

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

8 FAIRFAX MANSIONS,
FINCHLEY ROAD (Corner Fairfax Road),
LONDON, N.W.3
Telephone: MAlda Vale 9096/7 (General Office)
MAlda Vale 4449 (Employment Agency and Social Services Dept.)

Office and Consulting Hours:
Monday to Thursday 10 a.m.—1 p.m. 3—6 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

TAXATION OF COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

Debate in House of Commons

Hardly noticed by the general Press, a debate on the taxability of compensation annuities took place in the small hours at the House of Commons' session on June 22, when the Committee Stage of the Finance Bill, 1960, was concluded. An amendment clause was called, which had been tabled by Conservative Members (including Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, Mr. John Foster, and Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid), and which, by a new device, proposes to alleviate the recipients' tax liability in the U.K. The House also debated amendment clauses tabled by Labour and Liberal Members. The clause tabled by Labour Members (including Mr. David Ginsburg, Lady Megan Lloyd George, and Sir Leslie Plummer) proposed the exemption of the annuities from taxation, with the exception of that part of the payments which exceeded the sum of £500 per year. The clause of the Liberal Members called for unqualified exemption, and was on the same lines as that of the years 1957-59. As readers will remember, the only previous Parliamentary debate of the subject took place in 1957, when, under the leadership of Mr. John Foster, Members of all parties had tabled an exemption clause. At that time the clause was negatived. Though a considerable number of M.P.s had spoken in favour of the amendment, the fact that it had been negatived appears to have made the Government authorities believe that they would have acted against the desire of Parliament if they had acceded to the German proposal to incorporate into the Anglo-German Double Tax Agreement a clause according to which the right to tax these compensation annuities should be left to Germany. Such a clause would have been in keeping with the Double Tax agreements concluded by Germany with other countries and would have had the effect that the annuities would be taxed neither in the U.K. nor in Germany. This year's debate differed from that of 1957 in various respects. First, all those Members of the three parties who participated in the debate strongly advocated a change of the present position. This applied even to Members who had opposed the amendment clause of 1957, viz., Mr. J. E. Powell, at that time Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and Mr. D. Houghton; they, too, were in favour of the new proposal made by Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth and his friends. Secondly, several speakers made it clear that, by having agreed to the amendment clause being negatived in 1957, they had not meant to express their consent to the position as it was now. On the other hand, the Government spokesman, Sir Edward Boyle, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, reiterated the arguments against any change, though he did not rule out future studies of the problem. It was felt that it would have been wrong to call for a division at that late hour of the night, and the motion was formally withdrawn. Whether it will be resumed at the Report Stage of the Finance Bill, which is due in a few weeks' time, cannot be foretold, neither is it possible to say at this juncture whether and in which way the debate will have helped to change the Government's present policy in this matter. It goes without saying that, as before, the AJR will follow up the development most closely and will persist in its efforts of safeguarding the interests of the members of our community in this matter.

We publish below extracts from the debate, which is reported in Hansard No. 131 of June 23rd, 1960 (col. 615-640).

The following new clause to the Finance Bill, 1960, was brought up and read the First time:

DOUBLE INCOME TAX RELIEF FOR COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

Annuities paid to persons persecuted by the Nazis by way of compensation for loss of or damage to life, limb, health, liberty, property, or economic prospects shall, in so far as they are expressed to be payable free from taxation in Germany, be deemed to be payments of such amounts as after deduction of the appropriate German taxation would leave the amounts actually payable and shall be eligible for double income tax relief accordingly:

Provided that no person's liability to tax shall be increased in consequence of this section.—
[Sir H. Lucas-Tooth.]

Moving "that the Clause be read a Second time," Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth stated that most, if not all, annuities paid by the West German Government to the victims of Nazi oppression, were inadequate as compensation. "I am not saying this in any emotional way, but it would be true to say that any money compensation in respect of the matters for which the compensation is by way of being made would be quite inadequate. . . . These annuities are inadequate simply on a strict and legal basis as compensation for the damage in respect of which they are

paid, and that fact is admitted by the German authorities." The payments had been expressly made tax-free by the laws of West Germany. "I believe", Sir Hugh went on, "we are the only country in the world which does levy a tax on these annuities."

Referring to the object of the clause, Sir Hugh said: "If these were ordinary pensions from the German Government they would have been paid less tax in Germany. Had that been done, the ordinary principles of double income tax relief would have been applicable and the rate of tax falling on them here would have been either nothing or very little. But as a result of the present law the relief which the Germans have given by freeing these pensioners from tax in Germany is taken from them in this country. Why should we take advantage of something done by the German Government for the benefit of these people? The obvious remedy is to give double income tax relief, but we cannot do that, because there is no double income tax. . . . I understand that the appropriate amount of German income tax on these annuities is at the rate of 25 per cent if they were subject to tax in the ordinary way at 5s. in the £.

"The clause proposes that we should notionally add back to the annuity 5s. for every 15s. of the annuity. In other words, we should notionally add back one-third of the annuity. We should then assume that the German Govern-

ment have taken away that notional addition in German tax, and on that we should work a double income tax relief scheme. The result would be to leave the annuity more or less net in the hands of the annuitant. That is not as complicated as it sounds."

Without wishing to claim that the clause was watertight and adequate to suit the Treasury's needs, Sir Hugh expressed the hope that, as a result of the debate, the Treasury would approve the principle of the clause. It would then be open to the Government to take the necessary steps to bring forward an Order, which was the ordinary way of making changes in the law dealing with double income tax relief, and that Order could be discussed and negotiated with the German authorities. Sir Hugh appealed to the Treasury to take the necessary action "to restore these sums which should not be taken from these victims and to see that justice is done in a way in which every other country in the world has seen fit to do it."

Mr. Grimond referred to the clause tabled by him which called for unqualified exemption and stated that if the Government thought his clause to be rather too wide he would be most happy to support Sir Hugh's clause.

"Record Should be Kept Clean"

Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid reminded the House that the Governments of the other countries had not hesitated to give their consent, when, in their negotiations on double taxation conventions, they were asked by the German Government to refrain from taxing these compensation payments. Jews throughout the world, Sir Henry stressed, realised that their continued existence as a nation had depended perhaps more on this country than any other, and the stand taken by this country from the days of Hitler onwards was a thing that no Jewish person should forget. "This record should be kept clean. The effect of that act of generosity in affording asylum to very large numbers of refugees from Nazi oppression—and it was real generosity—and the effect of the courage and determination in 1940, are today vitiated by what can only be described as the niggling attitude of the Treasury. We have an opportunity now, at virtually no cost to the Exchequer—or at very small cost and one which cannot continue long, because the people in receipt of these annuities are, of necessity, old—of putting that record right."

Mr. David Ginsburg, speaking in support of the new Clause standing in the names of himself and his friends, stated that there were a number of important reasons for considering the matter. There was considerable dissatisfaction with the decision which the Government made in 1957, there had been the pressure put by the German Government, and we should also be guided by the spirit which had made World Refugee Year a success in this country. The present position, Mr. Ginsburg said, did not correspond with the principle of fair play and fairmindedness. A concession would not prejudice the revenue position of the country. The question was mainly a moral one, and annuities (instead of tax-free capital payments) had, in the main, been chosen by the poorest and oldest elements in the refugee population.

Mr. Skeet referred to the anomalies arising from the fact that certain annuities were treated as earned income and others as unearned income; furthermore, whilst capital payments were not taxable, an option in favour of periodic payments made the recipient liable to pay taxes. "Our tax laws are riddled with anomalies. No harm would be done if we had occasionally a 'rational incon-

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TAXATION OF COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

(Continued from front page)

sistency' which would make the fiscal system a little more amenable to the taxpayer."

Mr. Janner asked the House to remember that these victims had passed through the most horrific experiences that can possibly be conceived and to recall the fact that the House stood in silence here on an occasion unprecedented in the history of the House of Commons when those atrocities were being committed. Just as this may not have been "in accordance with the rules of the House, who could suggest that the House had not the right to deviate—if we call it a deviation—from the rules of taxation, in order to cope with a position of this sort?" Mr. Janner also mentioned that he knew of at least one instance where a person had been placed in a very serious position because, believing it was impossible for anyone to deduct tax from these sums, he had entered into commitments which today were impossible for him to meet.

Mr. Houghton stated that whilst he had not been in favour of the clause moved in 1957, the proposal of Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, i.e., to gross up the payments and to regard them as eligible for double tax relief, was most interesting and would not conflict with the general principles of taxation which were involved in the earlier proposal.

Financial Secretary's Reply

In answering the debate, Sir Edward Boyle, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that, however much sympathy may be felt for the victims of Nazi persecution, the payments could not be exempt from Income Tax without creating serious anomalies. He had considered particularly carefully the clause tabled by Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, because he realised that Sir Hugh and his friends felt that it was less objectionable in principle than complete exemption and that it represented a fair approach. However, "we must have regard to the British tax code—must have regard to taxes as they are and not as they might have been if an overseas Government had acted differently. That is the difficulty about this Clause. It appears to be an extension of an existing relief, but it can be regarded as an existing relief only by the device of treating as paid something which in fact has not been paid."

After having concluded his statement, Sir Edward was asked by Mr. Janner, whether he had taken the opportunity of consulting with other nations with a view to ascertaining how they had found it consistent with their fiscal policies to exempt these payments from taxation. When, in his reply, Sir Edward stated that he did not rule out trying to gain greater knowledge by future studies of the problem, Mr. Ginsburg asked: "I am sorry to press the Financial Secretary, but having advised the Committee to reject the Clause he goes on to talk about future studies of the problem. What does he mean by this? Does he mean that the Government's mind is not entirely closed to some concession? Is he thinking in terms of future talks with the German Government?" Sir Edward Boyle replied that he could not go back on his recommendation and went on: "I have no doubt that I shall receive further correspondence and perhaps further deputations on the subject in the years to come. It would be presumptuous for anyone in my position standing at the Dispatch Box tonight to say that we have studied the subject as far as we ever mean to."

Mr. Powell stated he was disappointed by Sir Edward's conclusion and pressed the Treasury to reconsider their decision. "It is one of the qualities of which we often pride ourselves in this country that we are able to deal with difficulties by means of making assumptions—by devices of the very kind my hon. Friend the Member for Hendon South (Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth) has proposed."

Mr. Houghton supported Mr. Powell's appeal. Referring to Sir Edward's remark that an amendment of the Anglo-German Double Tax agreement, as it had been suggested by the German Government, would have been a circumvention of

(Continued in next column)

RESTITUTION AND INDEMNIFICATION

AUSTRIAN LAW DRAFTED

According to very reliable sources, the twelfth amendment to the Austrian Victims' Welfare Law (Opferfuersorge-Gesetz), which will cover outstanding measures for providing compensation to victims of Nazism in Austria, is now being drafted by the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs.

The draft provides for compensation to people who were interned in camps in countries at war with Germany, such as those in Mauritius or in Karaganda, Siberia. People who were interned in the Shanghai ghetto will also receive compensation. Those who were forced to live underground or to wear the yellow star will also be eligible for compensation.

The draft of the amendment also doubles the amount to be paid to persons who were detained in concentration camps or prisons. Certain further improvements visualised in the draft are made dependent on the persecutees' present financial position.

An announcement that the negotiations between the coalition parties about the restitution law were well advanced, was made at a meeting of Socialist members of the Austrian Parliament. The meeting decided that all legal actions in regard to this matter should be completed before the end of the present parliamentary session on July 15th.

(Continued from previous column)

the decision taken by the House in 1957, Mr. Houghton said: "We were all rather surprised to learn that in our innocence on July 16th, 1957, by our formal act of negating the Clause then moved we provided some constitutional reason which the Inland Revenue was able to use with all its force and majesty. We had no idea that we were doing anything so profoundly important constitutionally when Mr. Speaker put the new Clause and, without a Division we negated that new clause. We shall have to be more careful what we do in future, or we shall find that to the Executive or, indeed, lower down still, our actions are insuperable obstacles in the way of their doing sensible business with a foreign Power. . . . We are disappointed, and I hope that the Financial Secretary will realise that before we proceed further we must try to understand the implications of what we are about to do."

Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth said that if he had thought it would serve a useful purpose he would have been willing to have gone into the Division Lobby against the Government. On the other hand, a Division at this time of night would be undesirable and somewhat unreal. "It appears to me," he concluded, "that this evening at any rate, anyone considering the debate would feel fairly sure that the opinion of this House of Parliament is strongly to the effect that something ought to be done. For that reason I hope that as a result of this debate there may be further discussions, and in order to prevent any possibility of it being said that this House has taken a decision, I beg to ask leave to withdraw the new Clause, leaving the impression as strongly as possible that the Committee is in favour of some action being taken."

Motion and Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

RUMANIAN PERSECUTEES

The German compensation law provides for compensation for loss of liberty not only in cases where the National Socialist régime itself deprived people of their liberty but also when acts of deprivation were carried out by a foreign government on the instigation of the German National Socialist régime. When introducing the Federal Compensation Law of 1956, the Chairman of the Compensation Committee of the Bundestag explicitly stressed that deprivation of liberty due to acts of satellite states should be compensated for as they were clearly instigated by the National Socialist Government. Unfortunately, the compensation authorities have so far denied indemnification for persecution measures in Transnistria, Bukovina and Bessarabia.

For many years the rights of the Jewish victims from these regions were argued by the United Restitution Organisation before the compensation agencies and courts, and intensive historical research was undertaken on their behalf. It aimed at finding additional documentary evidence for the facts already known, namely that the National Socialist Government had used every opportunity to bring pressure to bear on the various Rumanian governments to fall into line with Hitler's deportation policy, and to adopt "The Final Solution".

New Documentary Evidence

Now, in the May edition of the *Mitteilungsblatt des Beirats fuer Wiedergutmachung*, Munich, the following report has been published under the heading "New Documentary Evidence on National Socialist Persecution in Rumania": "After painstaking research the United Restitution Organisation discovered a cable, so far lying undisclosed among the records of the Auswaertige Amt. The cable which the German Ambassador in Bucharest, von Killinger, had sent to the Auswaertige Amt on August 16th, 1941, reveals that General Antonescu had received instructions from Hitler on the treatment of his Jews. The cable does not disclose what kind of instructions he had received; nor were there any minutes about the discussions in Munich in the course of which those instructions had been given to Antonescu. To any objective observer, however, there cannot be any doubt about the contents of those instructions, because Hitler had one programme only for the solution of the Jewish question in the whole of Europe: 'Endloesung'—'The Final Solution'."

