

Dr. Leon Zeitlin

THE QUEST FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Even at the risk of being reproached for oversimplifying mankind's attitude towards one of its burning issues—the perennial struggle for “human rights”—it could hardly be denied that so far the response to this deeply rooted challenge has by no means come up to the great expectations aroused by the unanimous adoption (with very few abstentions) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the General Assembly on UNO in 1948. This is indeed a most discouraging indication of man's apparently inborn tendency to complacency. It would be futile to try to dismiss our disappointment with the truism that more than one or two decades are needed to achieve any tangible results in the fight against prejudices and hatreds which have prevailed since time immemorial. Nor is it less complacent to ignore the world's worsening moral climate which, by the way, has reached in no time a well-balanced temperature, and to exaggerate the blessings of an allegedly “affluent society”, with its not quite justifiable claim that “we never had it so good”. But as long as scientific, technological, social and economic progress—however tremendous it may be—is almost exclusively applied to the satisfaction of basically materialistic human necessities, or even to those of higher and refined living standards, the spiritual gap “beyond supply and demand” remains open. And it is unsatisfied spiritual need from which our conception of human rights derives.

On various occasions I was privileged to express in *The Times*, as well as in this paper, my views on the strange disproportion between the lack of constructive work on the one hand and the abundance of praiseworthy—though unrealistic—draft covenants on the other, that characterises the activities of the Human Rights Commission. Surely the untiring efforts of its members, or rather those of the numerous non-Governmental observers, delegated from an impressive variety of spiritually interested, religious, scientific or social-ethical bodies, deserve high praise. However, there is no reason for such self-glorification as became manifest during the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration in 1958. The fact remains that the Human Rights Commission has not been able to finish its chief and almost exclusive task: the completion of a draft convention on Human Rights which might have a chance of being adopted by the General Assembly of UNO and of being ratified by its members. However, since under present world conditions the U.S.A. felt unable to sign covenants imposing binding obligations on the signatories, we cannot help admitting that a merely legal, or political, approach to the basically ethical problems of human rights will not get us very far.

The unrealistic approach to the great cause of the advancement of Human Rights is clearly indicated by the strange fact that the need to make especially young people “human rights conscious” in their formative years has apparently never occurred to those in charge of preparing the draft covenants. Otherwise it could hardly have escaped their attention that, while an ever-increasing number of “human rights” is being listed, there is not much to be heard of “human duties”. As a matter of fact the words “Human Duties” are mentioned quite casually only once. Hence the indifferent attitude of the public toward the burning and manifold moral, social, cultural, legal, political and economic aspects which the conception of Human Rights implies.

In this connection it is certainly of interest that the European Court of Human Rights set up in Rome about ten years ago under the auspices of the Council of Europe has given its first judgment in a dispute between a State, the Republic of Eire, and one of its own citizens. The sacred cow of the State's sovereignty has always been one of the almost insurmountable obstacles barring an individual in his struggle for justice against “the powers that be”!

Why, then, this strange indifference of public opinion about a case of fundamental importance for the advancement of human rights? We looked in vain for letters to the Press. And why did the newspapers take but scanty notice of a conflict typical of the relationship between the individual and the government of a parliamentary democracy, which the Republic of Eire prides itself to be? Or has the wind of change, blowing so strongly over the four corners of the earth, gently by-passed one of mankind's foremost problems? Unfortunately, there is much to be said for an explanatory answer to these tricky questions, namely, that a ridiculous coincidence may well be one of the main causes of glossing over a case which deserved to be the starting point of a new and imaginative approach to one of today's burning issues. As it happened this case was established by a person with the not quite adequate name of “Lawless”. Men being what they are they seem to be prejudiced as to the eventual merits of a claim submitted by a person of that name.

The Case of Mr. Lawless

The essence of the plaintiff's complaint is, so to speak, the “lawlessness” of the Republic of Eire in holding Mr. Lawless, admittedly a member of the illegal Irish Republican Army, in protective detention without charge and trial. The European Court of Human Rights has dismissed the plaintiff's claim for damages. But without wishing to level any criticism of the Court's judgment, which no doubt is formally correct, it should not be forgotten that its findings are essentially based on an article of the European Human Rights Convention, which in fact is begging the question. This article stipulates that “any State in the event of war or other public dangers . . . is entitled to take measures derogatory to provisions of the Convention on the condition always that such measures are not in conflict with other obligations flowing from international law”. As, however, there is no international law concerning the whole concept of protective or preventive detention the Court's judgment in “Lawless v. Lawlessness” is both unsatisfactory and disappointing.

Although the cynics' attitude is sufficiently known and angry young men and old are likely to indulge in general strictures on futile attempts to square the circle of man's contradictory behaviour, the not entirely extinct species of realistically thinking idealists will not admit defeat. For them the steep uphill road leading to an equilibrium between human rights and human duties and between individual and social obligations has not reached a dead end.

On a somewhat circuitous route a point has been reached from which it might be worth while to continue with “the beginning of the beginning”. At the root of the crisis at present shaking the foundations of the United Nations is the rapid and inorganic increase of its members, numbering today 99 countries, in contrast to the

odd fifty founder-members. Nobody will dispute that this state of affairs indicates not only an almost incredible lack of realistic balance but that the absence of Germany and China (especially compared with the status of Formosa) must exercise a paralysing effect on UNO's tremendous tasks and activities. The setting-up of “Specialised Agencies” for the purpose of continuing UNO's practical work at least in those fields where the General Assembly's political quarrels have to give way to the urgent demands of the day was therefore a logical and useful expedient.

Such specialised agencies, with their own restricted responsibilities, have proved their *raison d'être* by the important and generally appreciated work they have carried and are carrying out within their terms of reference approved by the General Assembly. Suffice to mention FAO (Food and Agricultural Organisation), ILO (International Labour Organisation), WHO (World Health Organisation) and UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund). Even those only mildly interested in things to come on a universal humane level will certainly acknowledge that the activities of these agencies reflect the split which the founders of UNO had in mind.

A Practical Proposal

Is it, then, too bold a suggestion to ponder the possibilities of applying the principles and methods of procedure of these agencies in an attempt to establish a Specialised Agency for Human Rights? Needless to say its responsibilities would be restricted to the same extent as those of the existing agencies; however, there would still remain ample opportunity for urgently needed practical work. As far back as 1952 one could refer to the startling fact that during the preceding year the Human Rights Commission had received 25,000 complaints, yet there was no indication whether and in which way the herculean task of dealing with them efficiently could be carried out. Even assuming that the majority of the complaints was based on erroneous views about the functions and terms of reference of the Human Rights Commission and that the main burden in answering these would rest on a large and efficient administrative staff, the absence of such a machinery is certainly no excuse for the growing public indifference to the aims of the Human Rights Commission.

However, the primary task of such an agency should surely be an untiring endeavour to raise everywhere the level of Human Rights consciousness. The world's spiritual and intellectual élite should deem it an honour to serve on the executive of such an agency, either permanently or temporarily, and to protect the individual's dignity wherever violated or threatened.

The beginning of racial, national, social and religious tensions should be carefully watched by an impartial observer corps, who would report to the agency; arbitrators on the spot or roving Human Rights ambassadors could thus take speedy action. This, of course, is a far cry! However, the establishment and organisation of a comprehensive system whereby children and adolescents—and, indeed, every human being from whatever walk of life—can be infused with Human Rights consciousness, should not present insurmountable obstacles in our era of mass media with its unlimited channels of application for attaining higher moral standards.

Then we might live to see the Human Rights Commission elevated from its absurd “sub-commission of a sub-commission of the General Assembly” status to the Moral Conscience of the World.

OESTERREICHISCHER ABGELTUNGSFONDS

Im Sinne des Notenwechsels vom 15. Mai 1959 zwischen der oesterreichischen Regierung und den Regierungen von U.S.A., U.K. und Frankreich hat die oesterreichische Regierung die Verpflichtung uebernommen, einen Entschaeidungsfonds zu errichten und ihn mit dem Schilling-Gegenwert von \$6,000,000 zuzueglich 10% Verwaltungskosten, zu dotieren.

Die Errichtung des Fonds hat sich aus innerpolitischen Gruenden, die die Regierung nicht ueberwinden konnte, verzoeigert. Die Beschlussfassung ueber den Fonds wurde naemlich von massgebenden Parlamentariern beider Koalitionsparteien mit der Beschlussfassung ueber die 12. Novelle zum Opferfuersorgegesetz (siehe Dr. Brassloffs Artikel auf Seite 2 der *AJR Information* vom August, 1961) verknuepft, welche Novelle wiederum mit den oesterreichisch-deutschen Verhandlungen ueber einen deutschen Beitrag zusammenhing. So kam es, dass das Gesetz ueber die Errichtung des neuen Fonds erst am 22. Maerz 1961 den oesterreichischen Nationalrat passiert hat. Nach Ernennung der Mitglieder des Kuratoriums durch die oesterreichische Bundesregierung konstituierte sich der Fonds, dessen Statut in der Wiener Zeitung vom 2. Juli 1961 veroeffentlicht wurde, am 3. Juli 1961.

Der neue Fonds fuehrt den Namen "Fonds zur Abgeltung von Vermoegensverlusten politisch Verfolgter" und hat den Zweck, unter Aufzuehung seiner Mittel Entschaeidung an politisch Verfolgte (unter welchem Ausdruck auch Personen, die wegen ihrer Rasse oder Religion verfolgt wurden, zu verstehen sind) zu leisten, und zwar fuer den Verlust folgender Kategorien von konfiszierten Vermoegenschaften:

- Bankkonten,
- Wertpapiere,
- Bargeld,
- Hypotheken,
- Entrichtung von diskriminierenden Abgaben.

Als Bankkonto im Sinne der Statuten gilt jede Geldeinlage bei einer Bank oder einem Kreditinstitut in Oesterreich. Als Wertpapiere gelten Aktien und Obligationen; der Wert konfiszierter Wertpapiere ist fuer Zwecke der Festsetzung einer Zuwendung der vom Fonds festzustellende Marktwert der Wertpapiere am 27. July 1955 (Tag des Inkrafttretens des Oesterreichischen Staatsvertrages). Wird jedoch festgestellt, dass das Wertpapier am obigen Tage keinen oder nur einen Evidenzwert hatte, dann hat der Fonds den Wert auf Grund des Marktwertes zur Zeit der Konfiskation festzusetzen.

Als Bargeld im Sinne der Statuten gilt jegliches (in- oder auslaendisches) offizielles Papier- oder Hartgeld. Zuwendungen fuer konfisziertes Bargeld duerfen jedoch nur zuerkannt werden, wenn der Antragsteller schriftliches schlussiges Beweismaterial aus der Zeit der Konfiskation vorlegt.

Als diskriminierende Abgaben im Sinne der Statuten gelten die Reichsfluchtsteuer und die Judenvermoegenabgabe (JUVA).

Die festgestellten Verluste in allen obigen Kategorien werden in einer Summe zusammenge-

fasst, die im Statut als "urspruengliche Zuwendung" bezeichnet wird. Ein Rechtsweg, betreffend Zuwendungen aus dem Fonds, ist ausgeschlossen. Zuwendungen durch den Fonds duerfen nur physischen (demnach nicht juristischen) Personen in der nachstehenden Reihenfolge gewahrt werden:

- dem ehemaligen Eigentuerer;
- dem (der) Ehegatten (Ehegattin) eines solchen ehemaligen Eigentuerers;
- den Kindern des ersten Grades eines solchen ehemaligen Eigentuerers zu gleichen Teilen;
- wenn ein Kind, das sonst nach (c) fuer eine Zuwendung in Frage kaeme, gestorben ist, ist der Anteil eines solchen Kindes an seine ueberlebenden Kinder zu gleichen Teilen zu verteilen;
- den Eltern oder dem ueberlebenden Elternteil eines solchen ehemaligen Eigentuerers.

Im Falle, dass keine der oben angefuhrten Personen zum Zeitpunkt der Auszahlung einer Zuwendung am Leben ist, verfaellt die Zuwendung und kann an entfernte Verwandte nicht gezahlt werden.

Wie den oesterreichischen Lesern dieses Artikels bekannt sein duerfte, wurden im Jahre 1946 im Zuge der Waehrungsreform 60% aller Noten und Bankkonten nullifiziert und fuer den Rest 4% Staatsschuldverschreibungen ausgegeben, die oca 85% notieren. Waere nun z.B. eine Spareinlage nicht konfisziert worden, sondern als solche auf dem Spareinlagebuch verblieben, so haette der Inhaber den durch die Waehrungsreform vorgeschriebenen Abstrich nicht vermeiden koennen. Die alliierten Regierungen, die mit der oesterreichischen Regierung den Wortlaut der Statuten vereinbart hatten, hielten es fuer gerechtfertigt, die oesterreichische Waehrungsreform sowie die Tatsache, dass die Art der Vermoegensanlage zu einem grossen Teil vom Zufall abhing, bei der Regelung der Zuwendungen durch den Fonds zu beruecksichtigen. Das Statut verfuert daher, dass jede "urspruengliche Zuwendung" auf 35% des urspruenglichen Zuwendungsbetrages herabzusetzen ist. Solche herabgesetzte Zuwendungen werden als "berichtigte Zuwendungen" bezeichnet.

Um zu erreichen, dass die zur Verfuegung stehenden Mittel einem moeglichst weiten Kreise von Berechtigten zukommen, verfuert das Statut folgendes:

- Die "berichtigte Zuwendung" ist zunaechst im Betrage der "berichtigten Zuwendung", hoechstens aber mit S 20.000 auszuzahlen.
- Ein nach Auszahlung der unter (a) vorgesehenen Betraege verbleibender Restbetrag soll so verwendet werden, dass Zahlungen auf die "urspruenglichen Zuwendungen" bis zur Hoehe der "urspruenglichen Zuwendung", hoechstens aber, unter Einrechnung der Zahlungen unter (a), bis zu S 10.000 erfolgen.
- Im Falle dem Fonds nach Auszahlung der unter (a) und (b) vorgesehenen Betraege ein Restbetrag verbleibt, soll dieser Restbetrag dazu verwendet werden, den Rest "berichtigter Zuwendungen" hoechstens aber weitere S 20.000 (d.i. zuzueglich zu den unter (a) zu zahlenden S 20.000) auszahlend.
- Fuer den Fall, dass dem Fonds nach den unter (a), (b) und (c) vorgesehenen Zahlungen noch Mittel verbleiben sollten, sind sie so zu verwenden, dass verhaeltnismaessige Zahlungen auf noch offene Betraege jener "berichtigten Zuwendungen", welche S 40.000 uebersteigen bis zur Gesamthoehe solcher "berichtigten Zuwendungen" erfolgen.

Wenn die "urspruengliche Zuwendung" weniger als S 500 betraegt, so unterbleibt die Zahlung einer Zuwendung, da die hie mit verbundenen administrativen Ausgaben unverhaeltnismaessig gross sein wuerden.

