

## A YEAR OF PROGRESS

### A.J.R. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the AJR on May 28 was overshadowed by the news of the death of Dr. Hans Reichmann, who had been Chairman of the AJR for more than ten years. In his opening address, Mr. A. S. Dresel, who was in the chair, paid tribute to Dr. Reichmann's outstanding services. He also recalled the losses sustained by the AJR during the past year by the deaths of its Executive Member, Dr. Walter Berlin, its Board Members, Dr. Paul Chapp, Dr. Richard Engel, Rabbi Dr. Max Eschelbacher, Mr. Armin Heller, Dr. Alexander Philippsborn, Mr. Hugo Stern and Dr. Alfred Wiener, and of the AJR Social Worker, Miss Hilde Mohr.

The first report was given by Dr. F. Goldschmidt, Chief Legal Adviser of URO and representative of the Council of Jews from Germany to the Legal Committee of the Claims Conference. Having just returned from Germany, he stated that the amendment to the Federal Restitution Law had been approved by the Parliamentary Indemnification Committee and would be passed on to the Parliamentary Budget Committee and to the Federal Council (Bundesrat). In its present form the draft visualised the abolition of the original ceiling of 1,500 million DM and full settlement of all acknowledged claims. It was hoped that the law would be promulgated in August this year. An amendment to the Federal Indemnification Law was also in the making, but it would still take some time until this law would be enacted. The speaker also mentioned that certain amendments of the law concerning the payment of social insurance to victims of Nazi persecution were under consideration; these amendments mainly applied to those claimants who, at the time of their emigration, had reclaimed their accumulated contributions.

Dr. Goldschmidt stressed that the justified demands of the victims had to be put forward not only with energy but also in a dignified manner.

In his report on the general activities of the AJR, Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary, first dealt with *AJR Information*. Within its limits, he stated, our magazine always tried to reflect the specific approach of our community to current problems. On the other hand, the possibilities of expressing views on behalf of the AJR were sometimes limited. It would, for instance, not have been in keeping with the AJR's terms of reference if *AJR Information* had taken sides in the present religious conflict within the Anglo-Jewish community, because the AJR comprises members of all religious shades. Apart from serving as a link between headquarters and members, *AJR Information* also fulfilled the important function of conveying the wishes and hopes of our community to important outside quarters to which the paper is sent and which, as we know, read it with great diligence.

Turning to the work of the Social Services

Department, he stated that it comprised practically all human problems with which members of our community were faced. The chance of talking things over was in itself a great relief for many, especially if they had lost relatives on whom they had been dependent. There was also an increasing number of callers to whom guidance by the psychiatrist, who was attached to the department, had to be made available. The question of obtaining employment was important not only from the financial point but also as a means of preserving the self-confidence of the people concerned. There was also a constant demand for rooms at reasonable prices.

#### Long Waiting Lists for Homes

Turning to the Homes for the Aged, the speaker stated that after the completion of Heinrich Stahl House and Osmond House (the Home for the Infirm), the building programme was, at least for the time being, completed. Altogether accommodation was provided for 185 residents in the four ordinary Homes and for 37 residents at Osmond House. The hope that the demand would be satisfied by these Homes had not been fulfilled. On the contrary, the number of urgent applications considerably exceeded the vacancies to be expected. This restricts the selection amongst the applicants even more than had been necessary during the past years. Applicants who were in a comparatively good financial position or who could be maintained by well-off near relatives were, as a rule, not eligible. Therefore, the financial position had to be investigated very thoroughly in each case. This had given rise to the rumour that financial assets had to be surrendered to the Home. The speaker stressed that this rumour was entirely unfounded, just as it was wrong to assume that applicants who had the moral support of any of the existing organisations were given preference.

So far, it had been the policy to admit the oldest amongst the applicants. However, this had had the effect that the average age of the residents in the Homes had become rather high. A further problem arose from the fact that the number of senile residents had grown.

The speaker stressed that he had only mentioned these problems in order to make members aware of the day-to-day difficulties which had to be coped with. At the same time, we had to realise that the establishment of adequate Homes for the older ones in our midst was a very great achievement, and that the standard of the Homes was regarded as outstanding both by Jewish welfare organisations all over the world and by the British authorities concerned.

Turning to the acquired house at Adamson Road which was to accommodate the AJR Club, the speaker reported that the building work had just started.

The membership had remained comparatively constant. Whilst losses were unavoidable owing to the age structure of our community, there had also been a certain influx of new members. However, it was one of the important tasks to get more members of the comparatively younger generation associated with our efforts, which would have to go on for a very long time to come.