"In view of this changed situation the competent authorities can now be expected to take up this problem anew and to find a positive solution on behalf of this group of persecutees."

AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE

The West German and French Governments have satisfactorily concluded negotiations on West German indemnification to French victims of Nazi persecution. Government circles in Bonn have stated that an agreement will be signed in the near future. Details of the agreement will not be disclosed before the signing of the treaty.

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TRIALS AND WAR CRIMINALS

PROSECUTION OF CRIMES

Legal authorities in Frankfurt are investigating 950 people alleged to have been involved in the murder of millions of prisoners at Auschwitz concentration camp. Twenty-six had been arrested on suspicion of having committed murders themselves or of having assisted in the murder of prisoners.

Under German law, arrests can be made on suspicion of crimes, and people can remain under pre-trial arrest while the prosecutor prepares charges, if the court decides they might flee or obstruct investigatory proceedings.

Investigations in other cases involving mass executions are also being conducted. Members of the former Nazi Foreign Ministry were under investigation in a particular case.

The West German Bundestag has thrown out a proposal to extend the May 8th time limit for the prosecution of Nazi crimes such as manslaughter. (The time limit for prosecution for murders expires in 1965.) The Bill before the Lower House asked for the time limit to be extended to June, 1961, for crimes committed in Germany, and to June, 1962, for crimes committed abroad.

The Minister of Justice, Herr Schaeffer, said the May 8th time limit would have no great effect because, to judge from previous cases, all those responsible for or directly involved in mass executions were to be punished as murderers. He also stated the May 8th time limit would not apply to cases where preliminary investigations are already under way.

Herr Walter Menzel of the Social Democratic Party, which tabled the Bill, said the Bundestag's refusal to agree to the postponement might have had consequences now after the arrest of Adolf Eichmann in Israel. Now possibly his helpers would not be punished in West Germany.

Following an investigation into 700 cases brought before Nazi Special Courts during the Nazi régime, at which death sentences were passed, proceedings have begun against 16 Bavarian judges and prosecutors, of whom 8 are still in office. There was a strong suspicion that these members of the judiciary had wilfully defeated the ends of justice, the only offence which permits legal action being taken against former members of Nazi courts. No ex-Nazi judge or prosecutor has so far been sentenced on this charge.

The Bavarian Minister of Justice has stated that it was likely proceedings would have to be halted in some cases for legal reasons.

In Hamburg, action is to be taken against 15 acting ex-Nazi judges and prosecutors who are suspected of criminal activities during the Nazi régime, and against 10 other ex-Nazi judges and prosecutors who are no longer in the judiciary.

At Bochum, in the Ruhr, Heinrich Hamann, a local worker and a former S.S. officer, has been arrested on charges of complicity in the murder of 400 Jews near Cracow in 1942.

Herman Lumm, the Bremen Government official who was arrested on charges of complicity in the murder of Jews during the war, has now admitted that he gave orders for the execution of 20 Jews near Lvov in July, 1941. He headed an S.S. execution squad at that time, but he denied taking part in the mass murder of Jews, Poles and Russian civilians at Lvov in November of that year. Lumm has been released from custody. It is unlikely, according to the court, that he will try to escape or to hide incriminating evidence. He has been suspended from his post.

EICHMANN AIDE ARRESTED

The former S.S.-Obersturmfuehrer Hermann Krume has been arrested by the Frankfurt Public Prosecutor. He is suspected of having been Eichmann's second-in-command in carrying out the deportations of 400,000 Hungarian Jews in 1944.

He is also accused of blackmail, having obtained on behalf of the S.S. \$1,000 each from 1,700 Budapest Jews, who were then permitted to leave for Switzerland. Krume had already been arrested because of other Nazi crimes in 1957 and 1958, but was released on both occasions. He is the owner of a chemist shop in Korbach, which he opened with credits granted to him as an expellee.

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST K.Z. OFFICIALS

The former S.S.-Hauptsturmfuehrer Heinrich Hamann has been arrested in Bochum on suspicion of the killing of 400 Cracow Jews who were shot at a cemetery near that city. He declared that the number had not amounted to 400, but "only" to 40. He also claimed that about 30-35 further security officers had been accessories. Proceedings against these have been started as well. Hamann is also accused of having killed a German police officer whom he erroneously mistook for a Jew.

Investigations have been completed against the former S.S.-Unterscharfuehrer, Gottlieb Muzikant, who has been accused of 200 murders in the Mauthausen and Melk concentration camps. A date for the court trial has not yet been fixed.

Former Darmstadt Gestapo Head

Proceedings have also been opened against the former head of the Darmstadt Gestapo, Robert Mohr. He is accused of having instigated the deportation of Jewish partners of mixed marriages to labour and concentration camps, where most of them perished. Mohr escaped from an internment camp in 1947 and lived in hiding under a false name, until he was arrested at the end of 1959.

Five further persons have been arrested in connection with the proceedings against the former head of the Criminal Police for Rhineland-Pfalz in Coblenz, Dr. Georg Heuser. He is suspected of being responsible for the mass shootings in Minsk, where he held the position of an S.S.-Hauptsturmfuehrer.

EUTHANASIA DOCTORS

The public prosecutor in Kiel has filed an indictment against Dr. Hans Heigl, head of the Public Health Department at the Ministry for Internal Affairs in Schleswig-Holstein. Dr. Heigl had known for many years that "Dr. Sawade" was in fact Professor Heyde, the notorious Nazi euthanasia doctor, who gave himself up to the police at Frankfurt in November last.

Heigl is charged with aiding and abetting Heyde by suppressing information about his past and failing to initiate official action against him.

A spokesman said that the prosecution had now completed all investigations with regard to the case of Professor Heyde as far as those Government officials, judges, professors, lawyers, doctors and private persons were concerned who had allegedly known Heyde's identity for years. Charges against these persons had been dropped and Heigl would be the only suspect to face trial.

Judges Involved

It has, however, been disclosed by the State Attorney in Frankfurt that thirty judges and prosecutors were implicated by Werner Heyde, who is being interrogated by the Frankfurt prosecution. Heyde, during preliminary examinations, claimed that before Hitler's programme for "destruction of those unfit to live", a conference was convened in the Reich Ministry of Justice at which high judges and prosecutors, now charged, agreed not to prosecute persons who carried out the euthanasia programme.

Dr. Walter Schultze, a 66-year-old doctor and former official at the Nazi Ministry of Internal Affairs in Bavaria, has been sentenced to four years' hard labour for being responsible for the "mercy killing" of 380 mentally deranged persons in Bavaria during the Nazi régime. Schultze was in charge of all mental institutions in Bavaria during the war and implemented the Nazi euthanasia programme in that State. He ordered the killing of several hundred inmates, including 120 children. He was sentenced to three years for these crimes in 1948 but the prosecution appealed. A re-trial was ordered, which has taken place only now, twelve years later.

BRAZILIAN CITIZENSHIP FOR FORMER NAZI?

The Brazilian Foreign Minister, Dr. Horacio Lafer, who is a Jew, has been severely criticised by a leading Brazilian newspaper on the grounds that he is about to grant Brazilian citizenship to Herbert Cukors, a former leading Nazi official. Cukors, who is accused of participating in the murder of 32,000 Latvian Jews, has been living in Brazil for the past 16 years.

Protests by a number of Latvian Jews who recognised Cukors when he first arrived in Brazil brought no result, as there is no law there against war criminals, but there is a law prohibiting the extradition of a person to a country where the death penalty exists.

The Federation of Jewish Organisations in Rio de Janeiro, supported by leading Brazilian newspapers, has protested against Cukors' request for Brazilian citizenship.

Dr. Lafer, in reply to the accusations made, has pointed out that the responsibility for granting citizenship rests not with him but with the Minister for Internal Affairs. He also added that he was the first person to protest in the House of Deputies against naturalisation being granted to Cukors.

The Minister for Internal Affairs will probably reject the application. Meanwhile, Cukors has asked for, and has been granted, police protection, as he fears kidnapping by Israeli agents.

HIMMLER'S ADJUTANT

According to a report in the *Yiddische Presse* in Rio de Janeiro, Baron Bubbj von Alwensleben, who was Himmler's adjutant, has been living for many years under an assumed name in Sao Paulo.

The paper describes the Baron as one of the most barbarous murderers. Dr. Felix Kersten, Himmler's doctor, before his death stated that the Baron had personally executed about 2,000 Jews and Poles.

PROFESSOR'S RECORD FOUND OUT

Professor Dr. Friedrich Sander of the Bonn University had been appointed Chairman of the Organising Committee to prepare the International Congress of Psychologists, to be held in Bonn in July. It was, however, discovered that the Professor's works include a publication, "German Psychology and National Socialist Ideology", which attacks the Jews violently and glorifies Hitler as a genius of psychology. Professor Sander has, on pressure both from abroad and from the German authorities, resigned from the Committee "for reasons of health".

NO PENSION FOR NAZI MAYOR

The Administrative High Court for Hesse has decided that the former Nazi Mayor of Offenbach, Dr. Helmuth Schranz (Member of the Federal Parliament), does not qualify for a pension. It stated that he had been appointed not on account of his proficiency as a civil servant, but as an "old fighter" who had joined the party as early as 1925.

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Herbert Freedman

EICHMANN — FROM THE ISRAELI PERSPECTIVE

Jerusalem, June 5th, 1960.

The first shock which Adolf Eichmann's apprehension caused in Israel has abated; the first reflections have set in, and people have found time to look more closely at the legal and moral background of the case.

At the height of the heated discussion Pinhas Rosen, the Minister of Justice, called on the editors of the Israeli Press to pay attention to the provisions of the Courts' Law, which forbid the publication of comment on any matter *sub judice* in the courts, if the publication is liable to influence the course of the trial or its results. In this connection the Minister quoted the words of Judge G. Casson, Chief Prosecutor for the United States at the International Military Court in Nuremberg, in his opening address at the war criminals' trial in 1945:

"Although public opinion has already convicted the accused for their deeds, we agree that here they must benefit from the presumption of innocence; we accept the burden of proving the crimes and the responsibility of these accused for their commission."

There was an outcry in the Hebrew Press. "The rule of *sub judice* was not intended for the trial of this monster", protested *Davar*, "and it is up to our judges to give a just verdict without needing to be defended by this rule." And *Lamerhav* argued: "The event itself is not a formal judicial one. . . . It is primarily a Jewish event which can again reveal all the satanic aspects of Hitlerism. . . ." *Hazzofeh* wrote: "It is innocence or pretended innocence to assume that Eichmann is still a suspect and not a known murderer? The trial is not being held to determine his guilt, which is beyond all doubt. It is being held in order to reveal to the entire world the enormity of the crimes committed by the Nazis and their helpers against the Jewish people."

This Press controversy points at the problem which occupies some sections of the public: Was it necessary to institute a formal court procedure or could the verdict have been passed on the basis of the historically known facts? Ben-Gurion's first announcement in the Knesset, speaking of the murderer of five million Jews, seemed to point in the latter direction. The advantages would have been obvious: such a step would have eliminated any delay which a formal trial is bound to cause; it would have spared many people in Israel living through once more the days of horror which the trial must recall; in that atmosphere of bitter recollections and of hatred, which the trial is bound to engender, the defence will naturally come forward with facts that will not have favourable repercussions on international relations. After all, it was the Western Powers which closed their gates at a time when German Jews were pressed to leave the country, but had no land to go to.

Nevertheless, the Israeli Government stuck to its decision to proceed according to the forms and norms of court procedure, in the main, as the Prime Minister stressed, to demonstrate to Israel's youth the monstrosity of crimes against the Jewish people. "In my opinion", he said in a letter to Yisrael Galili, the leader of Ahduth Ha'avodah, "the importance of the capture of Adolf Eichmann and his trial in Israel lies not in the extraordinary resource and skill of the staff of the Security Services . . . but in the privilege . . . of having the entire story of the holocaust revealed in an Israeli court, so that the facts should be known and remembered by the youth in Israel . . . and so that world opinion, too, should learn the truth."

Ha'aretz advances another argument in favour

of a formal trial. "The monster who destroyed six million of our brothers and sisters will not now be allowed to destroy our standards. Even Adolf Eichmann . . . will be given a fair trial in Israel and, unlike his victims, enjoy the chance to defend himself."

World opinion on the question whether Eichmann ought to be tried in Israel, is divided. Commenting on the objections of General Telford Taylor and others, *Davar* writes: "General Taylor doubts whether a fair trial can be assured in Israel. Why? Because the criminal's victims are here and he is hated here. This argument against holding the trial in Israel seems to us the most convincing reason for doing so. . . ."

"Society judges and punishes the robber, rapist, and murderer, because it considers itself endangered by his actions. This is true of both criminal and political crimes." Pointing out that the Rosenbergs were judged by Americans, Laval by the French, and "Lord Haw-Haw" by the British, *Davar* declares: "Eichmann committed crimes against the Jews, and the Jews have a right to judge him. . . . Until now it was accepted that there was no specific Jewish account to be settled in the Nazi holocaust; the Jews of Poland were murdered as Poles, the Jews of the Ukraine as Ukrainians, the Jews of Lithuania as Lithuanians, and there are certainly those who think that the Jews of Germany were murdered as Germans. This time the whole world will see that there is a Jewish account, that the Nazis murdered Jews simply because they were Jews, and that at least one of them will be tried by Jews."

The paper believes that the opposition to a Jewish trial of a Nazi criminal is due to the fear that "unpleasant episodes of the democratic world's indifference to the fate of millions of Jews in the grip of the Nazis and appealing for help may be revealed", and to an "atavistic" dislike of seeing a non-Jew tried by Jews.

The fact that Eichmann, one of the last survivors of the great Nazi criminals, will be the witness for the whole ghastly story of the "Endlösung" is, of course, of ambiguous value. Is there a certainty that his perverted mind will not pervert the truth? Perhaps he may think it fit to drag into his guilt just those who were opposed to his policy, and to whitewash those who were the slaughterers? Can we trust his words? *Herut* quotes a report according to which Eichmann said that "Dr. Kastner was a Jewish patriot", and exclaims: "Now Eichmann will decide who was loyal to the Jewish people!"