Zahlungen, die auf Grund oesterreichischer oder deutscher Gesetzgebung fuer denselben Vermoegenschaden geleistet worden sind, oder zustehen, sind auf den Betrag der Zuwendung anzurechnen. In diesem Zusammenhang sei insbesondere darauf verwiesen, dass fuer Wert-

papiere, die nachweisbar in das Gebiet der Deutschen Republik bzw. nach Berlin verbracht worden sind, Entschaeidung gemaess § 5 des deutschen Bundes - Rueckerstattungsgesetzes zusteht.

Der Fonds kann an Personen, die am 31. August 1962 das 70. Lebensjahr erreicht haben, Vorauszahlungen auf bereits zuerkannte "berichtigte Zuwendungen" leisten, und zwar bis zu einem Betrage von S 10.000. Sonstige Zahlungen duerfen erst dann geleistet werden, wenn nach Ablauf der Anmeldefrist (31. August 1962) eine Uebersicht ueber die zu leistenden Zahlungen gegeben ist.

Bei Beruecksichtigung der oben skizzierten, von sozialen Gesichtspunkten diktieren, Verteilungsmodalitaeten, wird es unseren Lesern klar sein, dass—abgesehen von beschaenkten Vorauszahlungen an aeltere Personen—Zahlungen gar nicht geleistet werden koennen, ehe ein Ueberblick ueber die Verpflichtungen des Fonds moeglich geworden ist. Daraus ergibt sich auch, dass eine Verlaengerung der Anmeldefrist nicht erfolgen kann und auch nicht erfolgen wird, da sie unfair denjenigen gegenueber waere, die innerhalb der reichlich bemessenen Frist von 12 Monaten ihre Ansprueche angemeldet haben.

Alle Berechtigten, die die Anmeldung so rasch als moeglich vornehmen und sie nicht verschieben, helfen nicht nur sich selbst, sondern auch anderen, indem sie dem Fonds eine beschleunigte Ausrechnung seiner Verpflichtungen ermoeglichen. *Wir richten daher an unsere Leser die dringende und herzliche Bitte, rasch anzumelden und auch ihre Freunde und Bekannten zur ehesten Anmeldung zu bewegen.*

Die Adresse des Fonds ist:

Fonds zur Abgeltung von Vermoegensverlusten politisch Verfolgter, Wien II, Taborstrasse 2-6

Formulare sind beim Austrian Desk der United Restitution Organisation (U.R.O.), 183, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3 (KILburn 0021), und den oesterreichischen Konsulaten erhaeltlich.

DR. C. KAPRALIK.

MASSNAHMEN ZUR BESCHLEUNIGUNG DER WIEDERGUTMACHUNGSVERFAHREN IN BERLIN

Die Association of Democratic Lawyers from Germany in London hat auf Eingaben an die Berliner Senatoren fuer Inneres und fuer Justiz Schreiben erhalten, aus denen sich ergibt, dass beide Senatoren um die Beschleunigung des Rechtsganges in Wiedergutmachungssachen bemueht bleiben.

Der starke Arbeitsanfall bei den Wiedergutmachungskammern in Rueckerstattungssachen hat den Senator fuer Justiz veranlasst, jeder der bestehenden Kammern einen dritten Beisitzer zuzuteilen und zwei neue Kammern einzurichten. Ob diese Massnahmen ausreichen, wird vom Senator staendig ueberwacht.

Herr Lipschitz, der Senator fuer Inneres, hat das Entschaeidungsamt Berlin angewiesen, zukuenftig Entschaeidungsansprueche unabhengig vom Datum ihrer Anmeldung durch Vergleich zu regeln, wenn der Antragsteller oder sein Bevollmaechtigter ein *begrundetes und der Sach- und Rechtslage nach angemessenes Vergleichsangebot* macht. Die Vergleichsangebote werden in der Reihenfolge ihres Eingangs bearbeitet werden. Haelt das Entschaeidungsamt ein derartiges Angebot nicht fuer angemessen, so wird es bemueht sein, eine Einigung herbeizufuehren. Kommt eine solche nicht zustande, dann wird der Entschaeidungsanspruch zu gegebener Zeit nach Massgabe der allgemeinen Bearbeitungsreihenfolge bearbeitet werden.

Diese Weisung erstreckt sich nicht auf sogenannte nach dem 1 April 1958 nachgeschobene Ansprueche. Dies gilt auch dann, wenn ein anderer Entschaeidungsanspruch zu einem fruheren Zeitpunkt angemeldet worden ist.

Das Entschaeidungsamt ist ferner angewiesen worden, zukuenftig von der Annahme einmal angeforderter Unterlagen abzusehen. Das Amt wird zukuenftig diese Faelle nicht weiterbearbeiten und die betreffende Akte bis zum Eingang der Unterlagen weglegen.

Die getroffenen Massnahmen sind sehr zu begruessen. Die Anspruchsteller werden sich aber darueber klar sein muessen, dass bei der ausserordentlich starken Belastung der Berliner Wiedergutmachungsbehoerden die Abwicklung der Verfahren noch eine geraume Zeit in Anspruch nehmen wird.

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AENDERUNG DES LASTENAUSGLEICHSGESETZES

Beihilfen an Vertriebene im Ausland

Nach Artikel 11 des Lastenausgleichsgesetzes (LAG) ist Vertriebener, wer als deutscher Staatsangehöriger oder deutscher Volkszugehöriger seinen Wohnsitz in den zurzeit unter fremder Verwaltung stehenden deutschen Ost-Gebieten oder in den Gebieten ausserhalb der Grenzen des Deutschen Reichs nach dem Gebietsstand vom 31. Dezember 1937 hatte und diesen im Zusammenhang mit den Ergebnissen des zweiten Weltkrieges infolge Vertreibung, insbesondere durch Ausweisung oder Flucht, verloren hat.

Vertriebener ist auch, wer als deutscher Staatsangehöriger oder deutscher Volkszugehöriger

(1) nach dem 30. Januar 1933 die genannten Gebiete verlassen und seinen Wohnsitz ausserhalb des Deutschen Reichs genommen hat, weil aus Gruenden politischer Gegnerschaft gegen den Nationalsozialismus oder aus Gruenden der Rasse, des Glaubens oder der Weltanschauung nationalsozialistische Gewaltmassnahmen gegen ihn veruebt worden sind oder ihm drohen,

(2) . . .

(3) nach Abschluss der allgemeinen Vertreibungsmassnahmen die zurzeit unter fremder Verwaltung stehenden deutschen Ostgebiete: Danzig, Estland, Lettland, Litauen, die Sowjet-Union, Polen, die Tschechoslowakei, Ungarn, Rumänien, Bulgarien, Jugoslawien, Albanien oder China verlassen hat oder verlässt, es sei denn, dass er erst nach dem 8. Mai 1945 einen Wohnsitz in diesen Gebieten begründet hat (Aussiedler),

(4) . . .

(5) . . .

(6) . . .

Als Vertriebener gilt auch:

wer, ohne selbst deutscher Staatsangehöriger oder deutscher Volkszugehöriger zu sein, als Ehegatte eines Vertriebenen seinen Wohnsitz . . . in den genannten Gebieten verloren hat.

Nach § 12 LAG ist ein Vertreibungsschaden im Sinne des Gesetzes—freilich mit gewissen in §12 Abs. 2 bestimmten Einschränkungen—ein Schaden, der einem Vertriebenen im Zusammenhang mit den gegen Personen deutscher Staatsangehörigkeit oder deutscher Volkszugehörigkeit gerichteten Vertreibungsmassnahmen in den zurzeit unter fremder Verwaltung stehenden deutschen Ostgebieten oder in Gebieten ausserhalb der Grenzen des Deutschen Reichs nach dem Gebietsstand vom 31. Dezember 1937 entstanden ist

(1) an Wirtschaftsgütern, die zum land- und forstwirtschaftlichen Vermögen, zum Grundvermögen oder zum Betriebsvermögen im Sinne des Bewertungsgesetzes gehören.

(2) an folgenden Wirtschaftsgütern:

(a) an Gegenständen, die fuer die Berufsausübung oder fuer die wissenschaftliche Forschung erforderlich sind,

(b) an Hausrat,

(c) an Reichsmarkspareinlagen,

(d) anderen privatrechtlichen geldwerten Ansprüchen als Reichsmarkspareinlagen.

(e) an Anteilen an Kapitalgesellschaften sowie an Geschäftsguthaben bei Erwerbs- und Wirtschaftsgenossenschaften,

(f) Gewerbeberechtigungen im Sinne des Bewertungsgesetzes;

(3) als Verlust von Wohnraum,

(4) als Verlust der beruflichen oder sonstigen Existenzgrundlage.

Nach § 230 LAG kann der Geschädigte Vertreibungsschaden grundsätzlich nur geltend machen, wenn er am 31. Dezember 1952 seinen ständigen Aufenthalt im Gebiete der Bundesrepublik Deutschland oder in Berlin (West) gehabt hat.

Durch die Elfte Durchführungsverordnung zum LAG vom 18. Dezember 1956 (B.G.B.I. I, S.932) sind die einschränkenden Stichtags- und Wohnsitzbestimmungen des § 230 LAG beseitigt worden, sodass die im Auslande lebenden Geschädigten auch Ansprüche erheben können.

Durch Artikel II §10 des 14. Gesetzes zur Aenderung des LAG vom 26. Juni 1961 (B.G.B.I. I, S.785 ff) ist nunmehr die 11. Durchführungsverordnung durch folgende Bestimmungen erweitert worden:

Vertriebenen nach § 11 LAG, denen feststellungsfähige Vermögensschäden im Sinne des § 12 LAG entstanden sind, können zur Abwendung einer gegenwärtigen Notlage im Rahmen der fuer einen Sonderfonds durch den Bundeshaushaltsplan bereitgestellten Mittel Beihilfen gewährt werden, wenn sie die Voraussetzungen des § 230 LAG nicht erfüllen, jedoch am 31. Dezember 1952 ihren Wohnsitz oder ständigen Aufenthalt in einem Staate hatten, der die Bundesrepublik am 1. April 1956 anerkannt hatte, und im Zeitpunkt der Antragstellung ihren Wohnsitz oder ständigen Aufenthalt in diesen Gebieten oder im Geltungsbereich des Lastenausgleichsgesetzes haben.

Beihilfen können nur an Personen gewährt werden, die an den obengenannten Stichtagen deutsche Staatsangehörige waren. Im uebrigen müssen die persönlichen und sachlichen Voraussetzungen fuer die Gewährung von Beihilfen entsprechend den Vorschriften des Vierten Teils des Allgemeinen Kriegsfolgengesetzes erfüllt sein. Die Leistungen duerfen nach Art und Hoehe hoechstens den Umfang der Haertebeihilfen nach dem Allgemeinen Kriegsfolgengesetz erreichen.

Das Naechere zur Durchfuhrung dieser Bestimmungen wird durch Richtlinien der Bundesregierung bestimmt werden. Diese können zur Anpassung an die tatsaechlichen und rechtlichen Verhaeltnisse des Aufenthaltslandes auch die Gewaehrung nur einzelner Beihilfearten oder von Leistungen in unterschiedlicher Hoehe vorsehen. Soweit dies zur Vermeidung besonderer Haerten veranlasst ist, können ferner Beihilfen auch an Vertriebene nichtdeutscher Staatsangehoerigkeit vorgesehen werden; dabei kann anstelle einer Beihilfe zum Lebensunterhalt ein angemessener Kapitalbetrag gewaehrt werden.

Fuer die Organisation und das Verfahren gelten die §§ 76 bis 79 und 81 bis 83 des Allgemeinen Kriegsfolgengesetzes. Fuer die Antragstellung kann in den Richtlinien eine angemessene Frist bestimmt werden.

Zur Abgeltung von Vertreibungsschaeden im Sinne des § 12 LAG sowie zur Milderung von Haerten, die infolge dieser Schaeden eingetreten sind, können Leistungen vorbehaeltlich wirtschaftsfoerdernder Massnahmen nach anderen Gesetzen und unbeschadet der Ueberbrueckungsmassnahmen nach den Richtlinien vom 4. Juni 1960 (Bundesanzeiger Nr. 185) ausschliesslich nach den Vorschriften des LAG oder nach den obigen Bestimmungen gewaehrt werden.

In der Geschäftsstelle der United Restitution Organisation, 183/189, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3, ist eine Liste von Juristen erhaeltlich, die Spezialisten auf dem Gebiete des Lastenausgleichsrechts sind und die Vertretung von Berechtigten zu uebernehmen bereit sind.

F.G.

GEMEINDEBEDIENTESTE UND NICHT-ERNANNTRE REFERENDARE

Novelle zum BWGoeD

Auf Grund von Beschlüssen des Bundestags und des Bundesrats, die noch vor den Parlamentsferien ergangen sind, ist am 18 August 1961 ein Gesetz zur Aenderung des Gesetzes zur Regelung der Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts fuer Angehoerige des oeffentlichen Dienstes (BWGoeD) ergangen (B.G.B.I. Nr. 68 vom 25.8.61). Fuer juedische Verfolgte sind folgende Bestimmungen von besonderem Interesse:

1. Nach § 31 d des BWGoeD bisheriger Fassung in Verbindung mit § 1 der Durchfuhrungsverordnung vom 6. Juli 1956 erhalten Versorgungszahlungen fruere Bedienstete juedischer Gemeinden oder oeffentlicher Einrichtungen, die in Gebieten des Deutschen Reichs nach dem Stande vom 31. Dezember 1937 oder in der ehemaligen Freien Stadt Danzig ihren Sitz hatten, sowie ihre Hinterbliebenen. Kuenftighin sollen diesen Personen die Bediensteten juedischer Gemeinden oder oeffentlicher Einrichtungen im Saargebiet oder in den dem Deutschen Reich nach dem 31. Dezember 1937 angegliederten Gebieten, einschliesslich des ehemaligen Protektorats Boehmen und Maehren, gleichgestellt werden, sofern sie deutsche Staatsangehoerige oder deutsche Volkszugehoerige im Sinne des § 6 des Bundesvertriebenengesetzes sind.

2. Nach § 3 der obenerwaehnten Durchfuhrungsverordnung vom 6. Juli 1956 erhalten Personen, die nach dem 30. Januar 1933 aus Verfolgungsgruenden aus ihrem fruere Beruf verdraengt worden waren und erst danach in den Dienst einer juedischen Gemeinde oder oeffentlichen Einrichtung eingetreten sind, keine Versorgungszahlungen. Sie waren bisher auf etwaige Ansprueche auf Grund des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes oder des BWGoeD beschaenkt. Diese Einschraenkung wird nunmehr auf Grund des Aenderungsgesetzes beseitigt.

