

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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A NEW PHASE

The Struggle for Indemnification of Austrian Nazi Victims

The patience of the victims of Nazi persecution in and from Austria has been sorely tried by the way in which their claims for indemnification have been treated. Piecemeal legislation provided some benefits to certain categories, but the principal demands for a measure of compensation for the losses suffered by the members of the Jewish community of Austria have not yet been met, although fifteen years have passed since the liberation of the country by the Allied Powers.

Both the Austrian and German Federal Republics have been unwilling to accept, or even to share, responsibility for the acts of maltreatment and spoliation to which Austrian Jews were subjected during the Nazi period. The surviving Jewish victims of Nazi persecution have thus become also the victims of a refusal of two States which succeeded to the heritage of the Third Reich to render justice to a group which suffered from Austrian and German hands and whose assets "disappeared" in the Austrian, as well as in the German, economy. Austria's political leaders have shown a strong disinclination to face the issue of collective responsibility. No attempt has been made by them to follow the example of President Heuss and to instil in the Austrian people a feeling of collective shame for the crimes committed against the Jews by a considerable section of the population.

It will be remembered that in 1938 the Austrians enthusiastically welcomed their fellow-countryman Adolf Hitler, when he "liberated" their country and made it a part of his Greater German Reich. During the Nazi era the Austrians played their full part in the persecution, humiliation and spoliation of the Jews. Once more liberated—by the Allied Powers—in 1945, they adopted the attitude of a poor innocent victim of wicked German aggression—very conveniently disregarding their contribution to the German war effort. For the victims of Nazi persecution—above all, the Jewish survivors—the new Austrian Republic has shown a minimum of consideration.

Legislation on Meagre Scale

Legislation to indemnify these victims has been on a meagre, miserly scale, while the "rehabilitation" of the Austrian Nazis has been carried out with eagerness and speed. Austria has still failed to live up to her obligations undertaken under the State Treaty of 1955, to make provision by legislation for the "persecuted minority groups"; nor has she yet set up a Property Restoration Fund as formally and expressly provided by her Agreement with the British, American and French Governments in 1959.

The political and moral climate for obtaining recompense for the losses suffered by Austrian Jewry has thus been less conducive to success than the atmosphere in which the negotiations conducted between Germany, the

State of Israel, and the Claims Conference culminated in a comprehensive indemnification legislation in favour of the Nazi victims in and from Germany. As a matter of principle, the Austrian Nazi victims were excluded from the range of beneficiaries.

Hardened by their disappointing experiences, the Jewish Nazi victims from Austria, therefore, note with cautious optimism that negotiations have been initiated between the German and Austrian Governments on a German contribution to the expenses Austria will have to incur when enacting her long-promised legislation providing compensation for the main categories of losses suffered by the Austrian Nazi victims. Particular care will have to be taken that the Jewish survivors from Austria now living abroad, numbering well over 90,000, obtain a fair deal. The inclination of Austrian politicians to discriminate against the "émigrés" has proved a serious obstacle to a satisfactory settlement of the Jewish claims. The principle of non-discrimination in Austrian post-war legislation, as far as the Jewish Nazi victims from Austria are affected, was explicitly accepted by the Austrian Federal Chancellor Raab as a first concession when negotiations between the Austrian Government and the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, headed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, started in 1953. The basic principle must be applied without qualification in any arrangement made with the intention to benefit the Austrian Jewish victims of National-Socialist persecution.

F.L.B.

AUSTRIAN PAPER ATTACKS ERICH LUETH

During a recent stay in Israel, Erich Lueth, the Director of the Press Office in Hamburg and one of the most determined fighters for a genuine understanding between Christians and Jews, in an interview published in the *Jerusalem Post*, commented on Austria's failure to compensate her Nazi victims. "The most damaging gap in our reparations is the non-payment to Jewish survivors from Austria. The historical truth is that Hitler was welcomed as Fuehrer by millions of Austrians. The S.S. and the concentration camps were staffed with many Austrians, as active as their German henchmen in the persecution of Jews. Without them, persecution on so vast a scale would have been impossible. Austria robbed Jewish property and destroyed Jewish lives. It is intolerable and dishonest for Austria to dodge her share of responsibility in what was done."

The spirit still prevailing in some sections of the Austrian population is reflected in the following attack on Mr. Lueth's statement, published in the *Salzburger Volksblatt*, which speaks for itself:

"Wir Oesterreicher werden es verschmerzen, was der Hamburger Senator offenbar in dem Bestreben verzapft, die Butter von seinem eigenen Kopf wegzubringen. Es rundet nur sein Charakterbild, wenn er dem deutschen Volk eine Kollektivschuld anlastet, von der sich dieser schaebige Schlaumeier durch parterreakrobatische Kunststuecke zu befreien versucht".

The same paper had already previously adopted a hostile attitude to foreign Jewish holiday-makers who had objected to a piece of popular art demonstrating anti-Semitic sentiments:

"We do not care for Jewish foreigners who come to Salzburg apparently not in order to recuperate but to ascertain with satisfaction that we are still 'Nazis'."

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ZENTRALRAT

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary celebrations in Berlin of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, the representative body of the Jewish communities in the German Federal Republic, Chancellor Dr. Adenauer sent a message of congratulation. He especially lauded the contribution of the Council towards the efforts of German-Jewish reconciliation. He also welcomed the fact that Berlin had been chosen as the venue of the conference, because, for generations, Jews had taken an important part in the political and cultural life of that city.

The opening ceremony of the conference was addressed by Herr Ernst Lemmer, the Federal Minister for All-German Affairs, who extended greetings on behalf of the Federal President, Dr. Luebke, and the Federal Government. He expressed satisfaction at the rehabilitation of Jewish life in Germany, and said that fortunately Nazi plans to extinguish all traces of Jewish contributions to the spiritual and cultural development of the German people through the ages had failed.

Senator Joachim Lipschitz, who spoke on behalf of the City of Berlin, recalled that the Nazis had never succeeded in conquering the hearts of all Berliners and that now, so far as the only town, Berlin had honoured courageous citizens who had assisted the Jewish persecutees.

The President of the West Berlin Jewish community, Herr Heinz Galinski, said the revival of

Jewish life in Germany and the establishment of the Central Council were expressions of the confidence German Jews placed in the determination of responsible German leaders to build up a truly democratic German State.

Dr. van Dam, Secretary-General of the Central Council, referring to the anti-Semitic incidents at the beginning of 1960, declared that German Jews would not let themselves be intimidated by such excesses. A revival of Nazism would mean certain and total chaos for Germany. He also stressed that, whilst the Zentralrat joined hands with other fighters for democracy, it did not wish to play the rôle of a "praeceptor Germaniae", a teacher of Germany. He appealed to the Jews in Germany to be aware of their public duties as German citizens.

Jeanette Wolff, Berlin Member of Parliament, referred to opposition from abroad in the early post-war years to setting up Jewish communities in Germany again. This, she said, had only led to positive initiative. The German Jewish community was a bridge between Jews everywhere.

At the actual conference of the Zentralrat's Board, a wide range of subjects was covered. It was particularly remarkable that the Conference dealt not only with political, legal and financial problems but that ways and means of intensifying cultural work and religious education also played a prominent part in the deliberations.

FROM THE GERMAN SCENE

WAR CRIMINALS' PENSIONS

According to a statement of Secretary of State Georg Anders of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, the Bonn Government is to take legislative steps to stop those guilty of Nazi crimes against humanity receiving pensions.

This arises from the restoration of a pension of DM. 2,900 per month to Dr. Franz Schlegelberger, former State Secretary in the Nazi Ministry of Justice. Schlegelberger had been sentenced to life imprisonment at the Nuremberg trials in 1947, but was released in 1952 because of his health.

His pension was revoked by the Schleswig-Holstein Minister of Finance in September, 1959. In October, 1959, the Schleswig-Holstein Administrative Court, to which Schlegelberger appealed, temporarily awarded him with a pension of DM. 1,250 per month, and now, in its final decision, it has restored him the full pension. The Minister of Finance has lodged an appeal against this decision.

The Ansbach Court has rejected a claim for restoration of a pension by Frau Charlotte Illner, wife of a former Nazi "People's Court" official. Up to March last, Frau Illner received about £6,800.

Dr. Ernst Lautz, the former Nazi Chief Prosecutor at the "People's Court", was in 1958 deprived of his rights as a civil servant but granted a pension which has been paid since September 15th, 1959, at the rate of about £50 per month. Lautz was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for Nazi crimes at Nuremberg in December, 1947, of which he served nearly six years. Since 1956, 14 separate inquiries were instituted into his past. All legal inquiries have now been closed following a Schleswig court decision that in cases where a deed has been investigated by an Allied Military Court, German courts no longer have jurisdiction.

ENQUIRY AT DACHAU

Lord Russell of Liverpool, British prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials, recently visited Dachau to pay his respects to its victims. He was shocked when his official guide, ex-Nazi General Unrein, made disparaging remarks including a recommendation that the site be closed to tourists. Unrein is alleged to have stated that the crematoria had been constructed after the war by the Allies.

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States have been informed by the United States Army authorities that an investigation has begun into the employment by the United States of Unrein.

TV BROADCAST ON NAZI CRIMES

A documentary film "Das Dritte Reich" was televised by the Stuttgart and Cologne Rundfunk.

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INVESTIGATION OF HEYDE CASE

A Parliamentary Investigation Committee in Kiel is investigating charges that State officials in Schleswig-Holstein had for several years known that Dr. Werner Heyde, the Nazi euthanasia doctor, was living at Flensburg under the name of Dr. Sawade.

NO BAN ON GERMAN REICHSPARTEI

The Rhineland Pfalz Government had prohibited the German Reichspartei on the grounds that it was the successor organisation to the Socialist Reichspartei banned by the Supreme Court in 1952. The Rhineland Pfalz administrative court to which the Party appealed decided against the ban, pointing out that the ban could only be pronounced by the Federal Constitutional Court and not by the State Ministry of the Interior.

DR. GLOBKE CARRIES ON

Government circles in Bonn have denied reports that Dr. Hans Globke, State Secretary at the Federal Chancellery, would retire in the near future owing to ill-health. It is understood he will stay in office at least until the general elections later in the year.

The East German Communist authorities recently charged Dr. Globke with active participation in Nazi measures against the Jews. Dr. Globke was a senior official of the Nazi Ministry of the Interior and in 1935 wrote a commentary to the infamous Nuremberg racial laws.

NAMES OF NAZI JUDGES DISCOVERED

A scrutinisation of the recently found files of the Volksgericht in Berlin (see our previous issue) has resulted in the identification of several hundred names of judges and prosecutors involved in the proceedings. Copies of the lists will be sent to the Lander Ministries of Justice to ascertain whether any of the persons involved is in their employment. None of the persons on the list is in the service of the West Berlin judicial authorities.

ACTIONS AGAINST NEO-NAZIS

The West Berlin Senate has declared that anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi activities will not be tolerated in West Berlin, and drastic and immediate action will be taken wherever such tendencies come out into the open.

A report submitted to the Internal Affairs Committee of the local parliament carries a survey about the latest steps taken against neo-Nazi elements in West Berlin. Various disciplinary actions have been taken and investigations are also under way.

1938 POGROMS COMMEMORATED

Dr. Heinz Galinski, Chairman of the West Berlin Jewish community, at a Berlin meeting held to commemorate the anniversary of the pogroms throughout Germany in November, 1938, demanded that all former leading Nazi officials should immediately be removed from key posts in German public life. On the other hand, all German citizens who had risked their lives to help Jews persecuted by the Nazis should be honoured.

Commemoration meetings also took place in Cologne, Düsseldorf, and various other towns.

GERMAN AMBASSADOR ACCUSED

Manfred Klaiber, the West German Ambassador in Rome, has denied the accusations brought against him by Adolf Eichmann, alleging responsibility for the sinking of the "Struma" in the Dardanelles in 1942. The "Struma" when it sank had aboard more than 760 refugees who had hoped to reach Palestine.

COMPENSATION NEWS

TREATMENT OF NAZI VICTIMS CRITICISED

Over the signatures of Professor Norman Bentwich, Lord Chorley and Mr. John Foster, Q.C., M.P., a letter was published in *The Times* of December 7, which regrets the contrast between the "spirit of Refugee Year and the harsh and narrow legalistic attitude towards one class of refugees from persecution".

"Some months ago" the letter says "there was strong criticism in the House of Commons of the imposition of British income tax on annual payments made by the German Government to victims of Nazi oppression on account of compensation for loss of life or career but the Chancellor of the Exchequer refused to make any concessions."

The main object of the letter is the policy of the Administrator of Enemy Property which, by a narrow interpretation, excludes Nazi victims from recovering their sequestered assets if they were not in a concentration camp but were deprived of their liberty by having been compelled to live in restricted areas or to wear the "yellow star". The present policy also excludes victims who were only able to leave a country on the other side of the Iron Curtain after December 31, 1947. The writers of the letter express the hope of securing a change of a practice "which seems contrary to fairness and good sense as well as to the British tradition of befriending victims of religious and racial persecution".

BERUFSENTSCHAEDIGUNG FUER "GEMISCHT-DOPPELVERDIENER"

Entscheidung des Bundesgerichtshofs

Der Bundesgerichtshof in Karlsruhe hat in einem Urteil vom 11. Mai 1960 IV 2 R 165/59 eine Entscheidung gefaellt, wonach einem Verfolgten, der gleichzeitig in seinem Einkommen aus einem Beamtenverhaeltnis und aus einer privaten Nebentaetigkeit geschaedigt worden ist, mit Ruecksicht auf seine Einbusse an den Nebeneinnahmen weitergehende EntschaeDIGungsansprueche zustehen koennen, als sie ihm nach § 102 BEG wegen der Einbusse an seinem Beamteneinkommen gebuehren. In den Gruenden heisst es u.a.:

"Das Berufungsgericht hat § 113, Abs. 2 BEG nicht richtig ausgelegt. Diese Bestimmung besagt nicht, dass der Verfolgte, der sowohl in seiner selbstaendigen als auch in seiner unselbstaendigen Erwerbstaetigkeit geschaedigt worden ist, eine EntschaeDIGung nur wegen des Schadens in derjenigen Erwerbstaetigkeit erhalte, aus der er nicht nur voruebergehend das hoehere Einkommen bezogen habe. Sie besagt nur, dass fuer die Berechnung der EntschaeDIGung diejenigen gesetzlichen Vorschriften massgebend sein sollen, die die EntschaeDIGung fuer den Schaden aus der Erwerbstaetigkeit betreffen, aus der der Verfolgte nicht nur voruebergehend das hoehere Einkommen bezogen hat."