As the Eichmann case was discussed up and down the country, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, in an interview with the Hebrew daily *Haboker*, suggested that the court sitting in Israel should be expanded into an international tribunal composed of judges representing all the countries where Eichmann was "active" during the war; the presiding judge should be a member of the Israeli High Court. Later he revised this suggestion and proposed that international "observers" should attend the trial.

Ben-Gurion assailed Dr. Goldmann vehemently in an open letter, in which he said: "Historic justice and the honour of the Jewish people demand that the trial should be before an Israeli court in the sovereign Jewish State. This was the decision of the Government of Israel and the opinion of the entire Jewish people in its land, and the publication in the press of your proposal which—whether intended or not—went out to world public opinion, is a grave and serious blow to the feelings of our people in Israel (and I believe, not in Israel alone) and the honour of the State."

ISRAELI NEWS

WAR CRIMINALS LISTED

A list compiled by the Yad Vashem Memorial Institute in Jerusalem of 325 alleged Nazi war criminals and details of the available evidence against them, has been sent to the Israeli Foreign Ministry, for transmission to the West German judicial authorities.

THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

Sir John Barbirolli, who is in Israel as guest conductor of the Israeli Philharmonic, has complained at the protests made about his proposal that the vocal parts in the performance of Mahler's second symphony be sung in German. He expressed surprise that there should be a public furor over German in concert halls, but nevertheless agreed to conduct the performance in English.

Marlene Dietrich is also visiting Israel, where she will be giving four performances. She has said that she wants to give one show exclusively for Israeli soldiers.

SOCIAL WORK

At a meeting of the "Solidaritaetswerk", a voluntary welfare organisation set up in Israel by Jews from Germany, the Treasurer, Dr. John Levy, stated: "The view frequently expressed that compensation payments have solved all questions of social needs is wrong and erroneous. On the contrary, the number of emergency cases has increased due to the steadily growing number of old people in our midst."

At the same meeting, the head of the Jerusalem Social Department of the organisation of Jews from Central Europe (*Irgun Olej Merkas Europa*), Mrs. Thea Nathan, stressed the important function of voluntary organisations, which served as a link with the public welfare offices and supplemented the help rendered by them. The Department carries out advisory activities, runs an employment agency and renders financial support. Those taken care of include mentally ill people, chronically sick persons and families who have accommodation difficulties.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS URGED

The establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Federal Republic has been demanded by the German Co-ordinating Council of Christian Jewish Societies. Its Secretary-General declared that the difficulties involved were fully realised, but it was considered a moral necessity.

The Council also decided to formulate recommendations to eliminate anti-Semitic passages from the Oberammergau Passion Play.

ISRAELI DISCOVERY OF PRE-NEANDERTHAL MAN

Fragments of what is believed to be the world's earliest known man, who lived about half a million years ago, have been discovered in some fields on the banks of the River Jordan, by a member of the Afikim Kibbutz. Although the skull fragments were insufficient to enable the reconstruction of the man himself, the experts were able to build up a fairly comprehensive picture of his habits from the relics by which he was surrounded. So far no name has been given to this elder brother to the Neanderthal Man. It has been suggested that, in view of the site where he was found, the name "Afikoman" might be appropriate.

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

ANTI-RACIAL LEGISLATION URGED

Sir Leslie Plummer, M.P., speaking at the annual meeting of the National Council for Civil Liberties, said that although his Bill to make racial and religious insults a crime had the majority support of people in Britain, some Conservatives objected to it and even the Labour Party could not find the time to press the Government for a debate.

Referring to recent comments on the American singer, Sammy Davis, Jr., and his future bride, the Swedish actress, Mai Britt, Sir Leslie added: "We cannot be content with legislation that permits open and public opinion against people because of their race or religion". (Mr. Davis had been confronted by insulting placards and had insults shouted at him by a number of men alleged to belong to Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement.) Sir Leslie said this was a national disgrace. Mr. Davis had two counts against him, because he was both a Jew and a Negro.

The meeting passed a resolution urging legislation against incitement to race hatred and racial discrimination. A resolution was also passed calling for positive Government steps, through Commonwealth consultation and in the United Nations, to oppose *apartheid*.

NO CHANCE FOR RACE BILLS

Mr. R. A. Butler, Leader of the House, has made it clear that no Government facilities would be forthcoming for the Racial and Religious Insults Bill put forward by Sir Leslie Plummer and the Race Discrimination Bill submitted by Mr. Fenner Brockway. Mr. Butler expressed the view that this was not a matter which he thought could easily be handled by legislation. Both Bills have so far been prevented from making progress in the House by cries of "Object" when they have been put from the chair.

COMBATING DISCRIMINATION

The British Anti-Discrimination Society, recently formed by a group of ex-R.A.F. prisoners of war, has as its principal aim and object the combating of racial and religious discrimination in sports clubs. The Society has established contact with various sports associations, from whom it hopes that it may obtain a bold statement of policy on discrimination.

"KEEP BRITAIN WHITE"

During a meeting held by the British National Party recently at Trafalgar Square, with banners proclaiming "Keep Britain White", Mr. Colin Jordan, schoolteacher and organiser of the extremist party, was booed when he referred to the "folly of Britain being driven into war in 1939 with the only country in Europe which drove the Jews out of public life". "How much more sensible", he said, "if we had joined hands with Germany and fought the Jews."

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BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The Queen's Birthday Honours' List includes awards to the following persons who came to this country as refugees from Nazi oppression: Dr. Ludwig Guttman, Director of the National Spinal Injuries Centre, Stoke Mandeville, C.B.E. Dr. Guttman, who was awarded the O.B.E. in 1950, has always been actively associated with Jewish affairs and is a member of the AJR Board. Norbert Brainin, violinist, leader of the Amadeus Quartet, O.B.E. Ludwig Koch, the naturalist, is awarded the M.B.E.

The list also includes two new Jewish knights, Mr. Samuel Isidore Salmon of J. Lyons & Co. and Mr. Richard Hugh Jessel. Mr. Gilbert Harold Samuel Edgar receives the C.B.E. for political and public services, and Mr. Geoffrey D. M. Block is awarded the O.B.E. for public services.

JEWS IN CLUBS

The Middlesex County Council has passed a recommendation expressing disapproval of clubs under its jurisdiction which practise racial discrimination. This resolution arose out of a proposal made in March by Councillor Mrs. Joyce Clyne that allegations of discrimination practised by Moor Park Golf Club should be investigated, and the Club's lease terminated if they were proved. The Club is subsidised by the County Council and the Rickmansworth Urban District Council. However, there was no clause in the lease under which any action could be taken.

By passing the recommendation, the County Council has declared itself opposed to any form of racial or religious discrimination affecting membership of golf clubs or other organisations who are lessees of land or properties in which the Council has direct or indirect interest.

"WE NEED THE JEWS"

Speaking at the 151st annual meeting of Church Missions to Jews, the Rev. George Appleton said: "We need the Jews, and we must hope for a new relationship in which we can talk to each other as deep spiritual friends". He said Jews were still sensitive as a result of the terrible treatment they had received from professing Christians in the past. As a result some Christian Jews now felt they must retain their Jewishness and use it as a bridge.

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR

World Refugee Year in Britain has closed with a total of over £8 million, four times the amount first aimed at by the Appeal Committee. The Government also decided to double its contribution to a sum of £400,000. At the ceremony held at the Royal Albert Hall to mark the official close of the appeal, Mr. Macmillan, the Prime Minister, said that it had been a truly astonishing achievement. There was now a world-wide consciousness of the plight of the refugees.

Scarcely less important than this provision of financial help, he said, had been schemes to assist the immigration of refugees. Since the war the United Kingdom had taken some 250,000 refugees. The Government had now agreed to admit 200 handicapped refugees and to widen its definition of "handicap" to cover some of the most deserving and even tragic cases of long-term refugees found in the camps, especially in Germany.

The Combined Overseas Rehabilitation and Refugee Appeal (Corra), formed with a view to co-ordinating the appeals of the Central British Fund, British Ort and British Ose, has collected more than £150,000 during World Refugee Year. In addition, the impact of Corra on the Jewish community has resulted not only in the contribution of this sum to Corra for Jewish purposes, but also in very substantial donations from British Jews for the general purposes of World Refugee Year.

Leicester University Appointment

Dr. Abraham Wasserstein, Lecturer in Greek at Glasgow, has been appointed Professor of Classics at Leicester University. Dr. Wasserstein, who is 38, was born in Frankfurt/Main, of Polish Chassidic parents. He left for Italy shortly before the outbreak of war and in 1940 he reached Turkey, from where he proceeded to Palestine, after one year. In 1946 he came to Britain, where he enrolled at Birkbeck College in London, graduating as a B.A. with first-class honours. Two years later Dr. Wasserstein took his Ph.D. degree and, in 1951, came to Glasgow University, first as an Assistant and a year later was appointed Lecturer in Greek. He has undertaken research and published papers on Greek mathematics.

Reform Jews Conference

The Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, which a year ago withdrew from the World Union for Progressive Judaism, has decided to affiliate to that organisation once again. The proposal was adopted at the 19th annual conference of the R.S.G.B., where Mr. Leonard G. Montefiore was re-elected Vice-President with Mr. Richard M. Norton as Chairman.

World Zionist Conference

A world conference to discuss the issues facing the Zionist movement has been convened for December in London. Hosts to the London Conference will be the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, and the speakers will include Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the World Zionist Organisation, and the Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Arthur Lourie.

British Award to Israeli

Dr. Myer Makin, aged 41, head of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, has been awarded the British Orthopaedic Association's Robert Jones Gold Medal and the Association's prize for his work on transplanting tissue in animals. Dr. Makin was born in Birkenhead and settled in Palestine in 1946.

Swastika Daubings

The Church of Scotland Committee submitted to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland at Edinburgh a report on the recent extensive outbreaks of swastika daubings in many countries. The view was put that the attitude that it was no more than just the work of hooligans ignored the fact that the incidents were sparked off all over the world as if at a given signal. The Secretary of the Jewish Mission Committee told the General Assembly that a group of ministers was still probing into the mystery of what set off these anti-Jewish demonstrations all over the world.

A number of swastikas and slogans have been daubed in the London area following the arrest of Eichmann. Some synagogues were daubed with the words "We Like Eichmann" and "Juden Raus", and swastikas and slogans also appeared on Karl Marx's tomb in Highgate.

Prince Philip in East End

The Duke of Edinburgh officially opened the Brady Clubs' new Youth Centre and Miriam Moses Extension in the heart of London's East End. The Duke, who took a lively interest in the varied activities of the Centre, unveiled a commemorative plaque. He paid tribute to the voluntary leaders and club workers whose work, he said, was vital in helping young people through the difficult period of adolescence. The benediction on the new premises was pronounced by the Chief Rabbi, and a distinguished audience, including Sir Basil Henriques, Lord and Lady Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Barnett Janner and others, was present.

The Centre is as yet only the first stage in Brady's £60,000 building project.

TWO ANNIVERSARIES

GUSTAV MAHLER CENTENARY

The centenary of Gustav Mahler's birth, which falls on July 7th, has called forth world-wide commemorations. Unique among them, because of its direct link with Mahler's own time, must have been a recent Vienna concert at which Bruno Walter, the composer's close friend and foremost disciple, conducted one of his symphonies and also, in a speech, confessed anew his life-long loyalty to Mahler.

In this country, too, where the general appreciation of Mahler has grown decisively during the post-war period, nearly all his works will be given in live performances and broadcasts; on December 4th, that other famous Mahler disciple, Otto Klemperer, is to conduct a Mahler programme in the Festival Hall.

One feels distinctly that these celebrations are not undertaken from a mere sense of duty: Mahler's art, although rooted in the nineteenth century, continues to make its impact. In view of the wide gap that lies between our time and Mahler's world, this might seem somewhat surprising. But there are many aspects in Mahler's music: what makes him inspiring to modern musicians is the "progressiveness" of his late works, especially their harmonic and contrapuntal boldness and the subtlety of his scoring, in spite of the huge forces employed. We know of Schönberg's and Alban Berg's enthusiasm for Mahler—quite apart from the personal bond between Schönberg and Mahler. But the link extends further: present-day composers like Britten and Shostakovich, are indebted to Mahler, which proves the fertility of his historic achievement. At the same time, the wider public, inclined to be more conservative, feels no inhibitions in its approach to the ecstatic romanticism that is also Mahler's.

English literature on Mahler continues to grow. Last year saw the publication of the first volume of Donald Mitchell's monumental biography. For the centenary, the B.B.C. and the Festival Hall have each commissioned a booklet from leading musical writers. In the Festival Hall publication ("Gustav Mahler, a Centenary Appreciation", 1s.), that stalwart Mahlerian, Neville Cardus, offers a brilliantly written survey which abounds in original thought and felicity of style. (An appendix, containing sayings of and about Mahler, a chronology, a discography and a bibliography, add to the value of this booklet.) In Cardus's essay, the contrasting elements in Mahler are clearly defined, but so is their function within the total edifice of his work. The link with later developments is emphasised: "He foretold the twentieth century tensions of mind and nerve; he was the first Freudian composer and not unrelated, at bottom, to the Kafkas of the twentieth century scene."

Deryck Cooke ("Mahler 1860-1911"; B.B.C., 5s.) puts forth a similar view: "If half of him was a romantic, the other half was that characteristic twentieth century figure: the restless seeker for the naked truth (whether beautiful or ugly), ridden with doubt and perplexity, ill at ease in an unfriendly cosmos." But it is hardly surprising that Cooke, whose recent writings aim at upholding the cause of emotion and romanticism in music, should probe deeply into this "half" of Mahler. His general survey of Mahler as man and artist is followed by concise notes on all the major works (incidentally, Cooke has scored much of the unfinished Tenth and will discuss this work—Mahler's last—on the Third Programme at the end of the year). The booklet is attractively produced and well illustrated, and it includes a moving preface by Bruno Walter, which culminates in the statement: "So, for me, his music is as alive today as ever and nothing can ever part me from his work and his personality."