3. Geschädigte, fuer die zur abgeschlossenen Ausbildung fuer ihren Beruf nach Bestehen der das Hochschulstudium abschliessenden Pruefung ein staatlicher Vorbereitungsdienst vorgeschrieben war und deren Uebernahme in den Vorbereitungsdienst nach bestandener Pruefung (z.B. Referendarexamen) aus Verfolgungsgruenden unterblieben ist, erhalten vom 1. Januar 1961 ab einen Unterhaltsbeitrag in Hoehe von 50 v.H. der ruhegehaltsfaehigen Dienstbezuuge aus der Eingangsstufe der Besoldungsgruppe 13 der Besoldungsordnung A, (Landgerichtsrat oder Regierungsrat), sofern anzunehmen ist, dass sie ohne die Verfolgung voraussichtlich eine Anstellung im hoeheren Dienst und eine Anwartschaft auf beamtenrechtliche Versorgung erhalten haetten.

Die Verfolgten sind dem Wiedergutmachungsausschuss des Bundestags, der trotz beachtlicher rechtssystematischer Bedenken diese Regelung vorgeschlagen und durchgebracht hat, zu besonderem Danke verpflichtet.

Fuer Personen, denen auf Grund der Novelle zum BWGoeD erstmalig Wiedergutmachungsansprueche zustehen, endet die Frist zur Stellung des Wiedergutmachungsantrages mit Ablauf des 31. Dezember 1962.

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THE GERMAN SCENE

TRIALS

In Munich, Dr. Otto Bradfisch, a former S.S. Sturmbannführer and leader of "Einsatzkommando Eight", was found guilty as an accessory to murder in 15,000 cases and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. Two of his accomplices, Wilhelm Schulz and Oskar Winkler, were sentenced to seven and three years' penal servitude respectively. The defendants had claimed that they had acted on instructions from higher quarters. The presiding judge stated that this was no excuse. Though the main culprits were Hitler, Himmler and Heydrich, the defendants should have been aware of their superiors' cruel motives.

Dr. Franz Razesberger, a former S.S. Major and now a "Polizeirat" with the Vienna police, was found not guilty in Vienna of a charge of passing on an order for the shooting of 300 Jews in the Ukraine in 1942.

NAZI SENTENCE QUASHED

In 1942 Charlotte Klaes, a Jewish woman married to a Gentile, was sentenced to death by the Sondergericht Wuerzburg and executed. She had bought ration cards which had been stolen from the Municipal Office. Her husband fought for her rehabilitation, stating that most of the cards had been used for the benefit of Jews due for deportation. His late wife, he stated, had withheld this explanation at the trial because she did not want to endanger her fellow-Jews. After lengthy legal proceedings the Bamberg High Court has now posthumously acquitted the late Mrs. Klaes.

AUSCHWITZ TRIAL IN FRANKFURT

Preliminary criminal investigations have been opened by the Frankfurt Criminal Court against 24 former members of the Auschwitz concentration camp staff. The list is headed by the last commandant of the camp, the former SS-Obersturmbannführer Richard Baer, who had been in hiding under a false name and was arrested last year. Other defendants are the aide to one camp commandant, four members of the political department of the camp administration, and several doctors, dentists and guards.

ATTEMPT TO EXCULPATE GLOBKE

Dr. Rainer Barzel, a Christian Democratic member of the Federal Parliament, has asserted that Dr. Hans Globke, the West German Secretary of State, was a member of the German resistance movement at the time when he served as a senior official in the Nazi Ministry of the Interior, and belonged to the group of men who engineered the abortive attempt on Hitler's life in July, 1944.

Dr. Barzel claimed that Dr. Globke had been chosen by the German resistance movement during the Nazi régime as the "shadow" Secretary of State, to be installed after Hitler's downfall. Dr. Globke, he said, had remained at his post at the express request of the movement opposed to Nazism.

These claims have come as a surprise to political circles in Bonn. Herr H. Jahn, a Social Democratic Deputy, declared that the name of Dr. Globke ought not to be mentioned in the same breath as the names of those who had laid down their lives in a valiant attempt to end Nazi dictatorship.

The British Board of Film Censors have refused Plato Films a certificate for the film "Operation J" about the association with the Nazi policy of racial purity of Dr. Hans Globke. In a letter to Plato Films the Board observes: "The film appears to have been made for the purpose of damaging the reputation of an individual" and it would thus not be in the public interest to show the film commercially.

Mr. Stanley Forman, Managing Director of Plato Films, has approached the London County Council for their own certificate and is hoping to have the film shown to M.P.s.

JEWIS IN GERMAN GOVERNMENT UNDESIRABLE ?

An investigation carried out by D.I.V.O., a research institute for public opinion, revealed that 41 per cent of the people approached raised objections against a possible inclusion of Jews in high Government positions; 39 per cent had the same objections against the inclusion of former emigrés, and 63 per cent against Government posts for former Nazis.

HITLER'S SECOND BOOK

On the initiative of the German Institute of Contemporary History at Munich, a book written by Hitler in 1928 now entitled "Hitler's Zweites Buch", has been published by a Bonn publishing house.

All 5,000 copies of the first edition have been sold out, 3,000 in advance orders. Considerable interest in the publication has been displayed in Germany and abroad. A second edition of the book is contemplated by the publishers, although the Institute does not want to make it a "best-seller". The proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to support organisations helping victims of Nazi persecution.

Although there had been doubts about the advisability of publishing the book, it had been decided that publication could serve a useful purpose provided a critical commentary were added. The Director of the Institute, Dr. Krausnick, said that in this way a tendentious publication at a later date of Hitler's manuscript by neo-Nazis had been forestalled. He said that the publication had been welcomed by historians and other experts conducting research into the history of Nazism.

NEAR-NAZIS PRAISE GOLLANZ

The German near-Nazi *Deutsche Soldatenzeitung* praised Victor Gollancz for the views expressed by him in his recent pamphlet "The Case of Adolf Eichmann." "One can only bow one's head in the face of such humility and human greatness," the paper wrote. However, it did not agree with Gollancz on the abolition of the death penalty. If Eichmann were found guilty by a "properly constituted German court, he should suffer whatever penalty the court saw fit to impose, including the death sentence."—(W.L.)

"DEUTSCHE VOELKISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT"

A "Deutsche Voelkische Gemeinschaft" was recently founded in Kassel. According to the programme, the objects of the new party are the unification of Germany and the re-erection of the "Deutsche Reich". The founder and chairman is a 66-year-old butcher in Kassel, Alois Gebauer, a former member of the Deutsche Reichspartei. He has started collecting signatures for his candidature in the Federal German elections.

JEWISH QUESTION DEBATED AT BERLIN KIRCHENTAG

More than 5,000 people attended the two days' session of the "Arbeitsgruppe 6 (Juden und Christen)" convened under the auspices of the 10th Protestant Church Assembly in Berlin. The wall of the "Messehalle", where the session took place, was adorned by a Magen David and a Cross against the background of a burning synagogue. The large audience, a surprise for those who had prepared the function, reflected the burning interest of the delegates in getting at the roots of a problem which overshadowed the darkest period of contemporary history. The speakers were Professor Vriezen (Utrecht), Rabbi Dr. Geis (Düsseldorf), Professor Dr. Kupisch (Berlin), Professor Dr. Kraus (Hamburg), Dr. Eva Reichmann, Professor Dr. Gollwitzer (Berlin), Schalom Ben-Chorin (Jerusalem), Helene Jacobs and Propst Grueber.

A statement, issued after the session, appeals to the German public to co-operate in overcoming the past and, among others, puts forward the following demands: parents and teachers should break the silence and admit their failure to the young generation; persons responsible for the crimes committed should be removed from their offices; the well-being of the Jewish fellow-citizens in Germany should be furthered and the efforts towards the peaceful development of the State of Israel should be supported; lastly, the erroneous conception that God had rejected the Jews should be rectified, because it was in contrast to the teachings of the New Testament.

ISSUE OF EINSTEIN STAMP

A German three-mark stamp to be issued this summer will portray the late Albert Einstein. The stamp is one in a new definitive series depicting notable Germans. The set will replace the current issues showing the head of President Heuss.

Israel in 1956 also issued a stamp depicting Einstein.

AWARD FOR DR. OSCAR ROSENBERG

The Federal Cross of Merit, First Class, was bestowed on Dr. med. Oscar Rosenberg. For many years, Dr. Rosenberg was the Medical Director of the Berlin Jewish Hospital. He recently went into retirement.

AUSTRIAN RITUAL MURDER LEGEND DISPELLED

Vestiges of the ritual murder legend of Rinn (Tyrol) were recently dispelled. The story referred to the death of a nine-year-old boy called Anderl who, as far back as 1462, had allegedly been put to death by Jews and who was sanctified by the Pope several centuries ago. During the Nazi period and even several years afterwards, annual performances with reference to the legend were arranged by local lay players. At the intervention of the Federation of Jewish communities in Austria, the Austrian League for Human Rights and several other organisations, these plays were forbidden some time ago. The intervention of these organisations recently also resulted in the removal of tablets and emblems inside the church which were meant to commemorate the alleged ritual murder.

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HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

FAREWELL TO HERR VON HERWARTH

As readers will have seen from the national Press, the term of office of the German Ambassador, Herr Hans von Herwarth, has come to an end. He will leave for Bonn shortly, to become Secretary of State in the Federal President's Chancellery. His successor in London will be Herr Hasso von Etzdorf.

Herr von Herwarth's effective work as an Ambassador and his wide popularity in all quarters of British life were stressed in many comments on the announcement. The feelings of genuine regret at his departure are shared by the Jews from Germany in this country whose representatives had the privilege of meeting him and being in contact with him on many occasions. To establish a relationship with members of our community and to help to undo the wrongs of the past was for him not just a matter of policy. It was one of those issues which were particularly near to his heart. Thus he succeeded in overcoming the initial reservation with which we were bound to consider the representative of a country which, under the Nazi régime, had inflicted such indescribable wounds on our people. However, if an atmosphere of mutual confidence quickly developed, it is also due to another facet of his personality. Stiffness and formality, the qualities which we are inclined to associate with German officials of high standing, are entirely alien to him. He is easily accessible, and, by his natural and unassuming manners, has gained the affection of many in our midst.

Herr von Herwarth's own attitude has also been an inspiration for those who work under his guidance at the Embassy, and thus his work in London will leave its impact also after he has left. We express our sincerest thanks for his constant active interest in our special problems and our best wishes for his future career.

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ISRAEL SHOP IN LONDON

A privately-owned, Israel shop was opened at 76 New Oxford Street. The Israeli Consul-General, Mr. G. Shomron, spoke at the opening ceremony, and the Mayor of London, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, sent a message wishing the venture success.

JEWISH-OWNED PREMISES FOR MOSLEY

For some time Jewish-owned premises in Manchester have been leased to a leading member of Mosley's Union Movement, for use as a Bingo club. It is believed that part, if not all, of the proceeds have gone to the Movement.

The Defence Committee of the Board of Deputies has intervened to try and prevent these premises being used for this purpose. Many Jews are believed to have been members of the Club without knowing its purpose.—(J.C.)

YOUTH GROUP'S LINK WITH FASCISM

It would appear that the recently formed "Young Britain Movement", administered by a company known as Fellowship and Service Ltd., is linked with Mosley's Union Movement. Some of the company's eight directors are known to have strong connections with the Movement.

It is reported that some young people have been collecting money from the public to form youth clubs all over Britain.—(J.C.)

HENDON'S "TWINNING" WITH BERLIN

Some controversy seems to have arisen out of Hendon Borough Council's decision to link with the West Berlin District of Tempelhof. The Town Clerk of Hendon said that he had received only one letter of complaint and that applications had been received from Jewish families in Hendon for their children to be among those in the planned exchange visits of 20 children from each town.

The Minister of Hendon Synagogue stated he would not be happy in recommending these exchanges. The rising German generation should not be allowed to forget what their parents and grandparents did to innocent people. The Minister of the North-West Reform Synagogue took the view that this feeling must be overcome.

A former non-Jewish Hendon Alderman, Mr. R. J. Knowles, is one of the chief objectors to the scheme. He said: "I cannot think of a greater insult to the many refugees who have over the past years become ratepayers in this borough."

The official party which will visit Tempelhof next month will include a former Jewish Mayor of Hendon, Alderman J. L. Freedman. In a statement, issued by the Town Clerk, particular stress was laid on the fact that Alderman Freedman was a Jew.—(J.C.)

GERMAN EMBASSY COMMEMORATES
RESISTANCE FIGHTERS

A plaque in memory of three resistance fighters who had been members of the German Embassy in London was unveiled recently in the House of the Embassy. It is dedicated to Botschaftsrat Graf Albrecht Bernstorff, Attache Herbert von Mumm, and Legationssekretär Eduard Bruecklmeier. At the ceremony, an address was delivered by Sir Harold Nicolson.

IN PARLIAMENT

Director of Arab Centre

Sir Barnett Janner asked in Parliament whether Mr. Edward Heath, Lord Privy Seal, was aware that "the person who until recently was Minister Plenipotentiary at the Lebanese Embassy has now been appointed first director of the Arab League Information Centre in London." Sir Barnett wanted to know whether he would be allowed to retain full diplomatic privileges and immunity while directing the activities of the Centre.

Mr. Heath replied that he was not aware that Mr. Rizk had ceased to be a member of the diplomatic staff of the Lebanese Embassy in London.

New Refugees

The Jews' Temporary Shelter has more than doubled the average number of residents in its premises in the East End. They come mainly from India but there are also some from Morocco who are British subjects.

The Board of Guardians' Boys' Industrial Department and the Sabbath Observance Employment Bureau have reported a greater number of enquiries from young Jews of India, Pakistan and Aden who have come here to study or to work.

New Home for Aged

The Executive Committee of the Home for Aged Jews is planning a new London home where the residents will be people able to pay towards the cost of their maintenance. This idea had long been thought of but had been put aside so that people without means could be catered for first. Recently the Isaac Wolfson Foundation had donated £10,000 towards a home for elderly people who can afford to pay for their accommodation but who have nowhere to go.

Warsaw Ghetto Exhibition

It has been decided by the five organisations sponsoring the Warsaw Ghetto Exhibition recently held in London that, because of public demand, it be shown in other parts of the country.

About 4,000 people, including visitors from many parts of the world, saw the exhibition during its last fortnight. It is believed that about three-quarters of them were non-Jewish.

Leeds Rabbi for South Africa?

Rabbi H. Medalie, of Leeds, was invited by the United Hebrew Congregation of Johannesburg for a fortnight's visit. He is regarded as a possible candidate for the Chief Rabbinate in succession to Dr. L. I. Rabinowitz, who intends to settle in Israel. Dr. Medalie is a graduate of Manchester University and was born in Vitebsk in 1916.

Rabbi for New York

Rabbi Dr. Alan W. Miller, at present minister of the South-West Essex Reform Synagogue, has been appointed spiritual leader of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in New York, and will take up his new post in December. Rabbi Miller was born in Hull in 1926 and is a graduate of Jews' College and the Leo Baeck College.

