernsee a master at the local grammar school had written a play about the sufferings of some pupils under the Nazi régime; the sixth form was going to perform it. The headmaster prohibited its public performance. He admitted the play was excellent, but parents who had been sincere believers in Nazism might be hurt. Furthermore, the headmaster declared, it is doubtful whether it is for a school to take part in such a way in the general political discussion.

DACHAU

The International Dachau Committee, which is composed of former KZ-internees from all European countries, had a meeting in Dachau Castle. The Committee urges the transformation of the camp into a memorial.

Today the camp is difficult to find as there is no signpost. The room which used to contain documents and photographs as illustrations of the concentration camp system has been closed. A leather factory is housed in the former "camp bath"; the former mortuary was taken over by a grocery shop for the 1,843 deportees living in the camp. Part of the place is used by the American army.

Then there is the often unavoidable and usually very difficult in-between-stage, between flight and resettlement: the camps. For a short time a well-run camp may be an advantage; it can enable the uprooted refugee to acquire a new feeling of community and democracy. But life in camps should be short, and productive work should be offered, inside or outside the camps. Camp-inmates and the native population should be encouraged to mix freely. If these conditions do not exist, then often despair and "D.P. Camp apathy" will develop.

It is clear that for a variety of reasons even desirable minimal conditions could not and can not be always obtained, e.g., when there is not enough money available, or when there is professional or trade-union resistance against a new "competitor." But often such difficulties do not exist, and all that is needed and readily obtained, if only it is thought of, is an appeal to the goodwill and humane feelings of both the refugees and the population.

30 Million Unsettled Refugees

But, alas, in the year 1952 there were still about 30,000,000 refugees in the world and for most of them more than goodwill is necessary. May they find resettlement soon!

I have omitted in my review one important chapter on the children. This is so terrible and revolting that I cannot bring myself to write about it, but I suggest it should be translated into German, printed as a pamphlet to be sent to each German household. "AJR Information" recently reported that under the Nazi regime most Germans did not know what happened to the Jews, Russians and other "inferior" races. I suppose many of them still do not know, or only know dimly. It may help towards their political re-education, if they were to know what was going on not only, it appears, in Eastern Europe, but in Germany itself, under their very noses.

The foreword was written by the warm-hearted Dr. J. R. Rees, who has actively helped many Jewish doctors and psychiatrists to resettle satisfactorily in this country.

PENSIONS FOR GESTAPO OFFICIALS—

The Verwaltungsgericht Frankfurt has decided that when assessing the years of service of a pensioned official the time during which he served with the Gestapo may be included, provided that he has discharged his duties there "correctly." This decision stands in contrast to that of the Verwaltungsgericht Wiesbaden, according to which service with the Gestapo only qualifies for the inclusion in the pension if the applicant has prevented or mitigated terror measures of the Nazi régime.

—AND FOR HEYDRICH'S WIDOW?

The widow of Reinhard Heydrich has started legal proceedings for a General's pension because, she claims, the "Protector of Bohemia and Moravia" has lost his life by war action. The Federal Minister of Labour had taken the view that the attempt by Czech resistance leaders on Heydrich's life was a political action.

STRASSER INDEMNIFIED

The Court at Bonn has decided that the Federal Ministry of the Interior had acted illegally in refusing for five years the regranting of German citizenship to Strasser, who had been expatriated by Hitler. To cut down costs Strasser had only asked for 1,000 DM., but now he will probably put in much higher claims.

CLAUBERG'S RELEASE REFUSED

The Kiel local District Court has rejected another appeal for release, filed by Professor Carl Clauberg, who had mutilated and tortured thousands of Jewish women in the Auschwitz extermination camp by his cruel medical experiments. After his return as a Russian war prisoner Clauberg was arrested; the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany lodged a criminal complaint charging him with "deliberately and continuously inflicting serious bodily harm."

* "Flight and Resettlement." A Report published by UNESCO. Editor H. B. M. Murphy with 13 articles and a Foreword by J. R. Rees (H.M. Stationery Office, 231 pages, 19s. 6d.).

NEWS FROM GERMANY

CDU PARTY CONGRESS FIGHTS NATIONALISM

The President of the Bundestag, Dr. Gerstenmaier, addressing the CDU Party Congress in Stuttgart, spoke about the dangers of political infiltration. He said: "The CDU, their Parliamentary Party and their members would not be well advised, if they could be persuaded that the recent speechifying of old unrepentant followers of Hitler was negligible, because they were tiny groups only without any importance. This is not the problem. The problem is whether we allow the sufferings of numberless people to be mocked at, whether those who have sincerely mended their ways can be derided without punishment. I warn against reacting to these provocations by thinking that their votes are as good as anybody's. Such expediency would mean betraying the CDU; because the CDU is the outcome of the cleansing and conversion of Germans in Germany. Fighting against people like Suendermann and Naumann, Remer and Ramcke has nothing to do with sentiments or vengeance. No, it has to do with the purity and future worth of one of the deepest inner experiences since the War of Liberation." The Federal Chancellor and the Chairman of the Parliamentary Party, Dr. Krone, also sharply attacked the ravings of a nationalism, detrimental to Germany, and all attempts at restoring the past.