Both English authors devote little more than a passing remark to Mahler's Jewish origin. It is a healthy sign that a German contribution to the centenary also treats this question with a sense of proportion. The writer is Dr. Hans Christoph Wörbs, who, in a recent book on Mendelssohn, had made it his aim "gutzumachen, was die Kulturpolitik des dritten Reiches in ihrem

Rassenwahn verschuldet hat". His "Gustav Mahler" (Max Hesse Verlag; DM 4.80) presents a sympathetic biography and a highly appreciative, though not uncritical, discussion of the works. Quoting Max Brod's opinion that Mahler's religion remained a "disguised Judaism", the author tries to justify Mahler's conversion on spiritual grounds. On the other hand, he accepts Brod's research into the influence of Chassidic melodies on Mahler and speaks of the revelation of Mahler's Jewish soul in the last movement of "Das Lied von der Erde". The book is an excellent introduction to Mahler: the biographical part contains many details of great interest (such as Mahler's friendship with Gerhart Hauptmann), and the description of the music eschews the merely technical approach in favour of imaginative poetic interpretations—a very appropriate method in Mahler's case. Here, too, an appendix lists works, recordings and some of the themes (in music type), and there is a personal tribute by Alma Mahler.

H. W. FREYHAN.

ABRAHAM GEIGER— RABBI AND SCHOLAR

Nowadays when we endeavour to clarify what the legacy of German Jewry to world Jewry is, we must turn to Abraham Geiger. The recent 150th anniversary of his birth (May 24th) gives welcome opportunity to remember what German Jewry in the person of Abraham Geiger has contributed to Jewry everywhere. Abraham Geiger was a rabbi closely connected with the life of the members of his congregation, and he was at the same time a scholar in the Western sense of the word. When he received a call to the Breslau community, Dayan Titkin protested: "A man who studied at university cannot be a rabbi". With Geiger began the new type of Western rabbi who combines Talmudical and traditional learning with Western learning. Leopold Zunz, whose disciple and co-worker Geiger was, could never make up his mind to associate his life with everyday work in a congregation; he remained a scholar, aloof from the men and women for whom he, after all, worked all his life with great devotion.

In every other respect Geiger must be seen as the greatest pupil of Zunz, the founder of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*. We try to translate the term *Wissenschaft des Judentums* into English in various ways and do so without success. Jewish science, Jewish learning, or Jewish lore, the latter translation often being used in America, do not fully convey what the German term means. But Zunz himself has shown us how to understand this new discipline of Jewish learning. He compares it with historiography, but admits only limited identity. Geiger understood Zunz fully when he called himself a theologian. With the words "Jewish theology" Geiger intended to avoid the pitfalls of positivistic historiography. The scholar of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* must not look at its subject matter with the cold eyes of the scientist, but he must be committed to the values revealed to him in the historic material; he must be—as the existentialists say today—"engagé" (engaged). Zunz emphasised this element of commitment in the work of the scholar of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* and Geiger, in agreement with him, chose to call himself a theologian rather than an historian. Zunz and Geiger had a philosophy as their guide while engaged in their research. This philosophy may be dated today. But it prevented them from the error of assuming that the "facts" of the historic material speak for themselves; surely, they have to be made to speak and only that scholar can make the "facts" of Jewish history narrate their story who comes to his research as a Jew. Where Geiger's union of theology and historiography is forgotten as, alas, it is often today, the result is a sterile presentation of facts which distorts Jewish history to a chain of events without holiness, without God and, therefore, without the people who can be recognised as the

Jewish people. Jewish scholars must remain Geiger's pupils.

In the new term *Wissenschaft des Judentums*, the word *Judentum* (Judaism) itself is new. We always spoke of the Torah. But with the Westernisation of Jewish life a new situation arose. Jews were willing to be faithful to the religion of their fathers from whom they had become different. The main question which moved the hearts of these modern Jews had been unknown to their fathers; it was the question: "What is Judaism?" They asked it, both consciously and unconsciously. Westernised as they were, and no longer shaped and formed by the intensive education of Cheder and Yeshiva, they had to ask that fundamental question. The Jew is the heir of a past, but in the question "What is Judaism?" not only the past but also the present presses for understanding. Christianity and Islam, the various philosophies of the West, the wisdom of India and China, seem to be there with equal rights. The question "What is Judaism?" as distinct from all these competing religions and philosophies implies the other question: "In which way is Judaism unique in comparison with them, in which way is it superior to them?" The *Wissenschaft des Judentums* had to answer this question, and in doing so it brought about a true revival, a mighty renaissance of Judaism. Geiger is one of the great men who worked for this renaissance to which from them Eastern European rabbis and scholars looked with admiration and with the determined effort to follow the "German" example. When we ask: "What is the legacy of German Jewry to world Jewry?" the answer is: German Jewry succeeded as the first Western Jewry to make Judaism articulate. To make Jewish existence articulate is now the task of Western Jewry everywhere. Existence is mute, and by becoming articulate it becomes strong through self-consciousness. This strength is rendered to modern Jewry everywhere where *Wissenschaft des Judentums*, as Abraham Geiger represented it, is alive.

IGNAZ MAYBAUM.

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE LECTURE

In the series of lectures currently arranged by the Society of Friends of the Leo Baeck Institute, Dr. Siegfried M. Auerbach gave an illuminating and amusing talk on "Probleme der jüdischen Familienforschung".

Dr. Auerbach, who would modestly describe himself as a lifelong amateur in the field of German-Jewish genealogy (he actually started collecting material when still a schoolboy) is, of course, well known as the author of the excellent recent compilations "The Auerbach Family" and "The Descendants of Moritz Löwenthal".

The speaker touched on the many problems encountered in his practical work, and he regaled his audience with some delightful anecdotes. While the genealogist must enlist the aid of all surviving relatives, the information made available is frequently unreliable; when sifted, many a cherished family legend is dispelled. Suicide is usually denied by the descendants and information about converts is often refused or disclosed with reluctance. There also seems to be considerable opposition to the incorporation of the offspring of mixed marriages into Jewish family trees. Another controversial question is the inclusion of adopted or illegitimate children. All the available evidence must be checked with the local German authorities wherever possible. Registry offices throughout the Bundesrepublik are most efficient and co-operative; the attitude in East Germany and the former German territories varies considerably.

The suggestion of the speaker that other families compile their genealogical records in accordance with the system he has used and improved, certainly deserves much commendation. As he himself stresses, from the investigation of a greater number of German-Jewish families a more comprehensive picture will emerge, and then important conclusions could be drawn about the fate and fortunes of German Jewry since the Emancipation. A.P.

PERSONALIA

DR. SELMA STERN TAEUBLER 70

Dr. Selma Stern Taubler's seventieth birthday on July 24th is not merely an occasion to congratulate her and to wish her many more happy and fruitful years. It is also an opportunity to reflect on her outstanding scholarly achievements and on the excellence of her human qualities.

Dr. Taubler is a most noble representative of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*. During the century since Abraham Geiger and Zacharias Frankel, this *Wissenschaft* has contributed more to the understanding of the Jews and Judaism than all the keen but unsystematic efforts during many previous centuries. This is due in no small measure to the fact that the men of the *Jüdische Wissenschaft* based their research on the sound premise that Judaism could not be adequately understood unless studied in connection with, and as part of, the political and cultural setting of the peoples among whom Jews lived. Dr. Taubler has demonstrated the validity of this premise not only in her numerous scholarly books and articles, but also in her fascinating historical novel: "The Spirit Returneth" (Philadelphia, 1946), a book dedicated to the martyrs of Israel. The fact that the Jews of Germany were part and parcel of the history of Germany and Europe, economically, politically, socially and to some extent even religiously, is convincingly documented in such of her works as, "Der Preussische Staat und die Juden. Darstellung und Akten. Teil I: Die Zeit des Grossen Kurfürsten und Friedrichs I" (Berlin, 1925); "Jud Süß. Ein Beitrag zur deutschen und zur jüdischen Geschichte" (Berlin, 1929); "The Court Jew. A Contribution to the History of the Period of Absolutism in Central Europe" (Philadelphia, 1950); "Josel von Rosheim, Befehlshaber der Jüdischen Gemeinschaft im Heiligen Römischen Reich Deutscher Nation" (Stuttgart, 1959); and others.

Dr. Taubler studied at the Universities of Heidelberg and Munich, and took her Ph.D. degree at the latter. She studied under many distinguished scholars, amongst them Professor Eugen Taubler, the great Heidelberg historian, whom she later married.

Selma Taubler's professional career is one of distinction. In Germany, she was a member of the Academy of Jewish Learning (*Akademie für die Wissenschaft des Judentums*). In the United States, she was the first Archivist of the American Jewish Archives, a department of the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati, under the directorship of Professor Jacob R. Marcus, the outstanding historian of American Jewry. She contributed decisively to the scholastic stature of the Archives from its founding in 1947 until her retirement in 1957.

Dr. Taubler is not merely a scholar. She is also an example of the "woman of valour" of the Bible. It is a significant fact that the warmth of her personality often makes her friends and acquaintances forget that they are talking with one of the greatest scholars of our day. She always has taken a deep personal interest in the fate of her fellow-men, be it her husband, a friend, a student, a colleague, or a servant. She is a gracious hostess whose warm hospitality has been the delight of many guests. The late Dr. Leo Baeck and his daughter were the distinguished weekly dinner companions of the Taublers for five years. In the Taublers' company, the food seemed to be but incidental. This was the experience of the writer's family, particularly during the memorable Seder nights Professor and Dr. Taubler spent with them in their home. They enlivened and deepened the story of the Haggadah with their unequalled historical insight.

Selma Taubler is now leaving Cincinnati, only temporarily we hope, in order to continue her research in European libraries and archives. A host of friends and admirers join in wishing her many, many years of good health, happiness and continued success.

ALEXANDER GUTTMANN (Cincinnati).

DROSTE PRIZE FOR NELLY SACHS

The Droste Prize for poetesses, dedicated in 1956 by Helen Freifrau von Bothmer (Meersburg) in memory of Annette von Droste-Huelshoff, was awarded to the German-Jewish poetess Nelly Sachs. She was born in Berlin in 1891 and escaped to Sweden in 1940 with the help of Selma Lagerloef, a close friend of hers. Her works include a collection of poems, "In den Wohnungen des Todes," in which she describes the horror of persecution. Nelly Sachs now lives in Stockholm and the recent ceremony of the award at Meersburg at the 9th Meeting of Poetesses was the first occasion she had paid a visit to the country of her birth. The citation of the award reads: "Dank der Juedin deutscher Herkunft, dass sie trotz des gnadenlosen Missbrauchs der deutschen Sprache im Munde der Henker in ihrem Dichten dieser deutschen Sprache Rang und Moeglichkeit bewahrt hat, Gefaess der Gnade zu sein."

HON. DOCTORATE FOR RABBI MAX GRUENEWALD

The degree of Doctor of Divinity *honoris causa* was conferred upon Rabbi Dr. Max Gruenewald in New York by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Dr. Gruenewald is the President of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe and is a Vice-President of the Council of Jews from Germany.

Referring to Dr. Gruenewald's position in Mannheim before World War II, the citation states that he was "the only rabbi in Europe to hold both the position of rabbi and of president of the Jewish community of his city". The citation goes on: "You took up the leadership of European Jews during the darkest years of their history, and held a position of formidable responsibility at a time when Jews faced terror, persecution and destruction". The citation describes Rabbi Gruenewald's present rabbinic position in America as "a source of blessing to American Judaism".

The AJR expresses its sincerest congratulations to Rabbi Gruenewald on his award which, at the same time, has added lustre to the name of the community of Jews from Germany.

JEWISH CHESS CHAMPION

The new world chess champion is Mischa Tal, the 23-year-old Latvian, born in Riga of Jewish parents. Tal, who has a phenomenal memory, learned to play chess at the age of 12 and, under the tuition of a Jewish Latvian chess-master named Koblenz, he soon acquired master status. By 1953 he won the chess championship of Latvia and won the Soviet championship in 1957 and in 1958.

Tal is a graduate of the University of Riga and is a fine linguist. His interests include many things, ranging from music to philology. Last year he was elected to the Riga Municipal Soviet, and he is extremely popular in his native city of Riga. Immensely formidable as a chess player at present, however, his development is not yet complete. He will be a terrifying proposition for an adversary by the time the next challenger emerges.

MARC CHAGALL'S U.S. COMMISSION

Marc Chagall, the famous Jewish artist now living in Paris, is visiting the United States, where he has been asked to execute murals at Brandeis University. An honorary degree will also be conferred upon him by the University.

AWARD FOR PROFESSOR ZOHN

Professor Harry Zohn of the Brandeis University (U.S.A.) has been awarded the German Federal Cross of Merit. Professor Zohn's publications include translations of works by Kurt Tucholsky. The first volume of his translation of Theodor Herzl's diaries is due to appear shortly.

ARNOLD ZWEIG IN LONDON

Arnold Zweig, the creator of "Sergeant Grisha", recently paid a short visit to London—the first which this celebrated German-Jewish writer has made to Britain since the early 'thirties. His previous two attempts to visit this country were thwarted by the Home Office. One of the reasons for his visit was to renew contacts with the publishers of his books. During his stay, Arnold Zweig also saw Dr. Anna Freud on the publication of a book devoted to the late Sigmund Freud, of whom he was a personal friend.

Although many German Jews have left Israel to return to their native land during the last decade, few have returned to the German Democratic Republic.

Mr. Zweig, in an interview with the *Jewish Chronicle*, stated that his choice was not merely the result of an invitation from the East German régime. "Neither as a Jew nor as a Socialist would I ever be willing to live in a State where ex-Nazis and people responsible for the murder of Jews and other human beings remain in positions of power and authority", he said. He denied that a similar state of affairs existed in Eastern Germany. "We have not a single ex-Nazi in our judiciary, among our teachers, or among the military commanders. Anti-Semitism is a punishable offence in the Democratic German Republic, and the whole social-economic basis on which German fascism and militarism rested in the past has been destroyed there", he said.

"ATOMS FOR PEACE" AWARDS

The Ford Motor Company in America has presented four U.S.A. scientists with "Atoms for Peace" awards, out of whom three are Jews. The awards were given for research into the development of atomic energy. The principal speaker at the presentation was Dr. Isidor I. Rabi, Nobel Prize winner and a member of President Eisenhower's Science Advisory Committee.