A report on the Flatlet Scheme was given by Mr. A. S. Dresel, who gave a survey of the steps which had been taken since the site at Avenue Road, Highgate, was acquired in April, 1962. Originally the authorities only agreed to a limited number of one-room flats and stipulated a greater number of two-room flats than actually required. After protracted negotiations they gave their consent to the erection of a building which would consist of 48 one-room flats in a 12-storey tower block and 5 two-room flats, one three-room flat and three communal rooms in a two-storey block. It had also been necessary to secure a mortgage, because the costs of the building could not be covered by the means available. This mortgage had, in the meantime, been promised by the Hornsey Borough Council. Furthermore, due to the particular position of the site, certain architectural difficulties had to be overcome in order to avoid that any flatlets would be facing north. Lastly, it had turned out that the estimated costs had been considerably higher than was visualised at the time when the site was purchased.

Now all these preliminaries had been solved and the architect had been requested to work out detailed plans which would have to be submitted to the authorities for their approval and on the basis of which tenders from building firms would be asked for. Mr. Dresel assured the members that everything possible would be done to have the building completed with the least possible delay. The scheme was jointly financed by the Central British Fund (two-thirds) and the AJR (one-third), and the speaker pointed out that both in this scheme and in the accomplishment of other common tasks, e.g., the running of the Homes for the Aged, a most cordial relationship between the two organisations had developed.

The financial report was given by Dr. F. E. Falk, Treasurer. He mentioned that the income from subscriptions and donations had risen from £7,800 in 1962 to £8,700 in 1963. On the other hand, owing to the increase of work, the expenditure had risen from £12,400 to £12,800. This expenditure included net costs of £1,300 for printing, authors' fees and despatch of *AJR Information*; the gross costs amounted to £3,500, of which £2,200 was covered by advertisements. The total expenditure also included £1,000 for running the AJR Club. Whilst the support rendered by the members deserved praise, it would be necessary to increase the income, especially, as the expansion of our work was bound to involve higher liabilities. In this connection the speaker appealed to the members to make their payments under a Deed of

(Continued on page 2, column 1)



## A Year of Progress

(Continued from page 1)

Covenant for the AJR Charitable Trust. This would yield an additional income for the Trust without cost to themselves.

The election of the new Executive and Board members was moved by Mr. W. M. Behr in accordance with the proposals published in the May issue of *AJR Information* and unanimously adopted. Accordingly Mr. C. T. Marx was co-opted to the Executive, and the Executive now consists of the following members: Mr. A. S. Dresel (Chairman), Mr. W. M. Behr (Vice-Chairman), Mr. H. Bendheim (Trustee), Mr. S. Bischheim (Trustee), Mr. H. Blumenau, Dr. F. E. Falk (Treasurer), Mr. H. S. Garfield, Mr. V. E. Hilton (Trustee), Dr. A. R. Horwell, Dr. K. Krotos, Dr. F. A. Mann, Mr. C. T. Marx, Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary), Mr. R. Schneider, Mr. F. W. Ury, Mrs. L. Wechsler. The present Board Members were also re-elected, and Mr. C. F. Flesch, Mrs. S. Horwell, Dr. L. G. T. King and Mr. O. Weisz were co-opted.

In the course of the ensuing discussion one speaker stressed the need for looking after those members of our community who, without having to be accommodated in mental homes, were in psychological difficulties and needed care and guidance. The question was also raised as to whether the AJR could pilot a scheme whereby accommodation would be provided for those elderly people who, due to their financial position, did not qualify for admission to the existing Old Age Homes, but who all the same needed the care and attention which they could obtain in an Old Age Home. The Chairman promised that the Executive would consider this important but rather difficult question.

A particularly interesting aspect of the debate arose from the contributions of two speakers who were members of the comparatively younger generation. They agreed that the existence of the AJR had to be secured for a long time to come, but felt that in its present approach the organisation had not a sufficiently strong appeal to their age group. Although the debate could not result in concrete proposals of what should be done, the fact that this vital problem was raised from the floor is most encouraging. It would be greatly appreciated if the discussion on this subject could be followed up, and if anybody who feels he might be able to contribute to it expressed his views either by contacting members of the Executive or by writing to *AJR Information*.

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## NEWS FROM GERMANY

### WAR CRIMES' TRIALS

Ex-S.S. Captain Werner Schonemann was sentenced to six years' hard labour in Cologne for aiding in the murder of 2,170 Jews near Bialystok in Poland in 1941.