Diese Auslegung des § 113, Abs. 2 BEG seitens BGH ist mit Genuegtung zu begruessen, da sie eine langjaehrige Ungerechtigkeit in der bisherigen Rechtsprechung und Kommentierung beseitigt, die weder nach dem Wortlaut, noch dem Sinn und Zweck, noch dem historischen Werden des § 113 BEG beabsichtigt sein konnte und daher voellig ungerechtfertigt war.

WILHELM MENO SIMON.

COMPENSATION ALMOST COMPLETED IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

According to a statement of the Schleswig-Holstein Minister of the Interior, Herr Lemke, Schleswig-Holstein had, as the first Land of the Federal Republic, nearly completed all compensation proceedings. Of 17,086 proceedings with altogether 42,338 claims, only 555 proceedings with 1,117 claims were still pending at the end of September, 1960. The total payments made amounted to DM. 173 million, of which DM. 93 million were paid direct to the victims and DM. 80 million as contribution to the payments of other Lander.

HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

IN PARLIAMENT

Race Discrimination Bill

For the sixth time Mr. Fenner Brockway, M.P., is attempting to get through the House of Commons a Bill to make discrimination on the grounds of colour, race and religion illegal in the United Kingdom.

The Bill would prohibit racial discrimination in licensed common lodging-houses, restaurants, and places where food and drink are sold to the public, and in dance-halls. It would also include a clause prohibiting refusal of a lease for accommodation or make any clause in existing leases invalid if they show discrimination on grounds of race, colour or religion.

The Bill was given a first reading on December 7th.

Ban on Nazi Colonel Rudel

On November 30th, Mr. Janner asked the Home Secretary whether he was aware that Lieutenant-Colonel Hans Rudel, a prominent Nazi during the Hitler régime and a leader of the neo-Nazi party in Germany, had arranged to address a meeting in London; and whether, in view of the record of the Nazi Party, he would take steps to prevent Rudel coming to this country. Mr. Butler, the Home Secretary, replied that Lieutenant-Colonel Rudel would not be permitted to enter the United Kingdom. (Following this decision, Sir Oswald Mosley called off the international rally which he was trying to organise in London.)

Krupp Deconcentration Plan

In answer to a question by Mr. A. Lewis, in the House of Commons, Mr. Heath, the Lord Privy Seal, stated that under the Krupp deconcentration plan assets worth about £12 million had been disposed of. For the remainder, an extension until 31st January, 1961, had been granted, but a further extension up to January, 1962, had been applied for by Herr Krupp.

World Refugee Year

The Lord Privy Seal, Mr. Heath, in a written answer to Mr. Randall, stated that the United Kingdom's contribution in cash and kind to World Refugee Year as of 30th September, 1960, was approximately £7½ million and was the largest of all national contributions of that date. In contributions per head, the United Kingdom came third after Norway and New Zealand.

In answer to a further question by Mr. Randall, the Home Secretary stated that the selection team shortly to proceed to Europe would not interview again refugees whose applications had been rejected by the earlier mission, unless there has been a material change of their circumstances.

German Forces

In answer to Mr. A. Lewis, Mr. R. A. Butler stated that the Federal German Government were our allies in N.A.T.O. and that H.M. Government were therefore prepared to assist by providing depots and training facilities in this country to West German troops if this was a practical requirement in the view of the N.A.T.O. authorities. When Mr. Lewis asked whether the Minister of Defence would insist that the troops should not be under the command of former high-ranking Nazi officers, Mr. Watkinson replied that it was for the German authorities to decide whom to appoint.

NEW ALIENS REGULATIONS

The relaxation of the aliens regulations announced in the House of Commons on November 16th (see our previous issue) became effective on January 1st. Aliens who have been given permission to stay for only a specific period will still have to register, but they will be given seven (instead of three) days in which to report changes of address or employment. About 125,000 people are in this group, which includes holders of Ministry of Labour permits and students.

Aliens who have been accepted for residence permanently or indefinitely will become exempt from registration and they will be notified by the police who will arrange for registered certificates to be endorsed locally.

PROTESTS AGAINST GERMAN TROOPS IN BRITAIN

Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., President of the Board of Deputies, has made a protest following the announcement that German troops, with stores and equipment, are to be stationed at bases in this country. The Anglo-Jewish Association has also made a statement on the same issue.

The National Chairman of the Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women has stated that although the Association agrees that democratic forces in Germany should be encouraged, it does not recognise that this process can be assisted by the intention to base West German troops in this country, to which the Association is utterly opposed.

VICTOR GOLLANCZ ON TV

Mr. Victor Gollancz, the author and publisher, was interviewed on the TV programme "Face to Face", when much of the time was taken up with Mr. Gollancz's Jewish background. He described himself as "a bit of a Jew" and "a very bad Jew". He did not go to synagogue, but kept certain Jewish customs such as the fixing of a mezuzah at his house and saying Grace when eating the first fruits of the year. He said he did not feel any particular sense of Jewish race or nationality, and he had neither a feeling of inferiority nor of superiority. It had always been impossible to define what a Jew was, he said, but there was "a Jewish way of looking at things" and a "Jewish flavour". He believed, however, in complete assimilation.

WARSAW GHETTO FILM

Official permission for the public exhibition in its entirety of the much-discussed Nazi-made documentary, "The Warsaw Ghetto", has been given by the L.C.C.

The British Board of Film Censors had refused a certificate unless certain scenes, thought to be too harrowing for public showing, were cut out. The film is now being shown to the general public at the Compton Cinema.

Over a hundred M.P.s of all parties saw the film at the House of Commons, and there was general agreement on the suitability of its showing in entirety. It was also shown to the London County Council.

Board of Deputies Third Century

The commencement of the Board of Deputies third century of service to British and World Jewry was impressively marked at a meeting of the Board, where tributes were paid to the outstanding courage and steadfastness with which the Board has defended Jewish causes.

Lord Mayor and Guardians

Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, the Lord Mayor of London, recently attended a meeting of the Jewish Board of Guardians, of which he is a member. He was presented with a scroll on which the Board's members and staff recorded a resolution congratulating him on his election.

Arab and Jewish Students

The University of London United Nations Students' Association has failed in an attempt to bring Arab and Jewish students together in a discussion on the Middle East and Israel. None of the members of the Arab Students' Society were present at the discussion, which was addressed by three Jewish speakers.

The Association is organising another meeting, this time with Arab speakers, to which Jewish student bodies will be invited.

Robert Waley Cohen Memorial Lecture

The well-known psychologist, Dr. David Stafford-Clark, delivered the seventh Robert Waley Cohen Memorial Lecture on the subject of "The Psychology of Persecution and Prejudice", held under the auspices of the Council of Christians and Jews. He put forward the theory that the mingling of all the races of the world in marriage is necessary to racial harmony.

Opposition to intermarriage was based on emotion and a feeling of superiority over those who were "different".

Jews' Temporary Shelter

The Jews' Temporary Shelter held a dinner to celebrate its 75th anniversary and to launch a £75,000 appeal campaign. Leaders of the community, including the Chief Rabbi and representatives of other major Jewish charitable organisations, were present, together with leading personalities in commerce, industry and finance.

American Grant for Hillel House

In New York the International Council of B'nai B'rith, at its first meeting, made a \$10,000 grant to the Hillel Foundation in Britain towards the establishment in London of a new centre to replace the present Hillel House in Endsleigh Street. Moneys for this purpose have also been raised in London.

Club Premises Opened by Princess Alexandra

The new Jewish Lads' Brigade and Club headquarters at Henriques House, Manchester, were recently officially opened by Princess Alexandra. The Princess watched a consecration service conducted by the Haham, Rabbi Dr. Solomon Gaon, and toured the premises.

School for Deaf Children

The Treasurer of the Residential School for Jewish Deaf Children, the Hon. Hugh L. Cohen, complained at the annual meeting of Governors and subscribers that the community did not do its duty to Jewish deaf children. Expenditure during the year had increased while income had decreased. "More money must be raised quickly if the school is to continue efficiently."

Edgware Council of Christians and Jews

The Rev. Canon E. F. Carpenter, of Westminster, addressing the first public meeting of the Edgware Council of Christians and Jews, said that Christians and Jews must join forces in an attempt to give moral direction to Western civilisation. The Rev. Saul Amias, minister of Edgware Synagogue, also spoke, and Rabbi I. Maybaum, of the Edgware Reform Synagogue, was present.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Jewish Members of New Cabinet

Mr. John F. Kennedy has appointed Mr. Abraham A. Ribicoff as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. Ribicoff was born in 1910 in New Britain, Connecticut, as the son of poor immigrants from Slonim (Russia). When still a schoolboy he had to contribute to the family's upkeep by selling newspapers. A lawyer by profession, he was the first Jew to be elected Governor of Connecticut in 1954. He has always taken an interest in Jewish affairs, though, since he has held public office, he has withdrawn from official positions he held with Jewish organisations.

Another Jewish member of the Cabinet is Mr. Arthur J. Goldberg, who has been appointed as Secretary of Labour. Mr. Goldberg is 52 years old and a leading United States Trade Union lawyer. Like Mr. Ribicoff, he is also actively interested in Jewish affairs.

Clergymen Appeal

The names of a number of prominent rabbis appear among the 1,200 American clergymen who signed an appeal to President Eisenhower to commute the sentence of Morton Sobell, sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment at the trial which in 1952 meted out death sentences to Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

The plea was presented to Mr. Eisenhower following a gathering on Sobell's behalf, and was initiated by the Rev. Peter McCormick, a Presbyterian minister, who, as Protestant Chaplain of Alcatraz Prison, became convinced that Sobell was innocent. The Reform Central Conference of American Rabbis had previously urged a re-examination of the case.

Jewish Converts Wed

Sammy Davis Jr., the Negro entertainer, and Mai Britt, the Swedish actress, both converts to Judaism, were married in Los Angeles by the Rabbi of the Reform Temple Israel. Well-known personalities were among the guests, and Frank Sinatra was best man. There were no disturbances, despite threats by self-styled U.S.A. Nazi "storm-troopers".

CANADA

Ontario Cabinet Post for Jew

Mr. Allan Grossman has been appointed Minister without Portfolio in the Ontario State Government. He is a Jewish member of the Progressive Conservative Party. This is the first time a Jew has been appointed to the Cabinet.

Immigrants

According to a statement by Miss Ellen Fairclough, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration in Canada, 1,810 Jews arrived in Canada during the first nine months of 1960. During the same period in 1959, 2,027 Jews settled in Canada.

REPORT ON SOVIET JEWRY

M. Andre Blumel, President of the Franco-Soviet Friendship Association, whose report on conditions of Jews in Russia was published in our last issue, and M. Maurice Thorez, Secretary of the French Communist Party, have had a meeting. A communiqué issued jointly stated that "M. Thorez listened with great attention to M. Blumel's report and showed great understanding for all the problems raised. He told M. Blumel that in conformity with the spirit of the permanent policy of the French Communist Party he will take a personal interest in all problems concerning Jews".

SENTENCES AGAINST CZECH JEWS

It has now been learned that Dr. Josef Braun, the well-known Prague doctor who was sentenced to 7½ years' imprisonment by a Czech court for hoarding foreign currency, was also accused of having been in contact with enemy agents. Six other Jews were also sentenced with him.

CATHOLICS AND JEWS

Front-page headlines in the Vatican's *Osservatore Romano* denote increased interest in Catholic-Jewish relations.

The paper's assistant editor, Professor Federico Alessandrini, writes an article confuting the essay by Mr. Leon Poliakov published in the October issue of Unesco's monthly magazine *Le Courier* entitled "Anti-Semitism, Plague of Modern Times", in which the author attributed the responsibility of anti-Semitism to Christianity.

The *Osservatore* article disapproves of the fact that Unesco, by publishing the essay, implicitly endorses the author's views. It states that nobody can deny the excesses which were committed but, for the sake of justice, the attitude of many Jews towards the non-chosen ones, the "goyim", should also be recalled.

ELECTIONS IN ITALY

In the municipal elections recently held throughout Italy, four Jews—three Communists and one Socialist—were elected to Rome's City Council. The centre parties maintained their strength while the Communists secured an extra 100,000 votes throughout the country. The neo-Fascist Movimento Sociale Italiano received 300,000 more votes in this election than in 1958.

According to competent observers, the strength of the neo-fascists' election campaign and its marginally anti-Semitic aspects encouraged Jews to vote for the left-wing parties.

Movimento Sociale Italiano has now become the third strongest party in the City Council. They have since the elections in November been responsible for a series of aggressive incidents against students and others.

The National Federated Council of Resistance has issued an appeal to all its affiliated organisations to intensify their action in defence of democracy, and several M.P.s have asked the Government to take a firm stand against the resurgence of fascism.

AWARDS TO POLISH JEWS

Representatives of the Jewish community took part in increased numbers in the celebrations of the 43rd anniversary of the Russian Revolution which were held all over Poland recently. Hundreds of Jews participated in special meetings in Warsaw, Lodz, and other cities, where they demonstrated their gratitude to the Soviet Union and the Red Army for liberating Poland from the Nazis.

The Polish Government, as in previous years, to mark the occasion awarded a number of high distinctions to about a dozen Jews in honour of their outstanding contribution to the "building of Socialism in Poland".

SOUTH AFRICA

The corner-stone has been laid in Johannesburg of the first Yeshiva College in South Africa for the training of rabbis, ministers and religious leaders. It will also incorporate a regular high school.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop Denis Hurley, in an address to the Durban Parliamentary Debating Society, said that any Jew or Christian who followed the general attitude of white South Africans in race relations was most definitely not living up to his faith.

JEWS IN MOROCCO

Applications in Morocco from Jews wishing to travel abroad are being dealt with much more rapidly than in the past. This applies especially to Casablanca where the largest Jewish community of 80,000 lives. It is believed that the improvement in the passport situation is a direct result of an appeal sent by the National Council of Jewish Community Committees to the Minister of the Interior.

Moroccan Jews have for over two years been experiencing considerable difficulties in getting passports.

AUSTRIA

Award

At a ceremony held in Vienna Dr. Franz Sobek, President of the Aid Fund to help political persecutees resident abroad, was presented with the gold medal awarded annually by the Austrian Jewish community to the non-Jew who has done most in the past year to combat anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism. The presentation was made to Dr. Sobek particularly because of his protests at the swastika-daubing incidents at the beginning of 1960.

Arrests of Neo-Nazis

According to a statement by the Austrian Minister of Interior, Afritsch, 119 persons were arrested between January and September, 1960, on account of their neo-Nazi activities; 94 of them were found guilty of having daubed swastikas or anti-Semitic offences. The Minister also stated that two-thirds of the arrested were youngsters.

GERMAN SOLDIERS IN FRANCE AGAIN

The Left-wing Jewish Press in Paris has, in various degrees, condemned the return of German soldiers to France. According to the agreement reached between General de Gaulle and President Adenauer, 30,000 German soldiers will train at the military camps of Sissonne and Mourmelon, in north and east France respectively.

The arrival of the first batch of German soldiers has provoked strong emotional reactions among the Jewish refugee community, which lost many of its members during the German occupation.