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RECENT JEWISH HISTORY

After their recent volume on Judaism by Dr. I. Epstein, Penguin Books have devoted another of their popular booklets to Jewish affairs, this time to the secular side of Jewish life.* They have found an excellent author in Professor Norman Bentwich, a prolific writer on Jewish subjects and a man well known to readers of this paper as a never failing friend and helper of refugees in Britain.

Bentwich is one of the Jewish world figures of our time, well versed in all aspects of Jewish life in almost all parts of the world, and it could be expected that he would give a well balanced, all-comprising picture. It must have been an ordeal to compress the material into 170 small pages. As best as can be done within these limits, Bentwich provides a comprehensive, skillfully arranged survey and much detailed information for the general reader, from which the Jewish reader may also profit. He describes the way of the Jewish people from the past through all their wanderings over the globe, culminating in the recent revolutionary changes in the geographic and economic distribution. Multifarious problems arose in the many places of the Diaspora and, in our days, in Palestine and Israel. It is an absorbing story of the permanent transformation of a people who, in spite of changing conditions, stick to the ancient idea that underlies their existence.

Unavoidably in such an extensive story, one or another reader may differ on some points. To this reviewer it seems that, in his description of Jewish nationalism, Bentwich does not always draw a clear line between the ideal conception which he rightly defends, and the actual performance. He also quotes from Israel's Declaration of Independence that the State will be based on the principle of liberty, justice and peace, etc., but he abstains from discussing the political and social realities more closely, except for the short statement that Israel has still to find a way of doing justice to the former Arab inhabitants of the land. Perhaps an opportunity was missed to expound the whole impact of the so-called Arab question as a moral factor from the beginning of the Jewish colonisation in Palestine.

German-Jewish Achievements

Readers of this paper will be especially interested in Bentwich's warm appreciation of the achievements of German Jews. He states that Germany, in the nineteenth century, became "the intellectual, if not the spiritual, centre of Jewry". A great many—though not all—German Jews who made prominent contributions to general culture, are listed. Bentwich is mistaken in assuming that complete assimilation of whole Jewish families occurred only in Anglo-Jewry, while in Germany, according to his view, Gentile antipathy prevented such a process (p.92). As a matter of fact, many advanced and cultured German-Jewish families from the beginning of the nineteenth century completely disappeared in the Gentile world, perhaps to a higher degree than elsewhere. Possibly he also simplifies the problem of intermarriage. A few small mistakes should be corrected. Dr. Leo Baeck died in 1956 and not in 1955 (p. 99). Trotzki's name was Bronstein, not Bornstein (p. 88). Wedekind is not a Jew (p. 111). From page 103 the uninformed reader may get the impression that Martin Buber started to write books only after having settled in Israel (sc. Palestine) in 1938. On page 169 Bentwich says that the stream of German-Jewish youth driven from Nazi Europe made the Kibbutz movement a practical need. Actually, this need was established ten years earlier with the occupation of the Emek Yezre'el. The Kibbutz is of Russian-Jewish, not of German-Jewish origin, if one does not want to stress the co-authorship of the German-Jew Dr. Arthur Rupp (whom Bentwich does not mention). Several more such minor points could be made, but they do not detract from the merits of this little book written by a surprisingly vigorous and likeable man of 78.

* Norman Bentwich: *The Jews in Our Time. The Development of Jewish Life in the Modern World.* Penguin Books, London, 1960. 175 pp. 3/6.

Speaking of the Jews in our time, we can hardly overstress the enormous metamorphosis brought about in the twentieth century. At the beginning of this century the bulk of the Russian Jews broke away from the Middle Ages, and in the span of one generation they achieved by emigration almost complete integration into Western civilisation. This process is described in an interesting personal account which Professor Selig Brodetsky in his *Memoirs*† gives of the way of life of his parents and of his own youth. Brodetsky, as we all know, was a member of the Zionist World Executive in London from 1928-1951. On the eve of the Second World War in 1939 he was elected President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews—the first man born in Russia to attain such office. There were some misgivings about his combining the two tasks, but perhaps this was only a symptom of the changes that had affected the structure of British Jewry. Brodetsky's life as related in his *Memoirs* is a great example of the revolutionary changes: the boy from the ghetto and from poverty who became a brilliant student at Cambridge and finally Professor of Mathematics at Leeds University. Unfortunately, the second half of this book, written during prolonged illness, was not really completed before the author's death. Although Brodetsky was at the heart of events, he does not add substantially to what is already known. His political account is more or less on the conventional line of the description of Zionist struggles against Bevin, etc., without penetrating the deeper problems. Nevertheless, the book is important for anybody who wants to understand this decisive period.

Zionist Leader

Speaking of Zionist history, this is an opportunity to mention a biography about Nahum Goldmann, which was published some time ago in Germany.‡ The two volumes take the story only up to 1936, but it is gratifying that the author does not interpret his task too narrowly, but extends it to the description of the circumstances and of the whole atmosphere in which Goldmann lived and worked. Thus some chapters on Zionism in Germany enter into the picture. Coming from a Russian-Jewish family, Goldmann was educated in German schools; he was an early Zionist, and at the outbreak of the First World War he even became an enthusiastic German patriot, eager to bring about the downfall of the hated Tsarist régime. This led to one of the most curious episodes of Goldmann's life described in this book, namely, when the gifted young foreigner was appointed a director of the Jewish department of the German *Auswaertiges Amt*. Later on, Goldmann and his friend, Klatzkin, were the initiators of the rump Jewish Encyclopædia which they edited in Berlin. It is noteworthy that already in 1920 Goldmann was one of a small group which stressed the importance of agreement with the Arabs, an idea to which he has returned in recent years. Unfortunately, this book is not well written, and Mr. Draenger makes the mistake of exaggerating the adulation of his hero, which Goldmann, with his lively sense of humour, may not always stomach. It may be difficult to write a biography about a man who is still at the centre of political events and controversies, especially one of so much personal charm and intellectual versatility as Nahum Goldmann.

People who have lived through the same period of German Zionism will find their recollections brushed up, although they will not always agree with all that Mr. Draenger says and even not with all that Dr. Goldmann said at various times. For younger people, the book is a source of valuable, though incomplete information, about a period which should not be forgotten. There are also some small mistakes, e.g. Karl Renner was not a Jew. Professor Franz Böhm, who wrote a

† Professor Selig Brodetsky, *Memoirs. From Ghetto to Israel.* Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London, 1960. 323 pp. 21/-.

‡ Jacob Draenger: *Nahum Goldmann. Ein Leben fuer Israel.* 2 Bände. Europäische Verlagsanstalt Frankfurt a/M. Mainz. 1959. Je 278 Seiten. Leinen. DM. 28.—Mit 14 Tafeln.

warm-hearted introduction to Draenger's book, confesses that it taught him much about the Jewish people that he had not known. He says that his class in pre-Hitler Germany had no idea what Jews really were like, and made the mistake of identifying the Jewish people with the small assimilated group with which they came into contact.

Dr. Goldmann, today President of the World Jewish Congress, of the Zionist Organisation, etc., does not fit into this pattern. He is a truly cosmopolitan Jew, Russian-born, German-educated, working for Israel, and now an American citizen. He has been at home on the parquet of international diplomacy, in Geneva in the 'thirties and elsewhere later, fighting for the rights of Diaspora Jews in various organisations as well as for Israel, and trying in vain to unify World Jewry. It is said that he is writing his own memoirs as far as he can spare the time; these may well become an interesting book, throwing light on, and giving the inside story of, many chapters of the paradoxical history of European Jewry during the last fifty years.

THE LAST WORK OF HANS J. REHFISCH

After a long illness the author, Hans J. Rehfisch, died in Switzerland on June 9th.

Born in 1891, Rehfisch started very ambitiously as a dramatist towards the end of the First World War with a verse play, "Die goldenen Waffen". This dealt with the contest between Ulysses and Ajax about Achilles' arms after the hero's death. Rehfisch treats the theme as the eternal hopeless struggle between a man of genius and a man of action.

As early as that, Rehfisch confessed to a conflict in himself. He did not rely exclusively on his considerable poetical substance, but also displayed another gift—the mastery of the devices of theatrical effect. In his first success, "Wer weint um Juckenack?", he reached for the metaphysical, but later he dealt with political subjects. He was quite successful with "Die Affaire Dreyfuss" where he collaborated with Wilhelm Herzog, but he was not so successful with "Masaryk", where the theatrical killed the documentary.

He was tremendously adaptable, following the fashion of the popular theatre with his "Razzia" and of the documentary with his "Brest Litovsk". He adopted a more religious trend in "Nickel oder die 36 Gerechten". He was always clever, often with success, but mostly it was theatre for the theatre, not poetry or drama translated into theatrical terms. Once he succeeded in tricking the Nazis, who put on his "Gentlemen", with Wegener and Asta Nielsen, as an English play, the supposed translator not being named.

Rehfisch, however, did not make his mark as an international playwright in this country. Here he was in his element as the founder of "Club 1943". Later he became an officer in the American Army and returned to Germany, where he founded the Hamburg Academy of Dramatic Art.

Yet, though his plays were performed again, he made his comeback not as a playwright but as a novelist. His first post-war novel, "Die Hexen von Paris", dealt with modern witch-hunting. His last work is a novel on Lysistrata*, after Aristophanes' story of the Athenian and Spartan women's plot. He had already written a play on the subject in 1952.

Rehfisch, narrating the story in the first person, gives a humorous wisdom to the relationship of the sexes in a changing world. The novel has a warmth which his plays lack. Though it consists mainly of spirited dialogues, it never aims at being a drama in disguise. He is a Romantic at heart and, as this book shows, a sympathetic one.

Rehfisch was the first to associate himself, as the director of a theatre, with the great pioneer of modern theatre, Erwin Piscator. It is comforting and at the same time ironical that, half a century later, he found himself by turning a play into a novel and delivering almost the whole message of his dozen dramas. In his "Lysistrata" he is not only topical but he has created a work that is likely to live.

L. WELTMANN.

* *Lysistratas Hochzeit*, by Hans J. Rehfisch. Kurt Desch Verlag, Munich, 1960. DM 15.50.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS AND APARTHEID

Mr. Harold Soref, who recently returned from an 18 months' stay in the Union, told a meeting of the Ort Aid Group in London that most South African Jews, like the white population generally, were in favour of apartheid but disagreed with its method of application. Mr. Soref claimed Jewish opinion in Britain, as expressed through the Press, had been most unfair to the community out there and to the S.A. Board of Deputies in particular. In his view, the latter was the finest Jewish representative body in the world, and concentrated upon acting wisely on behalf of the community. There was less anti-Semitic feeling in South Africa than in Britain.

Deputies of the South African Jewish Board have criticised overseas reactions appearing in articles and reports in some Jewish journals overseas. They reaffirmed the correctness of South African Jewry in refusing to take a community stand about apartheid, as Jews were no less divided than non-Jews on this national political issue.

Jewish communities throughout the country have held services of thanksgiving and dedication on the occasion of the Union Day celebrations.

In Pretoria eight white women on hunger strike in the central gaol were removed by ambulance to a newly built prison at Nylstroom, about 80 miles to the north. The majority of these women are Jewish, and they comprise part of the detainees under the Emergency Regulations.

Verwoerd, the South African Premier, announced the release of 159 detainees as part of the Jubilee celebrations.

NAZIS IN IRELAND

Joel Brand, war-time Jewish leader in Budapest, said in Tel Aviv that he believed the Irish Republic was now one of the main centres of the Nazi movement, and some of the Germans directing it were not even using assumed identities. The movement had branches in many European and American countries.

JEWS IN TURKEY

According to a leading member of the Jewish community in Ankara, centre of the Turkish political upheaval, the community has suffered no material or moral damage as a result of the military *coup d'état*. He stated that Turkey's 40,000 Jews were as divided on political issues as were non-Jews.

Israel has recognised the new régime, but it remains to be seen whether General Gursel will offer to exchange Ambassadors with the Jewish State.

The Turkish Chief Rabbi has had a meeting with General Rafik Tolga, the new Military Governor of Istanbul. The Chief Rabbi expressed the Jewish community's loyalty to the new Turkish régime and thanked the Army for protecting the Jewish community and other minorities.

General Tolga, in reply, expressed his hopes that no Jew or foreigner would be hurt under the new régime. He voiced his admiration for Israel and her achievements.

ALGERIAN ELECTIONS

In the Algerian elections to the provincial councils, three Jewish candidates have been successful in Oran, where there are 30,000 Jews. However, not a single Jew was elected in Algiers, where there are also 30,000 Jews. At Ein Sefra, south of Oran, a Jewish candidate was elected on a pro-De Gaulle ticket, while at Batna another Jewish candidate also secured election on the same policy.

Out of a total population of 8,681,000 in Algeria, the Jewish population numbers 130,000.

MOROCCAN ELECTIONS

In Morocco, fifteen Jewish candidates have been elected in the rural and municipal council elections. The Jewish candidates stood mainly as independents. It is notable that none of the towns with important Jewish populations, such as Tangier, returned Jewish candidates. The Jewish population numbers 250,000 out of a total of ten million.

JEWS IN TUNIS

On behalf of the Jewish community of Tunis, the Chief Rabbi of Tunis sent a message of congratulation to President Bourguiba on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of Tunisian independence. The Jewish population participated in the celebrations of the day, which was a national holiday.

YUGOSLAV FILM OF NAZI PERSECUTIONS

A Yugoslav Film, "The Ninth Circle", depicting the persecution of the Jews during the Nazi régime, is being shown at the Cannes Film Festival. It tells the story of a young Jewish girl hidden in the home of a Yugoslav family, who "marry" her to their son in an attempt to save her from the Nazis. She is, however, captured and sent to a concentration camp. The Yugoslav boy goes through "the nine circles of hell" in a vain attempt to save her.

YIDDISH DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAND

Over 50 teachers and instructors employed in Jewish schools in Poland took part in the annual educational conference held in the building of the I. L. Peretz School in Szczecin. The conference discussed a number of issues connected with new plans to improve Jewish education and knowledge of the history of Jews in Poland. Another subject discussed was the teaching of Yiddish. The debates were of a high level.