Rally Against Panzer Troops

Mr. Leon Abse, M.P., was one of the speakers who addressed the rally of about 400 people held in Swansea to protest against the admission of German Panzer troops into Wales. Mr. Abse said the Eichmann trial was a stark reminder of what took place the last time German Panzers moved across Europe.

Jewish Schools Psychologically Sound

Professor R. Powell, Lecturer in Roman Law at London University, when he was guest speaker at the Hasmonean Grammar School for Boys' Speech Day, said it was psychologically sound for a Jewish child to receive the education of his most formative years in the natural environment of his own people and his own traditions.

The Professor said the pupils at Jewish schools were free from the anxieties of antisemitism within the school and could obtain a reasonably satisfactory level of Jewish education without trespassing upon spare time, and were free from the anxiety of becoming totally assimilated.

Jewish Composers

The Jewish Music Council hopes that during Jewish Music Month next January, one of the events will be devoted entirely to new compositions. The opening concert for Jewish Music Month will be given by the Chief Cantor of the Great Synagogue, Tel Aviv, Chazan Benjamin Ungvar.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

INTERNATIONAL NAZIS

The Left-wing Paris daily, *Liberation*, reports that a black spider, the insignia of the "Black International", has appeared on several leaflets issued by the Secret Army Organisation, the extreme Right-wing underground group led by General R. Salan.

The "Black International" is led by the ex-S.S. officer, Otto Skorzeny, now living in Ireland, the Belgian ex-collaborator, Leon Degrelle, now living in Spain, the Italian Julien Borghese, and the French ex-collaborator, Maurice Bardeche.

According to the same report, a French section of the S.S. veterans' group called the French Popular Movement, consisting mainly of Frenchmen who fought in the Nazi Charlemagne S.S. Division, has also been formed.—(J.C.)

RABBI FREEDOM RIDERS

Rabbi Sidney Shaken headed a Freedom Ride against racial segregation in the Southern States. He led his group south after a huge rally at Newark, New Jersey.

The rally and the expedition were sponsored by an organisation called the Committee to Support Freedom Riders. Rabbi Shaken said to a *Jewish Chronicle* correspondent: "This is not a matter of publicity. It is something every Jew ought to do."

Five American rabbis have already taken part in Freedom Ride bus trips in the south, and two were gaoled for trying to break the colour bar in an airport restaurant at Tallahassee, Florida.

CHAGALL WINDOWS IN PARIS

Marc Chagall's twelve stained-glass windows designed for the synagogue of the new Hadassah Medical Centre in Jerusalem are on show in Paris until September, at a special exhibition held in the Museum of Decorative Art. The French Minister of Culture, who opened the exhibition, called the windows a "unique work of art".

The windows depict the twelve tribes of Israel. Also on show are 36 preparatory drawings and 24 rough sketches made by Chagall for the windows, which took him two years to complete.



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LITHUANIAN JEWRY

The number of Jewish persons in Vilna is given as between 12,000 and 15,000.

A report stating this says that most Jews are engaged in local industries and a small number in horticulture. There is one synagogue which holds regular services and the supply of prayer books is stated as adequate.

As in Kovno, former capital of Lithuania where about 5,000 Jews are today living, Yiddish is spoken freely but there is no Yiddish school. Quite a few of Lithuania's Jews, who adopted Russian citizenship in the early stages of the Second World War, can travel freely to Russia proper, and many have availed themselves of the opportunity to visit Jewish communities in the Soviet Union. There is thus more frequent contact between Jews in Lithuania and Russia than is the case with Jews in other Republics forming part of the U.S.S.R.

Intermarriage is reported to be very rare in Lithuania, unlike the position in other parts of the U.S.S.R.

The Vilna Yiddish dramatic troupe has staged a number of performances in Riga, the capital of Soviet Latvia. Reports from Riga state that the concerts were well attended by the local Jewish population. This is the first time that the Yiddish troupe has been granted permission to perform in Riga.—(J.C.)

ZIONIST LEADER IN MOSCOW

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, the American Zionist leader, has paid a private three weeks' visit to the Soviet Union, where he met a number of high Government officials with whom he discussed the problem of religious and cultural freedom for Russian Jews.

FILM OF BIRO-BIDJAN

According to reports from Moscow, a film on Biro-Bidjan—a reissue of one originally made some 25 years ago—is attracting thousands of people, mainly Jews, to a Moscow cinema.

The film, "The Seekers of Happiness" ("Glicken-Sicher") was made when the first Jewish settlers arrived in Biro-Bidjan to establish what was to be a Soviet Jewish autonomous region. The script is written by a Jewish author and the music, based on Jewish songs intermixed with Russian and Ukrainian melodies, was composed by the Jewish musician, I. Dunayevsky.—(J.C.)

NAZI CRIMES IN POLAND

The West German authorities have begun an investigation into the anti-Jewish measures initiated by the Nazis advancing into Poland during the early days of the Second World War, when the Jews were forced out of the Polish resort town of Zakopane. This was part of a persecution wave that engulfed the entire district of Nowy-Targ. The towns in which the persecutions took place include Bialka, Dembno, Czarny-Dunajec and Nowy-Targ and Zakopane.

The World Jewish Congress in New York has been asked for help in these investigations. Survivors of the above towns who can give evidence concerning Nazi crimes in the area are asked to communicate with Dr. Nehemiah Robinson, Director of the World Jewish Congress Institute of Jewish Affairs, 15 East 84th Street, New York 28.

YUGOSLAVIAN COMMUNITIES

The Yugoslav Jewish communities have failed to obtain Yugoslav-born rabbis. Attempts to find rabbis abroad have met with no success, since any candidate would have to know at least one Slav language. Today, Sarajevo is the only Jewish congregation in Yugoslavia with a rabbi of its own. (J.C.)

SOUTH AFRICA

Paper attacks Israel

Die Transvaler, Dr. Verwoerd's newspaper, has reacted sharply to the condemnation of South Africa's policy of apartheid by Israel. This condemnation was issued on behalf of Israel and the Voltaic Republic by Mr. Ben-Gurion and President Maurice Yameogo, at the conclusion of the latter's State visit to Israel.

The newspaper expressed astonishment that South Africa's internal affairs should be the subject of a statement by the Governments of the Voltaic Republic and Israel. The article compared the Afrikaaner's struggle in South Africa with Israel's struggle in the Middle East, and branded the statement as an unfriendly act. It advised South African Jewry "to do some information work in Jerusalem".—(J.C.)

Former Pro-Nazi becomes Minister

Mr. John Vorster has been appointed Minister of Justice in the South African Government in succession to Mr. Erasmus. Mr. Vorster was a former leader of the pro-Nazi movement, the Ossewa Brandwag, whose objective it was to sabotage the war effort.—(J.C.)

BRAZILIAN ORDER AGAINST ANTI-JEWISH DEFINITIONS

An order designed to eliminate from all textbooks used in Brazilian State Schools any reference that may be offensive to national, racial or religious groups in the Republic has been issued by President Janio Quadros.

This order refers specifically to the Portuguese-language dictionary by Professor Silvera Bueno and was issued after the Confederation of Jewish Communities in Brazil had protested against Professor Bueno's refusal to eliminate many anti-Jewish definitions from his dictionary. The President's order states that the dictionary should be banned from all schools in the land, if the author is not prepared to accept the order.—(J.C.)

TUNISIAN JEWRY

Since the fighting in Bizerta broke out, about 500 Jews, 50 per cent of them French citizens, have arrived in France from Tunisia. Some 5,000 French citizens left Tunisia for France, some having decided to leave after arbitrary arrest, and others of whom were expelled.

There appears to be no systematic victimisation of Tunisian Jews and there is no panic within the community, according to the emigrants arriving in France. Apprehension, however, is felt and this is confirmed by the sharp increase in the number of applications for emigration.

There are about 35,000 Jews in Tunisia, of whom about 7,000 also have French citizenship.—(J.C.)

PASSPORT DIFFICULTIES IN MOROCCO

According to Mr. David Amar, General Secretary of the Jewish Communities' Council in Rabat, it is more difficult now for Moroccan Jews to obtain passports. Mr. Amar, in an article in the Council's monthly paper, writes that applicants for passports are victims of all kinds of vexations and rebuffs.

"Since the death of His Majesty" (King Mohammed V, who promised the Jewish community that the issue of passports would be a mere administrative formality) "the instructions he gave have remained a dead letter and the administrative annoyances have become worse than ever before". In the small towns, states Mr. Amar, it is possible to obtain passports only in very exceptional cases and in the larger cities formalities take several months.

Rabbi Haim Elferchi has been appointed as the new rabbi for Agadir. The appointment, by the Moroccan Ministers of Finance, has been made despite the fact that the small number of Jews now living in Agadir does not appear to justify it. The reason for the appointment, it seems, is to persuade former Jewish residents who now live in Marrakesh or Casablanca to return.—(J.C.)

Egon Larsen

PRAGUE REVISITED

Your first reaction is that of amazement. Strolling again down the Wenzelsplatz, 23 years after seeing it the last time, you cannot notice any change at all, at least not at a first glance. A quarter of a century of world history, of war, occupation, and revolution does not seem to have touched the town. There were no gaps torn by bombs and shells, later to be filled by new buildings.

Soon, however, you notice the change within. Little has remained of Prague's coffee-house life, once one of its famous characteristics. The cafés are still where they used to be, though new names have been given to most of them; but the "regulars" have gone, the typical *Stammgäste* who would spend their afternoons or evenings sipping a succession of cups of coffee and glasses of water, reading the newspapers of two dozen countries. All you can read now, apart from the Czechoslovak press, are the *Daily Worker*, the *Humanité*, and *Neues Deutschland*. With the world's press, the intellectuals have gone; and with the intellectuals, the Jews.

Two thousand five hundred of them are left in Prague out of the former number of over 40,000; there are no more than 18,000 out of 400,000 left in the whole of Czechoslovakia. One of them told me of their present life and problems. In Masaryk's and Benesch's republic, Jews could register their nationality (as apart from citizenship) as "Jewish" in their passports; this is no longer possible: they are Czechoslovaks, and that's that. Anti-Semitism is a severely punishable offence, and there are many books, films, and other publications denouncing Hitler's actions against the Jews. Yet there seems to be some basic suspicion of them—not because they are Jews, but because many of them are intellectuals and most of them have family ties and interests in the West. As in all Communist countries, Israel appears as the special bugbear.

To all intents and purposes, emigration of Czechoslovak Jews to Israel has been stopped. Visiting friends and relatives in the West is difficult. You have to apply for permission (only for yourself, your family has to stay behind) and pay Kc 100 (£2 10s. at the tourist rate) on application. After a few weeks or months you are told whether it has been granted or not. If not, no reasons are given, and your Kc 100 is not repaid. Some anonymous official makes the decision, and you cannot appeal against it. You may, however, apply again after a while—perhaps you'll be luckier next time. It is, of course, much easier to go to some other country of the Eastern block, except to Eastern Germany, because of the Berlin escape route.

The feeling of being bottled up weighs heavily on some of the few Jews in the new Czechoslovak republic—that, and the lack of Western newspapers. The Prague dailies have only four pages, six on Sundays. The homeland of Kisch, the master reporter, offers little scope for the unbiased journalist. "At least the papers don't publish anything that makes you nervous", my Jewish informant said with a wry smile. "We're living in the best of all possible worlds, you see?"

And so they are, in a way. Czechoslovakia has, no doubt, the highest standard of living in the Eastern block. Prague is teeming with activity, with young people, with foreign visitors. The shops—though the goods, especially clothing, are expensive and of inferior quality—are busy, there are "Staff wanted" notices everywhere. You can't fail to make a living, though perhaps not always in your

own profession. The anti-intellectualism of the authorities often bears strange fruit. There is a new railway bridge across the Moldau, called the "Bridge of the Intellectuals" among the people. It was mainly built by eggheads, with a sprinkling of Jews among them, who "volunteered" to demonstrate their friendship with the proletariat. Others spend some time working in the mines or in heavy industry. They receive, of course, appropriate wages, which are twice as high in these jobs than in, say, office employment. What can you do with your money? You can, for instance, eat superbly well; the restaurants—many run by other Eastern nationalities—are first class, unless you insist on having your meal in one of the few dreary places called something like "House of Friendship" or the like. And the famous "Koruna" buffet feeds you better than ever on very little money.

Theoretically, anybody can get any job if he has the necessary qualifications. In practice, however, people with relatives or connections abroad will rarely be employed by enterprises or authorities dealing with Western countries, such as export agencies or the State tourist organisation; and this principle operates, of course, against the Jews. In cases where "soft" jobs become redundant it is usually the intellectuals or those with bourgeois backgrounds who have to go first and find other employment.

Jewish Quarters Preserved

Strangely enough, the Jewish quarters with the synagogues and the famous old cemetery were not touched by the Nazis. They wanted to preserve them as "relics of an extinct race". Thus the *Altneuschul* is still open for service and visitors, who are shown around by full-time guides employed by the State. It is now part of the "Jewish State Museum" which comprises six departments, including a most impressive and excellently arranged collection of documents, pictures, and objects from the concentration camps in a house overlooking the cemetery. Groups of tourists, schoolchildren, delegations from the provinces are shown round every day. And the tomb of the great Rabbi Loew, the creator of the Golem, is still laden with pebbles, each representing some pious visitor's wish.

The Czechoslovak State subsidises the small Jewish community, and its archaeological department has dug out the Pinkas Synagogue down to its earliest foundations, which are on the same level as those of the adjoining cemetery. A few steps down to the main hall of the synagogue, and through the tall windows you can see the present top level of the cemetery, some thirty feet above—the Jewish community, always cramped for space, buried its dead on top of each other in the course of the centuries.

When you enter the Pinkas Synagogue you have the vague impression that the large hall has been given a fine modern wallpaper. But it is no wallpaper. The entire hall, from top to bottom, is inscribed, in alphabetical order, with the names of 78,000 Jews from Czechoslovakia, including many German refugees, who perished in the extermination camps. The lettering, in black and red on white ground, gives the dates of death. This quiet, unfurnished hall is certainly one of the most impressive monuments to the Jewish dead anywhere in Europe, a powerful memento for the living, and a noble gesture on the part of the Czechoslovak Republic.

Old Acquaintances

This and That: Hans Albers's three sisters are contesting his will and claim a share in his DM 3.7 million heritage. His life-long companion Hansi Burg, the sole heiress, said it was understood that she would help and assist the sisters as Albers would have wanted it.—Stefanie Roussel, born in Vienna as Steffi Landeis, has been made an officer of the Legion d'Honneur; during the war she was on the staff of *France-Libre* in London. She is now a Bonn correspondent of French newspapers.—Felix G. Gerstman, who, together with Gerd von Gontard, presented Gustaf Gruendgens' ensemble with "Faust" in New York, has been awarded the "Cross of Merit" first class by the Bonn Government; he will take Duesseldorf's cabaret "Kommoechen" over to the States shortly and has invited Ernst Deutsch to play in "Nathan" and "Vor Sonnenuntergang" next year.