BUNDESTAG AGAINST ZENKER

In April the SPD raised a question in the Bundestag about a speech made by the former head of the naval department of the Ministry of Defence, Zenker. In an address to naval cadets Captain Zenker had praised Admirals Doenitz and Raeder. The Socialist deputy, Professor Carlo Schmid, said: "Zenker's mentality must not be the mentality of the Federal forces, if these are to become the instrument of a democratic republic which is determined to have nothing to do with the events that have dishonoured the name of Germany." Schmid quoted some remarks and orders of the two admirals, the antisemitic tenor of which had contributed towards creating an atmosphere without which Auschwitz would never have been possible.

In his reply, the Federal Minister of Defence, Blank, denied that Zenker wanted to adopt a National Socialist attitude, but he disapproved of Zenker's expressions. Meanwhile, another officer has taken Zenker's place. With the exception of the former Vice-Admiral Heye (CDU) and Herbert Schneider (German Party) all deputies opposed Zenker.

The former General Hasso von Manteuffel, a dissident FDP deputy, now a member of the "Demokratische Arbeitsgemeinschaft," accused Zenker that he had not dissociated himself from the horrors of the Nazi régime.

RAEDER DOES NOT FEEL HONOURED

In a letter to the Mayor of Kiel, Grand-Admiral Raeder resigns the freedom of the city which was restored to him by the non-Socialist majority of the City Council. This measure, he writes, he cannot consider an honour for himself or the German navy. He says in his letter: "As against the changing attitude of the City Council I am stating the position and the respect which I have acquired in the eyes of many Germans on account of my untiring efforts throughout many years in the service of my country: this feeling was expressed most touchingly when I was released from Spandau Prison."

The "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" and the "Frankfurter Rundschau" published scathing remarks on Raeder's "arrogance."

The "Deutsche Soldatenzeitung," however, extolls the merits of this most venerable representative of German military tradition.

The editor-in-chief of the "Marine-Rundschau," the former Admiral Erich Foerste, is getting Raeder's memoirs ready for publication.

DESECRATION OF JEWISH CEMETERY

In the little town of Preussisch-Oldendorf, Westphalia, an old Jewish cemetery was desecrated. Eleven tombstones, some of them classified as ancient monuments, were overthrown.

MUNICH AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS AGAINST NAZI BOOKS

The writers and publishers belonging to the "Gruenwalder Kreis" have filed a law suit against the former deputy press secretary of Hitler, Helmut Suendermann. They accuse him of distributing literature which endangers the State. Suendermann is the editor of a series of books published by the Druffel Verlag which praise Hitler and other Nazis.

BAVARIAN PROTESTS AGAINST NAZI PROPAGANDA

A Social Democratic motion denouncing the increased Nazi propaganda and calling upon the State Government "to initiate the necessary counter-measures" was carried unanimously by the Bavarian Landtag.

ALFRED KERR COMMEMORATED

A portrait of Alfred Kerr, painted by Lovis Corinth in 1907, has been acquired by the Schiller Theatre, Berlin.

KASSEL HONOURS JEWISH CITIZEN

The freedom of the city of Kassel was conferred on Mrs. Sara Nussbaum who is 87 years old. This honour had been moved by the leader of the socialist group in the City Council, Theodor Huepeden. It was approved unanimously. The city wanted to honour at the same time the memory of Mrs. Nussbaum's late husband who was murdered by the SA in 1934. Rudolf Nussbaum played, for many years, a leading part in the Jewish community, the voluntary fire brigade and the local Red Cross organisation.

WAR DISTINCTIONS PERMITTED AGAIN

Distinctions received during the second world war may be worn again in Germany after the swastika has been eliminated from the medals. This new regulation has been introduced by the Federal Government, but is still subject to the consent of the Federal Parliament. Several German papers have expressed their concern. "We cannot dissociate the swastika from these 12 years. Attempts are going on to whitewash the whole Hitler period," writes the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung." A contributor to the "Frankfurter Neue Presse" reminds readers that the Iron Cross was also awarded to SS men in recognition of their "hard" work in killing defenceless people.

OHRENSTEIN TRIAL

Dr. Aron Ohrenstein, who for some years after the war acted as a rabbi in Munich and who had been found guilty of fraud by the Munich Court, has lodged a suit before the Constitutional Court. He argued that through the improper action of the judge, Dr. Mulzer, he had been "deprived of his proper judge." At the end of March, 1956, the Constitutional Court decided that Dr. Ohrenstein's appeal was justified and referred the case for further investigation to the Augsburg District Court. Under the heading "There are still German Judges," Dr. Bruno Weil writes in the "Staatszeitung" (New York) that by its findings the Constitutional Court has proved to be a reliable guardian and defender of the democratic constitution of the German Federal Republic. The decision, Dr. Weil states, may also have an effect on the proceedings against the late Philipp Auerbach, whose case had also been dealt with by Landgerichtsdirektor Mulzer.