About 40,000 Jews and non-Jews have demonstrated in Paris and the provinces against "German militarism" in response to an appeal from the Left-Wing Council for Peace. The Jewish Association of Former Concentration Camp Inmates also held a protest meeting in Paris. A strongly worded resolution condemning German rearmament and the giving of bases to the Wehrmacht on French territory has been passed by the Central Committee of "Mouvement Contre le Facisme, l'Antisemitisme et Pour la Paix".

JEWS IN HOLLAND

According to a demographic report just completed by the Jewish Social Welfare Institute in Amsterdam, 27,000 Jews live in Holland today. This includes many Jews who have inter-married, and a large number of half-Jewish children.

Before the war the Jewish population of Holland was 154,800, of whom only 14,800 were half-Jews. Only 5,450 of the 110,000 Dutch Jews deported by the Nazis returned to Holland. The present Dutch Jewish population includes 8,000 persons who managed to live in hiding throughout the war, 2,000 who returned from abroad, and at least 8,000 who escaped deportation because of marriage to a non-Jewish partner.

TURKISH LAY COUNCILS DISSOLVED

A Government order has been issued in Istanbul to the effect that all Jewish communal councils will have to be dissolved. The same order has been received by non-Jewish minority groups, including Greeks and Armenians.

The Governor of Istanbul, in a letter sent to all these councils, states that in future each Jewish institution or synagogue is to have its own independent council. This would mean that there would no longer be a lay council of the Rabbinate which dealt with the community's secular and financial matters, and the problem arises of who is to take care of the community's social, financial and cultural affairs.

The Lay Council has decided to send a delegation to Ankara to have talks with the Prime Minister, and it is hoped that he will either cancel or modify the order.

JEW ON MELBOURNE STOCK EXCHANGE

Mr. Herbert Baer, who arrived in Australia as a refugee during the war, has been elected a member of the Melbourne Stock Exchange. This is the first time for many years that a Jew has held this position and it is seen as a victory for the Jewish community, which has campaigned against the Stock Exchange's alleged discriminatory practices.

Alfons Rosenberg

SECRET AND UNKNOWN

"Synagoga" Exhibition in Recklinghausen

It is not so long ago that I had a visit from a young German mechanic. He was in this country in order to learn how to operate a certain machine which his German firm had bought in Peterborough. He was 24, a devout Catholic from the lower Rhineland, of at least average intelligence. He told me that he had attended a service in the Anglican Peterborough Cathedral and he was amazed about the similarities to his own Roman Catholic liturgy. Why was that? Could I offer an explanation? I had hardly started answering his question, when he interrupted me: "What are you?" I replied: "A Jew." The young German said: "I don't mean that. What is your religion? The Jews are either Protestants or Catholics."

In Recklinghausen I asked the Director of the Municipal Museums, Thomas Grochowiak, who at the same time is the Director of "Synagoga", why such an exhibition had been organised. He explained that it was done to combat the complete ignorance of Judaism. "When I was a child, I always thought whilst passing by the local synagogue: 'who knows

man newspapers have carried enthusiastic reviews, without any reservations. We Jews are entitled to take a more objective and sober view. We know that the religious ban on any figurative depiction of this world has proved a severe handicap for the development of a great and representative Jewish art. The traditional Jewish service must be one of the most austere in the world. How dazzling an exhibition of Catholic religious art would be in comparison. All a Jew needs is a book—the Book; everything else is this side of idolatry. Another observation: Jewish liturgical objects are not for public adoration, they are not for "show". To the greatest extent they are used within the family circle, therefore they cannot be ostentatious by any standards; they are homely and small and in most cases they had to be cheap: utility ware.

And yet, to a Jew they are dearer than the most precious Italian paintings, the most exquisite statues and ornaments. Even the crudest Haggadah brings back memories of our childhood more precious than gold and diamonds.



Impator redit dans Judæis legē moysi i rotulo.

German Emperor Henry VII confirms privileges to Jewry of Rome

(From Codex Balduini, a collection of documents compiled by the Archbishop and Elector of Trier, Baldwin von Luxemburg, 14th Century)

what is going on in this building. It must be something secret and unknown to the outside world.' We want this sort of thing to stop".

It is true, whoever visits the exhibition with an open mind, reading the scholarly and superb catalogue (price DM. 6) knows all a layman need to know about the practice and spirit of the Jewish religion. This indicates that the exhibition is strictly non-political. It does not illustrate the history of the persecution of the Jews, it does not tell you what happens in the State of Israel. But it tells you a lot about the Jew as a religious being.

Anybody compiling such an exhibition comes up against a great difficulty. The West Ger-

The array of those "little pieces" at Recklinghausen is truly splendid. Besonimbuechsen, Chanucah candlesticks, ornaments of the Torah scrolls, mezuzas, mohel's knives and others. An enormous amount of labour and love was devoted to gathering these many objects. The museums and libraries of Western Europe, America and Israel were scanned with a very generous response. Unfortunately, the important Jewish museum in Prague withheld its co-operation, but East Berlin was more forthcoming.

On the German side the list of people who lent their support is impressive. Professor Heuss, while still President, helped whenever

he was asked to. The Federal Chancellor and the Federal Minister of the Interior are among the Christian and Jewish members of the Committee. The cost of organising the exhibition amounted to DM. 250,000. It was borne ungrudgingly by the Federal and Regional authorities, by German industry and private donors. The catalogue is a work of art in its own right. At public expense 20,000 copies were printed for free distribution to schools and public libraries. Schools send their pupils over hundreds of miles to Recklinghausen and many factories do the same for their employees. The Director assured me that this is the most successful exhibition his town has ever held, with more than 600 visitors daily.

The most astounding revelation for myself was the section on manuscripts and early prints. The illuminations are in joyful colours: flowers, beasts, persons and sometimes even pictures of Greek mythology. This is a far cry from those doleful Histories of the Jews which only know of tears and persecutions. It is just as well that we are reminded of the other, more cheerful, side of the lives of our ancestors.

And then there are paintings and drawings by Jewish and non-Jewish artists of Jewish subjects, Rembrandt head and shoulders above everybody else. My memory went back to Alfred Hirschberg's sentence in the *C.V. Zeitung* at the time of the Nazis that history will judge whether the pictures in *Der Stuermer* or Rembrandt's art will give posterity the true idea of the Jew.

EUROPEAN COUNCILS OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

Representatives of several of the Councils of Christians and Jews established in European countries met in London recently. On the occasion of their Conference, an informal gathering was arranged at which they gave brief reports of their activities.

Dr. Ernst L. Ehrlich, Secretary of the Christlich-Juedische Arbeitsgemeinschaft in Switzerland, told the audience that in his country the Jewish problem was, in the first place, not a political but a religious issue. The activities of his organisation were therefore mainly concentrated on arranging lectures aiming at overcoming misconceptions and prejudices.

Mr. Leopold Goldschmidt, Secretary of the Koordinierungsrat der Gesellschaften fuer Christlich-Juedische Zusammenarbeit in Germany, reported that there had been in Germany no recurrence of the incidents which started in Cologne at Christmas 1959. The "Brotherhood Week" with meetings all over the country had become an annual institution. Particular stress was laid on questions of education by arranging conferences for teachers and establishing contacts with youth organisations.

Pastor J. H. Grolle, Secretary of the Raad voor de Verhouding van Kerk en Israel in the Netherlands, referred to the "Fellow-Semitism" of Calvin and the deep roots of his teachings in the Old Testament. He also recalled that, during the war, spiritual resistance could be organised by centrally issued announcements which were simultaneously read out in all churches of the country.

Dr. Kurt Pordes, Secretary of the Aktion gegen den Antisemitismus in Austria, reported that the latest efforts in Austria included an exhibition of the Ravensbrueck Concentration Camp which was shown in many schools. He described the education of the young generation as the paramount task.

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Rabbi Dr. Georg Salzberger

RABBI DR. CAESAR SELIGMANN**Centenary of His Birth**

Following is a condensed version of an article which is being published on the Continent and which the author has kindly placed at our disposal.—(Ed.)

In his unpublished work "Memoirs of a Grandfather", which he started to write in Frankfurt in 1934 and completed in England in 1941, Caesar Seligmann recounts his life to his children and grandchildren. This life, by virtue of its historical background, and the eminence which he attained through his work throughout his many years, is of interest to a much larger circle, in fact to Jewry as a whole. Did he not, through two generations, witness world-shaking events, the rise and fall of his native country, the political and social emancipation, the oppression and persecution of his Jewish community; on the one hand exile, on the other the foundation of the State of Israel? How far away it all seems when we read that as a child he heard Samson Raphael Hirsch preach, and as a student he visited that venerated man of the Science of Judaism, the nonagenarian Leopold Zunz.

Seligmann was born on the 14th December, 1860, in Landau in the Palatinate. Many of his forebears, like his father, were rabbis.

Already in his early youth his father taught him Hebrew and read Chumesh and Rashi with him, but the boy, to begin with, had no intention of becoming a rabbi himself. It was the Roman and Greek writers and the German classical poets who attracted him at school. He read languages, philosophy, and history at Munich University. Much as he liked his studies at the university, they did not satisfy him. This circumstance, coupled with the advent of a wave of anti-Semitism towards the end of the 1870s, and especially his friendship with Rabbi Dr. Steckelmacher of Mannheim, made him decide to devote himself to theological studies. Thus, in 1881, he entered the Jewish-Theological Seminary in Breslau. In 1883 he was appointed teacher in

the religion school of the Breslau Congregation and in the same year gained his doctorate at Halle University.

In 1889 Seligmann received a call to the Hamburg "Israelitischer Tempelverband". This was the synagogue which, at the beginning of the nineteenth century, had first introduced the much-disputed reform type of worship. It was here that he spent some of his happiest years.

It was in Hamburg, in 1892, that he married Ella Kaufmann, daughter of the President of the Hanover Congregation. They had two sons and two daughters, all of them gifted in their own ways.

As a result of the high reputation he had acquired through his work in Hamburg, he received a call in 1902 from the Congregation in Frankfurt-on-Main to become its rabbi. Frankfurt, like Hamburg, possessed a congregation within which were united the various shades of Judaism, and the communal spirit was such that it could allow for, and live in peace with, the separate Orthodox congregation, the "Israelitische Religionsgesellschaft". But while the Orthodox section within the main community had a wise and learned as well as forceful leader in the person of Rabbi Dr. Marcus Horowitz, the Liberal section completely lacked such a leader. The situation was the more precarious since, in addition to an enterprising Orthodoxy, there were to be found reformers and assimilationists from the circle of the eclectic "Rising Dawn Lodge". The indifferent attitude of the masses became so perilous that it was decided to establish an "Anti-Conversion Society". A way had to be pioneered between the extremes of right and left for a positive, historically orientated Liberalism. During the successful struggle in this monumental task Seligmann had brave and powerful allies in the Congregation's President, Julius Plotke, in his successor, Julius Blau, in Salo Adler, headmaster of the "Philanthropin" School, and others.

Creator of new Prayer Book

To begin with, there was the task of creating a prayer book for the special services on High Holy-days. Next to the Conservative-Liberal book used in the "Hauptsynagoge" this was to take account of the need to extend the German prayers. Thus was created the two-volume "Seligmann'sche Gebetbuch" used in the Synagogue Koenigsteinerstrasse, which had been newly consecrated in 1910. Apart from services, religious instruction had to be organised and integrated in the curriculum of the various schools.

Seligmann, however, did not overlook the needs of other congregations. Thanks to his initiative the Society for Liberal Judaism was founded in Berlin in 1908, and for many years he edited its monthly publication "Liberales Judentum". He gained decisive influence as President of the Union of Liberal Rabbis in Germany, an office he held from 1912 to 1937. His name will forever be coupled with the "Guiding Principles for a Programme of Liberal Judaism", which he drew up in 1910. The final editing of these "Principles" was undertaken by him, together with Leo Baeck. In this work he was guided by the thought that the positive principle should not be the vague idea of historical development; rather should it be the synthesis between the change caused by emancipation and the traditional religious tie of Judaism. To be sure, these principles were adopted by conferences in Berlin, Frankfurt, and Posen, but they lacked support by laymen. In his "History of the Jewish Reform Movement from Mendelssohn to the Present Day" which he wrote as the competent historian, these guiding principles formed the conclusion. Seligmann's last great enterprise for German Jewry was the publication of the Liberal "Einheitsgebetbuch", which was to make an end of the splintering of Liberal liturgies.

Seligmann was—though he would deny it—a

born fighter. His struggle was directed, not against Orthodoxy or Zionism, but against indifference, intolerance, and radicalism. His sermons were logically constructed, imbued with deep pathos, and their poetical language was a work of art. Yet he was even more gifted as a writer than as a speaker. Reviews, contributions to newspapers and periodicals, commemorative articles all bear witness to this.

Above all, his personality showed through whatever he said and wrote. Small of stature, he impressed one nevertheless by his combination of blunt energy and gentleness. Though of a naïve disposition, he possessed a keen wit. He loved fairy-tales and had a poetical gift. One need only read his translations of Hebrew texts as well as his own prayers to realise this. He was an unassuming man, full of charm, a loving family man, a good companion, full of humour. In short, a man whom one revered and loved.

It was not given to him to spend his well-earned retirement in Frankfurt for long. Hard, indeed, was the farewell for the well-nigh octogenarian when he had to leave the city in which he had lived and worked for so long. Equally hard was his farewell to the country whose finest culture, no less than his Judaism, were personified in him. England, which offered him refuge, never really became his home. He was too old to master its language, and circumstances compelled him to move from town to town until, finally, he found a resting-place in London.

Caesar Seligmann was born on a Sabbath, and it was on a Sabbath, 3rd June, 1950, in his 90th year, that he came to his final rest. He is buried in the Liberal Jewish Cemetery.

In Memory of our Teacher

A former pupil of Rabbi Seligmann writes:

It is with a deep feeling of appreciation and gratitude that Dr. Seligmann's pupils remember him on the 100th anniversary of his birthday. We knew him as a man who stood for progress and was full of understanding and tolerance for the younger generation. We of that generation are young no longer, we are parents and grandparents, but many of us remember that it was Dr. Seligmann who taught us to think independently, clearly and logically. He never tolerated empty talk. If he thought that a pupil was using an expression without completely understanding its meaning he would insist on a plain explanation. If we were unable to give one, he would help us, but warn us with intelligent sarcasm not to indulge in talk unless we knew what we were talking about.

In the years after the first world war a new era of religious life began for the pupils of Dr. Seligmann, and many children who were growing up with hardly any religious home life found their way to the Jewish religion. We looked forward to Friday evening services which at first only meant listening to our teacher's sermons, but for many children laid the foundation of a religious belief which has lasted them a lifetime and was to sustain them in the tragic times that lay ahead.