Milestones: Werner Ackermann, who wanted to become an actor and is now the prosperous manufacturer of chocolates, is sixty. He has two shops of his own in London. Ackermann hails from Berlin, where was a doctor of law and a habitual first-nighter. When he came to England he first tried to introduce "Baumkuchen". However, when this did not turn out a success, he concentrated on his chocolate specialities which have now become a household word in London. Notwithstanding his business activities, he is still interested in arts and artists, and only comparatively recently, painting has become one of his favourite pastimes.—The actor Oscar Homolka, who now lives in the States, is sixty.—Adrienne Gessner, the Austrian actress who spent the war years in America and is now a member of Vienna's "Burg", celebrated her 65th birthday recently.—Librettist Rudolf Oesterreicher, responsible for many Viennese operettas, is eighty.—Paul Westheim, the former editor of *Das Kunstblatt*, who is now a professor of art history in Mexico, is 75 years old; he wrote the first Kokoschka monography.

Berlin News: On October 25th Hans Woelffer, of Berlin's "Komoedie" will take over the "Theater des Westens", which until now was temporarily used as West Berlin's "State Opera". It will open with "My Fair Lady", starring Paul Hubschmid as "Higgins", F. Schoenfelder as "Pickering", and A. Schieske as "Dolittle". The producer will be Svend Aage Larsen, who will be assisted by Wolfgang Spiers. Robert Gilbert has adapted "My Fair Lady" to German, and no other German theatre is permitted to show the musical during the Berlin run.—West Berlin's "State Opera" will now move to the rebuilt "Deutsche Opernhaus".

Obituary: Eduard von Winterstein has died in West Berlin shortly before his 90th birthday. He was the oldest member of Max Reinhardt's ensemble; only a short while ago he still appeared on the stage in Lessing's "Nathan".—In Vienna Dagny Servaes has died, aged 67; the beautiful daughter of the late drama critic, Franz Servaes, was well-known on the stage and screen.—Fifty-four-year-old actor and director Petre Preses, who returned from the States after the war, died in Vienna after an operation.

News from Everywhere: Anton Walbrook will open Munich's new theatre in "Hotel Bayrischer Hof" with "Ein Glass Wasser".—Lord Mayor Willy Brandt will sponsor a "Rudolf Nelson Memorial" evening in Berlin in aid of the "Anne Frank Foundation".—Joseph Carl-Josefovich has designed the decors for "The Tenth Man" in Belgium.—Anton Duffing of London will shortly appear in Coward's "Quadrille" on TV in Munich.—William Dieterle will produce "Richard II" in Basle.—In Rome Fritz Lang is preparing an Indian picture "Kali-Yug".—Berlin will get a new theatre "Forum" above the "Kopenhagen" restaurant at the Kurfuerstendamm.—Lilli Palmer and Charles Boyer are starring in a film version of Maughan's "Theater" in Vienna.—After Vienna had already lost its three theatres, "Stadt Theater", "Buergertheater" and "Scala", "Raimund-Theater" is also in danger of being closed.

PEM

GERMAN JEWRY UNDER THE NAZIS

Benno Cohn's Evidence at the Eichmann Trial

Mr. Benno Cohn, who, prior to his emigration to Israel, was head of the Zionist Organisation for Germany and of the Palestine Office in Berlin, gave evidence in the Eichmann trial concerning the Jews in Germany between 1933 and 1939 and several meetings he had with Eichmann during that period.

He recalled the Prayer issued by the "Reichsvertretung" over the signatures of Dr. Leo Baeck and Dr. Otto Hirsch after the enactment of the Nuernberg Laws in 1935. This Prayer was intended to be read from the pulpit of every synagogue on Kol Nidre; however, it was prematurely discovered by the Gestapo, and Dr. Baeck and Dr. Hirsch were arrested. Benno Cohn read out the Prayer in full, the salient passage of which read as follows:

"We stand in the presence of our God. With all our might we have acknowledged our sins, sins of the individual and sins of the community. Just as vigorously, and with a feeling of abhorrence, do we reject as beneath contempt the lie directed against us, the calumny of our religion and its witnessbearers. We confess our faith and to a belief in our future. Who proclaimed to the world the secret of the Eternal, of the One God? Who revealed to the world a love of clean living and of the purity of family life? Who gave the world a respect for the human being as the image of the Godhead? Who taught the world the precept of justice and the notion of social welfare? In all this the spirit of the prophets of Israel and God's revelation to the Jewish people have been at work. It grew up, and still is growing, in Judaism.

"We stand in the presence of our God; we rely on Him. In Him our history, our endurance through every change, our steadfastness in every trial, acquire truth and honour. Our history is one of spiritual greatness, and spiritual dignity.

We turn to it when attacked and offended, when in sorrow and distress. God has led our fathers from generation to generation. He will guide us and our children throughout our days."

Turning to the happenings after the pogroms of November, 1938, Mr. Cohn gave the following detailed account of a meeting at the Gestapo Headquarters between Eichmann, a high-ranking S.S. officer, and representatives of the Jewish organisations: Heinrich Stahl (Chairman of the Berlin Jewish Community), Dr. Paul Eppstein and Dr. Arthur Lilienthal, of the "Reichsvertretung", and Rechtsanwalt Philipp Kozower, of the Berlin Jewish Community:

"Eichmann began by levelling violent criticism at us. On the table before him lay cuttings from a Parisian émigré newspaper. This carried a report in this that a new persecutor of the Jews had appeared on the horizon, called Eichmann. He was described in vivid colours as a bloodhound, as a man with bloodshot eyes, etc. Eichmann accused us of having given this description to the representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, who had been in Berlin shortly before, and heaped invectives on us. Naturally, we did not admit that we were the source of the information, which would have amounted to suicide. Eichmann dropped this subject, and took up a new one: 'I have invited you to Vienna in order that you may get to know the Central Office for Jewish Emigration there. But I forbade you strictly to contact the representatives of the Austrian Jews. You have acted in defiance of this order and have had discussions with the Austrian Jewish leaders.' Stahl and Eppstein, who took part in this interview, replied: 'You have placed us in an absurd situation. Our brothers there are being persecuted because they are Jews. And we were not supposed to see them when we came to Vienna? That is more than we are able to stand. They came to us, their fellow-

sufferers, for news. We German Jews were, after all, in the same situation as theirs a few years earlier.' Eichmann replied: 'It was strictly forbidden. If anything like this happens again you'll come into the *Konzertlager*'—as he crudely called the concentration camp.

Courage and Dignity

"Then Heinrich Stahl, the Chairman of the Community, assumed the counter-offensive. He criticised Eichmann's deeds. 'We are all for a speeding-up of emigration today. But you yourself are wrecking normal emigration by your system of deportation. As a result of the mass deportation of Jews across the frontiers, the neighbouring countries don't want to give any more visas to Jews.' Then Eichmann shouted: 'You rotter, you old *Sch—sack*. You probably haven't been in the *Konzertlager* for a long time. What are you thinking of?' Then one of our number, I think Eppstein, stood up and said: 'The gentlemen sitting in front of you are representatives of German Jewry, not of the Gestapo, and they look upon themselves as representatives of the Jewish people, which is placed in a very tragic situation today. We have to account to it for our behaviour. We ask you not to talk to us in this fashion. You can, of course, throw us into a camp at any time and do what you want with us, but as long as we are free you must recognise our dignity as human beings and treat us correspondingly.'

"This remark was apparently not without its effect on the other Nazi. Eichmann, however, shouted: 'We will have to decide what is to be done after this impertinence. Go and wait outside!'

"We waited half an hour in the ante-room. Prepared for immediate arrest, we destroyed all the papers we had on us, as they are always dangerous when one is captured. Then we were fetched in again. Nothing more was said about the previous incidents. Eichmann brought up the main subject of the discussion, the foundation of the Central Office for Jewish Emigration in Berlin on the pattern of the Vienna one, of which he was very proud. In his own words, he wanted to open this institution on the following Monday in Berlin in No. 116 Kurfuerstenstr., which formerly belonged to a lodge, the *Bruederverein*. He explained the procedure once more to us, and used the expression: 'The Jew goes in at one door and comes out at the other with all his papers.' He said this establishment was urgently necessary, because it took many weeks, indeed months, to get the documents. He demanded that we representatives of Jewish institutions should always send him a definite quota of emigrants to Palestine and other lands.

"I was the first to speak, and said we could not guarantee any quota. 'As regards Palestine we are dependent on the Mandatory Government, which, as you know, is very restrictive in distributing certificates.' Dr. Eppstein, or someone else, outlined the difficulties connected with the entry permit into other countries. We explained that we were certainly in favour of mass emigration, but not at the behest of the Gestapo. We were not the executive authorities of the Gestapo, but representatives of German Jewry, and we wanted thus to remain.

"I further remarked that we expected the Jews to receive treatment worthy of human beings in that office. Eichmann shouted something about atrocity propaganda and demanded that we should state our opinion by eight o'clock next morning.

"The meeting closed late in the evening. We assembled in a private house to discuss Eichmann's information. It was clear to us that the new establishment would greatly accelerate emigration, and that was decisive. After the Munich Conference we realised that another world war was imminent. Mass emigration was the only salvation for the Jews. We, therefore, decided that Dr. Eppstein would state next morning that we regarded the establishment of Central Offices as a means of accelerating emigration. They should put a stop to deportations over the frontier. We could not undertake any guarantees with regard to numbers. We would repeat that we got our mandate from the Jewish side only.

"Next morning Dr. Eppstein was received, not by Eichmann but by another Nazi, to whom he explained our attitude and by whom it was noted without comment."

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BOOK REVIEWS

THE UNFORGETTABLE PAST

Especially since the Eichmann trial the incredible horror of the Nazi attempt to exterminate the Jews has been much written and talked about. The ghastly tales of horror occur again and again, and the figures of the murdered run into the millions. The mind is incapable of encompassing such enormities, and the mere repetition must set up a kind of immunity.

But the account of one person is easier to grasp, and the faceless millions receive form. Reska Weiss, a Hungarian Jewess, has written of her personal experiences* through twelve months of hell, from the spring of 1944, when the Nazis invaded Hungary, until April, 1945, when the Russians liberated Poland.

The story is told in graphic detail, but with no attempt at dramatising the events. The stark details speak for themselves. We travel with Reska Weiss and her companions in the filthy and overcrowded railway trucks to Auschwitz and its gas chambers, and from there trek the weary miles through occupied Europe to other camps. There is one chapter where she and her companions dig a mass grave into which they are shot but, miraculously, she and one other woman escape alive.

The sadism of the Nazi torturers is unbelievable. Among all the horrors the books reveal a night spent on a lice-ridden garbage heap, where these derelict human beings are attacked by huge rats, watched all the time with glee by their captors, still sticks in one's memory as the ultimate in sadism.

The culminating part of the story is a twelve-day march (this figured largely in the Eichmann trial). Out of the 3,300 women who started on this march only a mere handful managed to escape. The rest were systematically shot by the S.S. guards who accompanied them.

All of human life is in this book—a baby girl is even born to one of the prisoners at their last camp but, unfortunately, she and the mother

* *Journey Through Hell*, by Reska Weiss. Vallentine, Mitchell & Co. Ltd., London. 256 pp. 21s.

are among the victims of the march. Reska Weiss tells her story with refreshing frankness and sincerity. This amazing woman is able, even in her extreme situation, to observe the beauties of nature, and tenderness, compassion and beauty permeate her story, leavening the horror.

Once I had started reading the book I found it impossible to lay it down. There were times when I was forced to do so because I was so choked with tears.

It is true that many who read this review have themselves suffered too much to want to relive such episodes. But though the reading may at times be horrific, it brings a message of hope, of the strength of life, and how the spark of humanity can overcome even the greatest bestiality.

ANNE RUBIN.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST TURNS JEW

What the former Roman Catholic priest, Father Kenneth C. Cox, tells in his autobiography* is, indeed, a unique story. Born in 1911 into a devout Anglican family, he early realised that all was not well in the Protestant camp. "I wanted an authority." And so he embraced Roman Catholicism. He studied theology and became a priest, a very devoted priest, who, unfortunately, had to work under a fanatical bishop. For seven years he served his church and was appointed Chaplain to the young Christian workers of his district. But, gradually, he began to lose faith in the Christian dogma, and when he looked round he was struck "by the fact of how few Christians realise that there are many great and worthy religions in the world beside their own". He saw that the Roman liturgy had taken over much of the old Jewish services, and that many Christian and Jewish prayers were almost identical. "Christianity offended my understanding of Almighty God." He realised that he "was already a Jew at heart" who "believed in the Law of Moses. . . . Jesus was never really anything other than a practising Jew".

* *Kenneth C. Cox: So Strange My Path*. M.B.Y. Foundation, London. 25s.

He left Christianity in the days when he found himself unable to understand "the servile attitude of the church in Spain towards General Franco". His conviction "that Judaism, with its pure, unsullied monotheism, was to be my destined goal" grew ever firmer and more pressing. He learned with horror of the persecution of Jews by Christians through the centuries.

Kenneth Cox sought contact with Jewish circles and became a teacher at Carmel College, Newbury, and later at Mongewell Park, near Wallingford. Its rector, Rabbi Kopul Rosen, "a most dynamic character", treated him sympathetically while he waited to be received into the Jewish faith. He had to wait for a long time, because the religious authorities asked themselves—and probably also him—why a Christian wanted to become a member of a persecuted people. But, in the end, he was received, after he had undergone circumcision. He became an Orthodox Jew, observing all daily prayers, the sanctification of Sabbath and the commandments of *kosher* food. He took the new name of Abraham Carmel. As Sabbath descended upon Carmel College, "the presence of God seemed very close. . . . The workaday, week-day world seemed a million miles away". The Jew, he says, is "a member of the oldest and greatest aristocracy in history. . . . the poorest Jewish boy from the East End of London is an aristocrat in his own right". When a Jew embraces Roman Catholicism, he wants to give up personal responsibility. He, a Roman Catholic, became a Jew in order "to bear witness before the entire world that there is One God only". Judaism knows, and needs, no mediator; man always stands before his God immediately. Judaism is "a way of life", the Jewish home "is the altar of Judaism".

Abraham Carmel found in Judaism "complete composure of soul and spiritual unity". When he says his daily prayers he knows that he repeats the words which Jesus had said 2,000 years ago. Orthodoxy alone, which keeps equally away from liberalism and fanaticism, seems to him to ensure the religious and the national future of the Jews. "If we permit Zionism to be divorced from Judaism, we are building on shifting sands and copying the errors of our worst enemies."