New Tax Relief for Pensions

The Budget will greatly benefit self-employed persons, directors, and many others. However, without expert guidance it will be impossible to choose from the confusing variety of pension plans that will be offered. Advice of this kind is our business. It is free and without obligation.

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HIMMLER WANTED HITLER'S OVERTHROW

The Swedish Government has just published a White Book which reveals Himmler's attempts at finishing the war through Swedish mediation. In autumn, 1944, it became known in Stockholm that Himmler was planning to depose Hitler and to start peace negotiations. Thus the Swedish Foreign Ministry organised the transport of 19,000 internees from German concentration camps. Himmler had released these inmates, without Hitler's knowledge, in order to propitiate Sweden for her mediating rôle.

At the beginning of April, 1945, Himmler asked the Swedish negotiator, Count Folke Bernadotte, to go to Eisenhower—then Commander-in-Chief of the Allied troops in the West. On the advice of Schellenberg, the chief of German counter-espionage, Bernadotte made the following conditions: Himmler should depose Hitler and become his successor, he should dissolve the NSDAP and all werewolf organisations, and release all Norwegian and Danish prisoners and ship them to Sweden.

According to Schellenberg, as far back as 1942 Himmler had planned a putsch against Hitler. His savage persecution of the men of the 20th of July did not mean he disapproved on principle of their intentions. Himmler had been considering for a long time to use Goerdeler's connections with the Swedish banker, Jacob Wallenberg, for his own ends. Twice, in 1943 and 1944, Wallenberg was asked by the German banker, Rasche, whether Himmler would be acceptable as a negotiator. The answer was negative.

Who has the greatest merit for the release of the 19,000 concentration camp prisoners? The Swedish Red Cross acted, in fact, for the Swedish Government. The driving force was the head of the Norwegian aid mission, Minister Ditleff. In his book "The End" Count Folke Bernadotte does not give him his due, nor to Himmler's Doctor, Kersten. According to the White Book, during the preliminary negotiations, Kersten was the intermediary of the Swedish Foreign Ministry. It was Kersten who organised a meeting of Himmler with a representative of the World Jewish Congress, Norbert Masur, which contributed towards the saving of many Jewish KZ prisoners.

The White Book stresses the merits of Count Bernadotte who achieved much more than recent publications will allow.

AUSTRO-GERMAN RESISTANCE FIGHTERS

For the first time since the war, German and Austrian resistance fighters met in Vienna to commemorate the dead of the anti-fascist resistance movements. A group of about 600 members of the "German Union of Socialist resistance fighters" who had been invited to Vienna by the "Union of Socialist resistance fighters in Austria," laid wreaths and flowers at the monument of the victims of the Austrian resistance in the Vienna Central Cemetery.

Among the German guests were the former minister Jakob Steffen, the Socialist member of the Bundestag, Dr. Greve, and the member of the Executive of the SPD, Max Kukil.

At the end of the German delegation's visit, a memorial celebration was held at the monument of the Concentration Camp Mauthausen. Dr. Greve addressed the gathering.

AUSTRIA'S FREEDOM PARTY

The "Freiheitliche Partei Oesterreichs," the successor of the Right-wing opposition party, "Verband der Unabhaengigen," held their first Party Congress in Vienna. The former National Socialist Minister, Reinthaller, was elected Chairman. The foremost aim of the party is the overthrow of the régime ("die Umwaelzung des Systems"). The "Neue Zuercher Zeitung" writes: This party is still the haunt of former National Socialists who, however, maintain they have been converted to Liberalism. The opposition of the Right which, under the name of "Independents" (Unabhaengige) three years ago received 473,000 votes and 14 seats in Parliament, is losing support steadily.

GERMAN DECORATION FOR MENUHIN

At a reception in his residence President Theodor Heuss personally bestowed the Grand Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic upon Yehudi Menuhin.

