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INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Robert Weltsch

CHOSEN PEOPLE?

The accumulation of horror, poured out every day during the Eichmann trial, sometimes in an almost businesslike matter-of-fact way, leaves us stupefied and deeply conscious of the impossibility of a proper reaction. We are becoming almost indifferent to the juridical and even to the political side of the matter, as we feel confronted with the puzzle of human wickedness to which we are at a loss to find an answer. It is all so unprecedented that one cannot wonder when it throws human beings off balance. The tormented mind appears unable to stand up to such a challenge.

Aghast, Jewish and non-Jewish observers are asking themselves what is at the root of these occurrences. Is it a German problem, is it a Jewish problem, or simply man's inexplicable sinfulness? Usual explanations will not suffice. Some bewildered newspapermen in Jerusalem were induced to speculate about the Jewish existential enigma, a case in point being Mr. James Morris's thoughtful article in *The Guardian*. That and other comments refuse to regard the Jews merely as victims of those unspeakable crimes. There must be a meaning in suffering, they feel, and something special in the historical rôle of this people. Mr. Gollancz's pamphlet¹, though rejected by most Jews and non-Jews, may be regarded as an indication of the uneasiness caused by the wider implications of a case which can never be confined to the juridical sphere.

German Analysis of Nazism

As to the German side, one can understand that the question always recurs how such a thing has been possible in the centre of civilised Europe, in a nation whose cultural achievements were one of the common possessions of mankind. Generations of historians come will devote themselves to the elucidation of this riddle. A beginning has been made in Germany, and such books as the tremendous work by Professors Karl Dietrich Bracher, Wolfgang Sauer and Gerhard Schulz (*Die Nationalsozialistische Machtergreifung*, Westdeutscher Verlag, Köln, 1960) testify to the effort to explain the abdication of ethics not only in terms of political technique but also as a spiritual phenomenon. This work, however, is not primarily concerned with the German attitude to the Jews, although this is undoubtedly the most provocative and most characteristic feature in National Socialism. With its thorough analysis of errors and misjudgements by the ostensibly well-meaning, it is a warning for the future. In a breath-taking manner it shows us how the tragedy developed, not to be stopped at later stages.

On the Jewish side, where discussions were about to degenerate into purely political con-

troversy and often opportunist conclusions, we are thrown back to more fundamental reflections. There is certainly no parallel to the Jewish position. It is so unique that it gives some point to the stamping of the Jews as the Chosen People.

Toynbee's Reply to Critics

For ages, this epitheton has been interpreted as excessive pride and has given rise to angry comments. The latest comes from Professor Arnold Toynbee to whom we should be grateful for bringing the debate back to basic issue. His latest book, an epilogue to the eleven volumes of "A Study of History"², contains some additional remarks. Toynbee has been violently attacked by Jewish critics because of the harsh words he said about Judaism and about the conduct of Jews in Palestine at the time of the struggle for the Jewish State. Many have overlooked that the Jews are not the only target of his misgivings. He is very critical of Western civilisation and dislikes the emergence of the modern nation state. He is an outspoken opponent of nationalism and colonialism, and one cannot expect him to make an exception for the Jews. So his complaint is directed against the Jews because they accepted those elements of Western civilisation which he regards as most objectionable. The last volume is a lengthy answer to his main critics, including the Jewish, in which he re-states his own position, retracts some overstatements and corrects some mistakes. Those who call him an anti-Semite will be surprised to read that his "personal religious beliefs are, in some points, nearer to Judaism than they are to orthodox Christianity", but he confesses to see Judaism through Christian eyes and to be ignorant of Jewish sources. As a religious man and as an uncompromising universalist he resents that the Jews allegedly monopolised their God by their identification of religion and race. He ignores the fact that universalism is an indispensable part of Jewish philosophy and that in Judaism itself, throughout its existence, the struggle between the universalist and particularist trend has been going on.

He takes offence at the idea of a Chosen People, which was taken over by many Gentile nations and aroused their worst egotist instincts. Yet, after all his polemics against this theory he himself raises demands for Jewish behaviour that would imply an extraordinary and almost superhuman morality. We all know that the Jewish people throughout its history did not live up to the moral ideals and commandments of its religion, and Toynbee's expectations as to what Jews should do or should omit appear to me rather as the highest compliment, applied to a race which, to be worthy of it, would have to be a Chosen

People indeed. Unfortunately, reality is different. The Jewish tradition expects such human perfection only in the time of the Messiah, though we should all work for it.

Why do you call yourself the Chosen People?—The call sounds still in our ears from schooldays, when we read the words of the Tempelherr in Lessing's "Nathan". We heard it again these days, as this great drama has recently been recorded with Ernst Deutsch in the leading part³, and we may well discover that it is not as obsolete as many of us had thought. Seen in the light of our own experiences, it appears paradoxical that such a work was written in Germany, of all places, yet in some respect it is topical even today. There may be some of the older generation who remember the most famous performer of "Nathan", the Jewish actor Adolf von Sonnenthal, who died in 1909. His sonorous voice and human warmth, his king-like stature and prophetic pathos, made him "the" unsurpassable Nathan. Ernst Deutsch, an artist of the twentieth century, is quite different, less sublime, more naturalistic and even slightly ironical. We feel that Nathan offers a challenge to every generation anew.

Impact of Lessing's Nathan

Our forefathers were very proud of Nathan, and Jews in the age of enlightenment and liberalism took a special delight in being identified with the nobility of this character. But as time went on and the sun of enlightenment hid itself behind dark clouds, one became more sceptical and began asking not only whether Nathan is a true depiction of the average Jew, but also whether the problem is really as easy as that. Could the appeal to humanity and reason change deeply rooted instincts and metaphysical heritage? It was an idealised picture, not in accord with the age of realism.

But after all our horrible experiences we cannot escape the moral entanglement. Is it right to react to a pogrom by a deed of love and mercy, as Nathan did? This passage in Nathan's story was certainly one of the most moving in Sonnenthal's unforgettable impersonation, and it is so, too, though in a different way, in the rendering of Ernst Deutsch, although, alas, cruelly shortened as are many important passages in this recording. Deutsch, himself in some way a victim of persecution (what Sonnenthal never was), seems somewhat harder, and less convincing, as it ought to be in our age.

As a drama, we know, Nathan is a questionable play, its final scene almost resembling an operetta. But it retains its unshakable grandeur as manifestation of the spirit. The battle-cry for the awe of humanity should never cease, and we all need to be reminded of it again. But we fear that even the parable of the three rings, as written by a great eighteenth-century German and spoken by a great Jew, does not offer us a satisfactory and complete answer to the riddles of Jewish destiny.

¹ *The Case of Adolf Eichmann*, by Victor Gollancz, London, 1961.

² Volume XII, *Reconsiderations*. Oxford University Press, 1961.

³ In box, with text (shortened version) and Introduction by Hermann Kasack. Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft. 2 discs, 43028/29 LPMS, 48 DM.

COMPENSATION NEWS

BUNDESRUECKERSTATTUNGS-GESETZ

Neue Richtlinien fuer Vorauszahlungen

Der Council of Jews from Germany hat sich in einer Reihe von Eingaben fuer eine Novelle zum Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz (BRueG) eingesetzt, die insbesondere den Hoechstbetrag von 1,5 Milliarden DM. fuer die Erfuellung der rueckerstattungsrechtlichen Geldansprueche gegen das Deutsche Reich (z.B. wegen Entziehung von Bankkonten, Wertpapieren, Lifts, Hausrat, Schmucksachen u.s.w.) aufheben soll. Ferner soll die Anomalie beseitigt werden, dass zwar nach Westdeutschland oder Gross-Berlin gelangte ausserhalb der Bundesrepublik und West-Berlin entzogene Vermoegensgegenstaende zu Schadensersatzanspruechen auf Grund des BRueG fuehren, dagegen nicht Vermoegensgegenstaende, die nicht nach Ost-Berlin gelangt sind, sondern sich stets dort befunden haben und dort eingezogen worden sind.

Leider hat eine Novelle zum BRueG vor den fuer September festgesetzten Neuwahlen zum Bundestag nicht mehr verabschiedet werden koennen. Der Council of Jews from Germany hat sich daraufhin an den Bundeskanzler und das Bundeskabinett wegen der Zahlung von Vorschuessen gewandt und mit Mitgliedern des Haushaltsausschusses des Bundestags Fuehlung genommen. Mit Zustimmung des Bundeskabinetts und mit Genehmigung des Haushaltsausschusses des Bundestags hat nunmehr das Bundesfinanzministerium Richtlinien fuer Vorauszahlungen an Berechtigte in vorgerueckten Jahren erlassen. Berechtigte, denen Ansprueche, die DM. 20.000 uebersteigen, zustehen (bis zu diesem Betrage werden die Ansprueche bereits jetzt voll befriedigt) und die bisher wegen des Hoechstbetrages von 1,5 Milliarden DM. fuer die Erfuellungspflicht des Bundes im allgemeinen nicht mehr als 50% ihrer Ansprueche ausgezahlt erhalten haben, sollen Vorschuesse erhalten.

Die neuen Vorauszahlungen werden nur auf Antrag und nur an Berechtigte gewaehrt, die das 65. Lebensjahr vollendet haben. Sie werden zur Folge haben, dass auch die grosseren Ansprueche jedenfalls bis zu 75% erfuehrt werden.

Im "Bundesanzeiger" Nr. 128 vom 7. Juli 1961 ist der folgende Erlass des Bundesministers der Finanzen erschienen:

"Die Bundesregierung hat am 7. Juni 1961 nachstehende Richtlinien fuer Vorauszahlungen an Berechtigte, denen unter das Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz fallende Ansprueche zustehen, beschlossen, die hiermit bekanntgemacht werden:

1. Personen, denen Ansprueche aus dem Bundesgesetz zur Regelung der rueckerstattungsrechtlichen Geldverbindlichkeiten des Deutschen Reiches und gleichgestellter Rechtstraeger (Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz—BRueG—) vom 19. Juli 1957 (Bundesgesetzbl. I S.141) zustehen, koennen ueber die Leistungen nach § 32 Abs. 2 und 3 BRueG hinaus nach Massgabe der folgenden Bestimmungen Vorauszahlungen zur Befriedigung dieser Ansprueche erhalten.

2. Vorauszahlungen werden auf Antrag gewaehrt. Der Antrag ist an die Behoerde zu richten, die den Bescheid nach § 38 BRueG erteilt hat.

3. Vorauszahlungen koennen nur an Personen gewaehrt werden, denen ein Bescheid nach § 38 BRueG erteilt worden ist.

4. Vorauszahlungen koennen nur an natuerliche Personen gewaehrt werden, die im Zeitraum der Antragstellung das 65. Lebensjahr vollendet haben. Steht ein Anspruch einer Personenmehrheit zu, so genuegt es, dass eine der an der Personenmehrheit beteiligte Person das 65. Lebensjahr vollendet hat. Der Nachweis der Vollendung des 65. Lebensjahres ist durch Einreichung einer amtlichen Urkunde zu fuehren.

5. Vorauszahlungen koennen bis zu folgender Hoehe gewaehrt werden:

(a) Betraegt der im Bescheid nach § 38 BRueG fuer den einzelnen Berechtigten insgesamt festgestellte Betrag mehr als 20.000 DM., aber weniger als 40.000 DM.,

so kann eine Vorauszahlung bis zu 50 v. H. des 20.000 DM. uebersteigenden Betrages gewaehrt werden.

(b) Betraegt der im Bescheid nach § 38 BRueG fuer den einzelnen Berechtigten insgesamt festgestellte Betrag mehr als 40.000 DM., so kann eine Vorauszahlung bis zu 25 v. H. des im Bescheid festgestellten Gesamtbetrages gewaehrt werden, jedoch nicht ueber einen Hoechstbetrag von 100.000 DM. hinaus.

6. Ist ein Anspruch ganz oder teilweise kraft Gesetzes oder auf Grund Rechtsgeschaeftes auf einen Dritten uebergegangen, so kann eine Vorauszahlung an den Antragsteller nur mit Zustimmung des Dritten gewaehrt werden".

F. GOLDSCHMIDT.

NEUE ANSPRUCHSMOEGlichkeiten IN DER OESTERREICHISCHEN WIEDERGUTMACHUNG

Owohl die vom oesterreichischen Parlament im April beschlossene Novelle zum Opferfuersorgegesetz erst in Kraft treten wird, sobald die Vereinbarung mit der Bundesrepublik Deutschland ueber die Bedeckung des Aufwandes, die dieses Gesetz verursachen wird, perfekt geworden ist, hat das oesterreichische Bundesministerium fuer soziale Verwaltung die Aemter der Landesregierungen angewiesen, bereits jetzt Antraege auf Leistungen auf Grund des novellierten Gesetzes anzunehmen und auf die Vollstaendigkeit hinsichtlich der beizubringenden Unterlagen und Beweismittel zu ueberpruefen. Bescheide werden jedoch erst nach Inkrafttreten des Gesetzes erlassen werden.

Es kommt die Beanspruchung folgender Leistungen in Betracht:

(a) Erhoehung (Verdoppelung) der Haftentschaedigung fuer Opfer und Hinterbliebene—vorausgesetzt, dass ihr Nettoeinkommen wahlweise entweder im Jahre 1955 oder im Jahre 1960 den Betrag von 72.000 oesterr. Schilling nicht ueberstiegen hat.

(b) 350 oesterr. Schilling fuer jeden Monat von Internierung durch mit Deutschland im Kriege gewesene oder mit ihm verbuendete Staaten (z.B. Schanghai, Mauritius, Karaganda, Sahara und auch Isle of Man); Zwangshettoaufenthalt; Zwangsaufenthalt in von Deutschland besetzten Gebieten; Leben im Verborgenen unter menschenunwuerdigen Bedingungen.

(c) Fuer Sterntragen durch mindestens sechs Monate wird ein Betrag von 6.000 oesterr. Schilling zuerkannt werden.

Die unter a)-c) angefuhrten Leistungen koennen auch Personen beanspruchen, die derzeit nicht oesterreichische Staatsangehoerige sind.

(d) Hingegen koennen auf Grund des novellierten Gesetzes nur Personen, die derzeit oesterreichische Staatsbuenger sind, 10.000 oesterr. Schilling im Falle von Einkommensminderung um mindestens die Haelfte des Einkommens bei Schadenseintritt, falls die Minderung 42 Monate dauerte, beanspruchen. Personen, die noch Oesterreicher sind, koennen auch 6.000 Schilling fuer Abbruch der Berufsausbildung erhalten.

In allen Faellen empfiehlt es sich, die Antraege gruendlich vorzubereiten, damit ihre Behandlung prompt erfolgen kann.

Der Abgeltungsfonds zur Entschaeidigung fuer die Zahlung von Judenvermoegensabgabe und Reichsfluchtsteuer, Konfiskation und gewaltsame Uebertragung von Wertpapieren, Hypotheken, Bank- und Sparguthaben und die Konfiskation von Bargeld wird bereits im Herbst einen Aufruf zur Antragstellung erlassen. Antragsformulare werden bei den URO-Bueros erhaeltlich sein.

Auf Grund der zwischen Deutschland und Oesterreich im Junj zustande gekommenen Einigung wird ferner ein Betrag von 600 Millionen oesterr. Schilling zugunsten der aus Oesterreich stammenden Naziopfer, die ihren Wohnsitz im Ausland haben und nicht mehr oesterreichische Staatsbuenger sind, zur Verfuegung gestellt werden. Wie bereits in der Juli-Nummer der AJR-Information berichtet, muessen die Details der Zweckbestimmung dieser Mittel noch geregelt werden.

F. L. BRASSLOFF.

AUSTRIAN COMPENSATION

Resolution of Council of Jews from Austria in Great Britain

Thanks for and appreciation of the efforts of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, to obtain a settlement of the claims of the Jewish Nazi Victims from Austria were voiced in a resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Council of Jews from Austria in Great Britain (Jacob Ehrlich Society) on July 16.

The Council noted with approval reports on the recent German-Austrian negotiations from its members, Dr. F. L. Brassloff and Josef Fraenkel, who had participated in deliberations of representatives of the Councils in Israel, U.S.A., Britain and Sweden and of experts of the Austrian Claims Committee, held in Bonn, with Dr. C. I. Kapralik, General Secretary of the Jewish Trust Corporation, presiding.