An effort is being made to create more Jewish co-operatives in Poland. A Co-operative of Translators has been formed by a group of about 20 Jewish translators, who have lately been working on the translation into Polish of Yiddish books, as well as Russian and other outstanding foreign literary work. It plans to get into touch with translator societies in other countries. A Jewish Restaurant and Cafe Co-operative has already been formed—the first of its kind in Warsaw. Its main purpose is to have a restaurant serving "haimishe Yiddishe dishes", but it is also to become a centre for Jewish culture, with concerts of Jewish music and folk-songs.

MOSCOW PUBLICATION OF PERETZ

The State Publishing House in Moscow has completed its first volume of I. L. Peretz's works, and copies have been made available for export abroad. The 440-page volume is beautifully illustrated by Mr. Gorshman, the Russian-Jewish artist, and has an introduction by Rebecca Rubin and notes by Frumkin. It contains 26 of Peretz's best-known short stories.

SOVIET RABBIS ASK ADVICE

Soviet rabbis have, for the first time for many months, applied to the Israeli Rabbinate for advice on Halachic matters. It is not yet known if the Rabbinate can comply with requests received for the despatch of religious items to Soviet Russia, as this was banned by the Russian authorities a few weeks before Passover.

Old Acquaintances

Milestones: Annemarie Hase recently celebrated her 60th birthday during one of her trips through Europe. A star in Friedrich Hollaender's "Tingeltangel" cabaret in Berlin before 1933, she was "Mutter Wernicke" on the broadcasts to Germany from London during the war. She was one of the first to return to Berlin, where she joined Brecht's ensemble. Lately, she has toured Germany and recorded the songs by Schiffrer, Tucholsky and Ringelnatz which she once helped make famous.—Lovis Corinth's widow, Charlotte Berend-Corinth, turned 80 years of age in New York.—Richard Weichert, who was born in Berlin and became director of theatres in Frankfurt and Berlin, has also celebrated his 80th birthday.—Helene Weigel, Brecht's widow, who is now 60, has received the honorary degree of Professor in East Berlin.

Home News: After her triumphant tour in "Maria Stuart", Wanda Rotha returned home to London, before appearing as the Queen in a TV production of "Hamlet" in Munich.—Lily Freud-Marlé visited Israel to lecture on her uncle, Sigmund Freud.—Hilde Spiel-de Mendelssohn is to have three of her books published shortly: a volume of essays, "Welt im Widerschein" (Beck), a collection of English short stories, "England erzahlt" (S. Fischer) and her own new novel, "Lisa's Room" (Methuen).—Egon Jameson has gone to Munich to make a trailer for the German film "Soldatensender Calais".—Gabriele Tergit read excerpts from her new novel, "Die Vertriebenen", a follow-up of her "Effingers", to members of "Club 43".

This and That: Arthur Steiner, who ran a cabaret in London during the war, received a Foreign Press Award from the University of California; he is correspondent for *Quick* in the States.—Walter Wicclair, who returned to Germany from Hollywood a few years ago, has gone back to the States again, because he feels "they don't need me here".—Frederick Porges, founder and editor of Vienna's *Mein Film*, and now *Aufbau* correspondent in Hollywood, is to visit Europe for the first time since the war.—Leni Riefenstahl visited London to negotiate a remake of her old picture, "Das blaue Licht".—Peter Kortner, son of Fritz Kortner, has produced "In the Shadow of Mine Enemy", with Oskar Homolka and Susan Kohner, for T.V. in New York.—After a quarrel with the East German authorities, Wieland Herzfelde lost his job as a professor in Leipzig.

Germany: Erich Kaestner has completed his new book dealing with the last days of the war and the first of peace. Its title is "Notabene 1945".—Fritz Kortner is to direct "Timon von Athen" in Munich.—Hans Habe's novel, "Die Botschafterin", is to be made into a film and directed by Harald Braun, with Nadja Tiller and Britain's James Robertson Justice.—Hildegard Neff made a come-back in Marceau's "La bonne Soupe" ("Der Nerz") in Berlin.—Peter Preses produced "Strassenmusik" with Paul Hoerbiger, at Berlin's Komodie.—Gustaf Gruendgens appeared in his own production of "Gyges" in Hamburg. Kaeutner's "Ein Glas Wasser", in which Gruendgens took his first film rôle in nineteen years, will be Germany's entry for the Berlin Film Festival.—Dr. G. Skopnik, lector of Frankfurt's theatre, has been appointed Director of Berlin's Freie Volksbuehne.

Obituary: Dr. Wenzel Goldbaum has died in Lima, Peru, at the age of 79. The well-known Berlin lawyer was an expert on copyright.—Egon Goliat, Director of Munich's Gaertnerplatz-Theater and husband of Trude Kolmann, has died at the age of 53. The couple survived the war in England where they ran a guest house in Loxwood.—The Austrian-born astrologer, Dr. Eric Singer, who once edited a "Baenkelbuch", has died in London.—The 74-year-old actor, Ernst Stahl-Nachbaur (Guggenheimer), died in Berlin where, in 1918, he began his career with Kayssler.—The Hungarian composer, Paul Abraham, died in Hamburg at the age of 67, after a long illness.—Seventy-nine-year-old Alfred Walterspiel, of the "Vier Jahreszeiten Hotel", has died in Munich.—Gustav Lindemann, the 88-year-old co-founder (with Louise Dumont) of Düsseldorf's theatre, has died in Rosenheim.

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OBITUARY

WALTHER HIRSCHBERG

Walther Hirschberg, the German-Jewish composer and pre-war editor and music critic of the *Signale fuer die musikalische Welt*, was born on May 8th, 1889, in Berlin, and died there on May 19th, 1960. He had returned to his native city about two years ago.

After his release during the war from a concentration camp, he fled to France. There he was constantly on the move to escape the advancing German troops, leaving most of his belongings behind but holding on to his compositions, which were his most treasured possessions.

Eventually he settled in Lyons, where he found refuge, help and friendship with the sculptor Monsieur Salendre and Madame Salendre. There he gave music lessons besides adding greatly to his already numerous compositions.

He was first and foremost a composer of songs. He selected the poems for his many songs (over 400 in German, over 200 in French) with great discrimination, covering a wide range of exquisite and varied texts from the ninth century until the present time. He was not only a very prodigious writer of songs (composing even a greater number than Schubert), but he also possessed the rare gift of conveying in his settings the intense feeling and atmosphere of the poem. He could deepen and at times even clarify the meaning of the words through his music, without ever using cheap effects. There he seems to follow Hugo Wolf, although he had never come under his or any other composer's influence. His style is his own and does not belong to any so-called school. This he shows also in his many other works (a number of "Ketten fuer das Klavier", a sonata for violin and piano, etc.). While in France he also arranged some Jewish folk-songs.

His works have been performed at concerts and broadcasted in Germany and other countries, but would merit far greater recognition. This would doubtless have come to him under normal conditions and should and will, I hope, still come, when his works will appear on the repertoire of famous artists.

He was a most lovable man. Kind, extremely shy and withdrawn, with a sensitive and cultured mind, to whom the material and superficial things of life did not matter at all. Somehow he did not appear to be of this world. If space would allow it, I could quote some of his views on art and music from his letters to me (which together with many of his works both, in print and manuscript, I treasure very much).

He was a very sick man for many years, but never complained as he hated to be a burden to any of his friends. His last letters, however, showed him to be spiritually disillusioned. I do not think he was happy in Berlin, apart from being united with some of his best and oldest friends, notably Hans Schroeder and his wife Nina Schroeder-Gruenbaum (the pianist) and Sophie Krause de Reszke, the singer.

He had hoped to find a place, however small, in the history of German music, and here I would like to quote his own words from a letter written on December 22nd, 1959:

"Die kleinen Erfolge, die ich habe, täuschen mich nicht darueber hinweg, dass die Hoffnungen, die ich in meiner Jugend hegte, mir ein bescheidenes Plaetzchen in der deutschen Musikgeschichte erringen zu koennen, zerronnen sind. Wie die Dinge heute liegen, sieht es gewiss nicht danach aus."

I think his hopes will still be fulfilled, and he has most certainly found a place in the hearts of his many friends who will always cherish both his works and his memory.

PAUL LICHTENSTERN.

MRS. ULLA BRODE

Mrs. Ulla Brode, the well-known Jewish communal worker, has died in New York at the age of 77. For seventeen years Mrs. Brode was in charge of the organisation Juedische Not (founded in 1921) which, under the auspices of the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle of the German Jews, raised funds among private subscribers for voluntary Jewish institutions.

ANNA ESSINGER

The educationist Anna Essinger, responsible for rescuing more than nine hundred refugee children from Germany and Eastern Europe, died in Kent at the age of 80.

Anna Essinger was born in Ulm on the Danube. She finished her education at Wisconsin University in the United States, where she became a lecturer in German, and returned to Germany after the First World War. She had her own boarding school in Southern Germany but, with the advent of Hitler, she decided to transplant it to England. In September, 1933, a small group of children and adults, Jewish refugees from Germany, arrived at Dover on their way to Bunce Court, near Faversham, Kent, where Miss Essinger had just started a school for Jewish refugees.

In 1938, Miss Essinger took charge of the reception camp for refugee children run by the Central British Fund at Dovercourt. She remained in charge of Bunce Court during the 15 years of its existence. Long after they left the school, most of the children for whom Bunce Court became home kept in touch with Miss Essinger. On her 80th birthday last September, they joined to give a garden of trees in Israel in her name.

MAJOR BERNARD DAVIDSON

Major Bernard Davidson, who closely collaborated in 1933 with the late Mr. Otto Schiff in the formation of the Jewish Refugees' Committee, died recently in London at the age of 83.

In 1935, Mr. Davidson's scheme for refugees to be permitted to work as trainees in British firms and factories was accepted by the Ministry of Labour. Several hundred refugees were taught a trade as a result of this scheme. When war broke out, the Jewish Refugees' Committee called on the refugees it had cared for to volunteer for service in the armed services. This eventually resulted in the formation of the Pioneer Corps, in which Mr. Davidson was made a Major.

ALBERT JONAS

Mr. Albert Jonas passed away on June 3rd at the age of 71. He was senior director of the wholesale textile firm, Strauss & Co., formerly Frankfurt now London, and he played a leading part in the trade.

Mr. Jonas always took a great interest in the work of the AJR, to which he continuously rendered his support. He will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him.

DR. KURT WIENER

The dermatologist, Dr. Kurt Wiener, has died in Milwaukee, at the age of 68. Prior to his emigration he lived in Breslau, where he had studied under Professor Jadassohn and later specialised in skin diseases. In 1926, he was appointed head of the Venereal Diseases Department of the Breslau health authority. He also took a leading part in the work of the Heinrich Graetz Lodge of his home city. In 1937 he emigrated to Milwaukee, where he practised as a dermatologist. Dr. Wiener was also the author and translator of several books on skin diseases.

BORIS PASTERNAK

The Soviet-Jewish poet and novelist, Boris Pasternak, died on May 30th at his country home outside Moscow, at the age of 70. Boris Pasternak was born in Moscow, the son of Leonid Pasternak, a distinguished painter and illustrator, and Rosalie Kaufman, a well-known pianist. The environment of the Pasternak family was not a Jewish one, but their father maintained some associations with Jews, and leading Jewish personalities sat for him.

The Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded to Pasternak in 1958, for his book "Doctor Zhivago", but he refused it. The assimilationist views expressed by him in the book have aroused resentment among some Jews. It is understood that Pasternak was converted to Christianity during his lifetime.

THE OLDEST JEWISH CEMETERY IN BERLIN

There will probably still be a number of Jewish people who can remember that beautiful old cemetery at the Grosse Hamburger Strasse where the first Jews who came to Berlin were buried. It was a wonderful place with its old trees and impressive old tombstones and some people visited it solely for its romantic appeal as well as for its historical interest.

The cemetery was opened 288 years ago in 1672 at a time when the first Jewish families were admitted to Berlin by permission of the then reigning Friedrich Wilhelm ("Der grosse Kurfürst") during the second half of the seventeenth century. Another cemetery was opened at the Schönhauser Allée in 1827, probably because the cemetery at the Grosse Hamburger Strasse was closed in 1824.

The first grave—"Nr. 1"—was given to *Benedict (Baruch) Veit* whose family was one of the first to be admitted to Berlin. His father-in-law *Koppel Fraenkel* was buried near him.

Members of the Veit family established the famous old banking firm *Gebrüder Veit & Co.* in 1764 by special permission of King Frederick the Great. Another member of that family was Dr. Moritz Veit, prominent in his fight for the emancipation of the Jews in Prussia and a member of the National Assembly at the Paulskirche in 1848. He held high offices and his publishing house, *Veit & Co.*, had a splendid reputation for publishing the works of famous poets of his time. He also paid special attention to Jewish problems which were discussed by men like Frankel, Zunz, Michael Sachs and Gabriel Riesser.

Another famous tomb was that of *Moses Mendelssohn*, the great Jewish philosopher, who was born at Dessau (September 6, 1729), and died at Berlin (January 4, 1786). *Simon Veit*, Mendelssohn's son-in-law and a member of the banking family, was also buried there. But Mendelssohn's daughter, Dorothea, later got a divorce from Veit and married the poet Friedrich Schlegel. Both were converted to Roman Catholicism and their sons Philip and Johannes, the painters, were later known as the "Nazarenes".

Some other well-known personalities were also buried at the Grosse Hamburger Strasse, among them the banker *Jacob Beer*, father of the composer Meyerbeer, whose real name was *Jacob Liebmann Beer*. The famous son was buried at the Schönhauser Allée, where his tomb is still preserved to this day.

There were also the tombs of *Veitel Ephraim*, the "Münzjude" of King Frederick the Great, who died in 1786, and of Professor *Marcus Herz*, husband of the famous Henriette Herz. He was born in 1747 and died in 1803, highly honoured because of his great knowledge in various subjects. The great philosopher Kant paid his tribute to him and eminent men, even princes, attended his lectures on experimental physics and philosophy. He was also a well-known physician, and, with his wife Henriette, kept an open house for all the spirited men and women of his time. Mendelssohn was a friend of his and asked him for a translation of *Manasse Ben-Israel's* writings. There was also the grave of *Hofbaurat Itzig*, and of other well-known and also unknown members of the Jewish community at Berlin.