Rabbi Dr. Max Eschelbacher:

A TEACHER AT A JEWISH VILLAGE SCHOOL

The Life of my Grandfather Loew Eschelbacher (1804-1881)

(Continued from previous issues)

Grandfather spent all his life, 38½ years in all, up to his retirement in Hainstadt at this one Jewish State School. Whether he applied for other posts which he did not succeed in getting, I do not know. Nor can one deduce from his admittedly sparse correspondence and other writings that he travelled. It was not until 1887, almost twenty years after his departure, that the railway line Seckach-Amorbach-Mildenberg was built, making Hainstadt more easily accessible to the main routes of communication. Thus he lived cut off from the rest of the world. And yet, even there, he learnt to know past and present, and the unrest in the world intruded on his life. The old Holy Roman Empire was still something very real to him there. Up to 1803 the little village had been divided up, one part belonging to the Amt Ripperg and therefore to the Bistum Wuerzburg, while the rest was feudally owned territory belonging to the Freiherrn of Ruedt-Collenberg. When Hainstadt had become part of Baden, after 1806, the former divided loyalties to different masters still had after effects. The Town Council of the near-by Amtstadt Buchen is still referred to in 1845 in my grandfather's writings as "Grossh. Bad. Frstl. Leinings. Amtsaktuarat." Above all, there were burdens of all kinds, interests, dues and rents, dating back centuries, which were as yet not paid off. This resulted in profound unrest among the peasantry in the 'thirties and 'forties which was partly roused and inflamed by teachers. Two, above all,

who are mentioned by name were the brothers Soehner, living in Hollerbach and in Mudau, who fled to America after the defeat of the 1849 revolution. Grandfather must have known at least the latter brother from the Teachers' Conferences. He belonged to the same school inspectorate district of Buchen. So he, too, may have been gripped by the turbulent movement of the 'forties; he certainly must have known of it quite early on.

A Marriage Contract

In this world, full of unrest and ferment, grandfather lived on his own for seven years. He may have boarded with a family, or, in accordance with the usage of the time—unhappily—had a "Wandertisch" or eaten in one of the two Jewish taverns. In any case, he made only the most modest demands on life. From 1830 to 1837, he bought furniture which he valued at 300 gulden, and had saved 550 gulden in cash. He did not find it hard to cut down expenditure, for he had a definite aim in view, he wanted to get married. His wife, my grandmother, was Babette Chaje Koenig from Eberstadt near Hainstadt. The marriage contract in which the above sums were mentioned, was concluded before the Buchen Registrar on June 15, 1837. The mother-in-law, my great grandmother, signed the contract in Hebrew. "This means Elkana Koenig" the clerk translated. She was still a representative of the old days when Jews could write only Hebrew. On the other hand, her brother Abraham Loew Kaufmann of Mosbach and Josef Neuberger of Hainstadt, who gave the dowry of 500 gulden, as well as the witnesses M. L. Sondheimer and Seligman Eschelbacher, grandfather's brother, all signed in German script. They were all merchants and so had to acquire this ability. The girls, who did not actually have to acquire it, followed suit later. It is only when we meet such facts that we can fully appreciate the effect and meaning of Moses Mendelssohn's efforts. Furthermore, Josef Neuberger, together with Lazarus Strauss of Merchingen, for whom he also stands as guarantor, gave the bride another hundred gulden toward her dowry. The bride herself contributed a quarter share of a house in Eberstadt, which she in her turn had received from her mother and sisters in accordance with a special deed. The value of the house is not specified in the marriage contract. Finally she received from her mother "Ausstaffierungsfahrnisse" to the total value of 150 gulden as "ehesteuerliche elterliche Schenkung." In this official document with its archaic turns of phrase, the Jewish family life of the time can be recognised. But my great-grandmother did not have to arrange her daughter's wedding on her own. Help was forthcoming. *Hakhnassath kallah*, the dowry of a poor bride, was considered a *Mizwah*, and the whole family rallied round with considerable contributions, to make this marriage possible for a girl without means. My grandfather's great thriftiness, which enabled him in the seven years of his bachelorhood to save more than one-third of his income apart from buying the most necessary articles of furniture, points to another cause for the prosperity of the Jews in subsequent generations. An old friend who once wanted to make clear to my father the fact that he had never speculated, expressed himself as follows: "All I have, I saved." That was the predominant attitude of the large mass of Jews in Baden, and this marriage contract is another expression of it.

In Hardheim and in Hainstadt grandfather lived in the midst of a large number of relatives. The place names mentioned in his extant documents are always the same. Hardheim, Hainstadt, Boedingheim, Buchen, Eberstadt and others all from the surrounding districts. One gathers that the young Jewish men of those times married solely into other Jewish families living in the same district. As there was only a small number of Jews, intermarriage between relatives was unavoidable, and a great many Jews must have been related to each other. Of necessity this made the world still narrower, than provincial life was anyway. Certainly life could become very intimate under such conditions. On the other hand, some of my aunt's letters lead one to suppose that within the family circle there was also frequent friction.

(To be concluded)

THE JEWS IN GERMANY EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE

Message to Tercentenary Council

The Central Council of the Jews in Germany has on the occasion of the Tercentenary of British Jews sent a message of congratulation to the Jewish Board of Deputies. In their message the Central Council says: "The Jewish community in the British Isles will recall with understandable pride the great number of contributions they have made to the culture of the British Empire and of the Jewish community. Scholars and statesmen who have won the admiration of the whole world hailed from and were educated in this island, the atmosphere of which has proved conducive to the cultivation of the inner life and the maturing of the mind.