The resolution also expresses regret at individuals unconnected with the Austrian Claims Committee seeking now to take the credit for achievements solely due to the work of Dr. N. Goldmann and his collaborators whom they, up till now, have criticised in an uninformed manner.

HUNGARIANS' CLAIM

A delegation of the World Federation of Hungarian Jews in New York has been assured by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, that the claims of Nazi victims who fled Hungary after 1953 will be recognised by West Germany.

Dr. Goldmann said there were good hopes for a favourable solution of the problem, and added that he would pursue his negotiations on this issue with the World German authorities.

The World Federation of Hungarian Jews had earlier appealed to the West German Chancellor to "rectify the wrongs done to thousands of Hungarian Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in the name of justice and fairness".

SWISS BILL ON HEIRLESS PROPERTY

The preliminary draft of a law concerning heirless property has been approved by the Swiss Federal Council. The law will provide for the obligatory declaration of such property at an office authorised by the Government.

After verifying that no heirs exist, properties will go to a Government fund. Directions for the use of this fund will be enacted in a decree of the Swiss Parliament.

The Union of Swiss Bankers opposed the project on the ground that it violated the principle of bank secrecy. They maintain that an amount of only £67,000 is involved. Jewish circles estimate the total value of heirless property in Switzerland at £12,500,000.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the Jewish Agency and of the World Jewish Congress, expressed his satisfaction on behalf of the organisations he represents and the hope that the passing of this Bill by the Swiss Parliament as well as its implementation will now be accelerated.

DUTCH COMPENSATION

Mr. G. C. Aalders, Chairman of the Association of Former Political Prisoners of the Nazis, at the organisation's annual conference held in Rotterdam, appealed for the payment of compensation to Dutch victims of Nazi persecution. He deplored the fact that the Dutch Government had not yet signed an agreement with West Germany, although 16 years had elapsed since the liberation of Holland.

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

In the Queen's Birthday Honours List Sir Simon Marks, Chairman and Joint Managing Director of Marks and Spencer, was created a Baron.

The O.B.E. distinction was awarded to Mr. Saul Goldblatt, of the Ministry of Labour, Mr. Arthur Katz, Managing Director of Mettoy Company Ltd., Mr. Samuel Benattar, Counsellor to the British Embassy in Tunis, and Mrs. Zoe Shearer, of Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. Sidney Cohen, of the Ministry of Works, Mrs. Sadie Gertrude Kaplan, of Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, Dr. Fanny Reading, President of the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia, and Mr. George Wilkes, of Newcastle upon Tyne, received the M.B.E.

The M.V.O. was awarded to Dr. Leonard Roodyn, who is in charge of the Inoculation Clinic at the Hospital of Tropical Diseases, London. He has inoculated the Queen and the Royal Family and members of the Cabinet, and has attended the Royal Family for the past ten years.

WARSAW GHETTO EXHIBITION IN LONDON

A Warsaw Ghetto exhibition was held at the Herbert Samuel Hall at the New West End Synagogue, based principally on material in the possession of Dr. Alexander Bernfes.

Photographs, documents, and other exhibits told the story of the Ghetto from the time it was organised by the Nazis in October, 1940, till its liquidation after the uprising in April, 1943.

The intention of the exhibition is to bring home to the British public how the unfettered preaching of anti-Semitism and of racialism led to the starvation, torture and death of millions of innocent men, women and children.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Board of Deputies, the World Jewish Congress (British Section), the Polish Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, Ajex, and the Memorial Committee, which were responsible for the Warsaw Ghetto commemoration meeting held at the Princes Theatre in April.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS' EXHIBITION IN COVENTRY

The Coventry exhibition on Nazi concentration camps was visited by 1,000 people a day, in spite of controversy and fascist threats.

Four fire engines raced to the scene when a phone call from a man was received reporting a fire in the exhibition room, only to find it was a false alarm.

ARRIVAL OF THOUSANDTH REFUGEE

The thousandth refugee to be admitted to Britain under the World Refugee Year scheme for the handicapped arrived at Tilbury with his wife and five children.

Mr. Josef Czykieta has for 17 years been trying to emigrate from Germany, where he was deported from his native Poland in 1942 to work as a labourer. He lost his left hand during the war.

The family are to live in a council house at Great Yarmouth, where the council will help them financially until Mr. Czykieta can find a job, probably as a painter and decorator.

On his arrival, Mr. Czykieta said: "It has been a dream for us to stay in your country for many years, and we shall work hard to become good British citizens."

There were speeches by Lady Elliott of Harwood, Chairman of the World Refugee Year, Mr. Christopher Chataway, M.P., one of the founders of the Year, Dame May Curwen, Chairman of the British Council for Aid to Refugees, and by the Mayor of Great Yarmouth.

Dame May Curwen said the scheme for accepting handicapped refugees was an example which many countries followed. About a hundred more in this category had still to come to Britain. All but about 7 per cent of those who had come to this country were well on their way to happy settlement.

DEPUTIES' MEETINGS

The Board of Deputies of British Jews held its first meeting of the Board's new term. New Deputies were welcomed and were able to gain some insight into the work done and to be done by the Board.

Alderman A. Moss and Mr. S. Teff were elected as Vice-Presidents. Mr. Harry Landy was elected as the Board's Treasurer and Judge Laski was re-elected an hon. member of the Board. Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., was re-elected unopposed as President.

The Board discussed the antisemitic letter in a school magazine (details of which appear elsewhere in this issue). It was urged that the Chairmen of the Board's Defence and Education Committees should approach the headmaster of the school with the object of arranging for some facilities to be given to the Board to counter the impression made on the boys by the letter.

A recent letter in *The Times* by Rabbi Dr. S. Schonfeld was criticised by the President. He said it was a terrible thing that a person who had done good, bringing refugee children to this country, should have tried to hint that Jews had not done all they could to save those in peril.

A move made to dispense with the Board's Aliens Committee because "it served no useful purpose" was defeated. Its Chairman said that in the last nine years the Committee had assisted refugees, particularly those from Germany, anxious to rejoin people in Britain. The Committee, he said, had been successful in helping more than 80 Jewish families quite recently.

Protest Against German Soldiers in Wales

At its meeting on July 16, the President, Sir Barnett Janner, stated that the Board "views with considerable dismay" the recent announcement that German panzer soldiers will train in South Wales in the autumn. Recalling the resolution which the Board passed last December expressing its "strongest exception" to suggestions that German forces should train in this country, Sir Barnett said he could not see that circumstances have changed in such a way that the Board could alter its expressed and sincere opposition contained in that resolution.

ANTISEMITIC DAUBINGS

The words "Hang the Jews, not Eichmann" appeared on fifty feet of the Embankment wall adjoining St. Thomas's Hospital, Westminster. The letters were about three feet high, with huge red swastikas painted on either side of the slogan.

The police made enquiries into the daubings and Lambeth Borough Council workmen erased the letters.

BUILDING SOCIETY'S COMMENTS ON JEWS

Disparaging remarks about Jews are contained in the report of the 96th annual meeting of the Royal Mutual Benefit Society, held in London.

The Chairman and Managing Director of the Society refers to the "gratuitous interference we suffered from a firm of Jew solicitors" who, he said, "presented us with a list of names, mostly with an 'Israelitish' flavour, as candidates for a place on the Board". He said that, under the rules of the Society, "the whole lot of these delectable gentry have been safely eliminated from the books of the Society . . . they were working on a scheme to get control of the Society. . . ."

After several other comments on Jews and a reference to Hitler, he went on to say that Jews are already too financially powerful in this country.

Board of Guardians

The Hon. Officers of the London Jewish Board of Guardians, who have just completed their first year in office, were retained for another year. Mr. Oliver R. M. Sebag-Montefiore is President of the Board.

Miss Edith Pitt, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, speaking at the annual meeting of the Jewish Board of Guardians' contributors, praised the work of the Board.

Lord Mayor of Dublin

Councillor Robert Briscoe, the first Jew to become Lord Mayor of Dublin, was elected Lord Mayor for the second time. His tour of the United States after his first election created a tremendous impact in Irish-American circles, culminating in his leading the 1957 St. Patrick's Day Parade up Fifth Avenue.

Religious Leaders Emigrating

Mr. A. S. Diamond, Chairman at the annual meeting of the West London Synagogue, said there are signs that Anglo-Jewish religious leaders are beginning to emigrate because of an atmosphere which chokes independent, constructive religious thought. Unless real toleration for fresh thought was fostered here, this emigration was likely to continue.

Plymouth Synagogue Bicentenary

Plymouth Synagogue, founded in 1761, celebrated its 200th anniversary recently with a special service in the synagogue and a dinner at the City's Guildhall. The synagogue is the oldest still in use outside of London. The celebration was given added significance because Alderman Arthur Goldberg, a member of the congregation, is the first Jewish Lord Mayor of the City.

Retirement of Rabbi Edgar

From October 1 Rabbi Dr. Leslie I. Edgar is to become Minister Emeritus of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, and his place as Senior Minister will be taken by the Rev. John D. Rayner.

Dr. Edgar, who has served the Liberal Jewish Synagogue for 30 years, the last 13 years as Senior Minister, will continue to help the synagogue in a consultative capacity and to take part in the services from time to time.

Honour to Yiddish Author

London's Yiddish literary leaders met to honour Dr. J. Maitlis on the occasion of the publication of his Yiddish book, "The Exempla of Rabbi Samuel and Rabbi Juda, the Pious—A Study in Yiddish Literature and Folk-lore". Dr. Maitlis has already been awarded a prize for the book by the Cultural Committee of the World Jewish Congress in Paris.

Appeal for Further Secondary Schools

Dr. I. Fishman, Director of Education, London Board of Jewish Religious Education, the guest of honour at the annual display and prize-giving of the Hillel House Schools, appealed for the establishment of further Jewish Secondary Schools so that the impact of Jewish teaching after the age of eleven should not be lost.

Miss B. Richman, headmistress of the Schools, reported a busy and fruitful year and said that the elocution classes, added last term to the ballet class as optional extras, had proved very popular with pupils.

THE NEW HOMES BUILDING SOCIETY, EAST TWICKENHAM

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SHADOWS OF THE PAST

TRIALS OF EX-NAZIS

Alfred Josef Slavik, accused by a witness at the Eichmann trial of having assisted Eichmann in the murder of a boy for stealing cherries, has been arrested in Vienna.

Slavik had already once been detained in 1946 in connection with this case but nothing could be proved for lack of evidence. He was, however, sentenced to five-and-a-half years' imprisonment with hard labour for various war crimes. Dr. Wiesinger, the official Austrian observer at the trial, passed on to the Austrian authorities testimony concerning Slavik.

Frank Novak, Eichmann's former transport officer whom the Austrian authorities arrested last January, testified on Eichmann's behalf in an Austrian court.

Dr. Egon Schönplugg, a former senior S.S. officer, has been tried by an Austrian court for the alleged mass murder of Jews and partisans in Nazi-occupied Poland and Russia during the Second World War. He is accused of taking part in the liquidation of at least 19,037 Jews and partisans between July and September, 1941. The indictment claims the accused belonged to the notorious "S.S. Commando Eight", which operated from Warsaw to Minsk and Mogilev in White Russia.

In Bonn a spokesman for the West German Ministry of Justice said that Gustav Richter, alleged to have been Eichmann's agent in Rumania, is to be tried by a West German court on charges concerning the deportation of Jews from Rumania.

Dr. Otto Bradfish, leader of the "S.S. Commando Eight", and eight other members, were tried in Munich.

INVESTIGATION OF FORMER S.S. MAN

Dr. Hausmann, the Minister of Justice in the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, announced in Stuttgart that the case of Gustav Richter, a former S.S. officer who was Eichmann's agent in Rumania, is being investigated by the public prosecutor at Frankenthal.

Richter was now working as a salesman in Mannheim. No warrant had been issued for his arrest because there was not sufficient incriminating evidence. Dr. Hausmann stated, however, that two witnesses able to testify against Richter had been found, one of whom was the former President of the Bucharest Jewish community.

ARRESTS

Former Nazi Minister to Bulgaria

Adolf Heinz Baeckerle, former Nazi Minister to Bulgaria, has been arrested. He faces charges of being responsible for the murder of 11,500 Jews in the Balkans.

The prosecution in Germany has asked the Israeli police to take testimonies from any Israeli citizens who knew about Baeckerle's war-time activities.

K.Z. Commandant

Johan Uriste, commandant of a concentration camp at Tartu, in Estonia, has been arrested by the Soviet authorities. He is charged with having participated, together with a number of other Nazi collaborators now abroad, in the mass murder of about 12,000 people, including 2,000 Jews.

GERMAN REACTIONS TO EICHMANN TRIAL

One-third of those questioned by a West German research institute which interviewed 1,455 adults to discover their reactions to the Eichmann trial declared that they did not want to be reminded either about the trial or the Nazi past.

Thirty-two per cent said that too much was being written and said about the trial, 40 per cent thought that the general coverage of the trial was satisfactory, and 12 per cent said they would like to see, hear and read more about the proceedings.

On average, the institute's report stated, the Nazi past was being accepted, but most people did not want to "hear any more of it, because we did not know what was happening at the time".

A smaller group of those questioned said that they thought the actual events during the Nazi period were being exaggerated and that the trial was causing considerable damage to Germany's reputation abroad. Two per cent of those interviewed declared that the trial was unnecessary.

Several German newspapers have commented on the fairness of the Israeli court. They point out that the trial leaves no doubt about Eichmann's moral guilt, though it remains to be seen whether there is enough material for his legal conviction as the man responsible for the "Final Solution". The German Press also emphasises that Eichmann's trial not only pointed to the guilt of the accused but also showed the responsibility of the whole German people, whose attitude, indifference and cowardice enabled a man like Eichmann to commit his crimes. But the trial had also shown the world that there had been "different" Germans who had resisted Nazism and helped the victims of Nazi persecution.

The German Press has also noted with relief that the anti-German feeling which it had been anticipated would result from the trial has not occurred. This is being attributed to the highly objective coverage being given to the trial in the foreign Press.

NAZI DOCTORS

Dr. Werner Heyde

A report submitted by a Parliamentary investigation committee and published in Kiel reveals that four judges, 17 doctors and a Government official in Schleswig-Holstein knew the true identity of Dr. Werner Heyde, the Nazi euthanasia doctor, but they all kept silent. At least four more judges and doctors had known that "Dr. Sawade" was an assumed name, but they had remained silent.

The report concludes that all those who had knowledge of the true identity of the Nazi killer displayed a considerable lack of "State consciousness" and appeals to the public "to help strengthen the democratic system".

Dr. Hertha Oberheuser

Dr. Hertha Oberheuser, the former Nazi concentration camp doctor at Ravensbrück, has turned in her licence and expressed her readiness never to work as a doctor again.

After the war she was sentenced to twenty years' detention for crimes committed at Ravensbrück, but she was released after six years and has since worked as a doctor. When her name was struck off the medical roll last August Dr. Oberheuser protested and demanded a court ruling.

WITNESSES WANTED

An appeal has been issued by the World Jewish Congress in New York to victims of Nazism to come forward with information concerning a number of Nazis to be tried in West Germany.

Information is wanted concerning all Nazis responsible for the annihilation and deportation of the Jews in Lublin (Poland) and districts; S.S. Sturmbannführer Martin Fellenz, who was chief of staff of the Cracow police chief, Julian Schorner, and organised and headed deportations in many places, including Tarnow, Przemsyl, Rzeszow, Miechow, and in Michailowice; all Gestapo Jewish "experts" in Cracow; all Nazi officials responsible for mass murders in Starachowice.

Persons in a position to give testimony are requested to contact Dr. Nehemiah Robinson, Director, Institute of Jewish Affairs, World Jewish Congress, 15 East 84th Street, New York 28, N.Y.

The World Jewish Congress is also seeking witnesses who can testify against two key officials of the Stutthof concentration camp. They are S.S. Obersturmführer Otto Haupt, charged with murdering prisoners with benzine injections, and S.S. Obersturmführer Bernard Luedtke, accused of shooting inmates.

Witnesses are also sought against men charged with crimes at Nowy Korczyn, Poland, particularly Gendarmeriemeister Sturmman, accused of killing many Jews.