We did not find the way to religion too easily. Children have to overcome many doubts and difficulties. Dr. Seligmann never tried to force us into belief. We learned to believe as we saw this revered teacher, with his great intellect, bow in humility before the one supernatural being who is God. He taught his pupils to grasp and understand God, and never asked them to accept dogmas without explaining their meaning.

Having taught us to think independently, he did not expect us blindly to accept his views. Many were the discussions on Zionism which numerous young people in Germany at that time regarded as the solution, a view which he did not share, whilst fully respecting the convictions of pupils, however young.

Dr. Seligmann and also Dr. Salzberger, whom we are happy to have still in our midst, were the liberal Jewish teachers of that generation in Frankfurt-on-Main. To this very day there is a strong link between many of their former pupils. We have not forgotten that it is largely due to them that religion is a help to us in every phase of life, particularly in hours of crisis and misfortune, and that they have implanted in us a strong feeling of belonging to Judaism.



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Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

SODOM AND EN GEDI

Perspectives are deceptive. Viewed from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv, Beersheba looks like a desert outpost, but seen from Sodom it appears the centre of civilisation. Should one travel even further along the Dead Sea shore to En Gedi, then Sodom seems to turn into the link with the outside world, for Sodom is connected with Beersheba by a first-class road.

Approximately half-way between Beersheba and Sodom this road passes a place called Dimona, which is the modern version of an oasis. Instead of camels grazing around the well, jeeps are parked in front of houses and factories—in the middle of the Judean desert. Seeing the children playing in the school yard, one forgets that only four years ago on this very spot there was nothing but the yellow and brown expanse which even today surrounds Dimona on all sides.

Further east, towards Sodom, long after one has reached sea level, the road continues to fall sharply, for Sodom is the lowest place on earth, 400 m. beneath sea level. The view which opens up is like a moonscape, with giant cones and extinguished craters, above which vultures are circling. No green mitigates the monotonous brown and yellow of the desert, no plant the deadly petrification of the valley which, in Abraham's time was formed by volcanic eruptions, destroying in their wake the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

A group of residential houses could be taken for the beginning of a town, yet they are empty and neglected. Not so long ago they were the homes of labourers of the Potash and Bromine Works, but since the rise of Dimona and the easy communication with Beersheba, the firm prefers to take the workers every day out of

the sweltering heat of the Dead Sea basin and return them in the morning. This has proved cheaper than the upkeep of a residential settlement, and, moreover, the labour force which tended to be drifting away has become much more stable.

Apart from the widespread installations of the Potash and Bromine Works there is nothing at Sodom except two tourist establishments at the foot of the mountain, which is being identified with the salt pillar of Biblical fame. The whole mountain range on this side of the Dead Sea is made up of salt, yet only with great exercise of the imagination can one see in the structure of the Sodom mountain the likeness of a woman. Fittingly enough, one restaurant is called "Lot's Wife Inn"; the other one is a Youth Hostel, though here one meets mainly elderly people. They have come from all parts of the country to seek healing in the waters of the Dead Sea, which are said to have curative properties against rheumatism, arthritis, and other diseases.

The rough and dusty track which leads on to En Gedi, the northernmost part of the Dead Sea shore still under Israel's sovereignty, is not negotiable for private cars, and the 60 kilometre stretch is now being surveyed in order to open up this remote and unique spot to tourism.

"Rocks of the Wild Goats"

Suddenly there appear, like a mirage within the infinity of dazzling yellow, the trim houses of En Gedi, with neat gardens, smooth lawns, fertile fields, green vineyards, and fine orchards. The history of En Gedi reaches from "the rocks of the wild goats", where David fled from Saul, via the Essenes to the early Christians, whilst the Song of Songs speaks of the "Cluster of camphire in the vineyards of En Gedi". Its four springs—one of them recovered only recently—have made it the classical stopping place for caravans. Climbing up to the wells, the landscape suddenly changes. Nothing is left of the yellow expanse of the Dead Sea basin; here are an abundant vegetation, gushing brooks, cool grottoes and waterfalls tossing down the rocks. Their mineral content has formed fantastic stalactites and stalagmites, which line the caves.

Four years ago, what was then a training farm for Nahal youth (Pioneer Youth, who spend part of their period of service in agricultural work), was turned into a settlement. Its bunk-houses, dining-hall, shower-houses, all whitewashed and shining, have become a youth hostel, and the settlement has been set up on a hill. Since then, with the help of the Jewish National Fund, 1,000 dunams have been won for agriculture by de-stoning, terracing, levelling, etc. Roads have been hewn into the rocks to give access to the vineyards and the orchards and to tame the springs, whose fabulous quantities of water have been pouring down unexploited for centuries.

The members of the kibbutz are young Sabras and the eldest child of the settlement is not yet four. The mixture of warmth and water—350 m. under sea level, for most of the year the temperature does not fall beneath 40 degrees Celsius—helps the growth of produce, which fetch good prices—tomatoes, when there are no tomatoes anywhere else, grapes of special sweetness, also tropical fruit like pineapples, bananas, mangoes, papayas. To keep the settlers in good fettle, each house has air-conditioning and according to the doctor, who once a week comes from Beersheba, the young kibbutzniks are in fine health.

NEWS ON ISRAEL

S.P.D. FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

At the Social Democratic Party's Convention in Hanover, delegates unanimously affirmed the Party board's view that establishment of diplomatic relations between the Federal Republic and Israel had become "both necessary and possible".

ISRAEL AND GERMANY

Dr. Arieh Kubovy, Chairman of Yad Vashem, at a meeting of the Council in Jerusalem, condemned Israelis' apparent eagerness to show friendliness to German visitors, and his views were endorsed by the majority of those present.

He went on to say that there was evidence that even the most enlightened German liberals have not yet come round to facing the necessity of teaching their youth the harsh and bitter truth that the holocaust is unparalleled in history.

Dr. Kubovy also described as "cursory" the method in Israeli schools of teaching about this period of history.

GERMANS ASSIST HOUSING SCHEME

An amount of 200,000 marks (about £16,700) has been voted by the Dortmund City Council to a projected West German development loan to finance housing schemes in Israel. West Berlin recently contributed 300,000 marks to the proposed loan.

FRENCH LINER

A 22,000-ton transatlantic liner is to be built in France for Israel, and will go into service in June, 1963. She will be called the "King David" and will carry 1,100 passengers on the Haifa-New York run, with a stop at Marseilles. The liner will have swimming-pools, a gymnasium, a cinema and a winter garden, and will be entirely air-conditioned.

100,000th YOUTH ALIYAH CHILD

The 100,000th child brought to Israel by Youth Aliyah arrived at Lydda Airport from Teheran recently. She is 11-year-old Tamara Faribash, one of a family of seven children, three already in Israel.

BRITISH CONTRIBUTION FOR HOMES

An amount of £40,000 has been sent by the British Committee for World Refugee Year to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, for the construction of 25 dwelling units for refugees.

MEMORIAL OF LODZ GHETTO

At a recent ceremony in Jerusalem, four albums compiled by Jews in the Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation of Poland were handed over to the Yad Vashem organisation. The albums, prepared with the knowledge and consent of the Nazis, among other items contain photos, press clippings of ghetto newspapers and samples of ghetto-manufactured goods.

A GERMAN BOOK ON ISRAEL

The latest volume of Panorama-Bücher is dedicated to Israel.* It carries 30 particularly beautiful coloured plates by A. D. Arielli depicting the scenery of all parts of this country of contrasts. The glossary explains the historical background of the pictures. The "introduction", as it is modestly called, is written by Erich Lüth, the initiator of the "Peace with Israel" movement and indefatigable fighter for Christian-Jewish understanding. It reflects the author's enthusiasm, love and admiration for this old-new country and, on 20 pages, carries a wealth of informative material about the past and present Israel.

* Israel. Wilhelm Andermann Verlag, München. DM. 9.80. Obtainable through booksellers in this country at 18s. 6d.

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MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHIES

MAX BROD'S REMINISCENCES

Max Brod, the famous writer and poet, who was born and spent the greater part of his life in Prague, now lives in Tel Aviv, where he recently celebrated his 75th birthday. Doubtless, he is well known to most readers of this paper, especially the older ones, who must remember as well as I do his first successful book "Tycho Brahe's Weg zu Gott". Many other successes were to follow. Brod was an outstanding member of the so-called Prager Schule, a circle of young poets and writers which flourished between 1920 and 1939. Gustav Meyrink, Hugo Salus, Franz Werfel, Franz Kafka, Johannes Urzidil, Willy Haas, Paul Kornfeld, Egon Erwin Kisch, and others belonged to this circle. Brod was very much impressed by Martin Buber; he knew Thomas and Heinrich Mann, Liliencron, Rilke, Alfred Kerr, and Karl Kraus, whom he portrays as a two-faced character. All these personalities and their different ways of thinking are revealed to the reader in Brod's newly published autobiography.*

Brod, who has always been a fighter, presents the reader with a vivid and highly interesting picture of his life in partly sombre, partly bright colours that fully justify the title of this book. With admirable clarity, courage, and resolution the author tries to solve the problems of a mentally and physically tormented world. The book has 570 pages and is in three parts. The first part depicts the period up to the First World War; the second, the author's childhood, youth, and student days; the third, his escape from the Nazis. Among the important chapters is one on "Judentum als Problem", in which the author explains why he went to Palestine instead of accepting a professorship at a university in the United States and also clarifies his personal relationship to Germany and the Germans. A no less interesting chapter entitled "Studentenzeit" recounts the life of the German minority in Prague, which was to a great extent Jewish. Two other chapters are dedicated to his friend Franz Werfel, whom he profoundly admired, but with whose ideas he finally disagreed. "Leben mit Franz Kafka" is the title of another chapter in the second part of the book. With that highly gifted young poet he was associated in a moving friendship, which lasted until the untimely death of Kafka, whose works he published posthumously.

To sum up, we can say that Brod's book not only contains the life story of an outstanding writer and man of learning, but also the history of an epoch. Any reader, whether he was born or has lived in Prague or not, will enjoy this book and will be captivated from the first to the last line.

EUGEN WINTERBERG.

* Max Brod: *Streitbares Leben*. Kindler Verlag, Muenchen 1960. DM. 19.80.

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REAPPRAISAL OF FELIX MENDELSSOHN

Various recent German publications on composers of Jewish origin seem to indicate that racialism in artistic matters is now a thing of the past and has given way to a common-sense approach. Certain gaps in the literature on music which were the result of the Nazi era are again being filled. Dr. Hans Christoph Worbs, whose book on Mahler was recently reviewed in *AJR Information*, has also contributed a volume on Mendelssohn.* As he emphasises in the preface, he wishes to join in the present-day efforts "gutzumachen, was die Kulturpolitik des dritten Reiches in ihrem Rassenwahn verschuldet hat". To him, Mendelssohn is always "der deutsche Meister", of whose place in German music there is no doubt. The conversion of the Mendelssohn family is accepted on ethical grounds as well as on grounds of assimilation ("nicht nur, weil er [Mendelssohn's father] ihnen damit das 'Entreebillet zur europaeischen Kultur erkaufen wollte").

As stated in the sub-title, the book presents the story of Mendelssohn's life mainly in quotations from contemporary documents, especially from the composer's own lively letters. Much of this material may be familiar, but Worbs has been able to use the original versions, some of which are now published for the first time. (In the old edition, Mendelssohn's brother had made some alterations.)

This method of contemporary documentation—leaving, as it were, much of the narrative to Mendelssohn himself and those around him—gives this biography a freshness and spontaneity which cannot fail to fascinate the reader. With his own comments, Worbs rounds it up into a warm-hearted, highly sympathetic portrait of the composer. What little criticism there is of Mendelssohn's personality is significantly—we are dealing with an East German publication—directed at his indifference in political matters (notwithstanding his dislike of the reactionary atmosphere in Prussia): "Freilich offenbarte sich dabei aber auch die mangelnde politische Verantwortlichkeit eines Kuenstlers, der trotz der wahren Einsicht, dass Kunst und Leben nicht 'zweierlei' seien, vor den herrschenden Missstaenden zurueckwich und muede resignierte". Mainly biographical, the book offers only summary remarks on the works, but these comments are apt and not devoid of criticism.

"Leipzigerstrasse 3"

Even the reader who is acquainted with the main events in Mendelssohn's life may find the picture enriched by many interesting details. When the family moved into their new Berlin home in the Leipzigerstrasse, their friends complained "dass Mendelssohns so weit aus der Welt und in eine so abgelegene tote Gegend zogen, wo das Gras auf den Strassen waechst". Present-day visitors to the spot might feel that the wheel has turned full-circle! More relevant is Devrient's report "dass Felix als Knabe mir erzaelhte, er sei einem Militaerleichenzuge begegnet und die Musik habe an einer Stelle mit einem hohen Triller eingesetzt, der ihm ein schneidender Ausdruck des Schmerzes geschienen. So hatte er ihn, lange Jahre danach, in 'Antigone' verwendet"—a strange analogy with a similar experience in Mahler's childhood.

In connection with his life-long search for a suitable operatic libretto, Mendelssohn once said: "Deutsch muesste es sein und edel und heiter, sei es eine rheinische Volkssage oder sonst ein echt nationales Ereignis oder Maerchen . . . Es ist nicht Kohlhaas und nicht Blaubart oder Andreas Hofer oder die Lorelei—aber etwas von alledem koennte dabei sein!" The student of the history of German Jewry cannot fail to realise the significance of these words, written by that great artist in whom assimilation had approached perfection.

H. W. FREYHAN.

* Hans Christoph Worbs: *Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Wesen und Wirken im Spiegel von Selbstzeugnissen und Berichten der Zeitgenossen*. Koehler und Amelang, Leipzig. 12s. 6d.

A PHILOSOPHER LOOKS BACK

"My Twentieth Century" is the title Ludwig Marcuse has given to his autobiography ("Mein zwanzigstes Jahrhundert", Paul List Verlag, München 1960, 290 pages, DM. 17.80). He has written books about Heine and Boerne, Buechner and Strindberg, Freud and Loyola, Plato and others, but whether he deals with literature or with history, his approach is always that of a philosopher.

Son of a well-to-do father who had provided him for a life without the necessity of bread-winning, young Marcuse engaged himself in the study of Philosophy at Berlin University, with a thirst after knowledge of "what holds the world together". He soon discovered how little the wisdom of humanists had to do with the realities of life. He also had to experience soon that the careful planning of a loving father was frustrated through the inflation after the First World War. Thus, Marcuse became a free-lance writer. Only on two occasions was he an "employee"; first as a literary Editor in Frankfurt and then as a Professor of German and Philosophy in California. One of his finest books is his "Philosophie des Gluecks". Though, during the initial stages of his emigration, his life was not without danger and hardship, he can now say that what he had wished for in his youth has been achieved in his later years: Whilst ambition to become a University Lecturer had not been realised in Berlin owing to the death of his teacher, Ernst Troeltsch, it was fulfilled in America.