The Jews from and in Germany have the special wish to pay off the duty of gratitude which they owe to the Jews of England and of the British Commonwealth in general. When barbarism threatened to destroy the Jewish community in Germany, many victims turned to the British Isles and to other parts of the British Empire. At that moment Great Britain honoured her glorious tradition of giving hospitality to the innocent victims of prejudice and persecution. For thousands of people it was made possible to start their lives again in honour and self-respect. This would never have been possible without the generosity and understanding of the organisation of British Jews, which reacted intelligently and promptly to the call of suffering humanity. If there was ever an opportunity of showing Jewish brotherhood, it was at that time, and the Jews of England rose to the occasion in a glorious way.

In the name of the Jews living in Germany today we express our heartfelt thanks both for everything you did then and for the great help which Jewish organisations in Britain gave after the second world war.

Defending the just cause and succouring the innocent has always been one of the main characteristics of the British people. Without any difference of their political opinions or their creeds, all Englishmen expressed their revulsion and horror when innocent people were persecuted.

We wish and pray that the Jews in Britain will be able to continue working creatively for many centuries to come, in the midst of a nation who won so much strength from a Book which is sacred to all of us."

The Board of Deputies answered:

"In the name of the Council for the Tercentenary I thank the Central Council of the Jews in Germany for their most friendly message of congratulation. The Jewish community in England was immensely enriched by the character and intelligence of numerous German Jews who found refuge here. We wish the Jewish community in Germany full success in their courageous endeavour to maintain and to get over all troubles and difficulties."

PRESIDENT HEUSS AT FRANKFURT FREUD CENTENARY MEETING

The Freud Centenary ceremony of Frankfurt University was attended by the Federal German President, Dr. Heuss. The function took place under the chairmanship of Professor Max Horkheimer, of Frankfurt University, and the speakers included Professors from Harvard and Heidelberg Universities and Minister President Zinn, of Hesse.

JEWS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

After his return from a visit to Eastern Germany Mr. Maurice Orbach, M.P., stated that he had received "satisfactory assurances" about the position of Jews in that country from Herr Walter Ulbricht. Mr. Orbach also reported that in Czechoslovakia, which he had visited as well, most Jewish communal officials were elderly and that the younger people did not identify themselves with Jewish life. There was no religious persecution.

The "Ostspiegel," issued by the Social Democratic Press Service, Bonn, refers to the fate of a group of Jewish intellectuals who by order of Stalin were shot on August 12, 1952. Among them were authors such as David Bergelson, Izak Fefer, and Perez Markish. Some time ago, the "Ostspiegel" reports, the relatives of the murdered writers were told by the Moscow prosecutor that the executions had been the fault of Beria and had been due to a "regrettable error of judgment."

As a gesture of rehabilitation the literary legacy of one of the writers, Perez Markish, will be published shortly, however, in a Russian translation. Publications in Yiddish are still forbidden.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD FUCHS

70th Birthday on June 13

Now Dr. Richard Fuchs, younger at his age than many of his juniors, will also be a septuagenarian, and our good wishes for growing old without being old are with him.

In former days he was known as the outstanding "Ministerialrat" in the "Reichsfinanzministerium." The son of a distinguished jurist he had come to be a remarkable jurist, too, one of those to whom reality means more than dialectics, fact more than brilliance, or, to quote Dante's saying, one who "does not speak words but speaks matters." All honest people respected him. He had reached a summit.

Before the war Richard Fuchs, a refugee like the many, came to this country and had to start again. The jurist became a teacher at Marlborough School, that mother of men. He had always had in him something of the pedagogue. In the years of distress he had shown it when he selflessly helped the "Lehranstalt fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums" and the "Reichsvertretung." Now, at Marlborough, he could prove it again, and he did so, esteemed and liked by masters and pupils. He was there for six years.

After the war, when teachers returned to resume their work at school, Richard Fuchs had to begin again. He was entrusted with a position in the Foreign Office, once again as a jurist, and there he ascended again, by virtue of his personality and on the strength of his work and the task ensuing from it. He is now First Secretary at the British Embassy in Bonn, and for him, it seems, they do not wish to acknowledge an age-limit. The task demanded such a man.

Three lives within one life, and at all times the same life, faithful to the way and the ideal, that is Richard Fuchs. For in his years there was, and is, a firm power, the Jewish renaissance, that had caused, as it were, the millennia to break through and made many a one more Jewish, more religious than his parents, and grandparents. Thus this septuagenarian is one of the young generation, more than many a younger one.

May he and Margot Fuchs, his wife, be blessed through years and years to come!

LEO BAECK.