AUSTRIAN WAR CRIMINAL ARRESTED

The Jewish community in Vienna has noted, with satisfaction, the arrest of Franz Murer by the Austrian authorities. Murer, who is accused of war crimes against the Jews of Vilna, was one of the persons mentioned at the special Press conference recently called by the Viennese Jewish communal authorities to demonstrate that many Nazi criminals have not yet been brought to justice. It has been stated that Murer was responsible for the murder of 80,000 Jews.

As a result of the first campaign instigated by the Viennese Jewish community, Murer had to resign the chairmanship of his local Chamber of Agriculture. Shortly afterwards, a deputation of survivors from the Vilna Ghetto went to see the Austrian Ambassador in Israel about Murer's war-time activities and the Viennese community also forwarded to the authorities the testimonies of two eye-witnesses.

The Russian Occupation Forces had sentenced Murer to 25 years' imprisonment with hard labour but, in accordance with the agreement arrived at with Austria, he was returned after serving only seven years.

PENSION FOR THERESIENSTADT COMMANDANT'S WIDOW

Widows of several war criminals receive pensions as "war victims" as if their husbands had been killed in action, the press bulletin of the Jewish communities in Austria reports. One of them is the widow of Karl Rahm, the commandant of Theresienstadt who was traced by the Americans in Steyr in August 1945 and extradited to Czechoslovakia, where he was sentenced to death and executed in April 1947. Frau Rahm's claim for a war widow's pension had been rejected by the Austrian Ministry of Social Administration, because Rahm had been found guilty of mass murder. However, the decision was reversed by the Austrian Court of Administration which held the view that Rahm had been extradited to Czechoslovakia in accordance with the Allied Control Agreement and not by virtue of an Austrian law.

MONUMENT TO TREBLINKA VICTIMS

Plans to build a monument commemorating the Jewish victims of the death camp of Treblinka, Eastern Poland, have now been finalised. A special honorary committee has issued an appeal for contributions, directed to all the Polish population, but particularly to school and university youth and to youth organisations.

The monument will be inscribed to "over a million inhabitants of many lands occupied by Germany who perished in the Polish camp as a result of murderous Nazi activities".

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Rabbi Freedom Riders Arrested

Ten Freedom Riders appeared in a New York court on a charge of unlawful assembly. The ten—white and Negro clergymen, including two rabbis—were arrested after going on a hunger strike for more than 24 hours in protest against their inability to obtain service at the airport restaurant. They refused to obey the order of the Tallahassee City Attorney to disperse.

The arrested rabbis are Martin Freedman, of Paterson, New Jersey, and Israel S. Dresner, of Springfield. They and three others—Gerald Bobrow, Al Levine and Walter Plaut—are the first rabbis to take part in Freedom Rides to break down racial segregation on inter-State buses. All five are Reform ministers.

Rabbi Plaut gave three reasons for joining the protest: "First, this is a way of translating the religious commitment into the realities of everyday life. Secondly, leaders have special responsibilities and must exemplify these responsibilities in a special way." Thirdly, he stated, he had witnessed at first hand the holocaust of European Jewry. "I have learned that human suffering is indivisible."

American Nazi's Right to Speak

George Lincoln Rockwell, the self-styled American Nazi leader, was denied permission to speak in a public park in New York City by the Commissioner of Parks of New York City, who was upheld in this decision by the Mayor.

Now New York's highest tribunal, the Court of Appeals, has upheld Rockwell's right to speak.

MOROCCO

According to community leaders in Rabat, the new interim Government of Morocco formed by King Hassan II to prepare the country's first constitution will be somewhat less sympathetic towards the Jewish community than the previous one formed by the late King Mohammed V.

Alla Alfasi, President of the Istiqlal Party, has been appointed Minister of State for Islamic Affairs, which is a new portfolio with as yet undefined responsibilities. It is known that the Istiqlal leader has extreme views on Israel and Zionism and his newspapers miss no opportunity for attacking both in the most violent terms.

Alla Alfasi can be expected to strive for the "Islamification" of the country and for the restriction of the movement of Jews seeking to emigrate.

African countries like Ghana, which have relations with Israel, will probably be the object of renewed pressures to persuade them to boycott Israel.

The removal of Jews occupying high posts in the Moroccan administration continues. Mr. Meyer Toledano, Juridical Counsellor in the Moroccan Finance Ministry, and Mr. Zaoui, a senior official in the Finance Ministry, were dismissed, the latter without any reason being given. He was accused of Zionist affiliations by the racist journal *Al-Oumal*.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Religious Leaders Against Apartheid

An announcement by Archbishop Denis Hurley, the Roman Catholic Metropolitan of Durban, stated that he would seek the co-operation of all religious leaders in the Union for an intensive church-led campaign against apartheid and racialism.

There has so far been no official reaction from Jewish religious leaders, although the strong anti-apartheid opinions of Rabbi Dr. L. Rabinowitz of Johannesburg and other rabbis have been stated publicly on many occasions.

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies vigorously reasserted its traditional policy of non-involvement in politics when its Chairman, at a meeting of the Board, denounced the action of a political group which distributed manifestos outside some Johannesburg synagogues. These manifestos called on the Jews of South Africa to oppose the Government which, it was alleged, was considering the creation of a "Department of Jewish Affairs".

Long-Term Educational Schemes Shelved

A report issued by a commission headed by Judge Herbstein on the financing of Jewish education in the Cape Province recommends that until the uncertainties of the future are resolved South African Jewry should stop spending money on capital development.

This contrasts with the report issued a few months ago by a commission headed by Judge Kuper, which recommended that a loan of £500,000 be sought from United Israel Appeal funds for capital expenditure over a five-year period. It is believed that the South African Zionist Federation received the Kuper Report somewhat coolly.

RHODESIA

Rabbi Curtis Cassell, minister of the Progressive Jewish Congregation, Bulawayo, in an interview with *The Jewish Chronicle*, during a visit to London to attend the Progressives' World Union conference, stated that, although there has been some Jewish emigration from Southern Rhodesia due to the uncertain political situation, it has not been on anything like the South African scale.

If at all possible the European, including the Jew, who had deep roots in the country where there has been a Jewish community ever since Rhodesia came into being 70 years ago, would remain.

Rhodesian Jewry is 6,500 strong and has two main centres—Bulawayo and Salisbury—with many smaller Jewish communities.

SAUDI ARABIA

Representative Halpern, a Democratic American Jewish Congressman from New York City, protested in a strongly worded letter published in the *New York Post* at being refused permission by Saudi Arabia to visit the American air base at Dhahran.

Commenting on the letter, a State Department official admitted that American Jews are excluded from Dhahran. Landing facilities at the airport are used commercially by Saudi Arabia under a ten-year agreement with the U.S.A. He added that, if Arab leaders were forced to change their anti-Israel attitude publicly, they would throw out the United States, which has interests in the territory.

LIBYA

According to a report on Libyan Jewry by Dr. Nehemiah Robinson, Director of the World Jewish Congress's Institute of Jewish Affairs, Libya's present Jewish population of approximately 4,000 is about what it was a century ago. There is a drop of 25,000 from the total of 29,000 in 1937.

ZIND ON CAIRO RADIO

The news service of the German Social Democratic Party has released the information that Ludwig Zind, the anti-semitic German schoolteacher, has signed a contract with Cairo Radio to broadcast a series of lectures.

The Social Democratic Party, pointing out that Zind was not representative of the German people, denounced the contract as tactless and the Egyptian move as a "smack in the face" for West German efforts to maintain friendly relations with the Arab States.

FASCISTS IN ARGENTINA

A gang of uniformed teenagers attacked a Jewish meeting at the seaside resort of Mar del Plata. They shouted pro-Nazi slogans and trampled the wreath laid on the San Martin monument by Mrs. Ymima Avidar, wife of the Israeli Ambassador.

PLANS OF AUSCHWITZ DISCOVERED

Documents and plans showing how the Nazis organised the death camp of Auschwitz and sketches of the crematoria were discovered in the home of a Polish worker. During the war his house was occupied by the Germans and served as the first official quarters of the Gestapo in the area.

The plans have been sent to the State Museum at Auschwitz, where all the other evidence of Nazi crimes and mass murders are kept.

RUMANIA'S CHIEF RABBI

Dr. D. M. Rosen, the Chief Rabbi of Rumania, who was recently re-elected a member of the Rumanian Parliament, has accepted an invitation to lecture at Yeshiva University, New York.

The Chief Rabbi recently conducted a pastoral tour of some twelve Rumanian Jewish communities, preaching to large gatherings in the synagogues he visited. Dr. Rosen, who praised the Rumanian Government for its treatment of the Jews, was accorded a warm welcome.

YUGOSLAV SYNAGOGUE RESTORED

The former Ashkenazi Synagogue in Belgrade, which the Nazis converted into a brothel during the war and which is now Belgrade's one remaining synagogue, has been restored and was rededicated at a ceremony attended by representatives of the Yugoslav Government and the Israel Minister there.

The service was conducted by Rabbi Menahem Romano, the only rabbi still living in Yugoslavia, and Dr. Emanuel Bulc, of Luxemburg, who was invited specially for the ceremony.

The President of the Belgrade Jewish community stressed that the restoration was an act of protest against the vandalism of the fascist occupation forces, who had not hesitated to commit sacrilegious acts even in places of sanctity. The President of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Yugoslavia said that the act of restoration was proof of the desire of the Jewish community to preserve its cultural and spiritual heritage from oblivion.

RUSSIA

Report on Synagogues

According to Moscow Radio, there are 150 synagogues in the whole of the Soviet Union, about half of them in the Moldavian and Ukrainian Republics.

Moscow has only three synagogues, compared with about forty before the war when the Jewish population was much smaller than it is today. Biro-Bidjan has only one functioning synagogue.

According to the last census, the total Jewish population in Russia is over two and a quarter million.

New Yiddish Journal

A circular issued by the editor of *Soviet Homeland*, the new Yiddish bi-monthly in the Soviet Union, states that contributions have been secured from Jewish authors in all parts of Russia, including those living in Birobidjan. One hundred and thirty Jewish writers have been listed as future contributors, including eighteen Yiddish poets.

Ernest Kahn

TOWARDS A HISTORY OF GERMAN JEWRY

Fifth Year Book of the Leo Baeck Institute

This Year Book* demonstrates again how rich and various German Jewish life was from the emancipation to its breakdown in 1933. The wealth of personalities, their activities and thoughts, their endeavour to bring their origin, faith, convictions, and individualities in harmony with the culture of the nation among which they lived, are shown anew in this volume. Whatever scholarly method requires has been utilised, and text, annotations, bibliography, index, illustrations are the result of meticulous research and a responsible effort. Robert Weltsch, the editor, has anticipated the reviewer's task by giving, in his introduction, a comprehensive survey of the material contained in the book. His organising hand facilitates the difficulty to find common principles for the numerous contributions, which show how there was an intensive give-and-take between a freshly awakened minority and its environment until irrational trends stopped this evolution. If, as the report on the activities of the L.B.I. 1954-1960 at the end of the book points out, its total research aims finally at the "writing of a comprehensive history of German Jewry", then the Year Book under review brings us nearer to that goal. This effort is supplemented and helped by an organisation like the AJR, which is mainly devoted to our situation in this country, topical events, legal and charitable problems, but many of the articles in *AJR Information* build up a more and more complete picture of our past in Germany and in Europe.

The enlightenment in the 18th century, and the progressive emancipation and integration in the 19th and 20th centuries, led also to a revaluation of Judaism in the religious-theological field. The study of Kant, who taught that faith is a postulate of moral consciousness and that the idea of a Divine Creator results from the demands of practical reason, helped much to confirm the tenets of Biblical teaching. The immediacy of religious experience, the validity of the Revelation, and the precepts of Moses, the law-giver, and the prophets, appeared in a new and authentic light. This revival found a universal application through an ethical attitude which led to mankind in general and to the building of a better world on this earth in a messianic future. The humanitarianism applied by men in practical, political or cultural life, bears witness to the value of these ideals.

Fighter Against "Teutomania"

It is impossible to give a detailed account of the contents of this book, and what can be said about it cannot dispense from its perusal. When we follow the guiding lines laid out before, Saul Ascher (by E. Littmann) was the first theorist of Jewish liberalism. He tried to base his religion on ethical monotheism rather than on the law, but he was not inclined to believe that it can be understood by reason. Heine was wrong to ridicule him as a rationalistic pedant. He was, in fact, the first courageous fighter against the "Teutomania" which rankled among his co-religionists and many Germans, but he believed that it was Nature's aim to "use the Germans as a lever and means for dissolving any kind of nationality" in Europe.

Leopold Zunz, in his political speeches and in four letters written at the peak of the revolution in 1848, published for the first time,

* Year Book V of the Leo Baeck Institute. East and West Library, London, 1960. 35s. Free to members of the Society of Friends of the L.B.I.

thought first, according to N. H. Glatzer, that the upheavals in Europe were "the Messianic event". The ensuing reaction threw him into despair, and he writes later that "we are progressing towards barbarism". But the ideal of a future "Rechtsstaat" in the whole Continent never faded from his mind.

Judaism Faces Modern World

After the excitement of the early emancipation, some real scholars settled down to coming to terms with the essence of Jewish philosophy and religion, and to placing them in a modern world. Julius Guttmann (by F. Bamberger) taught his students the facts of Jewish philosophy with absolute objectivity without lacking firm personal convictions; he sided with the neo-Kantian Hermann Cohen in the belief that modern religious consciousness finds its expression in Kant. Religion, however, as he stated later as a lecturer at the Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums in Berlin, is no philosophy. In his main work, "The Philosophy of Judaism" (1933), he bases religious truth on the ethical law, founded on personal certitude. In this he moved away from Cohen, for whom "God still remains idea". His innate caution prevented him from becoming a political Zionist—he moved to the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, in 1934—but he admitted the cultural possibilities in the Jewish State.

Max Wiener, who succeeded Guttmann in the Chair at the Lehranstalt and, later on, moved to the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, became another modern interpreter of Liberal Judaism (by H. Liebeschutz). Like Cohen, he based his teaching on the moral ideas of the prophets, reaffirming the irrational and positive aspects of religion. In a later phase of his studies he stressed the vital importance of tradition, and said, against Kant, that philosophy does not cover the full spirit of Judaism, which cannot be explained by logical proof and which gained a special character through God's covenant with Israel.

H. M. Graupe investigates the relation between theology and the philosophy of religion by showing how Kant became a "Jewish experience" to S. L. Steinheim ("Steinheim und Kant"), originally a doctor, whose ethical interest led him back to the Jewish fold. He was the first theologian who approached religion from the viewpoint of critical philosophy, "a philosophy which is true in its method, and a religion which is true in its God" (Cohen). He considers Revelation as a knowledge which was given to man at a special point of history. His thinking culminates in his "creatism" which sees the Creation as an expression of God's freedom (a Kantian idea), leading towards a Messianic State.

H. H. Cohn, in his essay on Joseph Carlebach, puts before our eyes a man whose faith was, for him, something natural and pervaded an active life, which ended abruptly when he was shot by the Nazis in Riga. This Orthodox rabbi, scientist, and mathematician at the Lemel School in Jerusalem, founder of a Jewish Grammar School in Lithuania during the First World War, and Principal and Chief Rabbi of the Talmud Tora Realschule in Hamburg, was a born teacher and a true shepherd of his flock. His father had brought him into close touch with German cultural life, and he was a great lover of nature. At heart he was a Zionist, and greeted Dr. Weizmann as "prince of God" when the latter visited

Hamburg. The "Letters from War-time Berlin", by Leo Baeck, written a short time before his deportation, give evidence of another spiritual leader's uprightness. The grave danger under which he lived did not deter him from caring for educational and literary works. He never lost his serenity or sense of responsibility—a humorous autobiographical account like that on Caesar Seligmann's impressions at the Breslau Seminary in 1881, leads us back, for a moment, into a period of relative calm.

These ministers of religious life in Germany were free from the conflicts between the old and new allegiances which befell those who found it hard to find their identity. J. Jacobson's article, "Von Mendelssohn to Mendelssohn-Bartholdy," deals with the zeal of a father to pave his son's way by advising him to omit the first part of his name. The composer, generally indifferent to his origin, did not comply without impairing his fame. The modern composer Schoenberg ("Gustav Mahler und Arnold Schoenberg", by P. Gradenwitz) found the answer to many questions which the restless and ahasveric nature of Mahler did not solve. Schoenberg, full of courage and a firm belief in the spirit, turned to religious themes at an early stage of his career. His drama "The Biblical Road" and his opera "Moses and Aaron" are symbolisations of the Jewish mission. As a sign of the reviving interest in German-Jewish literary tradition, A. Paucker goes back to a manifesto by Wolfskehl, which suggests the idea of a "Deutsch-Jüdische Bibliothek" containing Yiddish texts. P. J. Diamant discusses, in this context, an ancient German "Schlummerlied" which was probably written down by a Jew.