Today nothing has remained apart from a notice that *Moses Mendelssohn* was once buried here. Nazism and war have erased this historical site. There are still some among us who remember the horrible times when the transports to the deportation camps and to the gas-chambers had to assemble at the Sammellager Grosse Hamburger Strasse. It was once a romantic site, a beautiful garden, until it became the ante-chamber of hell. With the progress of the war, graves were also dug here for others, mostly for soldiers. Today the famous old Jewish cemetery does not exist any longer. But we shall still remember it as a place of marked beauty and of historical interest.

T.Z.

Jenny Dorfler

A UNIQUE BOOK COLLECTION

Sifre Baruch

Throughout antiquity and the Middle Ages, the Jews were known as the "People of the Book" and, indeed, it is thanks to that devotion that they succeeded in preserving literary treasures in the most tragic environments and in difficult circumstances. The day of the private collector reached its zenith in the nineteenth century. Only a few remnants of this absolute sense of dedication to the Hebrew Book are today found within contemporary Jewry. There are a few imposing institutional libraries, but the number of individual Jews, in recent times, devoted to the self-sacrificial task of the bibliophile of Hebrew manuscripts, first prints and rare old books, is in decline. It was therefore an unforgettable afternoon which I spent in the London library of Mr. B. Strauss.

As a deeply religious man he has found a great satisfaction in surrounding himself with original manifestations of Jewish thinking. None of his books has the rubber stamp "Sammelstelle Offenbach" from the times when the Nazis collected books from Jewish libraries for the sole purpose of sale abroad. In fact, during a stay in Germany, at the end of 1945, Mr. Strauss was offered such books by the authorities but he refused even to inspect them. During fifty years of painstaking work, he has built up, from its beginnings, a collection in the various fields of Hebrew books: incunabula, first prints and books of Hebrew and general interest.

From his early days Mr. Strauss was an indefatigable worker and, as he points out in the recently published first volume of the library's Catalogue,* he was "willing to forego the amenities of life for the purchase of books" (page 9). When he speaks of "the private collector to whom books constitute a cherished part of his life, and only the adversity of death can break his intimate association with them", it is the confession of a man whose collection represents the proud creation of a lifetime. The first stimulus in this immense work was received by a visit to the private collection of the famous scholar, S. Hurwitz, in Leipzig, which later found its way to England.

It is with gratification that one reads in the

* Catalogue of the B. Strauss Library. Volume One: Obel Baruch, books in Hebrew characters, compiled by Baruch Strauss (VII-XLVII, 141 pp.). Shapiro, Vallentine & Co., London, 1959.

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Catalogue that the library has been built up in "humble gratitude to great rabbis whose guidance has illumined the darkness of our exile" (page 10).

Being of German-Jewish origin Mr. Strauss focussed his mental and financial interest, to a remarkable extent, on the acquisition of the works of German-Jewish rabbis and scholars, because this "spiritual heritage must be preserved in gratitude to the many rabbis and lay personalities who have given us a profounder understanding of Judaism" (page 13). Although it is not compiled by a professional librarian, the catalogue forms a remarkable achievement in the detailed and clear presentation of the collection. This is particularly commendable in view of the fact that there are many "old-established academies and religious institutions with well-known libraries who have not yet published their catalogues". Mr. Strauss devoted much of his time to studying all bibliographical works of his predecessors and, accordingly, acquired a considerable knowledge in this field.

Renaissance and Hebrew Learning

Not only the librarian but the historian and linguist, too, will find a treasure of wealth in this Catalogue. The Renaissance and the Reformation were doubtless very much stimulated by the facilities of the printing machine. The Jews, indeed, made very quick use of it, and the Bible, Mishna, Talmud, commentaries and other specimens of Hebrew literature are among the incunabula of Spain and Italy. It is most interesting to notice the various printing places of the Hebrew books. The printing family of Soncino, with their excellent pioneering work; their famous competitor, the Belgian-Christian nobleman, Daniel Bomberg, who was the first to publish the complete edition of the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmud and the Biblia Rabbinica; Bologna and the first Hebrew book printed there, the Psalter containing the much-sought-after commentary by D. Kimhi (1477), of which only five copies are preserved in Europe and America. (Mr. Strauss's copy is from the library of the Christian scholar, Professor de Rossi.) There are the valuable Talmud prints of Pesaro; rare prints of many other Italian centres of learning: Padua, Mantua, Rome, Riva de Trento, Livorno, Naples and many others. Following the road of the progress of humanities towards the north, which was also the road of the revival of Hebrew learning, we find here the Biblia Rabbinica of Paris and Basle. Many German towns are represented by Jewish authors and by Christian Hebraists as well.

With the emigration of Jewish learning to the Eastern and Mediterranean countries, new printing houses started publishing in the fifteenth century, in Constantinople and Salonica.

Amsterdam took over the hegemony of Hebrew publishing from Italy in the seventeenth century. At that time the Jews in Central and Eastern Europe started the great work of publishing and nearly all known publishing houses, from Frankfurt am Main to Cracow, Lemberg, Wilna and Odessa have their prolific production well presented in the Catalogue.

Many Countries Represented

In the course of history, Hebrew characters served not only the Hebrew and Aramaic languages, but Arabic, Greek, Latin, Italian, French, Ladino, German, etc., were often transcribed into Hebrew. Mr. Strauss's collection comprises some interesting specimens in this respect. During the last decade the pendulum of Hebrew publications swung back from Europe to Israel, and a fine collection of these works is to be found too in the Catalogue. America with its recent activities in the field of Jewish studies, is also well represented.

I would like to express my gratitude, as a librarian, for such an important contribution to Hebrew bibliography.

"THE DARK SWAN OF ISRAEL"

As early as 1951 the Kösel-Verlag, under the title of "Dichtungen und Dokumente", published a large selection of the poems, prose writings, plays and letters of Else Lasker-Schüler who died in Jerusalem in 1945. The same firm, continuing with its efforts to preserve her work, has now published all her poems.* It is an attractive book; merely to turn its pages is a pleasure.

Bearing in mind that the poems were originally published in a great number of places and that many copies were destroyed during the Hitler régime—Else Lasker-Schüler was violently hated by the Nazis—we must acknowledge this praiseworthy enterprise. It is as though Kösel-Verlag is anxious to play its part in making up for the atrocities suffered by so many Jewish artists, poets and scholars in those dark years. And this is not all. The remaining writings of Else Lasker-Schüler are to be published by the Kösel-Verlag in 1960, edited by Werner Kraft, one of her last friends.

In the new edition the poems are carefully arranged in chronological order, the earlier taken from the "Gesammelte Gedichte" (Verlag der Weissen Bücher, 1917) and the edition in ten volumes (Paul Cassierer, 1919/1920). The following collections, in all, 301 poems, are presented: "Styx" (1902), "Der Siebente Tag" (1905), "Meine Wunder" (1911), poems dedicated to the poetess's mother, to Senna Hoy, Hans Ehrenberg-Degel, Gottfried Benn, Hans Adalbert von Maltzahn and 21 other friends, the "Hebräische Balladen" (1920), "Das Konzert" (1932) and "Mein blaues Klavier" (1943).

Else Lasker-Schüler would have been amazed and highly amused had she known that her poems, fifteen years after her death, would be attended to with scholarly methods. But once she was acknowledged as a leading poet it had to be. The new edition, therefore, includes all former editions, the various versions of the poems together with the year of publication and a complete bibliography.

Even today Else Lasker-Schüler's poetry is not easy. She is too wayward to be enjoyed at first sight and on every occasion. But once we get hold of her we are deeply moved and captivated. These poems are not pedantic exercises—they are living documents. What they say had to be said, and it has been said by a woman who was always searching, searching for herself. One of her most moving poems begins with the words:

"Ich suche allenthalben eine Stadt,
Die einen Engel an der Pforte hat."

That is the true meaning of the apparently so insulting retort she made to an old gentleman in Jerusalem who introduced himself as an old acquaintance from Berlin. She answered: "Who are you? I don't know myself, how should I know you?"

This incessant search explains the uniqueness of her poems, the wealth of her imagery, and makes them a great confession. She may, therefore, be compared with Rilke, but she was not as absorbed in herself, as introverted, as he was. Her love poems, above all, are of a completely different kind as she is always immersed in the beloved, not in herself.

The peculiarity and greatness of her poetry may well derive from a more general source. Else Lasker-Schiller was a true representative of the German literature of her time. Karl Kraus called her (1910) the most powerful and most wayward lyric talent of modern Germany. And at the same time every line she wrote attests her Jewish origins. "The dark swan of Israel", the Catholic poet Peter Hille called her. This polarity does not involve a contrast. It is a symbol of that symbiosis so typical of that period which has irrevocably gone.

PAUL WOHLFARTH.

*Else Lasker-Schüler, Gedichte, 1902-1943. Kösel-Verlag, München, 1959. 438 pages. DM. 19.80.

Hans Tasiemka

THE CASE OF W. S. SCHLAMM

Even the most critical observer of the Federal German Press must admit that the vast majority of the German newspapers and periodicals (excepting of course neo-Nazi publications and papers such as the *Deutsche Soldatenzeitung*), fight against all manifestations of Nazism and anti-Semitism with sincere conviction and considerable ability.

This is in contrast to the position under the Weimar Republic when, under the leadership of the Hugenberg-Konzern, the Right-wing papers prepared the psychological ground for anti-Semitism and Nazism. Today even the Right-wing papers do not carry contributions by anti-Jewish racial demagogues like Friedrich Hussong or Rumpelstilzchen, who were the actual grave-diggers of the Weimar Republic. Without their poisoned pens, Goebbels would probably never have had his opportunity.

The present satisfactory state of affairs justifies great hopes with regard to democratic developments in the German Federal Republic.

Unjustified Leniency

There is, however, one instance where, in my view, the German Press goes too far in its anxiety to overcome the "unbewältigte Vergangenheit" and to be as just, as friendly and as considerate as possible to all surviving writers of the Weimar Republic. I refer to the case of Schlamm. Rightly, the representatives of the Jews in Germany have time and again rejected special legislation in favour of Jewish citizens in Germany, pointing out that the creation of a "Naturschutzpark" for Jews

would only play into the hands of the neo-Nazis.

What holds good for the treatment of Jews in the field of legislation, should also apply to political writings. Consciously or sub-consciously, many reviewers have acted against this principle by promoting into the best-seller class the political trash of William S. Schlamm, whom we already knew when he was Willy Schlamm. These reviewers may have been decisively influenced by the fact that Schlamm is a Jew and that, for a short time, he was editor of the *Weltbühne* (which in Prague, however, no longer had anything to do with the non-conformist *Weltbühne* of Siegfried Jacobson and Carl v. Ossietzky, but more or less followed in Stalin's footsteps). They have therefore overlooked the innumerable factual errors and demagogical tricks, the unbearable insults à la McCarthy.

The "Austro-American", encouraged by the lenient attitude of these reviews, started to use the term "Lizenzpresse" in his lectures, in the same way as Goebbels spoke of the "Systempresse". He also vehemently attacked not only the German Press but the Social Democratic Opposition and the Bonn Parliament, and accused the German people of complacency and lack of idealism.

It is not surprising that when, for example, Rudolf Augstein in the weekly *Der Spiegel* ended his brilliant polemic against Schlamm with the remark that he would have been much more aggressive was not Schlamm a Jew, many readers wrote that this consideration might reflect honour on Augstein but that it was entirely misplaced.

It is nonsensical to assume that, especially after all that happened in Nazi Germany, anybody could resent an appropriate answer being given to a demagogue who tries, by all possible means, to revive the worst nationalistic instincts amongst German youth and who, in discussions with political adversaries, uses the infamous McCarthy techniques. Thus an analysis of the letters received by *Der Spiegel* after the publication of Augstein's article, reveals that about 95 per cent of the readers, whatever their religious or political views, are against Schlamm. I do not believe that in this case *Der Spiegel* has been one-sided in the selection of the published letters. In all previous cases, the paper has given an objective balance of the reaction amongst its readers. However, perhaps it would be good if in this instance particulars were given as to how many expressed themselves in favour and how many against Schlamm.

Reaction Among Jews

One can only endorse every word which the *Neue Jüdische Zeitung* in Munich has written: "One has not necessarily to be a Jew in order to be entitled to attack Herr Schlamm. Herr Augstein and his *Spiegel* can do this without any qualms, and they will under no circumstances be described by Jews as anti-Semites for this reason. . . . We Jews have nothing to do with Herr Schlamm, just as he has nothing in common with us. We shall in this case always be on Herr Augstein's side."

It appears wrong to me to advocate special measures or Schlamm's expulsion from Germany. However, in my view, it is wrong to allow him to get away with it, only because he happens to be of Jewish origin and because he worked with the Prague *Talmi-Weltbühne*.



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JEW S IN GERMANY

NEW SYNAGOGUE IN MUNSTER

The foundation-stone of a synagogue in Munster (Westphalia) was recently consecrated. The building will be erected at the site of the previous synagogue, which was destroyed in November, 1938. The speakers at the ceremony included representatives of the municipality, the Federal Parliament and the Jewish community, as well as Prof. K. H. Rengstorf and Rabbi Dr. Paul Holzer (London) who, until recently, was Rabbi of the Westphalian communities.

A booklet in memory of the former Jewish community has been published by Rabbi Bernhard Brillig and Landesoberverwaltungsrat Ulrich Dieckmann, under the auspices of the Munster Society for Christian-Jewish Co-operation. It includes a full list of the 700 Jews who lived in Munster in 1933, and reveals that 271 Jews (39 per cent) were deported, of whom only 24 survived the concentration camps.

Well-known members of this old-established Jewish community include Eli Marcus, the author of plays and poems in Lower German, who died in 1935, and Max Guthmann, a prominent member of the local Chamber of Commerce, who committed suicide in January, 1939. The publication also includes a letter by the last but one rabbi of the community, Dr. F. L. Steinthal (now Buenos Aires), who pays special tribute to the memory of the staunch and courageous fighter against Nazism, the late Cardinal Graf von Galen, Bishop of Munster.