THANKS AND GOOD WISHES

70th Birthday of Mr. M. Stephany

On June 6, Mr. M. Stephany will be 70. More than any other section of the Jews in this country the arrivals after 1933 have reason to express their congratulations and gratitude to this devoted Civil Servant of Anglo-Jewry. When, in their traditional solidarity with the persecuted and underprivileged, the Jews in Great Britain joined hands to assist the victims of Nazism, their leaders asked Mr. Stephany to lend them his administrative and professional experience for the fulfilment of this new task; at that time he had already established his high reputation by his work for many Jewish causes, especially as Secretary of Jews' College, an office he has held since 1921. And so, Mr. Stephany became the Secretary of the Central British Fund when it was founded in 1933. The appointment, he was told in those days of emergency, was meant as a temporary one. However, to the good fortune of those who have benefited from it, this "temporary" period has not yet come to an end, and thus for almost a quarter of a century his life and daily work has been concerned with the well-being of our community. Our mind goes back to the pre-war years, especially to the crucial months after the pogroms in November, 1938, when England received more victims of Nazi persecution than any other country in the world. It was the task of the Central British Fund to secure the financial foundations for this gigantic rescue work, and Mr. Stephany, as the Secretary, was one of those on whom the burden mainly fell.

Yet to assess his work we need not only recall the past. In fact, it is just within the last two years that a new task has arisen which has strengthened the bonds between Mr.

Stephany and the AJR: the work for Otto Schiff House at Netherhall Gardens and for the preparation of further homes for elderly refugees. If, by his co-operation in this field, as in many others, Mr. Stephany has gained the respect and affection of the Hon. Officers and officials of the AJR, it is not only due to his experience and efficient approach but, above all, to the fact that he has his heart in it. His toughness when questions of organisation and reliable administration are concerned is coupled with kindness and softheartedness when his help and understanding for a human being in need is called upon.

Afraid of spreading false news, we have checked twice the Jewish "Who's Who" to make sure that this coming birthday is really his 70th. Considering his energy and capacity to work it seems hard to believe, and there can be no better wish for Mr. Stephany than the hope that he may remain young in spirit and health for many years to come.

W.R.

MR. A. KLEYFF—60

It is learned only now that Mr. Alexander Kleyff was 60 years old on May 21. He holds a leading position in the metal trade, but the main reason for which his birthday has to be recorded in these columns arises from his strong attachment to many Jewish causes. This attitude is partly due to his family background—he is a descendant of Rabbi Akiba Eger—partly to his own strong sense of solidarity. Whenever his help is required, his understanding and generosity can be relied upon. Even more important, however, are the humane approach and kindheartedness by which his co-operation excels.

The A.J.R. considers it a privilege that its work has always been among the efforts with which Mr. Kleyff has been associated. We wish Mr. Kleyff many years to come of success, of happiness in his family and of unimpaired health.

DEATH OF SIGMUND GESTETNER

By the death of Sigmund Gestetner at the age of 58 the Jewish community and the Zionist Movement in this country have lost one of their most devoted leading personalities. From 1950 onwards he was the President of the Jewish National Fund and he also was an Executive member of the Joint Palestine Appeal. In the earliest days of Nazi persecution he assisted Jewish craftsmen to come to this country and to obtain employment. In fact, as Lord Nathan wrote in "The Times" of April 26, "it was Hitler who turned this ambitious young business man into new paths of work, effort, and leadership. He threw himself with a passionate energy into the work of succouring the victims of Nazi persecution." The Jewish refugees have, therefore, added reason to remember Sigmund Gestetner with feelings of deep gratitude.

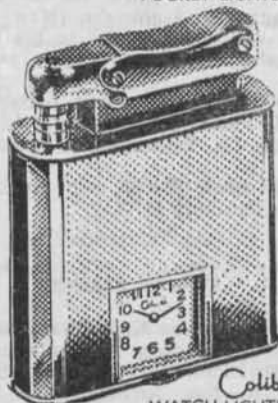
DR. ERNST ASCHNER

The German Consul General in Melbourne, Dr. Ernst Aschner, died suddenly after a heart attack. Aschner was an excellent diplomat and a distinguished lawyer. Under Hitler he was arrested. After his release he went to Shanghai where he lived until the end of the war. He returned to Germany where he was first appointed Landgerichtsdirektor in Frankfurt. Later the Federal Ministry of Economy made him their expert on Israel. In this capacity, as in Melbourne, he successfully worked for a better international understanding. The death of Dr. Aschner, who was an upright Jew, is mourned by many friends all over the world.

Dr. Max Straus passed away in London in his 80th year. *The Times* pays tribute to him as a pioneer of the gramophone and sound-recording industry. Dr. Straus founded the Carl Lindstroem Company in Berlin in 1904 and was also a founding member of the Ufa Film Company. In 1928 the University of Breslau conferred on him the Honorary Doctor degree. He came to this country in 1937. Throughout the years Dr. Straus was an interested and helpful member of the AJR. We convey our sincerest sympathy to his brother, Dr. Alfred Straus, a member of the AJR Board, and the other members of his family.