Challenge of Anti-Semitism

The challenge of anti-semitism was the touchstone of Jewish solidarity and principles. H. Bergman's essay, "Eduard von Hartmann und die Judenfrage in Deutschland", about the philosopher who was against such a movement because it hindered a progressive assimilation of the foreign element and favoured only their dual loyalty, brings von Hartmann's partly reasonable arguments face to face with a Jewish apologist who was not up to his task when he denied the existence of such a problem altogether. The granting of equal rights to minorities was brought a step further by "The Intervention of German Jews at the Berlin Congress, 1878" (by N. M. Gelber); this was made possible by the stand taken by the banker Gerson von Bleichröder in favour of the emancipation of Rumanian Jews, owing to his influence on Bismarck as his private banker. Also, we are given an outline of the research into the rôle of court bankers undertaken by D. S. Landes in a separate article.

If von Hartmann had warned the Jews to keep away from their prevalent occupation with business matters, Salman Schocken (by S. Moses, the Chairman of the L.B.I.), who was inspired by high ethical principles, refutes this theory. Schocken stands out as the founder and organiser of important department stores, but also as a self-taught scholar, publisher and administrator of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was a great individualist, but the way in which he had always the consumers' interest in mind (as shown in his rules to his employees) and his philanthropy, make him an exemplary personality in Jewish and Zionist life.

How did the Jewish Press stand up to the final onslaught of Nazism? M. T. Edelheim-Muehsam informs us about the honourable and valiant struggle in which the *C.V.-Zeitung* and the *Jüdische Rundschau* (and other papers) had to bear the brunt. In spite of the cautious

Concluded on page 7, column 1

Hans Jaeger

GUILT AND ATONEMENT

This is a book* which stirred up more than any other book of German literature since 1945, with very few exceptions. The selection is not big anyway, with Boell, Schallueck, Andersch, Kirst, Koeppen, Opitz and a few others. The style, sometimes breathless, compressed, often almost as if the sentences were merged into each other, somehow reminds one of Koeppen's "Treibhaus", which unfortunately did not meet sufficient response. The author, who is 31, presents here his first novel. He has been called one of Germany's angry men, and it was said that they knew very well against what they were rebelling, contrary to their Anglo-Saxon counterparts. This is a rather unfortunate formulation. One should have said that they have a special reason to be angry; otherwise the motives are on a different level, are not comparable in the details and may differ about the issues. But this should not seduce to the premature conclusion that others had no right to be angry or were fighting against shadows or were inarticulate. Other nations have, perhaps, more to deal with the present and the future.

For Germany it is the past which was not overcome (this slogan annoys many people in Germany so much that they attribute the origin to the East, which is primitive and lacks imagination), which presents an additional problem. But it is the human approach, the longing for a better world which would cut out all evils, which the angry men have in common. It is true that the antagonism of generations is much more accentuated in Germany. It is the reiterating motive, from the Hildebrand saga via Schiller to Hasenclever. And the outcry about what the fathers did and omitted to repent of, and then glossed over in silence and moral cowardice, gives plenty of opportunity to settle accounts with the previous generation.

The problem is most familiar to us. We witnessed it in 1945 when almost nobody had been a Nazi, we observed it after recovery, after 1948, when it became "bad taste" to speak about the past and reconstruction was made a pretext

* Christian Geissler, *Anfrage*. Claassen, Hamburg, 250 pp. DM. 12.80.

TOWARDS A HISTORY OF GERMAN JEWRY

Concluded from page 6

attitude necessitated by life under a dictatorship, they became a "source of strength and moral support" and "turned shame into honour" in the last hours of German Jewry. The *C.V.-Zeitung* had always denounced anti-Jewish feelings and actions, and supported the Weimar Republic. It is interesting to note that the Zionist *Jüdische Rundschau* did not deny the bonds which tied the Jews to Germany. Both ideologies found at last a common forum in the *Reichsvertretung*, of which Dr. Otto Hirsch, who met a tragic end, became Executive Chairman.

The absurdity of the final situation is brought home to us by S. Schiratzki in "The Rykestrasse School in Berlin", a Zionist school, which later had been made open to children of all Jewish denominations. We read, with a sense of unreality, how the solemn putting up of a mezuzah had to make good for the swastika the Nazis had fastened to the school entrance, and how Schlageter had to be mentioned a short time after a Herzl celebration.

It is remarkable that, in spite of all the temporal frustrations and adversities, a note of optimism and hope rings through many of the ideas and actions of the personalities treated in this book; the core of their spiritual life remained untouched by the impact of historical events. Franz Rosenzweig's words about the spirit of Judaism that "does not suffer epochs, that means, it does not suffer history", seem to be true.

to forget everything, and we were aware of it again when the swastikas reappeared in the winter of 1959/60 and the first complaints about inadequate school books were heard. Though regarding school books there is a slight improvement since then, due to the efforts of a very active office in Brunswick, the gap remains at least for all those who left school in the 'fifties. Purification of the air is hampered by a regrettable misunderstanding. Some people mistake references to the past as vindictiveness, as an intention to humiliate, or as obsession. All this could have been avoided if a clean break had been made, if the truth had been faced by more than a minority (what a government does cannot be substitute for the reaction of a whole nation), if self-criticism was not hampered by fear, if a clear judgement of the twelve years of shame and of all who contributed actively to it was not lately disturbed too by the consideration that one could not be influenced by Eastern propaganda which acts anyway—only hypocritically and exploits the weak spots offered either carelessly or in a mania to accept allies wherever they can be found.

Here Geissler steps in. Certainly his criticism and unsparing bitterness, his uncompromising attitude and clear insight which registers the signs of the past where they reappear again, will most certainly expose him to the accusation that he must be a "fellow-traveller", that his attacks are helpful to the East, that he is a "bias". Those who do not mince their words any more will talk about those "intellectuals" (this hatred, as an aftermath of the Third Reich, comes up again and must create suspicion) and those "homeless leftists". But this would be utterly unfair, as the principal character of his novel, Koehler, the young scientist, fights not only against all those who want to extenuate the past, evade it, are cynical about it, or have forgotten what a political conscience means, but also against Steinhoff, who thinks about the war like he does yet is untouched by the most horrible crime of human history done to six-million Jews. Steinhoff is depicted as a former prisoner of war from the East, who has been converted to Eastern doctrine; he merely thinks in class categories, and his half-digested Marxism deprives him of an understanding for an individual fate.

In the background is a Jewish family named Valentin, who perished, and their former home where old memories are still alive, like shadows or ghosts. Koehler, who hates what his father taught him (and makes it symbolically clear that he prefers him to be found guilty rather than to be acquitted for not being responsible for his actions, though he actually does not come back from the war), is likewise a fanatic fighter for truth and justice. He tries to trace the only son of the Jewish family who survived, and meets obstruction everywhere because the truth might be compromising. He is helped by the old gardener of the Jewish family who felt in such close unity with his employers that one day he tried to fix the yellow star himself. This touching character portrayed by Geissler clearly indicates that he does not intend to generalise; it is merely his realism and deep understanding of human nature and its weaknesses, not the wish to accuse, if he shows that even the best may fail in a moment of fear and anxiety. The search fails, but the quest draws the seekers very close together; the gardener looks on Koehler as his son and Koehler finds in the old man a father.

It is not the contents of the novel which matters. What matters much more is the confrontation of all those who were silent or who had their share in the actions of those years, the deep psychological insight, the "deglorification" of the pseudo-values of this period which the author succeeds in portraying, almost reaching the literary strength of Heinrich Mann in "Der Untertan". Above all, it is the break through all taboos, the moral courage to call a spade a spade, the fine understanding of what the persecuted suffered and the glorious appeal to face reality and act accordingly that makes this book such inspiring reading. Geissler is to be congratulated on his first novel. If people like him could guide the younger generation, there would be a real chance to overcome the past and build a new future.

Ola Acquaintances

Home News:—Mascha Kaleko, of Israel, is expected to come to Edinburgh for the Festival this year to attend the first night of a literary revue her son, Steven Vinaver, will produce there; on the way she will read her poems—probably in London.—After two years Bernard Grun has finished his "Kulturgeschichte der Operette", from Aristophanes to "My Fair Lady", for publication by Albert Langen-Georg Mueller, in Munich, and Oxford University Press, in New York and London.—Wolf Frees went to Hamburg to star in the 13-part TV series, "Cox", directed by John Olden for Real Films.—Anton Diffring has finished work on "Enter Inspector Duval", in Ireland.—Clarissa Stolz, Lily Kann, Carl Jaffe, and Paul Hardmuth are also in "Magnolia Street" on B.B.C. TV.—Anna Freud has announced she will do everything in her power to stop production of a Sigmund Freud picture John Huston intends to direct.

News from Everywhere:—Hans Sahl, who translated John Osborne's plays into German, is adapting Millard Lampell's "The Wall", based on John Hersey's novel, for production by Kurt Meisel in Munich.—Eric Burger is adapting Tad Mosel's "All the Way Home" for the German stage.—Dr. F. Porges, too busy as a foreign correspondent to accept again the presidency of Hollywood's Press Association, was elected a life member.—Friedrich Hollaender, of "Blaue Engel" fame, will open his own little cabaret in Munich in the autumn.—Gottfried Reinhardt is planning to produce "Hiding Place" with William Holden, Tony Curtis and German star, Hein Ruchmann, for the Mirischs in Europe.—Jacques Arndt opened the new season of "Deutsches Theater" in Buenos Aires with "der zerbrochene Krug".—Curt Bernhardt will direct "Damon and Pythias" for Metro.—Peter Galliner, Foreign Manager of London's *Financial Times*, will go to Berlin to take over the chairmanship of the Ullstein publishing group.

This and That:—Silvia Gross, who recently passed through London with her ten-year-old daughter, started as a dancer in Vienna. When director Jubal founded his little Jewish theatre she appeared as a child actress for the first time; afterwards she went to Holland and joined Rudolf Nelson's and Fritz Steiner's ensemble. Having survived the war in a concentration camp, red-head Silvia Gross married Herbert Nelson and went with him to the United States. Now she is the wife of an American, and her daughter, Miriam Mary Martin, herself a prodigy, is under contract to Dick Powell's TV company in Hollywood.—No German feature film was good enough for this year's State Prize, so Gustaf Gruendgens and Peter Gorski received the award for the best full-length documentary, "Faust".—Bruno E. Werner, author of "Die Galere", has resigned as cultural attaché of the German Embassy in Washington.

Milestones:—Frederic Gottfert will be 60 on August 8th. Born in Berlin, he started as editor of the literary monthly, *Feuerreiter*, together with the late Moriz Seeler, and wrote lyrics for the better cabarets of the '20s. He left Germany early in 1933 and went to Paris, where he worked as a film writer. For the last 20 years Frederic Gottfert has been scenario editor of Associated British; he adapted "The Long and the Short and the Tall" for the German stage very successfully and helped to script Richard Todd's new picture, "Don't Bother to Knock".—Heinz Tietjen, conductor and director of Berlin's State Opera after the war, celebrated his 80th birthday in Baden-Baden, where he lives in retirement.—Hermann Scherchen, the internationally known conductor of *avant-garde* music, was 70 last month.

Obituary:—Daisy Crayon-Krehan, wife of the well-known stage designer, has died in New York; they left Germany voluntarily in 1933 and appeared together in variety all over the world.—Carl Marx, the 75-year-old brother of the "Scala" director, Jules Marx, who perished in a concentration camp, has died in Berlin.—Antoinette Knie, of the circus family made famous by Zuckmayer in his play, died in Switzerland recently at the age of 72.

PEM

COMBATING DISCRIMINATION

JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN EFFORTS

With the particular aim of combating every kind of group discrimination, co-operation between the British Labour Movement and the American Jewish Labour Movement is being extended.

The Director of the Public Relations Department of the American Jewish Labour Committee, who spent a week in London, said in an interview that both in Britain and in the United States the labour movement was faced with similar problems of racial discrimination in employment, accommodation and education. Since the problems seemed to be similar, the A.J.L.C. felt that it would be worth while if American and British—and later perhaps also the French—labour movements intensified their co-operation and exchanged views on these questions. The labour movement should become the spearhead in breaking down discrimination.

RESTRICTIVE QUOTAS IN SCHOOLS

On a suggestion by Mrs. Jo Grimond that there was a quota of about 10 per cent for admitting children of the Jewish faith into some schools, the Liberal Party Council passed a resolution deploring "the practice of restrictive quotas against Jewish children in many independent London day schools". It appealed to all connected, where such restrictive practices existed, to bring every pressure to bear to end this situation.

Mrs. Grimond, in moving the resolution, said she had always believed Britain had a proud and good record of treatment of minorities, particularly of Jewish people. But in their attempt to get into the best schools, all children did not start equal. It was largely a weakness of the educational system.

WAIVING OF ETON RULE

A rule at Eton, preventing boys with foreign fathers from taking scholarships to the College, is being waived. The rule was virtually an anti-semitic one, since it strongly affected sons of Jewish refugees. Its abolition is largely due to the initiative of Professor A. J. Ayer, a philosopher, who is an Old Etonian scholar. The Provost and headmaster of Eton are strongly in favour of changing this rule.

SCHOOL MAGAZINE PUBLISHES ANTI-JEWISH LETTER

"Phoenix", a school magazine published twice a term by the senior boys of University College School, Hampstead, has been suspended by the headmaster because of a virulently antisemitic letter appearing in it.

It is not known who wrote the 600-word letter, signed "Magnus est Veritas" (Great is the Truth). Purporting to give "the facts about extermination", the letter refers to the Second World War as "a Jewish war" and goes on: "... is it surprising that after the war the extermination myth was propagated? Dachau, whose inmates were the scum of the country, was turned into one of the so-called extermination camps. . . . Up to the arrival of the Americans, Dachau possessed one small crematorium for prisoners who died of disease. The operator of this has revealed that it took one day to burn one body. . . . Jew Auerbach put up a notice saying that 238,000 bodies were cremated there—this would have taken the only crematorium 326 years. . . ."

The letter goes on to say that "so-called confessions" from ex-Nazi officers were obtained by American or Russian torture and that the Jewish extermination is "a Jew propaganda stunt to defame the greatest Christian white leader of this century, Adolf Hitler, whom the Jewish chiefs swore to destroy, because he had seen their ambitions, and not only to destroy but to blacken and defame until lies were accepted as truth".

Out of 500 pupils at University College School, 52 are Jews. It is one of the few public schools that denies having any Jewish "quota" whatsoever.

DISCRIMINATION IN GOLF CLUBS

The "Campaign against Race Discrimination in Sport", a group of sportsmen, M.P.s and clergymen, is making efforts to stop anti-Jewish discrimination in golf clubs. The group began its operations three years ago when it campaigned, with some success, against discrimination in sport by South Africa.

The sponsors of the group include many bishops, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Chief Rabbi, and the artist, Mr. Frankie Vaughan. The committee has as its Chairman Professor A. J. Ayer, of Oxford, and many well-known personalities.

BRITAIN'S WAR-TIME POLICY ATTACKED

Mr. Moshe Sharett, at a ceremony held in Jerusalem to dedicate a memorial to a Jewess killed by the Germans in Budapest while she was on a war-time mission, charged Britain's Middle East Command in Cairo with obstructing Palestine Jewry's efforts to rescue European Jews from the Nazis during the Second World War.

Mr. Sharett, the Jewish Agency's Chairman, was Political Secretary of the Agency and conducted negotiations with Britain for the rescue of European Jewry.

He was referring to charges that "many Jews went meekly to the slaughter and Palestine Jewry did nothing to save them". He said there were powerful forces which blocked access to the other side of the barriers. Excuses were encountered which made the blood boil. "They argued that there was one war against Hitler and a different war against antisemitism. They thought they could persuade certain Governments not to join Hitler, so it was not worth their while to support the Jewish cause," Mr. Sharett said.