J. LESSER.

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I N M E M O R I A M

PROFESSOR JULIUS HIRSCH

Professor Julius Hirsch, the widely known Secretary of State at the German Ministry of Economics in the early years of the Weimar Republic, died in New York at the age of 78. His long life was filled to the brim with work reflecting his absorbing interest in contemporary economic events, on which he commented and which he tried—and at times succeeded—to shape. His wife, Edith, née Jarislawsky, a noted economist in her own right, was his helpmate in his work during 35 years of happy married life; she also participated in his manifold interests and was his companion in his wanderings.

Julius Hirsch was a son of the Rhineland, a native of Aachen. After some years in commercial life he studied in Bonn and gained his doctorate in 1909. Soon he was a Lecturer in Business Administration at the Handelshochschule (now University) of Cologne, to which he returned as a professor for a short time after the war. Here he established himself as an expert on Retail Trade, his scholarship shedding a clear light on a subject of which few facts were known at that time. From this period date a number of scholarly books on Trade, the most comprehensive being his contribution to "Der Moderne Handel" published in 1918 as part of the "Grundriss der Sozialökonomik". His interest in the subject of Retail Trade never flagged throughout his life.

After serving in the German Army in the early years of the First World War he was called to Berlin to help in price control. A vivid description of the phenomenon of "Kettenhandel" appeared in that period.

At the end of 1919, he became Secretary of State at the Ministry of Economics and actively engaged in the difficult task of reconstruction of the war-exhausted economy overshadowed by the demand for financial reparation in a world where Germany had few friends and in a nation divided against itself, a large part of it bent on sabotage and blinded by hatreds. Early in 1923 he resigned, following a change in Government.

Dr. Hirsch returned to academic life as Honorary Professor at the Handelshochschule and later also at the University of Berlin. He travelled far and wide, looking to new horizons and recording his economic explorations in some notable books and articles, among them his best-selling "Das Amerikanische Wirtschaftswunder", first published in 1925/26, others being "Neues Werden in der menschlichen Wirtschaft", "Wandlungen im Aufbau der deutschen Industrie". All of these works vividly portrayed main trends of development. From the inception of the Committee of Enquiry (Enquete Ausschuss) of the Reichswirtschaftsrat he was one of its Permanent Consultants. He was also a member of the Board of the Institute for Trade Research, which he helped to establish. 1933 put an end to all that. In 1935 the University of Copenhagen offered him the chair of Commerce and here his teaching gained him anew a large circle of admiring pupils, till the German occupation in 1940. He succeeded in escaping with wife and young son to the United States. Here he made a new home for good and was soon in demand as an economic consultant by various Government agencies and business concerns; at the same time he indulged in his abiding love of academic teaching as a professor at the New School for Social Research. During those last 20 years he wrote prolifically, dealing with the many economic problems which faced the United States as a result of the war and its aftermath. An indefatigable worker until shortly before his death, he was engrossed in the economic life around him and fascinated by its progress.

Jewish interests always claimed his attention. Before the First World War statistics of occupation of Jews began to engage him, and during that war, when he saw the distress of Jewry in Eastern Europe, he enlarged on their occupational problems in various articles. He was a Board member of the "Central-Verein" and also a member of the Economic Committee of the Preussische Landesverband Juedischer Gemeinden.

Shortly before his death he wrote, together with his wife Edith Hirsch, a paper on the "Berufliche Einzelgliederung und wirtschaftliche Leistung der deutsch-juedischen Einwanderung in den Vereinig-

ten Staaten 1935-1960". This paper is one of the most important contributions to a book recently published by the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe on the occasion of its 20th anniversary. (A review will appear in this paper shortly.—Ed.)

Julius Hirsch was a colourful personality, who evoked strong responses, some critical, but many of gratitude and loyalty particularly among his host of pupils, many of whom became academic teachers themselves. He had the gifts of a great teacher in bringing to life and awakening curiosity in the complexities of economic events and their causes, in looking to main trends of development and, last but not least, in taking an interest in his pupils. In recent years several German Universities paid tribute to his achievements by bestowing on him the dignity of a doctor *honoris causa*.

With Julius Hirsch a remarkable man has gone from our generation of refugees.

ERNEST H. STERN.

DR. SIEGFRIED KANOWITZ

Dr. Siegfried—called Friedel—Kanowitz, who died in Israel at the age of 61, was in Germany one of the most popular figures in the Zionist youth movement, in the K.J.V. and in the Zionist Organisation where, for some time, he served as one of the leading officials. Above all, he was a man of unusual personal charm, humour and human warmth. Coming from Königsberg, he belonged to the Zionist school which, headed by his friend and teacher Kurt Blumenfeld, derived from this city of Kant; never content with sterile party politics or propaganda slogans, he was aware of the deeper impact and dangerous pitfalls of all connected with nationalism, devoted to the struggle for human values, and he steadily applied his wit and intellect to the sociological and philosophical analysis of the Jewish position. He was too delicate to succumb to the temptations of his own extraordinary oratorical skill. Having preached Zionism in Germany, he became in Israel an exponent of those who knew what they owed to European (pre-Hitler German) education and tried to preserve what was best in German Jewishness.

It would be a vain attempt to enumerate the benefits which he brought to Israeli life, as one of the ablest children's doctors, as organiser, as public figure (ultimately also a member of the Israeli Parliament) and as friend, helper and ever ready adviser to many, especially to people in distress. When I saw him last, he was very happy in his new profession as reader at the Hebrew University, where he taught psychology of medicine. He collapsed during a lecture, and the examination revealed a malignant tumour in the brain, so he suffered enough during the last months. But in the memory of his numerous friends and admirers he will always live as the image of an *ephebos*, an enthusiastic and serene youth with an unsatiable thirst for knowledge and devotion to the service of his people.

ROBERT WELTSCH.

DR. ERNST KAEBER

Dr. Ernst Kaeber, for many years Director of the Municipal Archives of Berlin, passed away in Berlin-Lichterfelde on July 5th. In him Berlin has lost one of its leading historians and a man of outstanding moral courage and integrity. During 1928-29, following a suggestion by Dr. Margarete Edelheim, Dr. Kaeber wrote several quite factual articles in the *C. V. Zeitung* on the history of Berlin Jewry during the Middle Ages, which almost brought him disaster after the Nazis had gained control of the Municipal Administration of Berlin. He suffered humiliation, restrictions and setbacks in his capacity as an official, and as a writer his remarkable abilities and scholarly endeavours were ignored and went unrewarded.

In 1937 he was forced to give up office because he refused to divorce his Jewish wife. After the fall of the Nazis he was reinstated to his former position; for him it meant starting twice from the beginning again because of the devastation wrought by the war and the later division of the city. But he was not deterred in his task.

His friends and those who knew Dr. Kaeber in the days of his activities as a member of the Democratic Party and its representative in the Municipal Council of the Tiergarten District will hear of his passing with deep regret.

JACOB JACOBSON.

DR. RUDOLF KATZ

Dr. Rudolf Katz, the Vice-President of the German Federal Constitution Court, died in Karlsruhe, at the age of 65. He was born in Falkenburg (Pommern) as the son of a Jewish teacher and cantor. From 1924 to 1933 he practised as a lawyer in Altona. As an active Social Democrat, he became Stadtverordnetenvorsteher of that city in 1929. After having lived in the United States during the Nazi period, he returned to Germany almost immediately after the war and became Minister of Justice of the Land Schleswig-Holstein in 1947. He was appointed Vice-President of the Federal Constitution Court in 1951 and widely respected as an outstanding lawyer and a man of sound judgment and integrity.

DR. WILLY MICHAELIS

It is learned with deep regret that the orthopaedic surgeon, Dr. Willy Michaelis, suddenly passed away. Only a few months ago we paid tribute to him on the occasion of his 75th birthday. In Germany, Dr. Michaelis was one of the leading promoters of physical education of the young and, until 1933, President of the Deutsche Aerztebund zur Foerderung fuer Leibesuebungen and co-editor of the periodical *Sportmedizin*. He was also a member of the Repraesentantenversammlung of the Leipzig Jewish community. In this country he was a much-sought-after specialist and was also associated with the Highlands Hospital, where he took a particular interest in the after-care of polio cases. Together with his many friends and patients, the *AJR* mourns the death of a capable and helpful man who was associated with its efforts throughout the years.

DR. HERBERT ISRAEL

Dr. Herbert Israel who, together with his late brother, Wilfrid, was the last owner of the old-established firm, N. Israel, in Berlin, suddenly passed away in Sirmione (Lake Garda), where he was on holiday. He was only 58 years old. Herbert Israel was a great-grandson of Nathan Israel, who founded the family's business in 1815, and by his death this well-known Berlin family becomes extinct. Unlike his brother, he was not actively engaged in Jewish affairs, but, during the last years of his life, took a special interest in the extension of the Wilfrid Israel Museum (Kibbutz Hazorea).

ERNST LEVY

The pharmaceutical chemist, Mr. Ernst Levy, passed away in Glasgow on July 29 at the age of 83. Prior to his emigration he was the owner and manager of the "Diana-Apotheke" in Berlin-Moabit which, despite his advanced age, he successfully rebuilt after many struggles, when the property was returned to him after the war.

Mr. Levy was the founder of the Glasgow Society of Jewish Refugees which later became affiliated to the *AJR*. When he relinquished his office as the Society's President he was elected as life-long Hon. President. Mr. Levy is survived by a son and two daughters.

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THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

This happened on a Yom Kippur afternoon in an old-world synagogue. It was the contemplative and quiet interval between the awe-inspiring emotions of the morning, when the vision of the Day of Judgment rose before our eyes and the fate of everybody was sealed before the Lord of the Universe—who should live and who should die, who should be happy and who should be sad, and the comforting, consoling songs of the closing service. It was then that an entire Biblical book was taken out of the Shrine and was recited in a peculiar, fascinating rhythm: the Book of Jonah, the reluctant prophet who was not sent to the Jews but to the people of Nineveh and who tried to escape from his Heavenly mission and sail to Tarshish—not because, like Moses, he did not feel able to live up to his difficult mission but because he doubted the Lord's spoken word.

Most of us have listened to sermons about Jonah and the queer choice that made this man of doubt the hero of the Day of Atonement; but I had to wait until I came to America to discover the most moving sermon about Jonah and the Whale in Herman Melville's grandiose book "Moby Dick". There in the small chapel of Bedford, where all whalefishers worship, the priest, who had himself been a whaler in his youth, talks about the passage: "And God had created a huge fish who was destined to swallow Jonah." The priest makes the whole book come alive: how the sailors mistrusted Jonah, as he had "those shifty eyes". "Did he come from Sodom?" But Jonah paid his fare beforehand (this is mentioned in the Book of Jonah) and the miserable money made the captain accept the passenger. However, in the meantime Jonah had become penitent. When the Lord sent a tempest to punish him, he outspokenly confessed to the sailors: "I am a Hebrew!", although he knew that by this confession he signed his own death sentence. Then the Lord sent the huge fish to swallow Jonah—and finally save him. For from out of his deepest distress, from out of the stomach of the whale,

Jonah started to sing the psalm which revealed that now he trusted God's infinite mercy: "I know that I shall be allowed to fulfil my vows in His sanctuary." And only now it happened that God commanded the whale "to spit out Jonah" and bring him to safety. All this the Bedford priest recalls to his audience.

Once more, as the Bible tells us, Jonah travels towards Nineveh, the great heathen city, to preach God's message of doom and destruction. The king and citizens of Nineveh leave their evil ways and repent in sackcloth and ashes; and the Lord in His mercy forgives their iniquities. The reluctant prophet does not rejoice that so many souls are being saved, he sits down and sullenly awaits the result of the story. At this time the Lord uses a kikajon (gourd) to reveal His wisdom to the narrow-minded man. The tree born in a night and withered in a night is bitterly missed by Jonah as it has been useful to him. And now the final revelation shows him God's never-failing pity for every living creature, Jew and Gentile alike, man and animal: "You are grieving for the tree which gave you shade—and should I not grieve for all the lost souls in this huge city, and so many cattle too?" This is the last message of the Lord to the near-sighted mortal; it reveals God's all-embracing love for human beings and for animals, too—are not all of them created by Him in His infinite wisdom?

And only now we understand that the greatest genius of the Renaissance, Michelangelo, when he painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, could not find a better symbol for the soul of man than Jonah, the naked giant, rising out of the depths of the sea to see the light of day.

In Jonah the two souls of mankind are represented: the narrow-minded mortal, who neglects the fate of many souls when his own well-being is endangered, and at the same time the "unconquerable soul" who rises out of the "bottomless pit" to Heavenly heights. This is why Jonah, the reluctant prophet, was chosen to become the hero of the Day of Atonement, the holiest day in the Jewish year.

A NEW CITY IS BORN

New cities are not born every day. Nor are they placed just round the corner, at least not in Israel, for small as the country is, as big are its uncharted, unploughed, untrodden areas.

One early morning last month we set out south, to Arad, a region comprising an enormous land potential—400,000 dunams. It was a sultry Khamsin day, with the thermometer soaring to over 40 degrees Celsius in the shade when we branched off the Beersheba-Dimona highway, at a spot where a big signpost optimistically predicted "To the Centre of the Arad Region". The buses jolted as they followed a rough, ancient track used during Roman times and presumably even at earlier periods.

At a site 600m. high, open to the west wind and to the view of the Dead Sea in the East, the foundation-stone was laid of the new city of Arad, a name of Biblical fame. Dr. Giora Josephthal, Minister of Labour, foresaw a town of ten thousand inhabitants and an industry based on phosphates, natural gas, and other local resources. Should the water borings, planned to a depth of 500m., prove successful, then the rich soil would turn the Arad region into another Emek Yesreel.

Communications are the lifeline of such an outlying district, and without the Keren Kayemeth, the Minister stated, it would be impossible to achieve the most daring feat in road construction ever attempted in this country. A road, 20kms. long, will cut through the Judean desert and thus link the Dead Sea shore with the Beersheba-Sodom Highway, shortening the distance between En Gedi and Beersheba by some 60kms. To the Dead Sea region this road will bring immeasurable blessing—strengthen its security, facilitate tourism, and allow for more economic exploitation of its natural resources.

Not so long ago the now prosperous Lakhish region was an uncharted spot on the map, and as late as 1956 the settlement centre of Adullam was practically no-man's-land. Remember Arad: a few years hence the new road to the Dead Sea will be lined by fields and forests—and the largest land reserve in Israel be brought under the effective control of the State.

HERBERT FREEDEN (Jerusalem).

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BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

BRUNO WALTER 85

The leading part which a great conductor plays in the musical life of our time dates back hardly more than eighty years. In Central Europe Hans von Bülow was the first prominent musician whose fame rested mainly on conducting, and it is significant for Bruno Walter's historical position that he received the decisive stimulus for his choice of musical career from this great pioneer of modern conducting. His formative years were spent under the spell of Mahler, whose uncompromising devotion as an interpreter he has made his own. But these links with a great tradition have not prevented his development as an independent artist whose achievement has been inscribed into the musical life of more than half a century, during which he has been recognised as one of the greatest living conductors.