In the '20s he worked on a Berlin society novel which was never completed. However, that Marcuse's epic talent is equal to his essayistic style is reflected in the Berlin chapter of his autobiography, which is written in a particularly impressive way. Without vanity or insincerity, he relates those events of his life which, in his opinion, were decisive in shaping his personality. At the same time, he gives us a picture of the 20th century as seen through the eyes of a man who has experienced its impact. In his standard of thought he subscribed to the maxim of "primum vivere, deinde philosophare"; he learned that 2 x 2 can equal 5.

In his autobiography we meet many "Very Important Persons". We are told how Thomas Mann became the mouthpiece and representative of German literature in exile against his will and disposition. Thomas Mann's brother, Heinrich, could never feel at home in the U.S.A. His books have now been reissued in Germany (published in West Germany by Claassen Verlag, Hamburg), and his essays are the subject of a series of lectures which Marcuse is now giving as a Guest Professor of Frankfurt University. There are also references to Lion Feuchtwanger, to whose way of thought he felt a great affinity though he was on more intimate terms with Ernst Toller and Joseph Roth.

In Ossietzky he admired the complete absence of opportunism, whereas he describes a meeting with Gottfried Benn in Berlin after the war as an example of how an intellectual for whom he had a certain sympathy made him feel the abyss that had opened and could not be bridged.

One chapter contains letters from his sister who was deported to an extermination camp. This chapter is extremely moving, describing life in the Berlin Ghetto. An open mind and a desire to overcome prejudices must have been a family feature of the Marcuses. The philosopher Marcuse is still fond of the German people and, even more, of the City of Berlin. However, he has no forgiveness towards the woolly thinking of esoteric writers, who contributed to misleading the German middle-class. Professor Jung is one of those he passionately and mercilessly puts in the dock, basing his indictment on documentary records. In Marcuse's view, it is the greatest sin to pretend that a reality is the realisation of an ideal if, in fact, it is only this ideal's distortion.

"My Twentieth Century" is not only an autobiography extremely well written; it is also the key to Marcuse's philosophical and literary writings. It enables us to see how they have developed with their writer.

LUTZ WELTMANN.

Paul Wohlfarth

THEODOR FONTANE AND THE JEWS

Theodor Fontane, one of the most popular German novelists at the close of the 19th century, but already half forgotten by the end of the First World War, has recently been brought back to the attention of the German reader, mainly by the complete edition of his works in 21 volumes from the Nymphenburg Verlag in Munich. It is not only its literary wealth which justifies the enterprise. Fontane's novels are a mirror of the social and cultural life in Germany before the First World War, and therefore of eminent historical interest. On the subject of German Jewry, so influential in German life in many respects, the novels are not very conclusive. There are Jews in "Adultera" and "The Stechlin", it is true, but they are rather insipid. To find out Fontane's attitude to the Jews of his time we must turn to another source, his letters. Fontane was the most charming and amusing of letter-writers; letter writing was a pleasure to him. Concerning the Jews, the most revealing, because written at the end of his life and therefore evidence of his "Altersweisheit", are the letters to Georg Friedlaender (Quelle & Meyer, 1954). Friedlaender himself was a descendant of an old Jewish family. His great-grandfather, David Friedlaender (1750-1834), played an important part in the Berlin reform movement and was a friend of Moses Mendelssohn. But already his grandfather, Benoni, was a Christian, and Georg himself had nothing in common with Judaism. Fontane never thought of his Jewish origin, as the letters show. Friedlaender was a local judge (Amtsrichter), in Schmiedeberg, Riesengebirge, near the health resort of Krummhübel, where Fontane spent several summers with his wife and daughter and where the two men met and became friends.

Fontane's attitude to the Jews is frequently taken from his poem "Siebzigster Geburtstag" ("Seventieth Birthday"), where, disappointed by the absence of the Prussian nobility, whom he had praised in so many of his novels and poems, and surprised by so many Jewish congratulators, he turns to his Jewish publisher, Cohn, with the words: "Kommen Sie, Cohn." But was he, as the mood of this little poem implies, a philo-Semite?

Before looking for an answer in the Friedlaender letters we must allow for the biting quality of Fontane's humour, due, perhaps, to his Gascon origin; to suppress a pungent remark was not to his taste. On the other hand, he recognised the part played by the Jews in the spiritual life of imperial Germany. He quotes, for instance, the words of Professor Lasson: "Strange to say, the Jews promote German civilisation, and the German contribution in exchange is anti-Semitism", and remarks: "This is true, the first part, I am afraid, still more than the second . . . Quite apart from the ethical point, anti-Semitism is nonsense, it

cannot be carried through." But he goes on: "All the people I know here, even officers and aristocrats, are dependent on Jews to a high degree, and their number is increasing every day. Of all houses in Berlin 61% are in Jewish hands; there will be 80% within 20 years"—words well matched to Nazi phraseology. In a later letter he writes: "It is all the same to us whether old Blücher's ancestor was a Wendish prince. So we won't worry either, if in future the battles at the Katzbach are won by the descendants of Mosse, or of his chief editor, Levysohn."

There are many sarcastic remarks of this sort in the letters, aimed not exclusively, but preferably, at Jews. Already in the 'seventies, when Otto Brahm (then a journalist, later a famous stage manager) left for Paris, Fontane wrote to a friend: "Little Abrahamson is going to Paris. He will not be taken for a Prussian officer and molested by the mob there." Remarks of this sort appear in the Friedlaender letters every now and then. "Professor Lehfeld looks like a Jew, though he is a Christian of the sixth generation. If this is the result, what is the use of baptism?" "Oberhof is packed with visitors; at the same time it is lonely, only green trees ("jriene Bäume) and overdressed, affected Jewesses." "It was very nice in Kissingen, but we have enough Jews in Berlin. Nine-tenths of the visitors were Jews, and the last tenth were so plain, certainly as concerned dress and features, that I said to my wife: 'What a pity the last tenth are not Jewish also.' The Jew, at least, has got a nose and a good tailor." "Saint Cère (born Rosenthal), Berlin reporter of the Germanophobe 'Figaro', was probably drifted to Paris from Lemberg or Brodie. Small wonder that he dropped nearly all his German." And with gusto he repeats the joke of the writer Paul Lindau: "A kick in the pants by the Duke of Ratibor is better than a kiss from Bleichroeder, after all." There are, however, remarks in the letters which are not at all intended as jokes. "This is the difference between the Christian and Jewish spirit. The latter is dazzling and alluring, and every Berliner, including myself, falls for it sooner or later.

"There is certainly much to be gained from it. Nevertheless, the Jewish spirit is a disaster and of a low standard through and through. After all, the belief in Jewish superiority is most dubious, I decidedly prefer the German boor (Knote). Considering how many opportunities the Jews enjoy, it is strange how mediocre the result is. They are clever and a good average only; their best performance is in medicine, after which the hoax begins." "Cliques are bad everywhere, but the Jewish cliques are the worst. As I come to dislike the agrarians more and more, so I do the Jewish spirit, which is quite a different thing from the Jews. This spirit, which has dominated us for the last 50 years, has been greatly overestimated; it represents a low degree of civilisation." "The Jews can have the highest intellectual delicacy, can deal honestly in ideal matters, doing a lot of good, giving and helping. At the same time they cheat and even deceive, always with an exalted, solemn, rabbinical look, convinced they are something exquisite, Jehovah's favourites." And on the occasion of the Dreyfus Affair: "The European Press is one great Jewish fraud, attempting to force its opinion on the whole world."

It is hardy possible to sum up all these sentences in a general statement. The formative principles of letter-writing are based on the absence of formal and final convictions. The writer, owing to his changing moods, does not want to arrive at precise and objective conclusions. It would therefore be wrong to scrutinise the statements of an artist in letter-writing, like Fontane, as if they were scientific opinions or even newspaper articles. There is also no question that he would have condemned the atrocities and the principles of the Third Reich with horror and disgust. We can only say that Fontane was deeply interested in the Jewish problem, never coming to a conclusion about it and therefore changing his mind every now and again. But he was not a true friend of our people. This conclusion should not prevent us from enjoying his works for their humour, sincerity, and humanity and appreciating him as one of the few outstanding German narrators of the 19th century.

Old Acquaintances

Home News:—Julius Gellner directed Erich Kaestner's "Emil and the Detectives" successfully at the Mermaid.—Irene Prador is presenting a series, "German Cabaret", on records for the B.B.C. Home Service.—The German Institute will show H. Kaeutner's "Himmel ohne Sterne" on January 9th and 10th.—Marianne Deeming-Kupfer appeared in "Little Darlings" at the Adelphi.—Walter Rilla can be seen in the German film "Love Now, Pay Later" at the Cinephone, opposite Selfridges.

Milestones:—Anton Walbrook, who became internationally known as Paula Wessely's partner in Willi Forst's "Maskerade", scripted by Walter Reisch, became 60 last month in London. He arrived in England before the war and quickly established himself on stage and screen. Unforgettable in Max Ophul's "La Ronde", Adolf Wohlbrueck, as he is still called in Germany, appeared lately on TV in "Venus Observed", and he will be seen in London this month in "Masterpiece" at the Royalty.—In Zurich, Ossip Kalenter, the essayist and short-story writer, celebrated his 60th birthday.—In Berlin, Fritz Schwieler, author of "Marguerite: 3", celebrated his 70th birthday.—Berlin actor, Aribert Woescher, who retired because of bad health, is 65 years old.

Germany:—After an interval of eleven years, Annemarie Hase appeared again on a West Berlin stage in Curt Goetz's "Dr. med. Hiob Practorius" with Carlheinz Schroth at Hebbel Theater.—Wolfgang Fischer, who returned from Shanghai, again publishes a monthly in Berlin.—H. N. Crayon, formerly Hermann Krehan, arranged the decors for "Gianni Schicchi" in Hamburg and appeared in variety in Sweden and Denmark.—In Ulm, Peter Zadek successfully produced "Who's Charley?"—Heinz Ruehmann will play the Pallenberg part in a remake of "Der brave Suender" based on a Polgar story.

U.S.A.:—Amongst Molnar's papers, Lili Darvas discovered a brand-new play, "There is a Play Tonight", written in 1930; it will be produced on Broadway.—When Gustaf Gruendgens and his ensemble come to New York's City Center and present "Faust" and "Tempest" simultaneous translations will be provided for the audiences.—Henry Koster will direct "Flower Drum Song" next.—Walter Slezak will do a record album about Vienna for Herbert Nelson, who has a minor best-seller in his L.P. "Rudolf Nelson, the Story of a Life".—Karl Freund, the German-born senior among the cameramen, is writing his autobiography starting from the time when he obtained a licence as the first projectionist in a Berlin cinema in 1905.

Miscellaneous:—Fritz Kortner's first television production of "Lysistrata", starring Barbara Ruetting and Romy Schneider, ran into trouble: because the Church objects, several German stations refuse to televise it.—Bad Ischl will honour the late Richard Tauber with a monument on his 70th birthday, April 21st.—When David Carver, the British Secretary of the International P.E.N. Club, stopped in Vienna on his way back from Budapest, Peter Weiser attacked him in *Der Kurier*, calling him an "undesirable" visitor because the Austrian members do not accept the Hungarians in the P.E.N.—The city of Vienna honoured the late Leo Slezak by naming a street after him.

Obituary:—"Rolli" Gero, who died in his fifties in Rome last month, was the first and actually the only host of the refugees when he opened the "Little Bar" in Prague and later on "Sonja's Plueschsofa" in Vienna and so gave a home to the homeless. Born in Berlin, he began as an artist and, together with your columnist, he was founder of the cabaret "Die Unmoeglichen" at the "Topp-Keller". The Nazis smashed his night club in Berlin and though he was not a Jew he went into exile with his guests. In his cheap little bars Sonja Wronkow entertained with sad Jewish songs. With his sister, Dinah Nelken, Rolli survived the war in Yugoslavia and afterwards settled in Rome where he married. Many of his former guests will remember him gratefully.—Hungarian violinist Edith Lorand died aged 60 in New York.

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RABBINER PROFESSOR DR. LEVI HERZFELD

Landesrabbiner in Braunschweig, 1842-1884

Geboren am 27. Dezember 1810

Am 27. Dezember sind einhundertfünfzig Jahre seit der Geburt von Levi Herzfeld verflossen. Er war bedeutend in seiner Zeit, hervorragend unter den Rabbinern seiner Generation und einer der grossen Erforscher unserer jüdischen Geschichte. Am 10. März 1884 ist er gestorben. Im Verlaufe der fünfundsiebzig Jahre seit seinem Tode ist sein Andenken verblasst, aber nicht erlöschend. Der einhundertfünfzigste Geburtstag ist ein guter Anlass, es neu zu erwecken.

Er war in Ellrich, im Harz, zwischen Göttingen und Nordhausen, geboren und genoss eine gründliche jüdische Erziehung. Der vornehmste Lehrer seiner Jugend war Samuel Egers, ein Vetter von dem grossen Akiba Eger, dem Oberlandesrabbiner in Posen. Er war der Landesrabbiner von Braunschweig. In einem handschriftlich erhaltenen curriculum vitae nennt ihn Herzfeld "einen Talmudisten ersten Ranges." Das war er in Wirklichkeit. Er hat in seiner eigenen Art die Gegensätze, die im neunzehnten Jahrhundert im deutschen Judentum mit einander gerungen haben, in sich getragen und versöhnt. Streng gesetzestreu und in der Tradition lebend hat er doch eine Forderung seiner Tage erfüllt als er 1831 in Braunschweig die Konfirmation für Knaben und Mädchen einführt. Bei ihm hat der junge Herzfeld "den Talmud und die übrige jüdische Theologie" studiert, und von ihm hat er, noch jung, erst 23 Jahr alt, Hattorath Horaah, die Autorisation als Rabbiner, erhalten. Nach einem glänzenden Abitur auf dem Braunschweiger Gymnasium bezog er die Universität, wo er Philosophie und Orientalia studierte. Daneben lernte er dort weiter Talmud bei Jacob Joseph Oettinger. Wie Egers war auch dieser Rabbi mit der Gabe gesegnet, die widerstrebenden Strömungen der Zeit in sich aufzunehmen und Frieden zwischen ihnen zu stiften. Bis dahin waren die, die sich das Leben genommen hatten, in einem abgesonderten Winkel des Friedhofs beigesetzt worden. Aber Oettinger schaffte diesen Brauch ab, als 1827 der Friedhof Schönhauser Allee eröffnet wurde. Er entschied eben, dass Samuel Holdheim, der Wortführer einer radikalen Reform, in der Reihe der Rabbiner beigesetzt werden könne. 1836 promovierte Herzfeld. Egers war erblindet, er wurde sein Adjunkt und nach seinem Tode sein Nachfolger. Mehr als vierzig Jahre hindurch, von 1842 bis 1884, hat er sein Amt in Braunschweig verwaltet.