IN PARLIAMENT

FINANCE BILL SIGNED

The Finance Bill 1961 has received the Royal Assent and has thus become law. The Clause proposed by the Government (see June issue of *AJR Information*) by which compensation "Renten" are exempted from British taxation has been adopted. Recipients of "Renten" who qualify for the repayment of tax may now submit their applications to their local Inspector of Taxes. The claim has to be made not later than the end of the tax year 1966-67.

WHITE PAPER ON JEWRY'S FATE

In the Commons Mr. Arthur Henderson asked for the publication of a White Paper containing all official records and information within the possession of the Government on the evacuation of Jews from Central Europe during the war years, 1939-45. He suggested that the appropriate Ministers should be directed to prepare such a White Paper.

Mr. Macmillan said he sympathised with the purpose of Mr. Henderson's questions. This was a complex matter. He had not yet had time to consider the proposal fully, but would communicate with Mr. Henderson as soon as he could. Mr. Henderson asked the Prime Minister, in view of the world-wide publicity that had been given to statements made at the Eichmann trial, to place on record the fact that this country and the Government were not at any time indifferent to the tragic fate which overtook the Jews in Central Europe.

"That is quite right," Mr. Macmillan replied, "and I am grateful to Mr. Henderson for making that statement which I confirm."

Mr. Sydney Silverman said that those who were M.P.s at the time would certainly endorse what Mr. Henderson had said. "But at the same time," he added, "does the Prime Minister realise that there is a great deal of bewilderment and some anxiety about the whole of this tragic story, and that it may be a good thing if the Government would accept Mr. Henderson's suggestion so as to add to the historical material on which ultimately a judgment would have to be made."

GENOCIDE CONVENTION

Sir Barnett Janner in the House of Commons made a plea for Britain to be added to the 63 States which had ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention on Genocide.

Mr. J. B. Godber, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Government are examining afresh whether Britain can become a party to the Convention. He referred to the legal difficulties which stood in the way of ratification but admitted the Government's long delay in coming to a decision was liable to misinterpretation.

Dealing with the right to grant asylum, Mr. Godber said a situation could arise in a civil war in which the Government might be required, under the very wide terms of the Convention, to surrender an individual who had taken refuge in Britain and who was accused of genocide by the opposing faction. The Government might be obliged to comply with the request for extradition even though the case was purely a domestic political matter and even if those demanding extradition were acting from purely political motives. The disadvantages and dangers of the Government tying their hands in this matter must be very carefully weighed. He agreed with Sir Barnett that under Article Six an international court would have jurisdiction, but he thought the House was very jealous of the right to grant political asylum.

BRITAIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO NORTH AFRICAN REFUGEES

In a written reply to Mr. Awbery, Mr. Heath, Lord Privy Seal, stated that, in 1959, H.M.'s Government had made available about £13,000 for the purchase and freight of one month's supply of edible oil for the refugees in North Africa; in 1960, £50,000 of H.M.'s Government's contribution to World Refugee Year was allocated for their relief. It is also intended to contribute 10 per cent of the total sums donated by the other 24 members of the Committee of the High Commissioner for Refugees in response to the High Commissioner's latest appeal.

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FIGHT FOR GERMAN JEWRY'S HONOUR

Reminiscences about the R.J.F.

The war defeat at the end of 1918 produced a feeling of personal disappointment among German ex-Servicemen. Conscious of having fulfilled to the uttermost their duty as soldiers in an army that appeared to be on the verge of final victory, they revolted inwardly against the humiliation of the Fatherland and the lack of appreciation for their sacrifices and sufferings during those years. Many ex-Servicemen with German national leanings therefore sought an outlet in associations formed to keep alive the old spirit of comradeship, not a few of them being officers of higher rank who were filled with the idea of revenge. The strongest of the ex-Servicemen's organisations was the "Stahlhelm". Ex-Servicemen with patriotic, though not chauvinistic, ideas constituted the majority of its members; its first chairman was Theodor Duesterberg, who had a Jewish grandfather. Alongside the "Stahlhelm" there sprang up other ex-Servicemen's associations, some chauvinistic. Two of these aimed at enlisting the officers of the army. The more democratic of the officers' associations was joined by a number of Jews, including a textile merchant who became its Hon. Secretary and was at the same time a leading member of the Organisation of Jewish Ex-Servicemen. Former officers with radical tendencies united in the republican officers' association. One affiliated group was the association of graduate officers, whose chairman in Berlin was the headmaster, Dr. Wilhelm Klauke; he refused to join the Nazi party, retained on his staff a Jewish schoolmistress and admitted Jewish pupils to his school as long as possible.

As was natural the temper from which the Organisation of Jewish Ex-Servicemen originated and developed was not specially militaristic. The emphasis lay rather on its Jewish attitude. The memories of the Jewish census in the army during the second year of the war and of personal degradations convinced a number of Jewish ex-Servicemen that it was essential in the interest of Jews that an organisation of Jewish ex-Servicemen should exist. The "Reichsbund Juedischer Frontsoldaten" (R.J.F.), as well as a local branch in Berlin, was founded a few months after the end of the war under the leadership of ex-Captain Leo Loewenstein in Berlin. In 1925 it comprised 16 district organisations, 500 local groups and about 40,000 members. Among its intellectual leaders was, apart from the simple but energetic

Dr. Leo Loewenstein, the well-known lawyer, Ferdinand Samoje, Walter Callmann, an engineer and industrialist, was of outstanding merit in the Organisation, especially where the Hitler danger was concerned. In view of abuses in the social life of the '20s, which made themselves particularly noticeable in certain Jewish circles, the Ex-Servicemen's Organisation founded at my instigation the "Self-Discipline Movement", of which I became the head. The Organisation took effective steps against, *inter alia*, the variety performances by certain Jewish "actors", whose low Jewish jokes made Jewry a public target; during some of the Jewish High Festivals the rabbis of several synagogues placed leaflets on the prayer-desks before the service, written by the Organisation and requesting people—with good results—to refrain from wearing ostentatiously luxurious clothes and jewellery.

The Ex-Servicemen's Organisation was particularly interested in the physical development of its members and their relatives through sports and gymnastics. With the growing Nazi danger special value was attached to ju-jitsu exercises.

The pogrom-like excesses against the Jewish population in North Berlin and the threatening attitude of the Nazis provided the acid test for the R.J.F. in 1923. Dr. Hugo Bernhardt suddenly decided to enter the danger zone with a small band of comrades. There they came across a horde of Nazis; a Jewish comrade fired his revolver at one of the Nazis, who was killed by the shot. The culprit was accused in a Berlin criminal court of homicide and the carrying of weapons without permission, but was discharged by the court. On the charge of capital crime the reasons given for the discharge were that, owing to the failure of the police the Jews were entitled to go to the aid of their coreligionists and that the shot was fired in defence. On the charge of carrying weapons illegally there was also a discharge, on the grounds that this infringement of the law was insignificant.

Jewish Defence Squads

Soon after the outbreak of these Nazi excesses an order was given in all the districts of Berlin that the "nests" should be garrisoned. In my district of West Berlin we never left the synagogue in the Fasanenstrasse day or night, while the streets were being constantly patrolled. Later the defence squad was located for about a month in a special office in Kleist-Strasse in West Berlin. In addition, an appeal was published by the directors of the Organisation to the Jewish population under the title: "Fight with us", with the result that Jewish circles, which till then had been indifferent, participated at least financially in the defence action.

In 1925 the results of the 1916 census of Jews in the army were published in a pamphlet, under the ostensibly false name of Otto Armin, which maliciously distorted the real results. As Dr. Felix Theilhaber clearly demonstrated in the Organisation's periodical "Der Schild", on April 29th, 1926, even the figures given in the pamphlet showed that the total number of Jewish soldiers during the war was 96,327=17.30 per cent of the entire Jewish population; that the percentage of Jewish Ex-Servicemen was actually 78 per cent of Jews who were called up; that 10,000 Jews had volunteered; and that 2,022 (23.17 per cent) of the Jewish soldiers had been immediately promoted to officer's rank. (Cf. "Juden und Judentum von Heute" by the author Krepel, 1925.) The inflammatory, anti-Semitic tone of the pamphlet was, however, underlined by the following conclusion: "That the promotions of Jews to officer's rank were proportionately twice as many as those of their German comrades is a fact which every German should bear firmly in mind."

The R.J.F. found a special field of activity in the agricultural training of Jews, particularly in the years when the Hitler crisis became acute, and in this field it co-operated with the Reichsbund fuer juedische Siedlungen. As late as 1937 it sponsored the publication of the book "Heroengestalten Juedischen Stammes", by Wollenberg.

HERBERT FREEDEN (Jerusalem)

ELECTION TIME IN ISRAEL

Coming in midsummer's heat, after less than half the period of a normal Knesset term, these are the elections nobody wanted—undesired and undesirable. At a time of international crisis Israel is spending fortunes and labour on electioneering, and while the world Powers are moving towards another test of strength, Israel is busy with internal squabbles and mutual mud-slinging.

Ever since last November the State has been lacking in effective and efficient government. For months on end the "Lavon Affair" preoccupied the Prime Minister, who withdrew for quite a while into a self-chosen "vacation", and when he returned and resigned the whole Cabinet had to resign with him.

The wave of popular resentment which accompanied the "Affair" and threatened the unity of the Government party, Mapai, has largely passed, because the memory of the public is short and every day there is a cavalcade of new sensations. Had the elections taken place earlier, say in June, Mapai would have lost 20 per cent of its 47 Knesset seats. Today it has somehow regained its position—Lavon has been ousted, his friends and supporters, although they have themselves organised, do not present an opposition to speak of, and the prestige which Ben-Gurion lost during the "Affair" has been partly recovered by his talks with Kennedy, Macmillan and, even more so, with de Gaulle.

The only new factor on the election scene is the Liberal Party, which has emerged from the amalgamation of the General Zionist with the Progressives, with a "Third Force" joining them, the so far unattached "Intellectuals." Some of the original impetus of this new party went already by default through Dr. Goldmann's hesitation to head the list. After weeks of procrastination he decided to take part in the election campaign of the Liberals, but not to stand as their candidate—perhaps after an intimation on the part of Mapai that they were not willing to forgo their claim on the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in any forthcoming coalition, the only ministerial post which would have suited the talents, experience and leadership of Dr. Goldmann.

Nevertheless, the Liberal Party has infused some life into an otherwise lifeless election campaign, with Mapai heavily attacking the potential "alternative." Cherut, no doubt, will also lose some of its seats to the new parliamentary grouping which may well emerge as the second largest party in the Fifth Knesset. It is quite possible that, together with Mapai, they will command an absolute majority in Parliament, leaving out the tedious coalition arrangements with a host of parties which, in previous Knesset terms, have made the formation of a government a matter of hard bargaining.

ISRAEL AIDS TANGANYIKA

On his return from a ten-day visit to Israel Mr. Paul Boman, the Tanganyika Minister of Agriculture and Co-operative Development, told a news conference in Dar-es-Salaam that Israel had offered technical assistance to Tanganyika. Scholarships for 24 agricultural trainees in Israel had been offered.

Mr. Boman praised Israel's achievements and described Israeli agriculture as being on a very high standard which he attributed to the emphasis that had been laid on agricultural training. He would like Tanganyika to undertake a similar, if less ambitious, programme.

The Minister stated that Israel had agreed to send an expert to Tanganyika to tackle agricultural education and assist in the setting up of Tanganyika's first Agricultural Secondary School. Tanganyika had also arranged for an Israeli fishery expert to advise the country on development of the fishing industry.

GERMAN YOUTH VISIT ISRAEL

A delegation of the Hamburg democratic youth organisation, "Junge Union", paid a two-week visit to Israel. Its leader stated that the group had been deeply impressed by the development work in Israel and by the unexpected hospitality accorded them.

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DIE DICHTERIN ELISABETH LANGGAESSER

Zu den bedeutenden Gestalten, den vielen teils noch immer kaum oder viel zu wenig gewürdigten und zu den in ihrer jüdischen Bedeutung überhaupt noch nicht erkannten grossen Gestalten aus der Spätzeit des deutschen Judentums gehört auch Elisabeth Langgässer, eine echte Dichterin, am 23. Februar 1899 geboren, am 25. Juli 1950 gestorben. Der Vater, grossherzoglicher Baurat, war Jude, "von jener Sorte total assimiliierter Juden", heisst es in einem Brief der Tochter, "die das Nationale eher über—als untertreiben", die Familien beider Eltern stammen aus Mainz, das Kind wurde bei seiner Geburt katholisch getauft. Aber wenn wir deshalb davon absehen wollten, Elisabeth Langgässer in den Zusammenhang des Judentums einzubeziehen, verwehrt die Dichterin selbst dieses Vorgehen. Es ist nicht die jüdische Seite, die aus Ruhmsucht oder Geltungstrieb die getauften Kinder ihres Volkes in den eigenen Zusammenhang einzubeziehen sucht, sondern es sind die getauften Juden selbst, die nicht aufhören, vom Judentum Zeugnis abzulegen, sei es aus Liebe, sei es aus Selbsthass, und die uns also zwingen, auch noch sie zu den Unseren zu zählen.

Ein Band "Gedichte" und drei grosse Romane (Gang durch das Ried, 1936; Das unauslöschliche Siegel, 1946; Märkische Argonautenfahrt, 1950) liegen jetzt in der vom Claassen Verlag in Hamburg sorgfältig betreuten Ausgabe der "Gesammelten Werke" vor, neben denen vor allem noch die Sammlung der von Elisabeth Langgässer zwischen 1926 und 1950 geschriebenen Briefe beachtet sein will, ebenfalls im Claassen Verlag erschienen, unter der Überschrift: "... soviel berausende Vergänglichkeit" (1954). Auf das Leidenschaftlichste und mit einer lange Zeit hindurch geradezu heidnischen Einbildungskraft und Sinnesfreude Kind des Rheinlands, dort auch während ihrer ersten dreissig und der letzten drei Lebensjahre zu Haus, wirkte Elisabeth Langgässer zunächst als Lehrerin, dann, von 1929 bis 1948, als freie Schriftstellerin in Berlin, im Jahr 1931 mit dem Literaturpreis des deutschen Staatsbü-

gerinnen-Verbandes ausgezeichnet. Seit 1936 als "Halbjüdin" unter Berufsverbot, später zwangsdienstverpflichtet und ihrer ältesten Tochter durch deren Deportation beraubt, die bis nach Auschwitz führt, wunderbarer Weise aber auch zurück in das Leben, geht diese Dichterin einen Weg von der Heraufbeschwörung der Antike zu bewusst christlichen—oder richtiger: biblischen—Dichtungen.

Die drei grossen Romane spiegeln die eigene Heils-Suche von Elisabeth Langgässer. Der "Gang durch das Ried" gilt der vom Ersten Weltkrieg aus der Bahn geworfenen Menschheit im deutschfranzösischen Raum, mit einem trotz seiner "Taufe" seines Ursprungs und Ziels ungewissen Helden.

Taufe und Judenschicksal

Das "Unauslöschliche Siegel" dagegen spannt seinen Bogen aus den Jahren vor dem Ersten Weltkrieg über den Zweiten Weltkrieg und das eigene Leben der Dichterin hinaus, die sich anderseits in diesem während der nationalsozialistischen Herrschaft niedergeschriebenen Werk nicht gescheut hat, einen wie sie selbst getauften, dennoch sehr jüdischen Juden hier in den Mittelpunkt zu stellen. Den Schluss bilden zwei Visionen, deren eine mit von keinem Leser wieder zu ver-gessender Gewalt die Schreckenswelt des von den Deportationen bedrohten Jüdischen Krankenhauses an der Iranischen Strasse in Berlin vor die Augen stellt, mit dem wiederholten Ausruf: "Verflucht soll sein, wer das Eckhaus im Norden Berlins vergisst!"

Die andere Vision sieht den Helden des Romans in der Deportation und im Konzentrationslager, zuletzt jedoch befreit, in einer gleichnishaften letzten Rückwanderung aus dem Osten nach Deutschland begriffen, ein erst armer Häftling, dann der schlechthin Arme überhaupt, weiter ein betender, schliesslich geradezu heiliger Bettler: Vater Lazarus. Der Name erinnert an eine neutestamentliche Erweckung aus dem Grab zu neuem Leben; daran aber dass auch dieses neue Leben unter dem "unauslöschlichen Siegel" des Judentums verharrt, Taufe hin oder her, erinnern Stellen wie die folgenden, mag auch weniger die Liebe, mehr der Selbsthass sie—und andere—eingetragen haben.