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JEAN **PATOU** PARIS

TWO STUDENTS' FRATERNITIES

75th ANNIVERSARY OF F.W.V.

In June, the Students Fraternity F.W.V. (Freie Wissenschaftliche Vereinigung) celebrates the 75th anniversary of its foundation. When in the late 'seventies and early 'eighties of the past century the period of liberalism came to an end in Germany and was followed by reaction and anti-semitism, the F.W.V. at the Berlin University was founded to combine the pleasure and educational activities of a Students Fraternity with the task of fighting for freedom, progress, tolerance and a liberal conception of life. For several generations, the F.W.V. influenced and inspired its members for this high goal. Many men, outstanding in science and civil life, came from their ranks. In the course of time affiliated fraternities sprang up at a number of German universities and technical colleges, and ultimately the league of F.W.V. (Bund Freier Wissenschaftlicher Vereinigungen) was established. In 1933, these fraternities and their associations of old members had to be disbanded.

Those who escaped to this country formed the Association of Old F.W.V.ers (Alte Herren-Bund) in Great Britain. To mark the 75th anniversary and to reunite old members a banquet will be held at the Cumberland Hotel on June 23. The Nobel Prize winner Professor H. Krebs, himself an old F. W. V. er, will be the guest of honour. The traditional outing will follow the day after. Details about the functions may be obtained from the Chairman, Mr. E. L. Gould, 67 Eton Hall, Eton College Road, N.W.3.

No new active F.W.V. exists at present, but the idea and ideals of the old Fraternity remain eternal, and to them goes our most hearty Vivant, Crescent, Floreant.

DR. W. KOCHMAN

RALLY OF ISRAELI KJV

The Israeli Section of the Kartell Juedischer Verbindungen (KJV) held a two-day meeting in Tel Aviv under the chairmanship of its President, Dr. John Levy. Addresses were given by the Minister of Justice, Pinchas Rosen, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Kurt Blumenfeld, and Alfred Rabau. Dr. Siegfried Moses gave a detailed report on the tasks and activities of the Leo Baeck Institute, established under the auspices of the "Council of Jews from Germany"; he stressed that a number of KJV members were among those who had been entrusted by the Institute with important research work. Dr. Hans Capell who, prior to his re-emigration to Israel, was an Executive member of the AJR, dealt with the position of the University-trained citizens of the young State of Israel. Without wishing to minimise the importance of other sections of the population, he called for more recognition of the services rendered by professionals and intellectuals to the community.

EXEMPTION FROM VISAS

According to a statement made by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, United Kingdom travellers may visit the following countries without visas:

Austria, Belgium, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal German Republic, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, The Saar, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Tunisia, and Turkey.

With regard to Spain, the only Western European country which has not made a visa abolition agreement, the Foreign Secretary stated that in answer to an invitation to conclude such an agreement Spain had replied that they were unable to do so.

BRITAIN'S IMMIGRATION POLICY

Under the heading "Speeding the Paying Guest" the "Economist" of April 14 criticises the restrictive immigration policy of the British authorities.

As the categories of applicants to be admitted are very limited, there is, the article claims, no possibility of obtaining a permit of residence for an American who wants to live of his own means in the United Kingdom. Aliens who want to take jobs can only immigrate if the prospective employer is granted a permit. "In practice this means that the decision about employing an alien in a closed shop, firm, or industry is taken by the trade union concerned and is counter-stamped by the Home Office."

The article also criticises the attitude towards political refugees. "The right to asylum—as now interpreted—is only the sovereign right of Britain to accord asylum to those who escape here direct from their persecutors; there is no obligation to absorb those who would rather take asylum here than in Western Germany, for example, in search of a better job. On this, Home Secretaries are particularly firm."

The article describes as dangerous that the law as it stands puts the decision on who shall stay and who must leave almost entirely in the hands of officials, without power to appeal to the courts. Nevertheless, "Britain is, in truth, a hospitable country. The political refugees run into hundreds of thousands, and 35,000 aliens take up jobs here annually." This, the article says, is more reason why the law, and its administration should be re-examined.

ATTEMPTS TO STOP NAZI CLAIMS

Professor Eduard Wahl, a Law Professor of Heidelberg University and Bundestag deputy of the Christian Democratic Union, has been asked by his party to investigate the legal possibility of blocking the financial claims by which prominent Nazis seek "compensation" for "damages," e.g., by confiscation, sustained after the collapse of the Nazi régime.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthday

Mrs. Doris Bermann, 43 Greencroft Gdns., N.W.6, will celebrate her 80th birthday on June 12, 1956. Reception at 8 Heathcourt, 10 Frogal, N.W.3 (c/o Elford).

Deaths

Dr. Ing. Herbert S. Simons, formerly Düsseldorf, passed away in Blackheath, London, S.E.3, on March 31. Deeply mourned by his relatives and friends.