"Ein Prophet im Talar"

Er stand mitten in dem Kampf um eine Reform unseres Gottesdienstes und eine erneute Formulierung des Religionsgesetzes, insbesondere der Ehegesetzgebung. So hat er in seiner Gemeinde gewirkt und so war er darüber hinaus ein Führer. Die erste Rabbinerversammlung dieser Epoche wurde 1845 in Braunschweig abgehalten. Die Wahl des Tagungsortes allein schon erweist, dass Herzfeld ein Vorkämpfer der neuen Bewegung war. Er war gross als Prediger, als einen Propheten im Talar hat ihn sein Amtsnachfolger Rülff an seiner Bahre gefeiert. Aber die praktische Wirksamkeit hat er darüber nicht versäumt. Es wurde ihm nachgerühmt, dass er der Schöpfer vieler wohlthätiger Stiftungen und Vereine in Braunschweig und den Landgemeinden gewesen sei. Er hatte acht Kinder und war dadurch sein Leben lang aufgeschlossen für die Freuden und die Nöte der Jugend. So sehr er auch als Forscher in seiner eigenen Welt lebte, war er doch bis zur Schwelle des Alters allen

zugänglich. Erst im letzten Abschnitt seines Lebens, als ein schwer leidender Mann, zog er sich in sich selbst zurück.

Dauernd lebt er fort als ein grosser Historiker unserer alten Zeit. Sein Hauptwerk ist die grosse "Geschichte des Volkes Israel" in der Periode von der Zerstörung des ersten Tempels bis in die Makkabäerzeit, 600 bis 130, in drei Bänden, 1847-1856. Die Jahrhunderte, die er erforscht und dargestellt hat, liegen im Dunkel. Ueber unsere frühere Geschichte unterrichten uns die Bücher der Bibel, die Thorah, Josua und Richter, Samuel und die Bücher der Könige. Aber aus der Zeit nachher haben wir in der Bibel nur die Bücher Esra und Nehemia und die Chronik, zu denen später die Schriften von Josephus und eine Menge anderer zerstreuter Quellen kommen. Herzberg hat den ganzen Stoff, der zu seiner Zeit vorlag, durchforscht und durchdrungen und in einer endlosen Arbeit aus ungezählten Fragmenten ein Gesamtbild entworfen. Seine Stärke lag dabei in der Untersuchung der Einzelheiten, weniger in ihrer Umschaffung zu einem lebendigen Ganzen. Seither sind neue Quellen gefunden worden, von denen er noch nichts wissen konnte. Das Bild jener drei Jahrhunderte, die er erforscht hat, das sich uns heute bietet, ist infolgedessen weit entfernt von dem, das er entwerfen konnte, und insofern ist seine Darstellung veraltet. Aber sein Ruhm als ein Bahnbrecher wird dadurch nicht beeinträchtigt. Er stand ja vor einer ungewöhnlichen Aufgabe. Er stellte chronologische Untersuchungen an und setzte aus vielen, vielen an sich wenig besagenden Zeugnissen ein grosses Mosaik dieses halben Jahrtausends zusammen. Dabei erfüllte ihn eine grosse Hoffnung. Er wollte zeigen "wie reich an Geistestätigkeit und an Anziehendem überhaupt auch diese 450 Jahre sich erweisen werden, wenn sie aus ihrem bisherigen Dunkel nur erst völlig hervorgeholt sein werden."

Pionierwerk als Forscher

Seine Wissenschaft hat ihn mit einem tiefen inneren Glück erfüllt. Davon zeugt der Schlussabsatz vom Vorwort zum dritten Band: "Und nun, nachdem auch dieses Vorwort geschrieben ist, bin ich zu Ende mit einem Werk, an welchem ich über achtzehn Jahre gearbeitet habe, mit grosser Liebe. Dieses Zeugnis darf ich mir geben. Ich habe daran geschrieben in guten und in bösen Tagen, diese Arbeit hat die guten mir noch erhoben und an den bösen Tagen mir zu meinem Trost beigetragen. Mit diesem empfangenen Lohn bin ich vollkommen zufrieden, und Gott, in dessen Dienst dieses Werk geschrieben ist, sei innig gedankt für die mir bis jetzt geschenkte Kraft. Möge Er mich auch fernerhin nicht verlassen."

Seine Zuversicht ist erfüllt worden. Nach fast zwei Jahrzehnten der Arbeit an seiner Geschichte hat er nicht auf seinen Lorbeeren ausgeruht, sondern sein anderes grosses Hauptwerk, die "Handelsgeschichte der Juden im Altertum" an Angriff genommen und 1897 vollendet. Hier beschreibt er die Phasen des jüdischen Handels von der Einwanderung in Kanaan, etwa 1200 v. Ch., bis in die Zeit der Herrschaft der Ptolemäer, im vierten Jahrhundert, und noch später, bis tief in die talmudische Zeit hinein. Er untersucht Münzen, Maasse und Gewichte dieser anderthalb Jahrtausende und schätzt und berechnet Warenpreise, er entwickelt aus dem Talmud die wichtigsten Sätze unseres alten Handelsrechts und erhellt mit allen diesen Einzelheiten ein Gebiet, das bisher im Dunkel gelegen hatte. Auch

dieses grosse Werk hat ihn mit einem hohen Selbstgefühl erfüllt. "Soviel ich weiss ist eine Handelsgeschichte der alten Juden noch niemals geschrieben worden, ja, es sind mir auch keine Vorarbeiten dazu bekannt," sagt er im Vorwort. Er durfte sich wohl als den Vater der historischen Forschung auf einem wichtigen Gebiete betrachten, von dem bisher nicht viele etwas gewusst hatten.

Von seinem inneren Leben hat er nicht viel gesprochen, aber seine Beisetzung legt vielleicht am Ende Zeugnis ab. Rabbiner Rülff, sein Amtsnachfolger, wie schon erwähnt, hielt ihm einen ergreifenden Nachruf, und nach ihm sprachen ein katholischer und ein protestantischer Pfarrer. Dann blickte, wie das Braunschweiger Tageblatt berichtete, "der Himmel friedlich auf das von einem förmlichen Berg von Kränzen bedeckte frische Grab". So zeigt sein Leichenbegängnis, dass er die Grundsätze der Reform, die er verkündet, auf sein eigenes Leben angewendet hat. Die Kränze waren eine Abkehr von einer alten, tief in das jüdische Bewusstsein eingesenkten Sitte, und die Gemeinde Braunschweig muss überzeugt gewesen sein, dass sie dem Sinne des Heimgegangenen entsprach. Aber gerade diese Einstellung zu unserer Vergangenheit hat Herzfeld mit einem tiefen jüdischen Stolz erfüllt. Als Heinrich Ewald, der grosse Göttinger Orientalist, in einer böartigen Kritik an Herzfeld's Geschichte, die ihm keine Ehre macht, behauptete, Herzfeld habe gezeigt "wie leicht nicht nur ein hässlicher und boshafter, sondern überhaupt trüber und niedriger Sinn dem heutigen Judentum anhafte", erwiderte Herzfeld voller Würde: "Im Hinblick auf die augenscheinliche Verjüngung des Judentums in unseren Tagen darf ich hierzu schweigen".

Im Verlaufe der fünfundsiebzig Jahre seit seinem Tode ist er in den Hintergrund getreten, aber er ist nicht vergessen. Die jüdische Gemeinde in Braunschweig wird den Gedenktag, sein Jubiläum, feierlich begehen. Nur wenige, die heute dort leben, werden je auch nur von ihm gehört haben. Aber indem sie eine Zeit ehren, die ganz Vergangenheit geworden ist, legen sie doch noch ein Zeugnis und ein Bekenntnis ab. Im Andenken an einen bedeutenden Mann verbinden sie das Judentum von einst mit dem anderen von heute, das nach der Katastrophe wieder in Deutschland erwachsen ist.

WORLD JEWRY INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

Up to now there has been no scientific approach to a study of what Israeli and Diaspora Jewries know of each other. Information has been of a haphazard and even unreliable nature. An Institute for Contemporary Jewry has therefore been established at the Hebrew University, the head of which is Professor Moshe Davis. This will serve as a centre of intelligence for the entire Jewish world.

Professor Davis has been granted a two-year leave of absence from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, of which he is Provost and Associate Professor of American Jewish History in the Faculty of the Rabbinical School of the Seminary, in order to organise and to head the Institute and to serve as its Visiting Professor. He has completed a special mission to the United States to initiate the establishment of a Records Centre of American Jewish life and institutions at the Hebrew University. He has also visited Jewish communities in Latin-American countries for a similar purpose, and has been to Britain, France and Belgium to enlist the co-operation of Jewish communities in the creation of a Records Centre of World Jewry.



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CULTURAL NEWS

EXHIBITIONS BY THREE GERMAN JEWS

Erich Kahn and Margarete Brauer

Paintings by Erich Kahn and Margarete Brauer were shown at the Molton Gallery (44 South Molton Street, W.1). This gallery has made a name in the London market for modern art despite its short existence. The gallery directors, Mrs. Juda and Mrs. Stern, have made a point of exhibiting Jewish painters of hope and promise. Following this trend the gallery recently showed two painters of distinction, Erich Kahn and Margarete Brauer.

Erich Kahn was born in 1904 in Stuttgart. He has frequently exhibited in London and abroad and his works are in many public and private collections. He emigrated to this country in 1939 and has since been living and working in London. The initiated consider him an eccentric with a touch of genius; his style and working method make it difficult for the critic to pigeon-hole him, for he is neither completely abstract nor completely figurative. There is definitely an inner conflict within him which compels him to split himself artistically into these two contrasting styles without easily arriving at their synthesis. His extraordinary temperament causes colouristic explosions, so that his canvases mirror in exuberant colours the overflowing passions of this artist, who seems neither willing nor capable of controlling himself. There is no doubt that Erich Kahn is a genuine artist who looks at himself and the world around him with a very passionate mind. Some of his works are like painted poems or musical compositions. One is inclined to think that his artistic aims are best realised pictorially in the portraits (somehow reminiscent of Kokoschka), in which he combines intensive emotion with remarkable craftsmanship.

Margarete Brauer was born 1890 in Berlin and lived in Kassel from 1913 until she emigrated to Israel. Since 1955 she has been living again in Kassel as a painter of well-established reputation. In their sincerity and straightforwardness her paintings are a great and pleasant surprise. Abstract and figurative elements blend in her work in a natural and organic way. In this exhibition Israeli biblical landscapes and biblical figures are represented in a style which combines both dignity and pictorial impressiveness. She belongs to those women artists who, though endowed with great feminine sensibility, are powerful in colour, outline and form. This contrast between form and content, artistic message and its expression, spells a great charm. Margarete Brauer belongs certainly to this group of subtle and strong women artists in whom the simultaneity of reason and feeling does not obstruct the flow of creative power, but enhances it. Not only the oils, but also the monotypes and gouaches, are works of artistic integrity and quality of a rare standard.

Lottie Reizenstein

The painter Lottie Reizenstein, now well known in this country through a number of exhibitions, has been showing water-colours, gouaches and oils of Sicilian landscapes at the Italian State Tourist Office in Regent Street. The artist has travelled extensively in Europe and these pictures are the artistic harvest of a journey to Italy. She looks at the Sicilian landscape and architectural buildings with a loving and understanding eye. She discerns what is paintable and decorative here and dares to beautify nature—a purpose for which courage is needed nowadays. She can convey the beauty and pleasure which emanate from a given piece of landscape, for she has taste and an innate sense for colour, light and contrast. But the painter never descends to cheap tricks of prettiness; she always remains a conscientious and sincere painter. Her water-colours and gouaches especially are true and sensitive images of what she has seen in that wonderful country; they are precise and good pieces of craftsmanship, and at the same time imaginative and poetical. She does not abandon tradition—one is reminded of 18th-century painters like Guardi—and her pictures give us a sensation of *joie de vivre*, as do those paintings of a more beautiful and harmonious epoch than our own.

R. SPIRA,

WALTER GOEHR

Walter Goehr, who collapsed and died after conducting a "Messiah" performance in Sheffield on December 4th—aged 57—was one of the foremost among the German-Jewish musicians who had come to this country in the 1930s. He was born in Berlin, where he attended the Friedrichs-Werdersch's Gymnasium. (I still have memories of the highly gifted "Primaner" who excelled at school concerts.) He studied in Berlin and was for a time under Schoenberg.

In this country he held appointments with leading gramophone companies; after the war he conducted the B.B.C. Theatre Orchestra. Later his activities extended to various European countries, the U.S.A. and Israel.

An inspiring all-round musician, he was at home with the music of all periods. Besides promoting the cause of contemporary music, he did outstanding work for the great 17th-century composer Monteverdi, whose "Vespers" he edited and conducted in several notable performances including, quite recently, one at York Minster.

His stimulating influence will be much missed on the musical scene here and abroad.

H. W. FREYHAN.

DEATH OF ERNST ROWOHLT

"Why did you publish the autobiography of Arnolt Bronnen, a notorious turncoat who changed from Nazism to Communism?" I asked my neighbour, Ernst Rowohlt, in a Berlin theatre a few years ago. "In order to be able to publish books by some of your friends whose works are not selling so well", he answered. In fact, Rowohlt, who died last month in Hamburg 73 years old, was the only German publisher who could and did ignore politics, and printed not only Bruno and Leonhard Frank, Tucholsky, Ringelnatz, and Mehring but also Ernst von Salomon and Celine, the anti-Semite. He went into business in 1908, became an officer during the First World War, and, together with Hasenclever and Kokoschka, in 1919 started his publishing company, which quickly made itself a name by editing Balzac's works in 43 volumes. Rowohlt was a friend of his authors and paved the way in Germany for Hemingway, Faulkner, Thomas Wolfe, and Sinclair Lewis. He went into exile to Brazil when the Nazis interfered in his business, but returned during the war to Germany because, as he said, he did not want to miss the downfall of Hitler. One year after the end of the war he invented "ro-ro-ro", cheap pocket books printed like newspapers, and his first best-seller was Ceram's "Goetter, Graeber und Gelehrte". Never afraid of controversial books, Rowohlt published von Salomon's "Fragebogen", and also Sartre, Musil, and "Lolita", not to speak of Lawrence's "Lady C.". He was one of the first residents of Western countries who visited Russia, and had a licence from all four occupation powers. Rowohlt was in every respect a unique personality, the last great man among the German publishers.

PEM.

DUTCH-JEWISH ARTIST'S EXHIBITION

The Anglo-Netherlands Society recently held a private exhibition of the works of the Dutch-Jewish artist, Japp Davids, in honour of his memory.