"Ich habe sieben Jahre hindurch tatsächlich zu glauben—geglaut. Aber es war ein Irrtum. Ich bin ein Israelit geblieben. C'était plus fort que moi." — "Natürlich. Ich dachte mir's. Grosser Gott — Sie tragen in ihrem Eingeweide eine Synagoge herum." — "Und Israel? Bestand nicht seine Geschichte darin, stets auf neue zurück-zukehren? . . ."

Einer solchen "Rückkehr" gilt nicht zuletzt auch der dritte grosse Roman der Dichterin, kurz vor ihrem allzu frühen Tod notdürftig zu Ende geführt. Aus dem noch immer brennenden Berlin brechen sieben Menschen nach einem Kloster der Mark Brandenburg auf, das den beiden Juden unter ihnen in der letzten Kriegszeit Schutz gewährt hatte, und wieder sind diese beiden—Arthur und Flora Levi-Jeschower—getauft, dennoch Juden, und zwar, noch einmal sei dies ausdrücklich betont, laut den Aussagen der Dichterin selber, nicht erst gemäss einer von aussen hinzutretenden Deutung. Elisabeth Langgässer selbst ist es, die hinter dem griechischen Bild von der "Argo", dem Schiff der Argonauten, die biblische "Arche" aufschimmern sieht oder auch den Auszug aus Ägypten, ebenso wie hinter Flora oder Sara Levi-Jeschower Rahel und hinter ihrem Mann, diesem "Jeschower"—Jehova, und an anderen Stellen den mit dem Engel ringenden Jakob oder Israel, ausserdem immer wieder Hiob, den "ewigen Hiob". Denn "nicht Griechenland ist die Schwelle, an der das Nirwana zerbricht. Es ist Hiob". Schmerzlich andererseits, bitter schmerzlich, dass Elisabeth Langgässer vom Judentum, dem wirklichen und wirklich ewigen Judentum fast gar nichts weiss, ähnlich wie ihre Zeitgenossin Simone Weil! So wechseln die grossen Worte auf das jüdische Volk mit durchaus abstossenden oder bloss stammelnden, aus Unwis-

senheit stammelnden Worten. Aber wie wahr dann wieder ein Satz wie der folgende, Deutschland geltend: "In hebräischen Lettern stand Gottes Gericht über diesem Land und würde noch lange stehen"; wie ergreifend die Bewillkommung Levi-Jeschowers durch den Seelsorger des Klosters, der diesen getauften Juden als Juden, nicht als Christen begrüsst: "Friede für Israel! Friede für immer!"

Der für das jüdische Dasein in der ersten Hälfte unseres Jahrhunderts bezeichnende Reichtum an bedeutenden Menschen kommt besonders eindrücklich auch darin zum Ausdruck, dass uns echte Dichterinnen und Denkerinnen geschenkt wurden, eine in der Geistesgeschichte vergleichsweise seltene Gabe. Neben den ihrem Judentum treuen Frauen wie Else Lasker-Schüler, Margarete Susman, Gertrud Kolmar, Nelly Sachs steht die zwar die Taufe ebenfalls ablehnende, dennoch vor allem dem Christentum nacheifernde Simone Weil, steht ferner Edith Stein, bewusst die Taufe wählend, dennoch als Jüdin ermordet, und steht Elisabeth Langgässer: schon bei der Geburt getauft, dann jedoch auch von der eigenen jüdischen Herkunft wieder eingeholt, sie immer weniger verleugnend, ihr aber nur teilweise gewachsen. Ausserdem aber war sie eine echte, eine grosse Dichterin. Der Blick auf die jüdische Bedeutung ihres Werkes, eine notwendiger Weise das rein Inhaltliche in den Vordergrund rückende Betrachtung darf die weitere Tatsache nicht ausser Acht lassen, die ihren Wert in sich selbst hat, den sehr wesentlichen, ja beglückend schönen Wert, dass hier eine echte Dichterin denkwürdige Dichtungen schuf.

EINE BILDBIOGRAPHIE STEFAN ZWEIGS

Das dokumentarische Lebensbild Stefan Zweigs,* das jetzt der Muenchener Kindler Verlag in der langen Reihe seiner Bildbiographien vorlegt, ist ein Erinnerungsbuch von einzigartigem Reiz.

Die Verfasserin Friderike M. Zweig, des Dichters erste Frau, die 25 Jahre an seiner Seite lebte und selbst eine Schriftstellerin von hohem Rang, schildert hier aus ihrer eigenen Erinnerung und mit Unterstützung eines reichen, vielfach unbekanntes Bildmaterials, Leben und Schaffen des grossen Dichters. Wir sehen ihn als Knaben vor dem Wiener Wasa-Gymnasium, das er besuchte, als Studenten in Wien und in Berlin, auf seinen Wanderungen durch fast alle Laender Europas und schliesslich nach seiner Auswanderung in den Vereinigten Staaten und in Sued-Amerika. Wir begleiten ihn in sein Wohnhaus in Wien, sein weltberühmtes kuenstlerisches Heim in Salzburg und das bescheidene Haeschchen in Petropolis, das fuer ihn die letzte Zuflucht war. Aber diese Biographie fuehrt uns nicht nur durch die verschiedenen Staetten des ruhelosen Wanderers. Es ist vor allem im Bild wie im Text ein Buch der Freunde dieses Mannes, von dem Romain Rolland sagte: "Ich kenne keinen Freund, der mehr als Zweig einen tieferen und froemmeren Kult der Freundschaft uebt, er ist seine Religion."

Welch eine Galerie erlesener Geister zieht an uns vorueber, beginnend mit Emil Verhaeren, Rilke, Rodin, Rathenau, Hofmannsthal, Wildgans, Wilhelm Friedmann, Theodor Herzl und Maxim Gorki, Graf Keyserling, Georg Brandes, Duhamel, um nur einige zu nennen. Dazu die grossen Musiker der Zeit Alban Berg, Toscanini, Bruno Walter, Richard Strauss. Im Facsimile erscheint der ergreifende Brief, den ihm Sigmund Freud, Exilgenosse in London, kurz vor seinem Tode schreibt.

Wie eindrucksvoll die letzten Bilder aus Brasilien, dem Land, das er so liebte und wo er gern ein neues Leben aufgebaut hätte, waere er nicht durch die langen Jahre heimatlosen Wanderns erschoept gewesen. Und wie fein ist mit knappen Strichen die Atmosphaere eingefangen, in der er lebte und in der er aus dem Leben schied. Wer wie ich die letzten Monte mit ihm zusammen war und Zeuge der Qualen war, unter denen der aus seiner Bahn Geworfene und Verzweifelte litt, wird Friderike Zweig dankbar sein, die uns mit grosser Kunst und zugleich mit bewundernswürdiger Diskretion, so tiefe Einblicke in das Leben und die Arbeit des Dichters eroeffnet.

ERNST FEDER.

* Friderike M. Zweig: Stefan Zweig, eine Bildbiographie. Kindler-Verlag, München. DM. 15.80.

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TRIBUTES TO OUR LATE PRESIDENT

ADOLF SCHOYER AS BEN B'RITH

After the dissolution of the Continental Districts of the Order B'nai B'rith by the Nazi régime, many Brethren and Sisters from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Yugoslavia found refuge in England. They deemed themselves to be the heirs of an ancient and worthy history and the bearers of a special and dignified B'nai B'rith tradition, and they soon desired to reunite under the auspices of the Order.

There were many difficulties, however, which had to be overcome. On the Continent the members of the Lodges had been people who had settled down under quite satisfactory financial and economic circumstances. Many of them had made a reputation for themselves in their occupations. They could devote their spare time to the Lodge without great sacrifices.

In England most of them had to adjust themselves to very different conditions. They had to start life over again, but in 1939 and 1940 it was almost impossible for them to obtain work in this country. Then came the fall of France and the internment of aliens, and afterwards the big air raids started.

Those Brethren who had no knowledge of the special conditions in the English B'nai B'rith Lodges had become rather impatient; others were doubtful whether there would be any response if they tried to gather the Brethren and Sisters together again.

In spite of these obstacles Adolf Schoyer, who had been a member of the Jehuda Halevi Lodge in Berlin (later supported by some Past-Presidents of Continental Lodges), approached Mr. Julius Schwab, at that time President of the District Grand Lodge of Great Britain and Ireland and President of the First Lodge of England in London, with a view to reorganising the Continental Brethren. He did not underestimate the difficulties from the point of view of the English Brethren. In German there is the word "Ueberfremdung" (control by foreigners). If some hundred Brethren from the Continent had joined the First Lodge of England at the same time, this Lodge would have become during the war, as one of the Brethren put it, a "German institution."

Co-founder of Leo Baeck Lodge

After protracted negotiations, during which Mr. Schoyer was especially assisted by his brother-in-law, Mr. Augustus Kahn, a Past-President of the First Lodge of England, an agreement was reached at the beginning of 1943 to form a new Section ("Section 1943") within the First Lodge of England. This Section would be spiritually and financially independent and self-supporting. The President of the First Lodge of England would be the Common President. The acting Chairman, Board, and Council would be elected by the new Section.

A meeting of more than 60 Past-Presidents of Continental Lodges consented to this agreement, and two committees were formed to prepare the new organisation: an Election Committee, of which Mr. Schoyer became Chairman, and a Working Committee. In May, 1943, a circular was sent to all Continental Brethren inviting them to join the new Section. The first signature under this circular was that of Mr. Schoyer.

Nearly 200 Brethren responded to the appeal and applied for membership, and on 30th May, 1943, the "Section 1943" of the First Lodge of England was installed.

On 4th November, 1945, the "Section 1943" was transformed into a fully-fledged Lodge, the Leo Baeck (London) Lodge. From 1943 to 1946 Mr. Schoyer was Monitor of the Lodge, whose foundation was due in a high degree to his advice and assistance, and the writer of these lines, who was President of the Lodge at that time, will—like all the other Brethren and Sisters—never forget the help rendered by Mr. Schoyer in forming the Lodge and conducting its activities during the difficult first years of its existence.

F. GOLDSCHMIDT.

ADDRESSES AT FUNERAL

The funeral of Adolf Schoyer took place in the new West Berlin Jewish Cemetery on 20th June, 1961, where he was laid to rest in the Row of Honour. Mr. Bruno Woyda, London, formerly a member of the Board of the Berlin Jewish Community, brought the last greetings of the Association of Jewish Refugees and the Council of Jews from Germany. He spoke of his happy co-operation with Adolf Schoyer, who, despite his strong Orthodox attitude, always showed tolerance towards members of other religious groups and was held in high esteem for his conciliatory manner. Mr. Woyda also recalled the period of internment in the Isle of Man, where refugees from Germany saw the necessity to establish a representative body of their own and virtually founded the Association of Jewish Refugees there. Mr. Schoyer was the obvious choice for the post of Chairman. Mr. Woyda paid tribute to the late Honorary President of the Association for the work he had done in the post-war years in Berlin to pave the way for restitution and compensation.

For the Berlin Community Herr Heinz Galinski, their Chairman, gave a funeral address; so did a representative of the U.O.B.B. The Berlin Senate was represented by Professor Tiburtius. The Senator for the Interior, Herr Lipschitz, and the Association of Persecutees, whose meetings Mr. Schoyer used to preside over, had sent flowers.

The great respect which Adolf Schoyer enjoyed was expressed in numerous letters of sympathy from people in all parts of the world which have reached his widow, Mrs. Gertrud Schoyer.

DANK DER BERLINER GEMEINDE

Der Vorsitzende des Vorstandes der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin, Herr HEINZ GALINSKI, schreibt:

"Adolf Schoyer wird uns unvergesslich bleiben. Sein Name verband sich wie kaum einer unter den Lebenden mit den Geschicken der alten und der neuen Berliner Gemeinde.

Schoyer entstammte einer traditionellen Berliner Familie, er war am 28. August 1872 geboren und wäre in diesem Jahre also 89 Jahre alt geworden.

Sein Vater, H. Schoyer, hatte die bekannte Firma 1865 in Berlin gegründet, die führend im deutschen Metallhandel tätig war. Vater und Sohn genossen Ehrenstellungen im deutschen Wirtschaftsleben und einen achtbaren Ruf. Als religiöser Jude war unser Adolf Schoyer damals in der Achduth-Vereinigung tätig und gehörte dem Rat des Preussischen Landesverbandes der Jüdischen Gemeinden an. Schon vor 1933 war er eine der führenden Persönlichkeiten innerhalb der glanzvollen alten Berliner Gemeinde und zuletzt stellvertretender Vorsitzender, einer der wichtigsten Mitarbeiter Heinrich Stahls. Bis 1938, dem Jahre seiner Emigration nach England, blieb er für das Kultusdezernat tätig. Er gehörte damals in diesen dunklen Jahren der Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland an.

Kaum zu übersehen sind heute die vielseitigen Tätigkeiten im Wirtschaftsleben, die Positionen, die Schoyer einnahm. Er war unter anderem 1. Vorsitzender des Vereins Deutscher Metallhändler, Mitglied der Berliner Industrie- und Handelskammer, Vorsitzender des Börsenvorstandes der Metallbörse und Handelsgerichtsrat am Landgericht I in Berlin.

Seine segensreiche, umsichtige Tätigkeit in der englischen Emigration brauche ich hier nicht näher zu schildern. Sie ist an dieser Stelle weitaus in persönlichen Erinnerungen bekannt.

Schon 1945 kam Schoyer wieder nach Berlin. Er nahm die Vertrauensstellung im Auftrage des Council of Jews from Germany ein und wurde zum Vorsitzenden der Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Verbände politisch, rassisch und religiös Verfolgter aussersehen. Selbstlos half er bei der Koordinierungsarbeit innerhalb der Wiedergutmachungsgesetzgebung und bei der einzigartigen PrV-Betreuung, für die das Land Berlin beispielgebend wirkte. Es blieb das einzige Land, das eine solche Gesetzgebung schuf. Die Vorarbeiten

dafür wurden unter Schoyers Obhut in wesentlichen Beratungen turnusmässig geleistet, die alsdann regelmässig mit dem Innensenator Lipschitz stattfanden.

In Berlin kam es auch zu fruchtbarer Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Verwaltung und den Organisationen; für diese gute Zusammenarbeit war Adolf Schoyer massgeblich im Interesse der Verfolgtenverbände tätig. Auch innerhalb der nichtjüdischen Umwelt erreichte Schoyer erneut Achtung und Anerkennung, die in der Verleihung des Bundesverdienstkreuzes durch den Bundespräsidenten ihren sichtbaren Ausdruck fand. Adolf Schoyers Leben war ein erfülltes Leben. Als Jude und Mensch ist Schoyer uns bis zuletzt treu geblieben. Mir selbst war er ein lebenswürdiger Berater und Freund.

Die Gedanken und Taten dieses jüdischen Menschen, der das Leben liebte, der stets um Frieden und Ausgleich bemüht war, wollen wir uns stets immer wieder aufs Neue vor Augen führen, um unseren jüdischen Aufgaben gerecht zu werden.

Wir wollen dafür Sorge tragen, dass wir stets dem geistigen Vermächtnis Adolf Schoyers entsprechen und nach seinem Vorbilde wirken."

OBITUARY

DR. LEO STERNBERG

In Santiago Dr. Leo Sternberg, formerly a Rechtsanwalt in Berlin and considered an authority on German notarial law, died at the age of 80. He held leading positions in the representative bodies of German "Rechtsanwalte" and notaries.

OBERLANDESGERICHTSPRAESIDENT I. R. ROBERT PERLEN

Oberlandesgerichtspräsident i. R. Robert Perlen passed away in Stuttgart at the age of 77. Before the war, he was a practising lawyer. After having survived the years of persecution, he was appointed President of the Stuttgart Landgericht in 1945 and of the Oberlandesgericht in 1950. After his retirement as a judge in 1954, he was for seven years head of the Compensation Department of the Württemberg Ministry of Justice. He was also a Board member of the "Israelitische Kultusvereinigung Württemberg-Hohenzollern".