Years have passed since we last heard him in this country. He came to us several times after the end of the war, and his Mahler performances at Edinburgh—together with Kathleen Ferrier, whom he had initiated to this music—have stimulated the ever-growing appreciation of Mahler in this country. His London concerts gave proof of his continuous striving after new lines of interpretation. Lately age has prevented him from undertaking extensive international tours, but new recordings testify to his ceaseless musical activity. Finally, we have had the precious gift of his profound book, "Von der Musik und vom Musizieren" (which has been reviewed in this journal). Paul Hamburger's translation (Bruno Walter, Of Music and Music-Making; Faber, 30s.) has now made this great work accessible to English readers, and several reviews show that the significance of this "Bruchstück einer grossen Konfession" has not been missed. As the *Musical Times* writes, "it is the testament of an old man who has penetrated to an understanding of his art so lofty as to unify in a higher truth the varied topics he discusses with more particularised insights."

We may be sure that on September 15th the whole musical world will pay tribute to an artist of singular merit.

H. W. FREYHAN.

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ALFRED HIRSCHBERG 60

When about 35 years ago the present writer was appointed Liaison Officer between the German-Jewish youth organisations and the headquarters of the "Central-Verein", the man in charge of the C.V.'s youth department was Alfred Hirschberg. We made part of life's journey together, first in Berlin and later on in London. And though during the past two decades we have been separated geographically our greetings to him in Sao Paulo on the occasion of his 60th birthday on September 27 are no less cordial than they would be if expressed "face to face".

Our mind goes back to those early days when Alfred Hirschberg was one of the group around Ludwig Tietz which, guided by instinct rather than by ready-made formulae, tried to find a new approach to the problems of Jewish life. One of the ways our group manifested itself was by our participation in the work for Palestine as non-Zionist partners of the Jewish Agency.

Alfred Hirschberg's manifold tasks as one of the most versatile and diligent members of the Central-Verein's headquarters were markedly increased in 1933, when he became Joint Secretary and thus one of the two leading officials of the organisation. His duties included the editorship of the *C.V.-Zeitung*, in those days a difficult and highly dangerous undertaking. German Jews, increasingly degraded to the level of pariahs, had to be given self-confidence and self-respect. To achieve this without getting into trouble with the Nazi authorities a special language had to be developed: the readers had to read between the lines lest the editor laid himself open to persecution. Week after week Alfred Hirschberg thus helped to keep up the morale of German Jewry, devoting his wide knowledge and his journalistic accomplishments to this essential task, and week after week he risked his freedom. In the end, during the November pogroms, he too had to experience the horrors of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. The doors of the C.V. having been sealed never to be opened again, he had served his fellow-Jews in Germany as long as he was able to do so.

After his release from the concentration camp he found refuge in England. To the misfortune of his many friends here his stay in this country lasted only for a few months; together with his wife and his newly born daughter he emigrated to Brazil in summer, 1940.

As was not otherwise to be expected from a man with his passion for activity and for service to his people, Alfred Hirschberg soon established a widely recognised position in the "Yishuv" (as the word runs there) of his new homeland. His organising ability is mainly devoted to efforts for the benefit of Israel. At the same time he takes a leading part in the work of the flourishing Jewish congregation built up from small beginnings by German Jews in Sao Paulo. Here again a give-and-take contact with the younger generation is his favourite and most successful activity. Yet, above all, it appears, his heart belongs to his old and everlasting love—journalism. Under the auspices of the congregation he edits a fortnightly periodical, *Cronica Israelita*. Though its articles now appear mainly in Portuguese and cannot therefore be easily followed up by the outsider, it becomes evident at first sight that owing to its wide range of subjects it is not just the news bulletin of a congregation but a topical Jewish newspaper, with challenging articles reflecting the sound judgment and wealth of ideas of its editor.

Sao Paulo may not always be an ideal place for a man who likes being in the thick of events. Yet his continued breadth of interest, his undiminished vigour and his idealism became evident anew to his London friends, when they had the good fortune of seeing him here a few months ago.

The best we can wish for Alfred Hirschberg is that he may remain as he is, in his youthfulness, his zest for activity and, last but not least, his staunch loyalty to his friends. As he has always sought and found guidance in the wisdom of Goethe, we wish him that the words which have been borne out in his life so far may apply to him no less in the future:

"Und keine Zeit, und keine Macht zerstückelt
Gepreagte Form, die lebend sich entwickelt."

WERNER ROSENSTOCK.

MRS. GERTRUD SCHACHNE 70

One of the mainstays of the AJR, Mrs. Gertrud Schachne, the hostess of the AJR Club, will be 70 on October 1. Her life has been marked by continuous services for her fellow-Jews. In Germany she was Secretary of the Theodor Herzl Schule and, later on, in charge of the equipment department of Children and Youth Aliyah. At the same time she took a great interest in the welfare of the residents of several Jewish Old Age Homes in Berlin. When she was forced to emigrate in 1939 she courageously built up a new career as a social worker in this country. After having been a housemother and teacher at the Refugee Children's Camp at Ipswich (until this district became a "restricted area" in summer 1940), she became matron of the London B'nai B'rith Boys' Hostel at Minster Road and, subsequently, from 1944 onwards, of the hostel for elderly refugees at Dartmouth Road. The success of her work is reflected in the fact that, after the dissolution of the Dartmouth Road Hostel, the residents, now transferred to other homes, are still in personal contact with her.

Her birthday coincides with another anniversary in her own life and in the history of the AJR: exactly ten years ago she started to work for the AJR, first in the Social Services Department and, in 1956, as hostess of the AJR Club at Eton Avenue. In this capacity, "Mutter Schachne" has had a decisive share in building up the homely atmosphere which is so much appreciated by the club members. By her common sense, her understanding and her humorous approach she has become their trusted friend and adviser. The Executive of the AJR owes a great debt of gratitude to Mrs. Schachne for her devoted services and joins her family and friends in wishing her many happy returns of the day.

FRITZ BEER 50

Der seit mehr als 15 Jahren im deutschsprachigen Dienst der B.B.C. tätige politische Kommentator und Schriftsteller Fritz Beer vollendet am 25. August sein fünfzigstes Lebensjahr.

Beer, in Brinn geboren, kam 1939 nach England. Bis dahin war er trotz seiner Jugend ein in politischen Kreisen hochangesehener Journalist und Redakteur der deutschsprachigen Prager "Arbeiter-Illustrierten" (AIZ) gewesen. Auch literarisch hatte er sich damals bereits durch mehrere Erzählungen einen Namen gemacht, die dem Dreißigjährigen den Moskauer Internationalen Friedenspreis eintrugen. Eine ähnliche Auszeichnung wurde ihm Anfang der vierziger Jahre in England zuteil, wo eine deutsche Erzählung von ihm mit einem Preis bedacht wurde.

Klarheit des Denkens und des Ausdrucks, sowie ein starkes Einfühlungsvermögen in Charaktere und Situationen sind die Eigenschaften, die sein literarisches Schaffen kennzeichnen. Sie kommen nicht minder auch in seinen politischen Kommentaren zum Ausdruck.

Um sich selber treu zu bleiben, hat er sich 1939, nach Abschluss des Stalin-Hitler-Paktes, von seiner Partei, der er bis dahin mit wahrer Hingabe gedient hatte, entschlossen losgesagt. Die Trennung ist ihm alles andere als leicht geworden. Sie bedeutete den Abschied von Freunden, mit denen er viele Jahre hindurch für die Ideale seiner Jugend gekämpft hatte, doch hat er diesen auch in späteren Jahren immer Achtung bewahrt.

Wir wünschen dem Fünfzigjährigen, dass er mit gleicher Entschlossenheit und Kraft wie bisher für seine Überzeugung eintreten und ihm sein echter Kampfgeist noch für manches Jahrzehnt erhalten bleiben möge.

W. STERNFELD.

GUSTAV LASK 85

A trusted friend of the AJR, Mr. Gustav Lask, will celebrate his 85th birthday on September 2nd. Throughout his life he has taken an active interest in Jewish affairs. In Kiel, where he lived prior to his emigration, he was the owner of the old-established family firm, Michael Lask (Hoffierant) and was widely respected by Jews and Gentiles alike. Mr. Lask has been a member of the AJR since its inception, and more than once went out of his way to express his appreciation of our work. Together with all those who know this cultured, unassuming, and kindly man we convey our sincerest birthday greetings to him.

HENRIETTE FUERTH—A FIGHTER FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Centenary of her Birth

On her 70th birthday, August 15th, 1931, this German Jewish social worker was honoured by the award of the Plaque of Honour of the City of Frankfurt, where she had been engaged in public work for decades. Recently, on the 100th anniversary of her birth, the municipality and the Jewish community of Frankfurt a.M. organised a joint ceremony in the Jewish cemetery on the Eckenheimer Landstrasse in memory of the former citizen, communal worker with a progressive outlook, and fighter for the rights of mothers.

Henriette Fuertth once dictated her memoirs into the typewriter, and one of the copies has been preserved in Israel. Happily so—for perhaps some day future generations may in this way learn more about the personality and life work of this Jewish woman. When she died on June 1st, 1938, at the age of 77, the German public probably heard nothing at all about her passing. She had herself a taste of the bitterness that preceded the Jewish catastrophe. However, Henriette Fuertth has not been overlooked in post-war Germany. Proofs of this are Marie Juchacz's book "Sie lebten fuer eine andere Welt" (publishers: J. H. W. Dietz, Berlin/Hanover, 1955), a collection of biographical sketches of leading women in the socialist movement, and Franz Osterroth's edition in 1960 "Biographische Lexikon des Sozialismus" (also published by Dietz).

Henriette came into the world in Giessen, on August 15th, 1861, as daughter of the timber merchant Siegmund Katzenstein and his wife Sophie, née Loeb. On leaving the girls' high school in 1885 she went to the larger, neighbouring town of Frankfurt, actually to enter the teachers' training college there; she seemed to have a talent for

teaching. But things developed otherwise: at the age of 19 she married Wilhelm Fuertth, whose intellect was akin to hers, and with him she founded a large family. The amazing thing is that her domestic duties never suffered through the unfolding of her general interests, which tended to be scholarly.

She took a part in Jewish life already in the early nineties, particularly in the work and endeavours of the "Central Verein," founded in 1893, on the Board of whose Frankfurt branch she worked for a long time. Her versatile social work, meantime, was being carried out essentially for the public at large. In the forefront were the struggles focused on achieving the protection of mothers, which almost became a movement and the outcome of which was legal provisions for the protection of gainfully employed mothers. Henriette Fuertth was among the founders of this movement, also one of the leading members of the German Society for the Control of Venereal Diseases. After the First World War, from 1919 to 1924, she was a Social Democratic member of the Borough Council of Frankfurt, where she was active especially on the committees for health, schools, and food supply. She was temporarily a member of the governing body of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, and took part in the work of the Volkshochschule and the Arbeiterwohlfahrt.

Under the pseudonym G. Stein, Henriette Fuertth published poems and short stories, but she is better known as the author of a considerable number of scholarly essays and expositions, which have appeared in many places since the turn of the century.

In an article on "The Jewish Woman in the Movement for the Emancipation of Women in Germany" (Neue Juedische Monatshefte, August, 1918) she dealt briefly with Henriette Goldschmidt, Dr. Alice Salomon, Johanna Goldschmidt, Lina Morgenstern, and also Bertha Pappenheim (and thereby with the Association of Jewish Women, founded in 1904), and she concluded with the words: "... Everywhere we find Jewish women at work, in social welfare, in education, in the professions, in the struggle for State and communal civil rights for women, frequently in leading positions and representatives of progressive ideas. They are to be found at the same time in humbler positions, serving the cause of humanity and the rights of human beings and women's rights." Eleven years later, in 1929, when the Jewish Women's Association had been in existence for a quarter of a century, Dr. Leo Baeck contributed an article "Object and Conflict", to the periodical of this greatly expanded organisation. In it he expressed his opinion on the women's movement stemming from the educated middle-class, as follows: "When the rebellion of women began, Jewish women had a part in it". He continued that it was of significance, too, for the feminine movement generally that the Jewish woman had come to herself, had "comprehended herself by trying to understand her most individual and peculiar characteristics, and that she had grasped how she could serve the community—not by abandoning her nature, but by realising and fulfilling her ego and her personality!"

It would seem that Henriette Fuertth was consciously true to her own personality in her conception and performance of her public social work, through which she drew attention to many social evils.

E. G. LOEWENTHAL.

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TALK

(in German)

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BOARDING-OUT SCHEME

An Appeal

One of the major problems facing organisations concerned with the welfare of elderly people is the shortage of suitable accommodation for those who have no satisfactory place to live.

Daily the AJR Social Department (8 Fairfax Mansions, N.W.3; MAIda Vale 9096/7) is confronted with this problem. At present we are not able to place all our applicants into our three Old Age Homes and it is difficult to foretell to what extent the situation will ease once the new homes are opened. Therefore, we have to try to advise people as well as we can. That is not always easy; even if no financial problem is involved.

There are numerous cases where the family is unable to help and where living with their own family does not work. Very often a room is needed in the course of time for a child who has to study and the grandparent can no longer be housed. Change of employment necessitates the son or daughter having to move to another district. Sometimes because of health deterioration an old person no longer feels able to live alone and seeks somewhere to live where care is available.

Old people tend to live in the past; they require a lot of patience which often young people, and in particular members of their own family, are not able to give. The result of this is that the old person feels lonely even in a house full of people and very often feels unwanted and useless.

For the above reasons I would like to suggest a scheme which, as a recently published pamphlet by the National Old People's Welfare Council reveals, has been successfully started by several public welfare authorities. This is called the "boarding-out scheme".

We are not short of people in need of accommodation but we are desperately short of offers of private households where an elderly person would be accepted. I feel sure that there must be some young or middle-aged housewives who for some reason cannot work outside their homes. They may derive great satisfaction from a "job" like this and at the same time make a financial profit. Charges depend on the type of accommodation offered and also on the amount of care likely to be required. If the full charge cannot be met by the guest arrangements for assistance by the local authorities and voluntary organisations can be made.

Offers of temporary accommodation also would be welcome. This type of service is extremely useful to families caring for an elderly relative, and by boarding out the elderly person for a short time they are able to have a holiday which they could not take otherwise.

Finally, I should like to ask our older members who are still in their own homes to think about the possibility of sharing them with another elderly person. In that case, of course, there must be adequate domestic help and a

trial period would be advisable to get to know each other and above all to get used to each other's weaknesses.