LECTURE ON RITUAL ART

At a lecture Dr. Cecil Roth gave at the Jewish Museum on Jewish ritual art, he stated that Germany, even more than Spain and Italy, was the essential home of Jewish ritual art. This art dated back not more than 1,000 years, but nothing of remarkable antiquity had been preserved, due to the loss of articles because of persecution of the Jews and because money had always been devoted first for the aid of suffering rather than for religious art.

SHOLEM ASCH MEMORIAL

The Municipal Council in Kutno, Western Poland, is to erect a monument to commemorate the birth of Sholem Asch.

KURT MESSOW—LAWYER AND POET

Among the few Jews who survived the horror régime in Berlin was a lawyer, Kurt Messow. He owed his life to the courageous assistance of a woman whom he married after the war when the Nuremberg Laws were repealed. From 1945 onwards, he held high offices in the legal administration of Berlin. Messow's gifts as a lawyer were coupled with high talent as a poet, and collections of his work were published in several volumes from 1954 onwards. He died on November 28th, 1955. To mark the 5th anniversary of his death, a further collection, which makes very pleasant reading, was issued under the heading "Seele" (Erich Blaschker Verlag, Berlin, 1960). The artistic value of the contents is confirmed by the fact that the poet Albrecht Goes enhanced it by a postscript in which he pays tribute to the personality of the author who managed "to bear the struggle between the burden of life and the urge for freedom, between the shortcomings of our world and the joy of existence". "Messow", Albrecht Goes says, "loved his German mother tongue and knew how to use it for his poetic creations".

AN AUSTRIAN GUIDE TO CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

A manual summarising the most important events of the period 1918-1960 has been published by the Oesterreichischer Kulturverlag in Salzburg, which is closely associated with the Oesterreichische Gemeinschaft, a genuinely progressive Catholic group whose lively journal, *Die Oesterreichische Nation*, is strongly opposed to neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic tendencies in Austria. The manual—"Gegenwartskunde", by Dr. Ernst Joseph Goerlich (339 pages, price 10s.)—is informative in recording the anti-Semitic crimes and unambiguous in their condemnation.

ANNE FRANK DIARY

The publishing house of S. Fischer has sold a total of 753,000 copies of the German pocket edition of "The Diary of Anne Frank", which is understood to be a record for any pocket edition in Germany.

The "Diary" has now been published in Russian in a large edition, with an introduction by Ilya Ehrenburg. "All know," writes Ehrenburg, "that the Nazis murdered six million Jews, citizens of some twenty States. 'The Diary of Anne Frank' should serve as a warning to all to do everything to prevent a recurrence of such a tragedy". A film of the book, to have been produced in Moscow, has so far not obtained an official permit to be shown to the Russian public.

JEWISH NEWSPAPERS

Mr. Josef Fraenkel, when he contributed to a "Living Newspaper" held in Yiddish by the British Section of the World Jewish Congress and the Association of Jewish Journalists and Authors in London recently, stated that there are nearly 1,100 Jewish newspapers in the world today. Of those published in the Diaspora, 48 per cent are in English. Mr. Fraenkel was talking about the forthcoming World Conference of Jewish Journalists in Israel.

A world union of Jewish journalists, he said, could become a new and potent force in the Jewish world, besides raising the prestige of the profession. He recalled the attempts which had previously been made to convene a World Conference and the failure to do so because of the language difficulties which had arisen between the Yiddishists and Hebraists.

BALLET OF "DYBBUK"

The ballet "The Dybbuk" had its world première at the Royal Opera House in Ghent, Belgium. The performance was televised and received favourable comment. It was presented by the Ballet des Deux Mondes and the choreographer was Herbert Ross.

RUSSIAN POET REMEMBERED

A special meeting in Moscow, organised by the Union of Soviet Writers, commemorated the memory of the late Leib Kvitko on the 70th anniversary of his birth. He was one of the leading Yiddish poets shot in the mass execution of Jewish writers under Stalin's régime.

70th BIRTHDAY OF ALFRED S. DRESEL

OUR VICE-CHAIRMAN

On January 3rd, our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Alfred S. Dresel, will celebrate his 70th birthday. He has been closely associated with the AJR since its inception, first as a Board member, later on as a member of the Executive and since 1954 as its Vice-Chairman.

Work in the legal and economic field has shaped his professional career, and at an early age he obtained a responsible position with the old-established Banking House, Mendelssohn & Co., in Berlin. The fact that work for the Jewish community became a decisive part of his life only at a later stage makes it easier for him to see many things in their wider context and to estimate at their true value "ideological" differences or organisational ambitions.

The spheres in which Alfred Dresel's gifts have been beneficial for our community are as multifarious as the work of the AJR and its associated organisations. His activities under the auspices of the Council of Jews from Germany in legislative and judicial questions concerning the compensation of Nazi victims are dealt with in a separate tribute. In the AJR his main—but by no means only—efforts are centred on the Homes for the Aged. The outsider may not realise how much work, experience and devotion this entails. There are questions of building, of financing, of selecting applicants, to quote only a few examples. In tackling these problems as a member of the Management Committee for the Homes, Alfred Dresel excels owing to a strong feeling of justice and an undogmatic, practical approach. At the same time he is a most effective negotiator.

Yet above all he is driven by a deeply rooted urge to be of help to his fellow-refugees. There is hardly a single day when he has not to attend to some of the tasks of the AJR, and hardly a week passes in which he has not to participate in one or several meetings. The position the AJR has been able to establish is in no small degree due to the fact that one of their spokesmen is Alfred Dresel, who, by his open-mindedness and integrity, is respected and liked by all who have dealings with him.

With feelings of affection and of gratitude for his indefatigable services we wish Mr. Dresel many years to come of undiminished happiness, health and activity.

W.R.

TRIBUTE FOR SERVICES

In my capacity as Chairman of the Jewish Trust Corporation I had an opportunity of welcoming Mr. Dresel at many meetings of the Council of the Corporation, and I had also the pleasure of thanking him recently for his work as one of the Trustees of the Equity Hardship Fund.

As Chairman of the Allocations Committee of the Central British Fund which applies funds allocated by the Jewish Trust Corporation for the assistance of refugees in this country, I wish to pay my tribute to him for the splendid services rendered by him as a member of the Management Committee of the Old Age Homes established by the Allocations Committee in co-operation with the Association of Jewish Refugees. His wise counsel and untiring enthusiasm have been of the greatest assistance to me and his colleagues.

SIR HENRY d'AVIGDOR GOLDSMID.

SPOKESMAN FOR JEWS FROM GERMANY

The Council of Jews from Germany joins its British constituent, the AJR, in congratulating Mr. Alfred S. Dresel most sincerely on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Mr. Dresel has been a member of the British Executive Committee of the Council for most of the time since the Council was established in 1945. He has attended nearly every meeting and his wise advice, at all times and willingly given, has been of the utmost benefit to the Council. He has represented the Council most effectively as a member of the Executive of the Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany, which administers the reclaimed property of Jewish persecutees in those parts of Germany which used to form the British Zone of Germany and of Berlin, and also repeatedly at conferences with authorities in Germany, dealing with matters of restitution and indemnification.

To these basic facts, a few more personal words may be added.

Three qualities above all others are required for the effective work for the community which Dresel has been doing; all these qualities are his to a remarkable degree. The most important is certainly the spirit of friendship and human kindness shown by Dresel both in his public work and in his private life. The second is the adroitness and practical ability of a man of affairs, acquired in his many years of successful activity as a lawyer, turned banker, in Berlin. The third, important in the case of legal work such as is done by the Council in matters of restitution and indemnification, is a really solid fund of legal knowledge. The present writer has often admired how this fund of knowledge amassed by Dresel in his younger days has remained intact throughout many years of activity outside the legal profession and is paying good dividends to this day.

His quite remarkable youthfulness encourages all his friends and co-workers to hope that Alfred S. Dresel will be spared to his wife and children, to his friends and to our cause, for many years to come.

W.B.

CONSTRUCTIVE AND HELPFUL

Alfred Dresel's seventieth birthday gives me a welcome opportunity to express my great respect for him. I remember well when I first met him in the 'twenties; he was then legal adviser to Mendelssohn & Co., who were at that time the leading private banking house in Berlin. In various negotiations in which we were jointly engaged during that period I was much impressed by his painstaking attention to detail, but however much he looked into all the particulars of a problem he never lost sight of the fundamental issues and the basic standards to be applied. He is that combination which is rare at all times and particularly so nowadays—a man of strong principles and a thorough empiricist.

When the Hitler régime forced Alfred Dresel to emigrate from Germany, he decided to settle down in this country. As in the land of his origin, so again in that of his adoption, he did much constructive work and stimulated his friends with his sound questions and his profound observations.

All who have the privilege of knowing Alfred Dresel appreciate with deep gratitude the wise and helpful approach which he brings to every task and problem which comes his way. May he have for very many years to come a full measure of the happiness and satisfaction which he deserves.

IEGMUND WARBURG.

PERSONALIA

BERTHA BADT-STRAUSS 75

Mrs. Bertha Badt-Strauss recently celebrated her 75th birthday in Shreveport, La., U.S.A. Her works include books on Annette von Droste-Huelshoff and Rahel Varnhagen and also an appraisal of the rôle played by Jewish women in Berlin at the beginning of the 19th century, published under the title "Jüdinnen". At the same time she has become widely known by her innumerable contributions to periodicals both in Germany prior to her emigration and now in countries of resettlement.

In the course of the past years, *AJR Information* has also had the privilege of enlisting her co-operation, and her articles have always been of particular value due to the profound knowledge on which they are based and to the impressive way in which they are presented. As it happens, this issue again carries an article by Bertha Badt-Strauss in which she pays tribute to a leading Jewish woman of our times and at the same time brings to life memories many of us had to share. On behalf of her many friends in this country, we convey our sincerest congratulations to Bertha Badt-Strauss.

PEM 60

For all who know him—and their number must be tremendous—it will be a surprise that, on January 18, Pem will have reached the venerable age of 60. Though he may look back on a successful career which started many decades ago, his youthful appearance and temperament make it hard to believe in the truth of the birth certificate!

In addition to his diligent and widespread journalistic activities, he has also three books to his credit. Two of them—"Heimweh nach dem Kurfuerstendam" and "Der Himmel haengt voller Geigen"—appeared in Germany after the war. His third book—"Strangers Everywhere"—was published in England before the war and, based on personal stories, depicts the initial struggles and also successes of refugees from Germany in this country; thus Pem has also contributed to the historiography of our community. Yet it would be against his nature to be confined to writing-desk and typewriter. His is in constant touch with innumerable people, and many visitors from abroad make a point of seeing him when they pass through London. At the same time, he is a living address index, and enquirers from all corners of the world (including readers of *AJR Information*) tap on his infallible resources.

This paper is indebted to him for his regular feature "Old Acquaintances" which is eagerly expected by our friends every month. It is therefore not quite unselfish if we sum up our good wishes to Pem by expressing the hope that the happy co-operation between him and *AJR Information* may go on for many years to come. May he also enjoy life in the future to the same full extent as he has in the past.

MEDAL FOR RUSSIAN-JEWISH PHYSICIST

The famous Russian-Jewish physicist and Professor of Theoretical Physics at Moscow University, Dr. Lev Davidovic Landau, has been awarded the Max Planck Medal for 1960 at the annual congress of the Association of German Physicist Societies in Wiesbaden. The award stated that Dr. Landau was "one of the most outstanding theoreticians" in the world and "has brought new methods" to the world of science.

POLISH WRITER HONOURED

Pinchas Bornstein, former Secretary to I. L. Peretz, has been awarded the Order of the Silver Cross of Poland for his revolutionary writings and fight for the freedom of Poland.

Bornstein, who is now 74, was imprisoned for long periods before the war for his Communist ideology and pro-Soviet writings.

AMERICAN AWARD TO ISAAC WOLFSON

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America has presented Mr. Isaac Wolfson with a special Award "For Service to World Jewry", at their biennial convention held in Atlantic City.

Bertha Badt-Strauss

CENTENARY OF HENRIETTA SZOLD

A Personal Reminiscence of her Visit to Germany

This happened in 1935, twenty-five years ago in Berlin. The German Jews slowly realised that the Hitler nightmare would not disappear overnight as some wishful thinkers amongst them had hoped. From day to day, there were new humiliations and persecutions. The notorious Nuremberg Laws had deprived the Jews of their rights; they became pariahs.

Then, a little old lady in a neat black dress, came from Palestine to Germany. She was Henrietta Szold, eldest daughter of Rabbi Benjamin Szold of Baltimore, and she came to Berlin, though her friends and relatives wanted her to cancel the dangerous trip. Her visit had been scheduled long before the ominous Nuremberg Laws had been made public. That she *did* come, in spite of all obstacles, gave the Berlin Jews some of their courage back; they decided that not one of the meetings with Miss Szold should be cancelled.

At this time, Henrietta Szold was a "young woman of seventy-five" as she called herself. She told us: "I am sharing with you a moment in history which is at once depressing and elevating." After her return to Palestine, she reported that her presence among us had

fortified us to bear the trials of the time and the ever-increasing misery of humiliation. But there was one thing which we could not know at that time; what this visit to Hitler Germany meant to Miss Szold herself. Those Berlin days seem to have given her a deeper insight into her own mission. This is how it came about.

Public Meeting in Berlin

At her first Berlin meeting, the speaker was Julius Seligsohn. He recalled that, some forty years earlier, the Philadelphia Jews had planned to celebrate the centenary of the great Jewish-German philosopher, Moses Mendelssohn. They had chosen Rabbi Benjamin Szold of Baltimore to deliver the principal address. Seligsohn quoted passages from that address, words well remembered by Rabbi Szold's daughter. Miss Szold, both embarrassed and proud, confessed that she felt "as if she were protected by the rock from which she was hewn". It seemed to her as if her sainted father had given his blessing to her work for Youth Aliyah.

There was another of these meetings which Miss Szold described in a letter to her sisters.

"Can you imagine my consternation when I entered a hall packed with eight hundred persons, with whom I was to have 'intimate conversation' about the children from whom they had voluntarily separated?" Fathers and mothers, uncles and aunts, rushed to the little woman and overwhelmed her with personal messages.

She stood like a rock in the midst of a stormy sea. She was supposed to know everything and everybody. They asked her advice about problems ranging from what to do about the children's tonsils to prospective bridegrooms for their daughters, and Miss Szold did not disappoint these frantic, lonely parents. Although she could not know everyone, she seemed to know everything. They went home feeling that there was a motherly eye watching their beloved ones from whom they had parted.

In 1937, two years later, Miss Szold made her last visit to Germany. Then she wrote to her sisters: "The Jews are living corpses. Their only cry is 'Save our children!'" We all know how Henrietta Szold responded to that cry. She went to her eternal rest in 1945 but whenever a child is hospitably welcomed in Israel, her spirit seems to rest upon him. As long as Youth Aliyah is able to gather in its sons and daughters, Henrietta Szold will continue to be what she wanted to be: a joyful mother of children whom she saved from persecution and who she helped to build up a new life in the old-new homeland of their fathers.