In Bochum Hermann Blache, the former head of the ghetto at Tarnow, in Poland, was sentenced to hard labour for life for the murder during the war of 22 Jews and for complicity in the mass murder of at least 4,000 Jews in the town.

At his trial in Frankfurt ex-S.S. Lieut.-Col. Hermann Krume, Eichmann's deputy, stated that the reported Nazi plan to barter one million Jews for 10,000 lorries was only "vague talk". He said that at that time he did not know the outcome of the plan and that he had never heard of a plan to barter 100,000 Jews for five million Swiss francs. Krume and ex-S.S. Captain Otto Hunsche deny charges of helping Eichmann to send 430,000 Hungarian Jews to the Auschwitz death camp in 1944. Mr. Joel Brand, an Israeli, who negotiated with Eichmann, told the court that Himmler conceived the blood-for-trucks plan as a means of ingratiating himself with the West and to take over the leadership from Hitler.

### ZENTRALRAT EXPRESSES ANXIETY

At a meeting in Düsseldorf, the administrative committee of the Central Council of Jews in Germany expressed anxiety at political developments in West Germany. The Council, in a resolution, listed "numerous serious events" which gave cause for anxiety, including the recent desecration of a Jewish cemetery at Cologne, the organised escape of a former S.S. officer from a Brunswick prison, the growing hate campaign by neo-Nazi publications, public demands for an amnesty for all Nazi criminals and a general tendency to minimise Nazi brutalities.

The resolution criticised the presentation of awards to writers who falsified the historical causes of the Second World War, and declared that such propaganda had already heralded a period of chaos and persecution during the recent past. The Council urged the German authorities to take suitable counter-action "in view of this menacing situation," and regretted that it had not yet had an opportunity to discuss the German political situation with the Federal Chancellor.

### OFFICE FOR EX-NAZI

Dr. Hermann Stolting, a Frankfurt lawyer who is one of the defence counsel at the Auschwitz trial in Frankfurt and who was a Nazi prosecutor at Bromberg (Poland) during the war, was re-elected president of the German League for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals by a very large majority.

His Nazi past and his defence of war criminals have caused a rift in the League, several groups of which have broken away because of his presidency.

### YOUTH OPPOSES NEO-NAZI

Dr. Gerhard Frey, the editor of the *Deutsche National-Zeitung und Soldaten-Zeitung*, called a public meeting in Frankfurt to speak on the "sense and nonsense of the trials against Nazi criminals" and his demand for an amnesty for all Nazi criminals.

Several hundred young Germans, mainly trade unionists, greeted Frey as he made his opening statement with shouts of "We are not going to tolerate fascists!" and "Out with the Nazis!" Because of the opposition he left soon afterwards. He is said to be planning the formation of a new nationalist party.

A youthful trade union spokesman said that young local democrats were not prepared to allow a neo-Nazi to spread his ideas while the Auschwitz trial and other proceedings against Nazi criminals were in progress.

### COMPENSATION FOR BRITISH VICTIMS OF NAZISM

The Federal German Government has agreed to pay £1,000,000 to the British Government to compensate British victims of Nazi persecution who suffered loss of liberty or damage to health, or are dependants of those who died. Distribution of the sum will be left to the discretion of the British Government. The agreement refers to victims who were British subjects at the time of persecution.

### STAMPS IN MEMORY OF JULY 20

The 20th anniversary, on July 20, of the Hitler bomb plot is being made the occasion of a special issue of stamps by the German Federal Republic. Eight 20 pfennig values, all printed in blue and black, will bear the portraits of resistance workers who paid the supreme penalty for their anti-Nazi activities.

The eight personalities are: Sophie Scholl (executed February 1943); Ludwig Beck (died July 1944); Dietrich Bonhoeffer (assassinated April 1945); Alfred Delp (executed February 1945); Karl Friedrich Goerdeler (executed February 1945); Wilhelm Leuschner (executed September 1944); Helmuth Graf von Moltke (executed January 1945), and Claus Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg (executed July 1944).

The stamps are printed together in two rows in the form of a miniature sheet with wide margins, and in the lower margin appears the inscription, "Dem deutschen Widerstand zum Jahrestag des 20. Juli—1944/1964".