Mr. Ernst Boehm (formerly Vienna) passed away peacefully after a long illness at the Old Age Home, Hannah House, 13, Brunswick Terrace, Hove (Sussex), on May 6 at the age of 76.

Mrs. Ellen Loeb (formerly Trier) passed away on May 11 at the age of 83. Deeply mourned by her family, 107 Richmond Hill Court, Richmond (Surrey).

CLASSIFIED

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Mr. Josef Hans (Joe) Mautner, born 23.4.1898 in Berlin-Wilmersdorf, for URO, New York.

Hugo Krotoschiener, firm for baby, children, and young girls' dresses, Berlin, C., Kurstrasse and Schuetzenstrasse, for Mrs. Lisa Boehnke, née Aehsel, Bremen, Lager Vahr, In der Vahr 315, Block 4.

Mr. Adolf Grosser, about 50 years, from Hof, Czechoslovakia, supposed to have come to UK from Prague in 1938 or 1939, for Mr. K. Abraham, 3 Beckenham Ave., East Boldon, Co. Durham.

Miss Lotte Jacobsohn, formerly Berlin, Schoenhauser Allee, and Miss Steffie Rosenberg, daughter of Studienrat Dr. Alfred Rosenberg, wanted by Mr. John and Mrs. Hertha Oppenheimer, née Jacobsohn (New York), who will be on a visit in the United Kingdom shortly.

Two Messrs. Grienberg, members of H.M. Forces from 1940-45, for their cousin, Dr. Weismann, in Israel.

Karl-Ludwig Koebe, came to England from Duisburg in 1939.

Personal Enquiries

Mrs. Magdalena Kafka, immigrated to Great Britain from Karlsruhe in 1938, for D. Zimmermann, at present on a visit in this country from Israel, address: c/o H. Davjs, 111 Shaftesbury Ave., Kenton, Middx.

Professor Dr. Julius Freund, formerly Berlin-Charlottenberg, Leistikowstr. 9, for Reg. Dir. Hans A. Lehmann, Duesseldorf, Kultusministerium.

Ruth Graetz from Freystadt, Niederschlesien, for Martin Ratz, formerly Beuthen, Niederschlesien, now Bahia Blanca (Argentina), Rivadavia 986.

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Psychiatric Consulting Hours. A growing number of people have been seen by our honorary psychiatrist, some at their own request, some at the suggestion of the Social Services Department. They were given guidance and many of them have regained their self-confidence and their ability to work which they had lost during the difficult times they had gone through.

Visits have been paid by our social worker to homes in cases where people were unable to attend the office. The visits have been greatly appreciated and help could be given in most cases. Please ring MAI 4449, whenever a visit is wanted, or apply in writing.

Handicraft Exhibition and Sale. After a rather slack period buyers have visited us again to purchase or order useful articles for the holidays. Please give your order in time. MAI 4449.

JEWISH SOCIAL WORK IN GERMANY

The steadily increasing need of systematic social work for the Jews in Germany is reflected in the recent inauguration of a periodical "Juedische Sozialarbeit," published by the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland." In the introduction to the first issue Dr. Leo Baeck expresses his good wishes to this new venture and refers to the services rendered by the pre-war "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle" of the Jews in Germany, which had been forced to discontinue its activities. He especially pays tribute to the memory of three of its leading personalities, Eugen Caspary, Friedrich Ollendorff, and Hanna Karminski.

The 16 pages "Mitteilungsblatt" includes comprehensive articles on current problems of Jewish and general welfare work. It may be ordered from the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland, e.V.," Frankfurt/Main, Hebelstr. 17.

EAST GERMAN REFUGEES

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs stated that in the last 12 months 152,177 refugees have entered Free Berlin from Eastern Germany. "This figure," he went on, "is higher than the figure for last year." The total number for the last 12

months is approximately 280,000 into both Berlin and Western Germany. That figure is higher than the number for the calendar year 1955 which is 252,000.

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Diamond Doctor Jubilee of Dr. W. Karo

This month, Dr. Wilhelm Karo (24 Leinster Square, Bayswater, W.2) celebrates his Diamond Doctor Jubilee, and to mark the occasion the University of Wuerzburg has renewed his diploma.

A leading urologist, Dr. Karo practised in Berlin from 1901 until he emigrated in 1938. Associated in his work with the senior authority in his special field, Geheimrat Max Casper, he published several books and many articles on the subject of his research. After his emigration, he continued his professional activities in spite of his advanced years, and his help and advice were frequently asked for. Only comparatively recently Dr. Karo, who is 83 years old, retired from his work. His interests are not limited to medical science, they also cover music and literature. At the same time, both in Germany and in this country, he has always taken an active interest in the work of Jewish organizations, including the New Liberal Jewish Congregation and the A.J.R.

That he may enjoy his *otium cum dignitate* for many years to come is the sincerest wish of all those who know Dr. Karo.

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