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Hertha Neufeld

"UNSERE" BIBLIOTHEK

Die Bibliothek der AJR ist vor mehr als fuenf Jahren als Teil des "Social Service Department" entstanden. Sie begann mit einigen wenigen Buechern, die im Wesentlichen an aeltere, kranke Menschen verliehen wurden, um Freude und Anregung in ihr Leben zu bringen. Sie hat heute einen Bestand von ca. 2.500 Baenden, Geschenke von Freunden und Mitgliedern und Zuweisungen aus Nachlaessen. Es ist selbstverstaendlich, dass bei dieser Form des Entstehens der Bibliothek keinerlei Richtlinien fuer Anschaffung der Buecher massgebend sein konnten. Dafuer hat die Sammlung den Reiz der Vielseitigkeit. Man kann heute, nach jahrelangem Sammeln und Ordnen, eine Einteilung der Buecher nach fuenf Sachgebieten geben.

Die erste, juedische Abteilung, die ich zuerst nenne, weil sie unseren Interessen am naechsten steht, weist einige wertvolle und interessante Werke auf. Darunter befinden sich z.B. religionswissenschaftliche Schriften von Leo Baeck, Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig und Moritz Lazarus, ferner Geschichtswerke von Graetz und Elbogen, zionistische Schriften und palaestinensische Berichte (Herzl, Achad Haam, Pinsker, Crossman, etc.) und schliesslich eine Reihe von Biographien und Romanen aus dem juedischen Milieu, z.B. von Dubnow, Shmarjahu Levin, Max Brod, Zangwill, etc.

Die zweite Abteilung besteht aus deutscher Literatur. Von ihr besitzt die Bibliothek ca. 600 Baende, die in der Zeit vom Ende des 18. Jahrhunderts bis ungefaehr 1935 veroeffentlicht wurden. In unserer Sammlung beginnt diese Epoche mit den Werken Lessings, der gemeinsam mit seinem Freunde Moses Mendelssohn den in Deutschland lebenden Juden den Zugang zur hochdeutschen Sprache und Kultur eroeffnete. Ihnen folgen die Werke der Klassiker: Schiller und Goethe und diejenigen der heute wieder geschaezten Romantiker (Hoelderlin, Kleist, Heine, etc.).

Es ist selbstverstaendlich nicht moeglich, im Rahmen dieses Aufsatzes einen Gang durch anderthalb Jahrhunderte deutscher Literatur zu machen. Fuer diesen Zweck stehen verschiedene literaturgeschichtliche Werke bei uns zur Verfuegung. Ich moechte nur auf einige Autoren hinweisen, deren Romane unsere Leser vielleicht gern lesen oder

wieder lesen moechten: Felix Dahn, Georg Ebers, Theodor Storm, Wilhelm Raabe, Adalbert Stifter, Theodor Fontane, Viktor Scheffel, Gottfried Keller, Conrad Ferdinand Meyer. Das meiste Interesse finden sicherlich die Romane und Theaterstuecke, die am Ende des 19. und im ersten Drittel des 20. Jahrhunderts veroeffentlicht wurden, z.B. von Gerhart Hauptmann, Arthur Schnitzler, Hugo v. Hofmannsthal, Hermann Hesse, Ricarda Huch, Georg Hermann, Jacob Wassermann, Franz Werfel, Arnold Zweig, Stefan Zweig, Thomas Mann, Johannes R. Becher, Werner Bergengruen, Alfred Doeblin.

Eine grosse Zahl leichter Unterhaltungslektuere ist ebenfalls vorhanden.

Die dritte Abteilung der Bibliothek besteht aus deutschen Uebersetzungen von Werken der Weltliteratur, z.B. aus dem englischen, franzoesischen, skandinavischen und slawischen Kulturgebiet.

In der vierten Abteilung findet man Biographien, Tagebuecher und Briefwechsel von beruehmten Maennern und Frauen, z.B. von Kuenstlern, Herrschern, Politikern, Forschern und Gelehrten.

Die letzte, fuenfte, Abteilung weist naturwissenschaftliche Schriften und Reiseberichte sowie eine kleine Reihe von philosophischen Buechern auf.

Diese kurze Uebersicht, die natuerlich keinen Anspruch auf Vollstaendigkeit erheben kann, zeigt bereits, dass die Bibliothek der AJR eine grosse Reihe leserwertiger Buecher enthaelt. Es waere zu begruessen, wenn sich dem jetzt aus 150 Mitgliedern bestehenden Leserkreis eine Anzahl neuer Freunde anschliessen wuerde. Die Verwaltung der Bibliothek ist auch bereit, alten oder kranken, an das Haus gefesselten Menschen Buecher durch freiwillige Helfer in die Wohnung bringen zu lassen und steht auch zur Beratung bei der Auswahl dieser Buecher gern zur Verfuegung.

Die Bibliothek ist in den Raeumen der AJR, 8 Fairfax Mansions, N.W.3, untergebracht und waehrend der Geschaeftstunden Montag bis Donnerstag von 10-1 und 3-6 Uhr, Freitags von 10-1 Uhr zugaenglich.

Bekanntlich bemueht sich die AJR, geeignete groessere Raeume fuer den AJR-Club zu finden. Falls dies gelingt und falls die Raemlichkeiten ausreichend sind, soll auch die Bibliothek in den neuen Club-Raeumen ihren Platz finden.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. KAETE SCHWARZ

It is learned with deep regret that Mrs. Kaete Schwarz, of Hindhead, passed away recently, 64 years old. Her well-known guest house, "Furzedown", had become a landmark for our community. There, together with her husband who had predeceased her, she built up an atmosphere which gave her guests the feeling of being really at home. She was one of those in our midst who bravely adjusted her life to the change of circumstances necessitated by emigration. No efforts were too great for her where the well-being of those in her charge was concerned, and thus she became a helpful friend to all who stayed at her place. The unflinching services she rendered in her own way to people of our background will always be remembered by them with feelings of affection, admiration and gratitude.

AGAIN "JACOBSONSCHULE" IN SEESEN

The secondary school in Seesen (Harz) which was named "Jacobsonschule", until the Nazis dropped this reference to its munificent Jewish founder, Israel Jacobson, has now been named "Gymnasium Seesen (ehemalige Jacobsonschule)". The Chairman of the Seesen Jewish Community, Mr. Henry Nussbaum, himself a former pupil of the "Jacobsonschule", expressed the hope that, in keeping with the ideas of Israel Jacobson, the school will be guided by a spirit of humanitarianism and religious tolerance.

RESTORATION OF JEWISH NAMES

At the suggestion of the Federal Defence Minister, Herr Strauss, the names of Jewish soldiers in the German army killed during the First World War, which were effaced from memorial stones and plaques during the Nazi regime, are to be restored.

This task is to be entrusted to the German organisation which tends the graves of German soldiers, in co-operation with the German communal authorities.

FAMOUS ITALIANS COMMEMORATED

The late Professor Vito Volterra, the mathematician, who died after the Second World War, and Professor Tullio Ascarelli, two famous Italian Jews, were commemorated at ceremonies in Rome.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Goldschmidt.—Mr. Hermann Goldschmidt (formerly Dortmund), of 5 Holmwood Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, 20, will celebrate his 70th birthday on January 16th, and his wife, Mrs. Berta Goldschmidt (née Hess), will celebrate her 60th birthday on January 5th.

Deaths

Abrahamsohn.—Mrs. Alice Abrahamsohn (née Cronbach) of 51 Ambleside Avenue, S.W.16 (formerly Stettin), passed away peacefully after a long illness on December 2nd, aged 78. She is mourned by her husband, Arthur, and by her children and grandchildren.

Balsam.—Mrs. Ilse Ruth Balsam (née Manasse), of 27 Lyndfield Gardens, N.W.3, passed away, aged 47, on November 9th. Deeply mourned by her husband, S. Balsam, and daughters, Susan and Nancy.

Cohn.—Mrs. Gertrud Cohn (née Salomonski), of 130 King Henry's Road, London, N.W.3, passed away on December 9th in her 75th year. Deeply mourned by her husband, Georg Cohn, her son and other relatives.

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries by AJR

Bendit, Kurt and Samuel, presumed to be living in England, wanted by their cousin, Mr. John Stephan Harrison, formerly Jacobsberg, residing in Australia.

Mrs. Johanna Ragendorfer, born 13.2.1892 in Vienna.

BIRTHDAYS

PAUL LOEBE 85

On December 14th, the former Reichstags-präsident, Paul Loebe, celebrated his 85th birthday. The Board of the "Unteilbares Deutschland" movement whose President he is, marked the occasion by a meeting at the Berlin Parliament. Tributes were paid to Paul Loebe by Frau Dr. Lueders and Minister Ernst Lemmer.

DR. WILLY MICHAELIS 75

On January 21st Dr. Willy Michaelis, of 86 Holders Hill Road, N.W.4, will be 75. After thorough training as an orthopaedic surgeon at the University Hospitals in Berlin and Leipzig he served with distinction as a doctor in the First World War and was also one of the co-founders of the first hospital for occupational therapy and physical rehabilitation in Germany. He settled in Leipzig where he soon organised the communal care for crippled persons. His main aim became the physical education of the young, which he considered as the best way of avoiding and curing deformations. Being a keen sportsman himself, he was one of the founders of the Deutsche Aerztbund zur Foerderung der Leibesuebungen, of which he was the president until 1933. He was co-editor of the periodical "Sportmedizin", in which a number of publications testify to his scientific aims. He was also the leading sports doctor of the Leipzig "Arbeiter-Turn- und Sport-schule". For many years he served in the Jewish community of Leipzig as a Repraesentant.

Following his emigration to this country he worked as the head of an orthopaedic department of a hospital in Coventry until he took up private specialist practice in London and work at the Highlands Hospital where he specialised in the after-care of polio cases. The number of people whom he was able to help in his long career and who are thankful for him is unusually great.

EX-CHANCELLOR BRUENING 75

The former German Reichskanzler, Dr. Heinrich Bruening, was 75 recently. He left Germany in 1933 and, after having stayed first in Switzerland and England, received a call to Harvard University in 1937. He returned to Germany in 1951 and for some time taught at Cologne University. However, later on he went back to the United States and now lives in Boston.

DR. LEO STERNBERG 80

The well-known lawyer, Dr. Leo Sternberg (formerly Berlin), recently celebrated his 80th birthday in Santiago de Chile. He was associated with Geheimrat Dr. Hermann Oberneck, and, like his senior partner, held a leading position in the "Deutsche Notarverein". He was also the editor of the "Notarverein" periodical and, for a great number of years, of "Neumann's Jahrbuch des Deutschen Rechts". He wrote several books and a very great number of articles on subjects connected with the work of public notaries in Germany.

DR. WILLIAM KOCHMANN 75

Dr. William Kochmann was 75 recently. He was born in Freiburg (Breisgau) and studied chemistry and economics. The interdependence between these two subjects was realised by him at an early stage, and it is, to a great extent, due to his initiative that economics were included in the universities' syllabus for engineers. Dr. Kochmann was associated with several leading industrial firms in Germany and has also a number of inventions to his credit. He has continued his scientific work in this country. Dr. Kochmann is an interested member of the AJR and is also actively associated with the "Club 1943". We extend our heartiest congratulations to him.

DR. WILLY BRUNSWIC 75

Dr. Willy Brunswic, formerly Heidelberg, now 7 Avenue Alphonse XIII, Paris 16e, was 75 on December 13th. Formerly a physician in Heidelberg, he still practises in Paris. Although he is also well known as a doctor in that city, he is even better known to wide circles in France and abroad as an ardent and successful social worker for refugees from Germany. As head of the Self-Help in Paris and with the able and devoted assistance of his wife, he helped hundreds of emigrants in the bitter days of the liberation of France. He and his wife have raised a monument to themselves in the Self-Help Home for the Aged, now in Annet-sur-Marne, near Paris. In spite of innumerable obstacles he succeeded, with the aid of the Council of Jews from Germany and the Claims Conference, in building this Home from small beginnings in the provinces to a charming and effective social institution in one of the old chateaux surrounding the metropolis. More than 40 old people have found there a haven for the rest of their lives. They and many others thank him on this occasion and wish him all the best for many years to come.

JUDAIC STUDIES AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

The Brandeis University's Philip W. Lown Institute of Advanced Judaic Studies at Waltham, Massachusetts, has been officially opened. The Institute is described as a "centre of Judaic studies dedicated to pure research, independent of denominational trends".

THE HYPHEN

The January programme of the Hyphen includes a talk on "Graphology" by Mr. Manfred Lowengard, Ph.D., on Sunday, January 15th, at 7.30, at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. Further particulars about the programme are obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. C. Winter, 8 Priory Mansions, Priory Park Road, London, N.W.6.

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GERMAN TRIALS AND ARRESTS

AUSCHWITZ DOCTOR SENTENCED BUT RELEASED

Dr. Johannes Kremer who, from August to November, 1942, was an S.S. doctor in Auschwitz was sentenced by the Munster Law Court to ten years' imprisonment for complicity in the murder of two Jewish prisoners. He was, however, released because he had already spent ten years in prison in Poland. Commenting on the judgment, the *Allgemeine Wochenzeitung* of the Jews in Germany writes that the highly complicated position of many average persons under the Nazi régime had again become evident during the trial. Unlike numerous other Nazi doctors and guards, Kremer was not a sadist. However, as he himself put it at the end of the trial, he was too much of a coward to come into the open with his opposition.

ARREST OF MASS EXECUTIONERS

Paul Heilig and Rudolf Theimer have been arrested at the request of the Bielefeld prosecutor, and charged with complicity in mass executions of Jews. They were members of the Nazi Sonderkommando 1005 which, in the winter of 1943-44, had removed all traces of German mass executions of Polish civilians carried out three years before in the area of Lublin. Jewish prisoners, who were forced to open the mass graves and destroy the bodies, were also later murdered and disposed of in the same way.

Heilig and Theimer were the subordinates of Hermann Rohlfing, the head of a sub-group of the Sonderkommando, who was arrested in September, 1959, and charged with the murder of 50 Jews.

MANSLAUGHTER VERDICT

Georg Schlosser, a former Nazi police guard at the ghetto of Czestochova, Poland, was sentenced by a Bamberg court to ten years' hard labour for killing a 13-year-old Jewish boy during the war.

In the court's opinion, the killing was a borderline case between manslaughter and murder, but the court had decided on manslaughter because of the absence of base motives.

ANTI-SEMITES SENTENCED

In Berlin, Hans Schlarp, a 32-year-old sales agent, has been sentenced to four months' imprisonment for insulting a Jewish café owner and expressing approval of Nazi crimes against the Jewish people.

Suspended prison sentences of between seven and twelve months have been given to three young men for daubing swastikas on walls in Pforzheim, near Karlsruhe, last June.

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