Boarding out an elderly person in a private house can be the ideal solution for some older men or women who need care and attention and where loneliness, isolation and a feeling of uselessness are likely to cause misery and unhappiness, ultimately leading to possible physical and mental breakdown and perhaps admission to hospital. Acceptance as a member of a family gives the elderly, and in fact every lonely person, that sense of being wanted which is so important to happiness and well-being.

MARGOT WILLIAMS.

Letter to the Editor

AN APPRECIATION OF THE AJR'S EFFORTS

Sir,—As a recipient of a German compensation annuity I feel most grateful to the AJR for their untiring and successful efforts to get these payments exempted from Income Tax.

I have always admired the good work done by the AJR for the refugees in this country, in particular for the old people.

I have therefore great pleasure in enclosing a cheque in appreciation of your efforts.

Yours, etc.,
H.L.

Wembley, Middx.

(We are glad to report that several other members have expressed their appreciation in the same way. It would be a great encouragement and, at the same time, a most welcome assistance, if their example was followed by others who will now also have an increased benefit from their compensation payments and to whom taxes will be refunded as far as they have already been paid.—Ed.)

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Deaths

Rosenbaum.—Mrs. Franziska Rosenbaum (née Berger), formerly Breslau, died in her 78th year on June 1st, in Jamaica (W.I.), mourned by her daughters.

Kann.—Mrs. Adele Kann, widow of the eye-specialist, the late Dr. Hugo Kann, formerly Berlin-Lichterfelde, passed away peacefully after a long illness on August 3rd in her 85th year.

Eisenklam.—Mrs. Bianca Eisenklam, our beloved mother and Omi, passed away suddenly on July 18th. 29 Beatrice Court, Empire Way, Wembley.

Michaelis.—Dr. Willy Michaelis, our beloved husband, father and grandfather, died suddenly after a short illness on August 8th. Deeply mourned by his family, his friends and patients. Marie Michaelis (née Italiener), 86 Holders Hill Road, London, N.W.4.

CLASSIFIED

Situations Vacant

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

RESIDENT COMPANION-HOUSE-KEEPER for elderly lady in small, modern, centrally-heated flat; comfortable room. Daily help kept. Box 855.

CROCHET-WORKERS wanted to do infants' garments at home. Box 856.

CITY EXPORT OFFICE requires SHORTHAND/TYPIST for German and English correspondence; short hours. Box 857.

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BOOKKEEPER, also experienced in general office work and Kalamazoo System, seeks part-time or home work. Box 861.

PART-TIME WORK as general clerk with bookkeeping or collections wanted by middle-aged man; able to drive. Box 865.

Women

LADY, experienced all-round office work, requires part-time job; willing to work any hours. Box 862.

HOME TYPING. German, English, French, by reliable person. Box 863.

GENERAL CLERK, with knowledge German shorthand/typing, seeks part-time work as cashier or sales assistant (exp. sweets, bakery, books). Box 864.

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Translations

TRANSLATION BUREAU. Dr. jur. Oscar Zweigenthal, 43 Warrington Crescent, W.9. CUNningham 3755. Certified translations: English, German, Czech and Slovakian.

TRANSLATIONS of legal and other documents from and into German: Marie Sackin, F.I.L.(Eng.). Incorporated Linguist, 9a Abercorn Road, N.W.7. Tel.: FINchley 6139 (private); AVenue 3711 (office).

Miscellaneous

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MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Manfred Lang, formerly of Süssen, supposed to have emigrated to London in April, 1939, sought by Mrs. Lilli Sätzler, (14a) Oehringen, Bad-Württbg., Alte Strasse 1, W. Germany.

Dr. Heinrich Langer and Mrs. Harriet Langer, formerly of Frankfurt-Berlin-Charlottenburg, sought by Brinkwerth, Koln-Raderberg, Kreuznacherstr. 41.

Enquiries by AJR

Dr. Ernst Cohn-Wiener. Relatives or friends who know anything about the fate of the art historian, Dr. Ernst Cohn-Wiener, who lived in India during the Nazi régime, are asked to contact the AJR.

Preuss, son of Dr. Julius Preuss, Berlin, author of "Biblischtalmudische Medizin", sought by publishing house in Basle.

MISCELLANEOUS

PROPST GRUEBER VISITS LONDON

Dr. Heinrich Grüber, Propst of the "Marienkirche" in Berlin, announced in London, when he was entertained at a luncheon by The Wiener Library and the AJR, that a new organisation for reconciliation between Germany and Israel on the political level, and between German Christians and Jews on the religious level, is to be established in Cologne early this month. This organisation will centralise and embrace the already existing groups working for a German-Jewish rapprochement. The President will be Dr. Heinrich Grüber and the Joint Chairmen are to be Rabbi Dr. Z. Asaria, Jerusalem, and Herr Enke, Dean in Cologne. One of the principal aims of the new organisation will be to foster and exchange visits between German and Israeli youth.

Dr. Grüber, in his address, said he placed great hopes on the younger German generation. But its re-education still had to be carried out and, equally, the youth of Israel must be made aware that history did not begin in 1948. The differences which existed between the two faiths should not be done away with but on a higher level all that united them must be found. Above all, the Jewish-Christian dialogue must be resumed. Christian-Jewish co-operation on the basis of the prophetic teachings of the Bible must be undertaken. The times of Christian mission among Jews were definitely over. He expressed his great appreciation to those Jews who had accepted the friendship of non-Jewish Germans and who, together with them, had helped to remove the bitterness of German-Jewish relations.

Referring to Mr. Victor Gollancz's pamphlet, "The Case of Adolf Eichmann", which was comparatively little known in Germany, Dr. Grüber said that to be a philanthropist, as Mr. Gollancz certainly was, meant to be a friend of human beings, but it could not mean being friendly also to those who are inhuman. "Even philanthropy can be overdone". He pointed out that Mr. Gollancz's attitude did not help either those Germans who had, at the risk of their lives opposed Nazism, nor did it help the Jews, Israel, or humanity. "He merely made the image of Jewish suffering which was unique, more vague and generalised".

Propst Grüber also expressed regret that too little was done in Germany to commemorate

the names of the German-Jewish leaders who had perished under the Nazi régime.

Dr. Alfred Wiener, Mr. L. G. Montefiore and Dr. H. Reichmann, Chairman of the AJR, who welcomed Dr. Grüber on his arrival at the Library, acknowledged the debt of gratitude which the Jewish people owed to him and others like him, who in the darkest days of evil-doing had shown courage on behalf of Jews and had demonstrated that the spark of humanity and godliness had not been extinguished after all.

In the course of an ensuing informal exchange of views Propst Grüber was told that many Jews had been perturbed by his refusal as a witness at the Eichmann trial to disclose the name of a former Gestapo official who, as an anti-Nazi, had been helpful to the Jews. Dr. Grüber replied that, as a matter of principle, he had only given the names of such opponents to the régime who were no longer alive. He himself, he said, was constantly receiving abusive letters, mainly anonymous, and he wanted to spare others a similar experience.

Dr. Grüber was a prisoner in several Nazi concentration camps for his opposition to Hitlerism and for his rescue work among Jewish victims. A forest in his honour is to be planted in Israel to mark his 70th birthday.

LONDON MEETING OF LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

On July 31, the Board of the British Section of the Leo Baeck Institute held a meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. H. Reichmann. Mr. S. Adler-Rudel (Jerusalem) and Rabbi Dr. M. Gruenewald (New York) who were also present gave reports on the Institute's activities in Israel and the United States. The Board also discussed several research schemes now under consideration. One of them is to cover the position of the German Jews during the last years of the Weimar Republic, others refer to the history of leading Jewish organisations in Germany and to spiritual trends within German Jewry in the nineteenth century. All those who participated in the deliberations reiterated the great responsibility resting upon the Institute. Its task is to try and preserve the history of the German Jews as long as scholars are still available who, having spent their formative years in Germany, are able to approach the subject with first-hand knowledge.

GESCHICHTE DER FRANKFURTER JUDEN

Aufruf zur Materialsammlung

Wie unsere Leser bereits aus der vorigen Nummer von *AJR Information* ersehen haben, ist die Stadt Frankfurt/Main im Begriff, eine Schriftenreihe ueber die Geschichte der Frankfurter Juden in den letzten 150 Jahren herauszugeben. Wir sind gebeten worden darauf hinzuweisen, dass zunaechst persoenliche Berichte ueber Erlebnisse waehrend der Naziherrschaft als wertvolle Beitraege zu dieser Geschichte gesammelt und nach Moeglichkeit veroeffentlicht werden sollen. Alle ehemaligen Frankfurter, die jene Zeit miterlebt haben, werden gebeten, einen solchen Bericht niederzuschreiben und ihn baldmoeglichst der Sammelstelle bei der Wiener Library, 4 Devonshire Street, London, W.1, zu uebersenden.

MEMORIAL MEETING FOR DR F. R. BIENENFELD

A Memorial Meeting for the late Dr. Franz Rudolf Bienenfeld was held under the joint auspices of the World Jewish Congress (British Section) and the Council of Jews from Austria (Jacob Ehrlich Society) at Congress House (London) on July 4. Dr. A. Steinberg was in the chair. The President of the Board of Deputies, Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., paid tribute to Dr. Bienenfeld as a great lawyer, a great humanitarian and a good Jew. On behalf of the AJR and the United Restitution Office, Dr. H. Reichmann recalled that Dr. Bienenfeld was the first to find legal arguments in the Austrian State Treaty on which the compensation claims for Nazi victims in and from Austria would be based. As a Board member of U.R.O. and an Executive member of the AJR for many years, Dr. Bienenfeld "approached every practical and theoretical problem with a sharp and analytical mind". In the name of the World Jewish Congress, Mr. A. L. Easterman recalled Dr. Bienenfeld's work as head of the Congress' Legal Department and as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Mr. Josef Fraenkel expressed the gratitude of the Jacob Ehrlich Society for the work done by Dr. Bienenfeld in the interest of his fellow-refugees from Austria.

EUROPEAN HEBREW SEMINAR

A four-week European Hebrew Seminar has just been held in Cranfield, Bedfordshire. This is the fiftieth full-scale seminar to be organised within 15 years by Mr. Levi Gertner, Director of Education and Culture of the Jewish Agency and the Zionist Federation.

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NEWS ABOUT ISRAEL

DISCUSSION BETWEEN GERMAN AND ARAB STUDENTS

Under the auspices of the "Ring Christlich-Demokratischer Studenten" the Israel problem was publicly discussed in the Auditorium Maximum of the Free University of Berlin. Partners of the debate were, on the one side, three members of the "Deutsch-Israelische Studentengruppe (D.I.S.)", a group of non-Jewish German friends of Israel, and, on the other side, three members the Arab speakers expressed the view that, even University. According to the paper "Der Tag", the Arab speakers expressed the view that, even if the Arab refugee problem could be solved, the Arabs would not recognise the State of Israel because they considered the country as Arab territory. This attitude was described as unconstructive by the German partners of the discussion; they referred to "the normative strength of facts" and also to the citizen rights enjoyed by 200,000 Arabs in Israel.

DR. ADENAUER ON GERMANY'S DEBT

Dr. Adenauer, at a Press conference in Berlin, said that Germany recognised that her moral obligation to Israel will never cease. He said that after completion of the reparations programme in 1963 West Germany would be prepared to examine Israel's economic position with a view to future German-Israel trade relations.

GERMAN FREIGHTER DELIVERED

The freighter "Timna", built by the Deutsche Werft (Hamburg), arrived in Haifa recently. She is the thirty-sixth and last ship received by the Israeli shipping company "Zim" under the German-Israeli reparations agreements. Commenting on the event, Davar (Tel Aviv) writes that at the time of the German-Israeli negotiations many arguments against the conclusion of an agreement had been put forward. However, the excellent way in which the agreement had been fulfilled and its tremendous impact on the country's economy had proved these doubts unjustified.

DONATION BY GERMAN FREEMASONS

The Federation of German Freemasons' Lodges has donated DM 50,000 to the Israeli Lodge, whose President, Mr. Max Seligman, recently paid a visit to Germany. The money is to be used for the erection of an Old Age Home for Freemasons of German origin.

"ARAB WORLD" EXHIBITION CLOSED

Only a few hours after it opened in Bonn, an exhibition was closed of photographs entitled "The Arab World" and arranged by Arab students at Bonn University.

The Administrative Board of the University had demanded the removal of a series of pictures of Israel's "Gaza Aggression of 1956", stating it would not tolerate political controversies on university premises.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST TEACHERS' CONFERENCE IN ESSEN

Israeli Delegate

Israel was for the first time represented at an international meeting of Socialist teachers held recently in Essen. Various European countries and the United States participated in the ten-day seminar, which was also attended by Mr. Peretz Leiser, headmaster of the Emek Hefer district school near Natanya.

FILM AWARDS

Israel received first prize for her documentary film, "Description of a Battle", at the International Film Festival in Berlin.

The film, produced by Wim van Leer, an Israeli of Dutch origin, and directed by Chris Marker, depicts life in Israel. Local critics hailed it as an "absolute masterpiece" and as the first example of a new style in documentaries.

Baruch Diner's "Hem Hayu Asara" ("They Were Ten") has been awarded the Grand Prix of the International Festival of Films for Youth at Cannes. The film tells the story of a group of Jewish settlers in Palestine under the Turks.

INTERNATIONAL CHOIRS IN TEL AVIV

More than 2,000 singers forming 40 choirs from eight countries took part in the Zimriya song festival held in the Frederic Mann Auditorium, Tel Aviv. Eighteen Jewish and non-Jewish choirs from abroad, including the London Jewish Male Choir and the Zemel Choral Society (London), participated. Choirs came from France, Switzerland, Denmark, Finland, Holland and the U.S.A.

The Zagreb choir represented Jewish choirs in Yugoslavia at the song festival. There are three Jewish choirs in Yugoslavia, in Belgrade, Zagreb and Sarajevo.

A decree of the Bulgarian Legislature has conferred the Order of St. Cyril and St. Method on the choir of the Bulgarian Jewish community on the occasion of the choir's 50th anniversary.

SCIENTISTS' WORLD CONGRESS

The Third World Congress of Jewish Scientists opened in Jerusalem on July 25, attended by scientists from all over the world. The countries participating included Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and East Germany, as well as most West European countries, the United States, several Latin American countries and Australia.

U.S.A. AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Two Democratic Congressmen from New York have protested against the issue of licences for the export of rockets to Egypt, which they have termed a "tragic error" and an attempt to restore Nasser's fallen prestige. Another Democratic representative has criticised appeasement of Nasser.

The Arab refugee problem and Arab discrimination against American Jews were brought up in the Senate by a Republican and two other Republican Senators have stated that "it is beginning to appear as if the U.S.A. were making a series of piecemeal concessions to the Arab States".

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, at the insistence of its Chairman, Senator J. W. Fulbright, has adopted an amendment which considerably weakens the provision in the Foreign Aid Bill about Arab discrimination against Israel and American Jews.—(J.C.)

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