OLD AGE HOME IN NEUSTADT

An Old Age Home for the Jews in the Rheinpfalz was recently consecrated in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse, on the site of the previous severely damaged Home. It provides accommodation in twelve single and twelve double rooms.

NUERNBERG JEWS REMEMBERED

A pamphlet concerning the fate of the Nuernberg Jews under the Nazi régime has been distributed in all schools of the City by the municipal authorities, to be used in teaching children contemporary history. The material has been compiled by H. Baruch, Chairman of the local Jewish community. It reveals that, in 1941, there were 2,000 Jews in Nuernberg, most of whom were deported. Only very few of them survived the concentration camps.

HAMBURG RABBI APPOINTED

Rabbi Hans Isaak Gruenewald has been appointed Rabbi of the Hamburg District. He was born in Frankfurt/Main in 1914 and was a pupil at the "Philantropin". He studied first under Rabbi Jakob Horovitz (Frankfurt) and, later, at the Hebrew University. After the war, he was a student at Jews' College, where he obtained his rabbinical qualification.

BERLIN STONEMASONS DONATE JEWISH MEMORIAL

A memorial in honour of the Jewish Nazi victims was recently consecrated at the new West Berlin Jewish cemetery. The masonry was taken from the ruins of the Fasanenstrasse Synagogue. As an expression of good will, young members of the Berlin Stonemason's Guild gave over 1,000 working hours free of charge for the completion of the memorial.

THERESIENSTADT CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS EXHIBITED

Under the auspices of a group of Social Democrats a ceremony in memory of the Jewish children of Theresienstadt who eventually perished in the gas chambers was held in the Berlin Kongresshalle. Drawings in which the horror of the ghetto, as it was felt by the children, found its outlet, were exhibited, and some of their poems were recited.

EDUCATION AT GERMAN SCHOOLS

A conference on the treatment of Jewish matters at German schools is to be held at Bergneustadt. It will be attended by German teachers, educationists and students, as well as by representatives of the Jewish community. The local Friedrich Ebert Foundation, which works for international understanding, has organised the conference, in co-operation with the League of German Students' Organisations and the International Schoolbook Institute at Brunswick.

GERMAN STUDENTS' FIGHT AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

To make the fight against anti-Semitism more effective and to overcome ignorance on the position of the Jews, the Organisation of German Students has proposed to the Minister of Culture and to the universities that a University Institute on Jewish Affairs be established. This was announced by the Chairman of the organisation, Dieter Wetzel, at a conference held at Bergneustadt and attended by scholars, politicians and future teachers. The conference also stressed the need for the adequate information for children on the subject by teachers, clergymen and parents.

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COMMUNAL LIFE IN THE MAKING THE AJR CLUB

When in 1956 the AJR Club opened its premises in Zion House, Swiss Cottage, the sponsors regarded it merely as an experiment. Would it have a lease of life? Was there, indeed, a need for a social centre, where people wanted to spend an afternoon, have a cup of tea and a chat, and perhaps stay on for an odd evening? All the possible pros and cons had been debated among those responsible, until finally the experience of the AJR Social Department prevailed: such a centre would not create a demand, but fill a gap for all those whose need for congenial company in a hospitable setting was very real.

The first weeks after the opening, however, seemed to confirm the doubts of the cons. The attractively decorated clubroom in Eton Avenue, in spite of its newly gained "Gemuetlichkeit", remained more or less empty—the only regulars being the Chairman and the Hostess. But then, of course, while Swiss Cottage and its hinterland on either side of Finchley Road has its own social laws and methods of publicity, it also has a peculiar bush telegraph of its own. This must have come into play, because the trickle soon grew into a steady current. Today the Club numbers more than 200 members, paying 2s. 6d. per annum.

The Club is open every afternoon (with the exception of Fridays and Saturdays, of course), and on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays its members can stay till ten o'clock. They pay 6d. for their refreshments, coffee, pastries, and sandwiches, and there are always voluntary helpers to take their turn in caring for the guests. Mrs. Jacoby, the Chairman, together with the Hostess, Mrs. Schachne, have seen to it that there is always an interesting evening programme, consisting of record playing, recitals, and lectures, which are usually enjoyed by all. One monthly event which generally attracts more than 100 visitors is held in the ground floor of Zion House. A varied pro-

gramme has included performances by the Alpha Trio, a Brains Trust, lantern lectures on Israel and Spain; in short, efforts are made to cater for all tastes and interests.

It is not an over-statement to say that since its inception the AJR Club has somehow outgrown its original framework. If it was, in the first place, envisaged as a platform for social entertainment it has certainly changed, or developed into something more serious. For many, the usual terms of reference applied to a Friendship Club are out of place. The Club has helped people to forget their loneliness. It is no longer a place, but the home of a little community. Here they have struck up new friendships, and many will come in the evening, after a tiring day, to meet their friends, and, above, all, they feel at home. All this means a great deal to those who have no family life of their own. Not a few have expressed their feelings in so many words: "Now I know where I can go and where I belong", and very often they do come with their worries, feeling sure that somebody in the Club will be able to help. This is another aspect which alone could justify the *raison d'être* of the Club. Working in close co-operation with the Secretary of "Self-Aid", the Hostess will endeavour to relieve distress, help arrange a convalescence holiday, or perhaps find a solution for temporary difficulties.

The Club has seen happy scenes of unexpected reunions by people who had not seen each other for many years. Everybody takes part in everybody else's joys and sorrows—in fact, a big family has grown up within the Club. Like a family they celebrate the Jewish holidays together. Chanukah and Purim are marked in the traditional way, though it has not been possible, as yet, to have a Seder night. The wish for this becomes stronger every year, showing that this little community is a very real one.

It has grown very naturally, and today it is right to say that it has become an institution which is taken for granted—part and parcel of the Jewish community in this neighbourhood. Like all growing children, the Club also has its problems, and at the moment it is the very fact of its growing which presents the biggest problem. The one room in Zion House is no longer enough, although everyone is considerate enough; the card-players play cards, the readers read, and those who chat can do so to their heart's content, while everyone has their refreshments in the same room.

The AJR Club now seeks premises large enough to meet its needs, and to adequately carry on serving a worthy cause.

LUCIE SCHACHNE.

MATERIAL ON INTERNMENT IN BRITAIN REQUIRED

Twenty years have passed since Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria in this country were interned. It is intended to publish contributions relating to this period of our past in the next or following issue of *AJR Information*. Whilst it is not visualised to deal with this emergency measure after the fall of France from the political angle, some readers may have personal interest. It would be appreciated if they sent in material (short episodes, camp bulletins, references to "Camp Universities", etc.) if possible by July 12th.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Professor Husserl

Sir,—As the niece of Professor Husserl, whose name is mentioned in the front page article of your June issue, "Dream and Reality," by Dr. Robert Weltsch, I would like to point out that his name was Edmund and not Eduard.

Being no expert, I cannot say whether Existentialism was derived from my uncle's teaching, but I think the name of his new philosophy deserved to be mentioned. It is Phenomenology.

Yours, etc.,

(Mrs.) M. PLATSCHEK.

42 Aberdare Gardens, N.W.6

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Forthcoming Marriages

Fabian : Baddiel.—The marriage of Miss Sarah Fabian, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Fabian, of 42 Hertford Street, Cambridge, to Dr. Colin Baddiel, only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Baddiel, of 14 Glenbrydan Ave., Swansea, will take place in the Synagogue, Cambridge, on July 10th, at 2.30 p.m.

Deaths

Graumann.—Amelie Graumann (née Rosenfelder), 3 Woodstock Ave., London, N.W.11 (formerly Cologne), passed away peacefully on May 27th. Deeply mourned by her grandchildren, Mrs. Lore Heinemann and husband, and Mrs. Liesel Blue and husband.

Rau.—Elizabeth Rau, 22a Priory Terrace, London, N.W.6, passed away on May 31st in her 54th year. Deeply mourned by her husband, Sigmund Rau.

Smith.—Arthur Duncan Smith (formerly Arthur Schmidt, Frankfurt/Main, Berlin), 191 Preston Hill, Harrow, Middx., died suddenly on May 26th. Deeply mourned by his wife, brother and family.

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MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Mrs. Rosa Lister (née Warowitz), last heard of in 1947 at Berrymead, Cleve Hill, near Cheltenham, Glos. Will any person knowing her whereabouts please communicate with Mr. Herman Hoschander, Caixa Postal 1732, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Enquiries by AJR

Dr. Ernst Eilenburg and his wife, **Dr. Elisabeth Eilenburg**, medical practitioners, formerly of Berlin-Charlottenburg, Nieburger Strasse. Believed to have left for England in 1934 or 1935.

Simon Gut, believed to have left for London in 1934-35 and to have taken up rabbinical studies here.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

NAZI PUBLICATIONS IN AUSTRIA

FORMER P.O.W.s' INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

An international conference organised by the German Organisation of Returning Prisoners of War and Relatives of Missing Persons, sponsored by the World Veterans' Federation, is to be held in Bad Godesberg from June 19th to 25th. The conference aims "to search for ways and means to abolish discrimination and prejudice".

The World Veterans' Federation, formed shortly after the end of the last war, is composed largely of ex-Servicemen and has branches in most parts of the world. There will be 40 participants in the conference, including 7 from German youth organisations out of 14 Germans attending.

The idea of the meeting was conceived some months ago, when the anti-Semitic incidents took place in various parts of the world, including West Germany, which gave rise to a feeling among some West Germans that they must do something to dissociate themselves from these acts.

The original plan to hold a conference on anti-Semitism has been broadened to take in all kinds of discrimination and prejudice.

NEO-NAZIS AND GERMAN MINERS

Local German miners at Gelsenkirchen, for the second time in a fortnight, prevented the neo-Nazi German Reich Party holding a meeting in the town.

The hall where the meeting was to have been held was occupied by the miners, who refused entry to all neo-Nazis. Instead of the meeting, the Chairman of the miners' union addressed the miners and spoke about neo-Nazi tendencies in Germany. He called upon all miners to participate in the active defence of German democracy.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAW ADOPTED IN GERMANY

The Federal Parliament has unanimously adopted a law making punishable incitement to hatred and the use of force against sections of the population, and protecting them against insults. The law also prohibits the public display of Nazi emblems.

The promulgation of the new law is the outcome of long debates on which we reported in our January issue. The law, as it stands now, has been framed to eliminate the doubts expressed against the previous drafts. It refrains from any formulations which might give the impression that Jews or other minority groups are singled out for special protection. On the other hand, as proceedings have to be taken *ex officio* it relieves the groups concerned of the burden to apply for prosecution. It thus makes clear that the object of the protection is not a particular section of the population, but of the public peace.

ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN P.O.W.s

At a gathering in Düsseldorf, 25 former prisoners-of-war who were interned at Featherstone Park Camp in Northumberland met their former interrogation officer, Captain H. Sulzbach. It was decided to form an association, affiliated to the Anglo-German Association, to help improve relations between the German and British peoples. Captain Sulzbach, who is a German-Jewish refugee, has lived in London for 23 years and is now a member of the Cultural Department of the West German Embassy in the British capital, was elected as Hon. Chairman of the Association.

According to the Iskult Press news, issued by the Jewish communities in Austria, the books "Trotzdem" by Hans Ulrich Rudel and "Waffen-SS im Einsatz" by SS-General Karl Hausser, have been banned as dangerous youth literature by the German authorities; public libraries have been instructed not to make them available to young people. However, in Austria, these two books glorifying the war and the Nazi system are not only obtainable without any restrictions, but can be found in practically all lending libraries.

AUSTRIAN AWARDS

In recognition of their services as members of the Austrian "Hilfsfond" Committee, medals have been awarded by the Austrian Federal Government to Mr. W. Tischenkel, Mr. J. Werner and Mr. G. Leitner of Vienna and to Mr. E. Knoepfelmacher of Graz.

GERMAN DELEGATION FOR TEL AVIV

Willy Brandt, Mayor of West Berlin, is to head a West German delegation to the International Conference of Communal Authorities in Tel Aviv in November.

PUBLISHERS' 150TH ANNIVERSARY

The well-known music publishing firm, Schlesinger'sche Buch- und Musikalienhandlung in Berlin, recently celebrated the 150th anniversary of its foundation. It was established in 1810 by Adolf Martin Schlesinger. The catalogue of publications includes works by Carl Maria von Weber, Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer, Halevy and Rubinstein. Since 1864 the firm has been owned by the family of Robert Lienau.

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES

ANNE FRANK CENTRE

The Amsterdam International Youth Centre of the Anne Frank Foundation, the idea for which was put forward by Mr. Otto Frank, President of the Centre, will seek to promote international understanding between young people from different countries, and the ideals of international brotherhood and democracy to which Anne Frank testified. The Centre will be the headquarters for the Anne Frank Clubs in various countries. Courses, conferences, etc., for young people will be organised. It is also intended to establish an "Anne Frank Academy" there, where the future leaders of the various Anne Frank Clubs will be trained during the summer vacations.

The Centre, which is open to all, will work to "foster a broad practical programme to encourage

the social and creative development of adolescents".

The German Youth Hostels' Association has given its support to the fund-raising campaign started by a Bavarian organisation of democratic youth groups to build an Anne Frank Hostel in Israel.

VIENNA PUPILS TO VISIT MAUTHAUSEN

The new President of the Vienna Municipal School Department has recommended to headmasters of secondary schools that they make arrangements for pupils of the upper forms to visit the site of the former Mauthausen Concentration Camp. This action has been welcomed as a means of making the new Austrian generation aware of the happenings under the Nazi régime.

GERMAN-ISRAELI EXCHANGE

The President of the Bavarian organisation of democratic youth groups recently visited Israel, where he conducted negotiations on the youth exchange programmes planned between West Germany and Israel. On his return he stated that agreement had been reached, and that preparations for the departure of the first Bavarian youth group for Israel this summer were nearing completion. Youth leaders and welfare workers would at first be exchanged.

GERMAN GROUP VISITS ISRAEL

Twenty German boys and girls, pupils of secondary schools in Lower Saxony, and 10 youth leaders have visited Israel on the first official visit of a West German youth group to the country. The participants had shown special interest in political problems of the past and present, and were rewarded by a visit to Israel.

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