EDGAR HOENIG

The architect Edgar Hoenig died in London, 75 years old. Prior to his emigration, he worked in Berlin, where his creations included blocks of modern flats, offices, cinemas and theatres. He also designed the plans for the modernisation of the Steglitz "Schlosspark-Theater". In this country his proposals for the replanning of the Covent Garden fruit market were widely recognised and included in the official report on the project.

HUGO KARIEL

Mr. Hugo Kariel died suddenly and unexpectedly on July 2nd at the age of 73. The passing of this kind-hearted man is a great loss to the Social Services Department of the Association; during the past few years he always wholeheartedly assisted people in need especially the sick and helpless. Our sympathy is extended to his only son Peter, his daughter-in-law, and his grandchildren, from whom he derived so much pleasure during the last years of his life.

EDUARD WOLLHEIM

The teacher and artist, Mr. Eduard Wollheim, suddenly passed away in London at the age of 64. Prior to his emigration, he taught at the Jewish Boys' School and, later on, at the Kaliski School in Berlin. He came to this country in 1939 and successfully resumed his activities as a teacher in 1941. As a modest and helpful personality, he was widely respected and liked, and we extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow.

EINE GENERATION STIRBT

Zum Tode von Paul Baerwald

Am kommenden 27. September hätte Paul Baerwald, der (fast um dieselbe Stunde wie der nobelpreisgekrönte Schriftsteller Ernest Hemingway) am 1. Juli auf seinem Sommersitz in Elberon, N.J., gestorben ist, das gesegnete Aker von 90 Jahren erreicht. An diesem Tag würde in weiten Kreisen der jüdischen Welt, vor allem überall da, wo nicht nur Philanthropie geübt wird, sondern konstruktive Sozialarbeit eine Rolle spielt, Baerwalds dankbar und ehrfurchtsvoll gedacht worden sein. So aber greift das Ableben dieses Mannes, der zu der allmählich aussterbenden Schar der ebenso grosszügig wie still wirkenden, ursprünglich europäisch-jüdischen Wohltäter einer verklungenen "noblesse oblige"—Epoche gehörte, dem Ereignis der 90-Jahr-Feier zwangsläufig voraus, und an die Stelle der Glück und Segen wünschenden Gratulation muss der rückblickende Nachruf treten.

Obwohl Paul Baerwald seit längerer Zeit sich aus aktiver jüdischer Hilfs-, Menschenrettungs- und Mittelaufbringungsarbeit zurückgezogen hatte, war sein Name ein Begriff geblieben. Als das American Joint Distribution Committee, zu dessen Mitgründern er 1914 zählte und zu dessen führenden Persönlichkeiten und "stützenden Elementen" er jahrzehntelang gehörte, im Herbst 1949 in Versailles eine School of Social Work ins Leben rief, wurde sie nach Paul Baerwald genannt, und sein Name wurde später auch dem aus dieser Ausbildungsstätte hervorgegangenen "Department for Social Services and Personnel Development" des "Joint" vorangestellt. Aufgabe dieser Schule war es, jüdische Menschen im Alter von 20 bis 45 Jahren mit modernen Mitteln und nach wissenschaftlichen Gesichtspunkten in einem einjährigen Kurs auszubilden und ihnen das notwendige theoretische Training für spätere Sozialarbeit in jüdischen Gemeinden in Europa, Nordafrika und Israel zu geben. 1959 wurde zum zweiten Mal eine Paul Baerwald-Schule vom A.J.D.C. geschaffen, diesmal in Verbindung mit der Hebräischen Universität in Jerusalem, auf einer permanenten Basis und mit dem Ziel, in Kursen von nunmehr drei Jahren zukünftigen, vor komplizierte Anforderungen gestellten Sozialarbeitern Kenntnis und Wissen zu vermitteln. Diese Form der persönlichen Ehrung dürfte Baerwald noch mehr Genugung haben als die h.c.—Verleihung akademischer Grade durch das Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati (1941) und das Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York (1948).

1896 von Frankfurt a.M. nach U.S.A. ausgewandert und 1901 dort eingebürgert, lebte der ehemalige Teilhaber des New Yorker Bankhauses Lazard Frères seit 1929 im Ruhestand. Aber nicht erst dann begann, wie bereits angedeutet, sein aktives Interesse an jüdischsozialen Fragen und Arbeiten. Man erinnert sich, dass er sich z.B. in den 20er Jahren in die jüdische Organisation einschaltete, die sich mit Fragen jüdischer landwirtschaftlicher Siedlung befasste. Juden aus und in Deutschland wird noch der Anfang des Jahres nach der Verkündung der sog. Nürnberger Gesetze, 1936, im Gedächtnis sein, als eine Delegation englischer Juden, bestehend aus Sir Herbert (dem jetzigen Lord) Samuel, Lord Bearsted und (dem erst kürzlich in den Lordstand erhobenen) Simon Marks, nach Amerika fuhr, um mit prominenten Vertretern des amerikanischen Judentums ein langfristiges Hilfsprogramm zugunsten der bedrängten deutschen Juden zu erörtern. Unter den amerikanischen Juden, die die Not der Zeit erkannten, stand damals neben Felix M. Warburg (der 1937 starb) insbesondere Paul Baerwald. Präsident Truman ernannte ihn zum Mitglied des Beratenden Ausschusses, der über Fragen der politischen Flüchtlinge beriet. Baerwald hat nie im Rampenlicht der Öffentlichkeit gestanden und wahrscheinlich auch nicht stehen wollen, weder als

massgebender "Joint"-Repräsentant noch als Exekutivmitglied des amerikanischen "United Jewish Appeal" noch, in frühen Jahren, als Schatzmeister der "American Society for Jewish Farm Settlement in Russia". Mehr als zwei Menschenalter hat er diese noble, für ihn selbstverständliche Haltung bewiesen.

Er war einer der fünf Söhne des aus Nakel (Wpr.) stammenden Pädagogen und Theologen Dr. Hermann Baerwald (1828-1907), der von 1859 an an der Jüdischen Lehrerbildungsanstalt in Berlin wirkte und 1868/1899 der Direktor des Philanthropin in Frankfurt a.M. war. Auch die anderen Söhne, sämtlich Paul im Tod vorangegangen, haben es zu beträchtlichem Ansehen gebracht: Eduard (1934 in Frankfurt a.M. gestorben) als Rechtsanwalt in Frankfurt a.M. und als Vorstandsmitglied der dortigen früheren jüdischen Gemeinde; Ernst, Bevollmächtigter des IG-Farben-Konzerns in Japan und in Amerika dahingegangen, der Berliner Metallkaufmann Emil und der Frankfurter Arzt Arnold Baerwald. Paul Baerwalds drei Schwestern, teils in Danzig, teils in U.S.A. gestorben, sind gleichfalls nicht mehr unter den Lebenden. So ist mit ihm eine Generation dieser mit Amerika verwachsenen, ursprünglich deutsch-jüdischen Familie zu Ende gegangen. Kinder, Enkel und Neffen werden eine Tradition aufrechterhalten, die die Baerwalds gepflegt haben.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

IN MEMORIAM: DR. ALFRED LARONNE-LOEHNBERG

The news of the sudden death in New York, at the early age of 53, of the Israeli geophysicist and hydrologist Dr. Alfred Laronne-Loehnberg has come to us as a great shock. He passed away just when his name and work had become a beacon of hope to many States and territories, mainly those struggling with the worries and excitement of their development schemes. It was at the end of 1956 that the last phase of his short but brilliant career started. Dr. Laronne-Loehnberg was invited by Unesco to serve as Associate Professor and Adviser on Hydrology at the University of Mexico. Two years later he became Hydrological Adviser to the Mexican Government, and shortly afterwards Chief Hydrological Adviser to the United Nations. In this capacity he completed an important mission to the Republic of Panama.

The life story of this remarkable man is brief, but it is a record of outstanding work and success. Born 1908 in Westphalia, he went in 1933 to what then was Palestine and established, with another engineer and with his brother Eugen, a company for geophysical-hydrological prospecting.

Particular interest was naturally devoted to the development of Palestine's water resources and the tempo of these activities was speeded up when the Second World War placed the whole region in the limelight of military and other operations. The Loehnbergs offered their full services to the British Army units. Numerous new water sources were discovered for military camps and strongholds, but also for the setting up of additional settlements all over Palestine.

Another local problem with which the farmers were confronted in those days was the supply of phosphate fertilisers. There were practically no imports of minerals from abroad, so Loehnberg's company went into partnership with Trans-Jordanian business people for the quarrying of rock phosphate, its transportation to Palestine, and for the construction of a factory to produce the eagerly awaited fertilisers.

It was about the same time that the company was attracted by the imaginative idea to investigate and explore copper deposits found near Eilat in the most southern tip of the country. They thus contributed considerably to the gradual development of one of Israel's leading industrial undertakings.

Dr. Alfred Laronne-Loehnberg also published a number of technical and scientific papers, immensely serving the advancement of science in Israel.

J. RAPHAEL

TWO RE-UNION FUNCTIONS

International Rally of K.C.

The third international K.C. rally took place in London from 30th June to 2nd July, 1961. Close on 500 members of the former "Kartell Convent" of German students of the Jewish faith came together from all over the world. The oldest participant, a former lawyer, now in Israel, aged 83, found a number of his contemporaries and joyfully exchanged, like all the others, reminiscences of an untrammelled youth. The oldest K.C. Fraternity (Viadrina Breslau) was founded 75 years ago. In 1933 the active fraternities were dissolved by the Nazis, but, as Dr. Paul Chapp, the Chairman of the K.C. in Great Britain, said in his opening greeting, the members of the Union have once more organised themselves closely after their dispersal. Although the decisive changes since 1933 and dispersal preclude any uniform political orientation of the Union, all its members are united by the obligation to render each other mutual assistance and by the ties of old friendship.

In his academic speech Dr. Walter Dux, London, dealt with "Changes in Thought"; he depicted the influence of changing scientific thought on social and political development.

Dr. Bruno Weil, New York, spoke impressively on the subject: "Migration and Metamorphosis". He dealt with the political and social conditions with which the emigrants from Germany were confronted in the various countries of their adoption; with the repercussions which the expulsion of the Jews from Germany had on each individual, making it impossible for any community to arrive at a common attitude vis-à-vis their country of origin; and he painted an impartial and vivid picture of the discussions in America on the relationship between the State of Israel and the Jews residing elsewhere.

At a most dignified ceremony of remembrance Rabbi Dr. Ernest Jacob, Springfield (U.S.A.), and Dr. F. Goldschmidt, London, both sons of founders of the K.C., called to mind the 150 members who lost their lives as victims of persecution, and whose names Dr. Rudolf Bright read to a deeply moved audience.

A banquet and a ball, at which Dr. Hans Jacoby, London, and Dr. Stephen Munns addressed a festive gathering in prose and verse, united the members of the Union with their children and grandchildren.

Anniversary Celebration of F.W.V.

The F.W.V. (Freie Wissenschaftliche Vereinigung) celebrated on the 24th June the eightieth anniversary of their foundation (see June edition *AJR Information*). The AJR was represented by a member of the Executive, Dr. K. Krotos, at the festivities which took place at the Kensington Palace Hotel.

The Speaker of the evening, Dr. Max Auerbach, pointed out that the F.W.V. was the first corporation to take up the fight against the anti-Semitic wave in the German universities, which in the 'eighties of the last century spread throughout Germany under the leadership of men such as Stoecker and Ahlwardt. A counter-movement consisting of Jews as well as Gentiles—among them politicians and eminent scientists such as Virchow—led to the foundation of the F.W.V., which in Berlin and other universities endeavoured to maintain the right to learn and teach free from hatred and intolerance. That the fight in the end was lost does not diminish the importance of this battle for spiritual liberty.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

The 12th International Conference of the World Union for Progressive Judaism was held in London from July 6th to July 12th.

The convocation considered future programmes, discussed international problems of concern to world Jewry, and heard reports on the growth and development of its constituent congregations throughout the world. The Liberal Jewish Synagogue and the West London Synagogue acted as hosts.

In his Presidential address, Rabbi Dr. Solomon B. Freehof said that the World Union's chief work "must be among those who consider themselves Jewishly religious, but who are now observing less and less of the legally authenticated Jewish practice".

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THE EICHMANN TRIAL

VICTOR GOLLANZ' PAMPHLET

"The Case of Adolf Eichmann", by Victor Gollanz, in which the author pleads that Eichmann should not be sentenced to death, received much publicity, particularly on TV and radio.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews, during a recent meeting on the report of the Defence Committee, discussed Mr. Gollanz's utterances. The view was put forward that the Board should have countered the damage done by Mr. Gollanz by seeking time on TV or radio for a spokesman of the Board. Another opinion was that a private approach to him, pointing out that his views were likely to cause both misunderstanding and great harm, might produce something.

"TRIAL A FARCE"

An article in *Pravda*, the official organ of the Soviet Communist Party, charges that the Israeli authorities are turning the Eichmann trial "into a farce". The article, "Israeli Accomplices of the Bonn Revengers", accuses the Israeli Government of having manipulated the trial to "hush up" all the details that would prove unpleasant for Bonn if they emerged.

It is alleged in the article that there has been some sort of an understanding between Ben-Gurion's Government and Western Germany.

THOREZ CRITICISES U.A.R. MINISTER

Maurice Thorez, Secretary-General of the French Communist Party, severely criticised Hussein Zulficar Sabri, the Egyptian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, for terming the charge against Eichmann of murdering six million Jews "a legend".

CHILDREN BOUGHT FROM EICHMANN

Mr. Ira Hirschmann, a New York banker and United Nations consultant on refugees, said in Louisville, Kentucky, that he "bought" 15,000 children for \$300 each from Adolf Eichmann in 1944.

Mr. Hirschmann stated that President Roosevelt sent him to Turkey to negotiate with Eichmann's agents. He bribed Turks to get the children out of the Nazi-held Balkans in small ships to Turkey, from where they were smuggled into Palestine. "I was on the receiving end of the biggest blackmail deal in the history of the world," he said.

DEFENDANT ACCUSES DR. GLOBKE

Eichmann, testifying in his own defence, has accused Dr. Globke, the West German Secretary of State, of having been indirectly responsible for the expansion of the Gestapo's Jewish Affairs Department, because he was one of the people responsible for the order depriving German Jews of their citizenship and confiscating their property.

Dr. Adenauer's office has issued a statement denying that Dr. Globke had anything to do with the expansion of the Gestapo Jewish Affairs Department, headed by Eichmann.

The statement declares that "Dr. Globke does not know that an initiative went out from the former Reich's Interior Ministry to expand Eichmann's department . . . and he would not have been competent for such an initiative, as the plans for the distribution of tasks of the Interior Ministry show. . . ."

It also emphasises that Dr. Globke was never responsible for the withdrawal of citizenship from Jews or for confiscation of Jewish property.

BELGIUM'S HUMANITARIAN ROLE

Mr. Max Gottschalk, President of the Jewish Central Consistory, sent a memorandum to the court trying Eichmann about the attitude of Belgium to German Jewish refugees between 1933 and 1940, and towards her own Jewish population during the German occupation of Belgium.

The document showed the humanitarian rôle of Belgium during the tragic years and underlined the sympathy of the Royal Family on behalf of the Jewish population. Due to the numerous interventions by Elisabeth the Queen Mother of Belgium, the deportation of Belgian Jews was delayed until September, 1943. She also managed to place some elderly Jews in Belgian Old Age Homes, thus preventing their deportation.

The document praised the attitude of Belgian clergy and officials who did their best to counteract the Nazi anti-Jewish measures.

More than 14,000 Jews managed to avoid deportation by living in hiding, and about 3,000 Jewish children were taken into the homes of Belgian families. Thirty-two thousand Jews were deported from Belgium and only about 1,200 returned from the camps.

Gratitude to Belgians

The Jewish National Fund is to plant a forest in Israel in honour of the Belgians, as a symbol of Jewish gratitude to the Belgian people.

"JEWS FOR TRUCKS"

In New York Mr. Moshe Sharett denied that Joel Brandt told him in 1944 that Eichmann had promised to blow up the death installations at Auschwitz as soon as he heard that the Zionist leaders were favourably disposed to the exchange of "Jews for trucks".

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CULTURAL NEWS

WORLD JEWISH EDUCATION CONFERENCE

"BUBER'S INTERPRETATION OF CHASSIDISM"

Lecture by Professor Scholem

Dr. Gershom Scholem, Professor of Jewish Mysticism at the Hebrew University, gave the annual Lawrence Kostoris lecture under the auspices of the Institute of Jewish Studies, at the Gustave Tuck Theatre, University College, W.C.1. His subject was "Buber's Interpretation of Chassidism". He said Buber's presentation of Chassidism was very great indeed and to a great extent would stand the test of time. But his interpretation was not rooted in the texts of Chassidic ideology but in his personal philosophy.

Martin Buber, continued Professor Scholem, devoted some fifty years of a distinguished literary career to the interpretation of Chassidism. His writings, which were extremely influential, displayed a deep and penetrating mind as well as literary refinement. But until recently there was no critical discussion of Buber's neo-Chassidic works. Buber did not write as a scholar. He presented Chassidism as a spiritual, not an historical, phenomenon and he had, in fact, no interest in history.

Buber almost entirely ignored the earlier category of Chassidic literature and regarded the originality of Chassidism as having revealed itself in the later legends rather than in the earlier theoretical literature. Professor Scholem thought this approach was more than questionable. For the real meaning of the legends one would have to go back to the original theoretical material.

B.B.C. CLASSIC ON AUSCHWITZ

B.B.C. listeners were recently introduced to what has been described as "a classic of post-war European literature". The experiences of Primo Levi, a Turin chemist in a transit camp for Italian Jews destined for Auschwitz, who managed to survive, recorded his experiences in a book, "If This is a Man". Adapted by Alan Burgess, it was broadcast in the Home Service with Anthony Quayle in the rôle of the author.

What the programme impressed upon listeners was that the worst cruelty of places like Auschwitz lay in the debasement of civilised men into robots and animals. The loss of human dignity was as tragic as the loss of life.

GERMAN WORK ON GHETTO UPRISING

Three German composers have written a musical work on the theme of the Warsaw Ghetto Rising. They have decided to give all the royalties from this composition to Jewish children's homes in Germany.

The work is intended as an expression of protest against neo-Nazi tendencies in Germany, and is reported to have been stimulated by the swastika outbreaks last year and to have taken shape during a visit to Warsaw to participate in the commemoration of the Ghetto Uprising.

DOCTORATE FOR EAST GERMAN RABBI

Martin Riesenburger, rabbi of the Jewish communities in Communist East Germany, was awarded the honorary doctorate of the legal faculty of the East Berlin University.

The East German Minister of Justice was among the guests of honour at the ceremony.

THE "CHOSEN PEOPLE"

A Conference of Jews and Catholics

A conference of Catholics and Jews held at St. John's College, Oxford, chose as its subject "The Chosen People". It was the third of a series begun in 1958 by a number of Catholics who wished to maintain contacts with Jewish individuals and organisations after the withdrawal of their Church from the Council of Christians and Jews. The Rev. W. W. Simpson and Mr. A. I. Polack, of the Council of Christians and Jews, were among the participants.

The conference opened with a lecture by Dr. Leon Roth on "The Chosen and the Holy". Several other papers were also read. It was resolved to hold a further conference of this type next year.

MIKULAS GROSZ CONCERT

Mikulas Grosz, the Czech-born American violinist, gave another recital on July 12th, at the Wigmore Hall, with Ernest Lush at the piano. He played works by Kreisler, Mozart and Beethoven. It was an excellent performance revealing the artist's deep interpretive understanding and technical skill. The audience was greatly impressed and very warmly applauded.

Preparations are proceeding for the World Jewish Education Conference, to be held in the summer of 1962 under the auspices of the Conference of Jewish Organisations. A standing committee representing all varieties of Jewish educationists has already been set up in New York and steps are being taken to establish similar committees in Britain, Europe and Latin America. They will join with the American committee to pool ideas and experience.

The basic objectives of the conference include the establishment of a world information bureau to collect and disseminate data on Jewish education and cultural activities and the organisation of regional educational conferences and teachers' institutes.

SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY GERMAN-JEWISH IMMIGRATION

The 1961 Sir Robert Waley Cohen Travel Scholarship has been awarded to Rabbi Dr. Alexander Carlebach, minister of the Belfast Hebrew Congregation. Dr. Carlebach was born in Cologne.

He will spend a few months in the U.S.A. studying the impact of German-Jewish immigration since 1933 on American Jewish life.

RABBINICAL DIPLOMA FOR COMPOSER

Mr. Norman Solomon, formerly assistant minister to the Letchworth and District Hebrew Congregation, has been awarded the Rabbinical Diploma of Jews' College. Rabbi Solomon was born in Cardiff in 1933 and is a Bachelor of Music of London University and an A.R.C.M. for Composition. It is his belief that music is a medium for the expression of fundamental religious values. A number of his chamber compositions have been performed in London and the provinces, and his piano Sonata was performed at Wigmore Hall under the auspices of the Society for the Promotion of New Music.

BERNARD KOPS' POEM FOR GAGARIN

Major Yuri Gagarin, the Soviet cosmonaut, during his whirlwind visit to London, was presented with a poem written in his honour by Bernard Kops, the poet and playwright.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Gumprich.—Mr. E. J. Gumprich (formerly Trier), of 21 Grosvenor Court, Christchurch Avenue, N.W.6, will celebrate his 65th birthday on August 3rd.

Sperling.—Mr. Georg Sperling, formerly Cottbus, of 223 New Park Road, Streatham Hill, London, S.W.2, celebrated his 80th birthday on July 22nd.

Marriages

Bush : Hagety.—On July 27th, Tessa Monica, daughter of Dr. F. Bush, to Giora Hagety (London and Gateshead).

Deaths

Heilfron.—Curt Heilfron, Reichsbahndirektor i.R., passed away peacefully on July 1st in his 82nd year, at 33 Rathgar Road, Dublin. Deeply mourned by his daughter Marianne Neumann, his son Vernon E. Hilton, and their families.

Dinkelspiel.—Mrs. Emma Dinkelspiel, wife of Otto Dinkelspiel, Leo Baeck House, The Bishop's Avenue, London, N.2, passed away peacefully on July 4th at the age of 80.

Kariel.—On Sunday, July 2nd, Mr. Hugo Kariel passed away suddenly in his sleep, after a short illness. Deeply mourned and missed by his only son Peter, daughter-in-law Leni, and grandchildren Joanne and Anthony. 56 Methuen Road, Edgware.

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THE MORRIS FEINMANN HOMES TRUST invites applications for the post of **MATRON**, to take charge of Jewish Old Age Home for Former Refugees, as successor to retiring Matron. Modern building, pleasantly situated in South Manchester. Knowledge of German desirable. Generous remuneration according to experience. Apply to Treasurer, P.O. Box 1, Eccles, Manchester.

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TELEVISION SET. Readers willing to donate TV set in good condition, to an Old Age Home, please contact the Matron, Otto Hirsch House, 2 Priory Road, Kew. Telephone: RICHmond 0682.

MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries by AJR

Heymann Beermann (or son) from Ulm. Born 5.1.1882 in Tuetz/Westpr. Last-know address: 5 Randolph Road, London, W.9.

Nelly Wolfheim

EINE ERLEBNISREICHE WOCHE

Nachrichten aus dem Otto Schiff House

Endlich war es Sommer geworden und schnell arrangierte Mrs. L. einen Ausflug. Manchmal ist es sehr gut, wenn eine kurzfristige Ankuendigung kommt, denn wenn auch Vorfreude schon ist, so wirkt sich vielleicht bei uns Alten eine nicht so lange Wartezeit guentstiger aus. Barometer und Wetter-Voraussagen spielen leicht eine zu erregende Rolle, wenn es auch als Gesprachstoff besser als manches andere ist!

So fuhren wir also in drei Autos nach Marlow, sassen an der Thames, genossen einen guten Tee — und waren bester Stimmung. Es wurde ueber nichts "gegrumbelt", und das will was heissen bei uns liebenswerten Einwohnern dieser Welt! Dass jemand meinte, wir seien zu lange durch Strassen gefahren, ist natuerlich nur ein Zeichen dafuer, dass diese Kritikerin nicht versteht, sich in Unabanderliches zu finden. Und dass jemand vor einer unserer Ausfahrten sagte, an der englischen Landschaft laege ihr nichts, da sie die Schweiz kenne, trug nur zu unserer Heiterkeit bei. Schliesslich gibt es ja auch reizvolle Verschiedenheiten.

Aber sehen wir weiter, was sich alles bei uns ereignete: Eine Einladung vom Leo Baeck House an einer Dampferfahrt nach Greenwich teilzunehmen, Abholung bei coach, Thamesfahrt nach Greenwich, wo wir von der coach erwartet wurden und "sightseeing" durch London's interessanteste Gegenden fuhren. Fuer manche war alles neu, fuer andere eine erfreuende Wiederholung. Dass es waehrend der Dampferfahrt regnete, schadete nichts, da wir gedeckt sassen und nachher den Sonnenschein in der Stadt desto mehr zu schaeetzen wussten. Die Leo Baeck House Bewohner zeigten sich als unsere aufmerksamen Gastgeber, wodurch mir die Zusammengehoeerigkeit unserer Heime bewusst wurde.

Schlag auf Schlag ging's weiter: "Wer will den Film 'Exodus' sehen?" Auch dies mit Auto-transport. Ich fuhr nicht mit, doch hoerte ich, dass die Teilnehmer sehr beeindruckt waren. Dann kam eine weitere Einladung: Das kuerzlich von der B'nai B'rith Leo-Baek-Loge begruendete Day-Centre bot uns acht Plaetze in einer coach nach Eastbourne an. Bei schoenstem Wetter fuhren wir ab, nachdem es vorher fuer mich und andere wegen der langen Fahrt viel Ueberlegungen

gegeben hatte. Das freundliche Zureden unserer Matron half uns aber alle unsere Befuerchtungen zu ueberwinden. Keiner machte unterwegs schlapp, trotzdem die Hinfahrt durch allerlei Irrfahrten sogar fuenf Stunden dauerte. Manchen was es zu viel, doch andere hatten Humor genug, um sich durch diese Zufalls-Nachteile nicht in ihrer guten Stimmung stoeren zu lassen. Die beiden verantwortlichen Logen-Schwestern, die uns begleiteten, suchten uns in Eastbourne moeglichst zusammenzuhalten, weil sie immer Angst hatten, eines ihrer "Schaefflein" koennte verloren gehen.

Auf der Rueckfahrt machten wir Halt in Hannock Gardens, Pole Gate, um den herrlichen Park zu bewundern, der einer Blumenausstellung gleicht und bei dem sonnigen aber nicht zu heissem Wetter besonders eindrucksvoll wirkte. Man sollte diesen Park gelegentlich als Sonderziel wahlen, um mehr Zeit dafuer zu haben. An einer langen huedsch gedeckten Tafel in einer kuehlen Halle gab es einen ausgezeichneten Tee mit frischen Eigenprodukten aus dem Garten. Leider hatte uns das Otto-Schiff-House so reichlich mit lunch-Tueten (eine Erinnerung an Schweizer Reisen) versorgt, dass man beim Tee nicht genuegend Appetit hatte. Als wir um halb neun heimkamen, ueberraschte uns noch dazu eine warme Mahlzeit. Uebrigens erfrischt immer wieder ein herzlicher Empfang, wenn wir von einem Ausflug muede heimkehren. Ebenso ist die Neueinfuehrung sehr huedsch, dass unsere Matron ihre Schuetzlinge fuersorglich bei der Abfahrt zum Wagen bringt.

THE HYPHEN

The Hyphen programme for August and September again includes theatre visits, at homes, rambles and car outings. Anyone between 30-45 years of age who is interested may obtain further details from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Marion Koppel, 23 Paddington Green, London, W.2.

AJR CLUB

The AJR Club (Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, London, N.W.3) will be closed during the bank holiday week, from August 6 to August 14.

Letter to the Editor

JEWS OF FRANKFORT

Sir,—The City Council of Frankfort-on-Main, in collaboration with a committee of Jews and non-Jews, is compiling a history of the Jews of Frankfort during the past 150 years.

We ask Jews and Jewesses from Frankfort to be kind enough to send their recollections and reports, as soon as possible, to The London Committee for the Modern History of Frankfort Jewry, The Wiener Library, 4 Devonshire Street, London, W.1.

(Rabbi Dr.) GEORG SALZBERGER.
SIMON BISCHHEIM.
HEINRICH EISEMANN.

SCHOOL REFERENCE BOOKS WANTED

The Municipal High School of Beersheba is urgently in need of reference books and a piano. The school, which claims to be the only one in Israel run on British Comprehensive school lines, started seven years ago with 26 immigrant children and now has 450. When the next term starts in September it will have more than 600 children.

BIRTHDAYS

RABBI DR. S. NEUFELD 70

Rabbi Dr. Siegbert Neufeld recently celebrated his 70th birthday in Tel Aviv. He held office in Insterburg and, from 1925 onwards, in Elbing, until he emigrated to Israel in 1939. After the war he put himself at the disposal of the Jews in Germany and was Rabbi of Wuerttemberg from 1951 to 1953. Dr. Neufeld has always been active in the field of historical research, especially on the history of the Jews in Germany. He has written on this subject both for encyclopedic works, such as the "Juedische Lexikon" and the "Encyclopedia Judaica", and for many Jewish periodicals. In Israel he is also associated with the work of the Leo Baek Institute and the Historical-Genealogical Society in Tel Aviv.

DR. MAX FREYHAN 80

Dr. Max Freyhan (58 Belsize Park, London, N.W.3) celebrated his 80th birthday on July 28. Though, in Germany, he was a lawyer by profession, his main interests have always been in the field of literature. The world of the Greek and Roman classics is particularly near to his heart, but he is equally at home in the works of Goethe and Shakespeare. We wish him many years to come of health and undiminished youthful enthusiasm.

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NEWS ABOUT ISRAEL

ANGLO-JEWISH TOWN IN ISRAEL ?

Mr. William Sholto, addressing the General Zionist Organisation at the Allied Circle in London, suggested the setting up of an Anglo-Jewish township in Israel.

Although there were now some 5,000 British Jews living in Israel, said Mr. Sholto, the difficulties facing the individual who decided to settle there were still such as to discourage emigration.

The speaker proposed that an organisation with considerable capital resources should be formed to establish a township planned in accordance with the manpower and skills available from Britain, as well as with the economic potentialities of the country.

INCREASE IN IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

The New York Board of Directors of the Jewish Agency, the major beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal, has approved allocations totalling more than \$39 million for immigration and rehabilitation programmes in Israel in 1961-62.

It was stressed, however, that the sum was insufficient to meet basic needs. Unless additional funds well above the present \$39 million

were forthcoming in the very near future, rising immigration figures might make it impossible for the Jewish Agency in Israel to provide even the most elementary services for new arrivals.

Present estimates rate the number of new immigrants to Israel this year at 45,000. It costs \$5,000 to settle each new immigrant. The Chairman of the Agency's Board called upon U.S.A. Jewry to redouble its efforts so that their share in the programme would reflect more adequately the sense of responsibility and the resources of the world's largest Jewish community.

Mr. Aaron Zisling, head of the Jewish Agency's Absorption Department, stated in Tel Aviv that an additional £8 million is needed for financing the absorption of the new wave of immigrants. In view of the mass of immigrants expected this year, an additional 8,000 housing units were needed.

ISRAELIS TRAIN IN BRITAIN

Fourteen agro-mechanics have arrived in London from Israel for a three-and-a-half-month special training course with leading British manufacturers in this country.

Ort has arranged and financed a training course of this nature for the third successive year.

With the launching of her first space rocket, Israel has now become the seventh member of the "Space Rocket Club", together with the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R., Britain, France, Italy and Japan.

All the scientists involved were Israelis and all the material used was produced in Israel. The solid fuel which propelled it is a secret Israeli invention. The rocket rose fifty miles into the air. According to the official announcement, it was a meteorological one designed to chart weather and radiation conditions.

Reactions in New York have been mostly congratulatory, but the Arab delegations in New York collectively stated that they did not believe it and that it was a publicity stunt by Israel. Individual Arab delegates, however, have taken the matter seriously.

In London Professor Sir Harrie Massey, Chairman of the International Committee on Space Research, said the flight was a "considerable performance", especially for such a small country and without outside aid.

Sir Roy Dobson, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of the Hawker Siddeley Group, said that the Israel Government and technologists deserved sincere congratulations, and referred to the enormous technical and engineering effort required.

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