L. N. and M. W.

### ARAB PROPAGANDA AT UNIVERSITY

Leaflets distributed at Heidelberg University by the "Palestine Students in Germany" have announced the formation of a National Liberation Front for the "organisation and military training of the Palestine People". The State of Israel, said the leaflets, did not want a peaceful settlement of the Palestine problem. Zionist propaganda had "deepened the rift between the Arabs and the West" and accordingly the Arabs were "determined to restore their rights in Palestine".—(J.C.)

### DACHAU MEMORIAL

A second memorial to Jewish victims of the Nazis at Dachau concentration camp has been dedicated at the Wald cemetery near a mass grave of Jewish victims. The memorial was erected at the request of the Bavarian Organisation of Jewish Victims of Persecution and Disabled Survivors of the Concentration Camps.

### LEO BAECK PRIZE 1963

The Leo Baeck Prize jury of the Zentralrat of the Jews in Germany distributed its 1963 prize equally amongst the following four personalities: Dr. Hans Joachim Herberg (Cologne), Dr. Helmut Paul (Linz/Rhine), Dr. Julius I. Loewenstein (Ramat-Chen, Israel) and Dr. Pnina Nave (Jerusalem).

Dr. Herberg and Dr. Paul are German Government officials who for several years have carried out important research work on the mental and physical damages caused by imprisonment. Dr. Loewenstein, who was born in 1902 in Karlsruhe, studied in Heidelberg, is a contributor to Israeli papers and has written works on philosophical subjects. Dr. Nave was born in Berlin in 1921. She is an authority on medieval and modern Hebrew literature.

### GERMAN AID FOR PARIS SYNAGOGUE

A new synagogue in the Lyons suburb of Villeurbanne has been dedicated by the Chief Rabbi of France, Dr. Jacob Kaplan. Known as the Synagogue of Fraternity, the building replaces one destroyed by the Germans during the war. Most of the funds for the new synagogue were provided by "Action for Repentance", a group of young West German Protestants.—(J.C.)



# IN MEMORY OF HANS REICHMANN

Werner Rosenstock:

## A LIFE FOR GERMAN JEWRY

It was almost exactly two years ago that, at a Memorial Meeting for his predecessor Kurt Alexander, Hans Reichmann summed up the life of his departed comrade-in-arms with the words: "He loved the German Jews and fought for them." We cannot think of a more fitting tribute to Hans Reichmann himself.

My mind goes back to the year 1927, when he joined the Berlin Head Office of the Centralverein in the Lindenstrasse. One of the greatest surprises for those of us who met him for the first time was to learn that he was only 27 years old and thus almost a contemporary of the members of the German Jewish youth movement who were then associated with the C.V. He had matured early, partly because it was his disposition, partly because he had to shoulder family responsibilities from an early age onwards. It took us some time until we realised that this maturity which, at the beginning, made it difficult to overcome a kind of personal distance was coupled with a strong sense of humour, and that the same man who sometimes appeared to us unduly conventional and solemn was in fact full of *joie de vivre*.

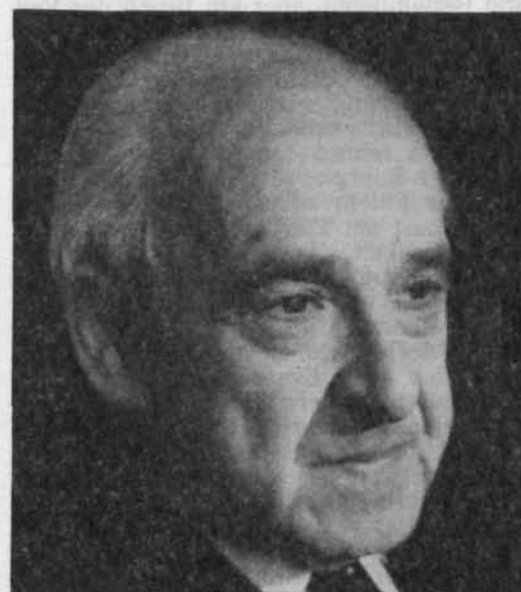
We also first thought that in Jewish politics he stood for the values of a "bourgeois" attitude inside the C.V. which was anathema to the younger ones among us. When we got to know him better we realised that here too we had been mistaken. Even the creator of the "Wendriner" character, Kurt Tucholsky, respected his approach. When, in 1929, Reichmann drew the attention of this radical critic to the compromising effect which some of his writings might have on German Jewry, Tucholsky replied: "In the course of the past 16 years you have been the first man who has approached me in this matter without being guided by bourgeois fear. For this I am grateful to you."

What he did during the years of the Weimar Republic to avert the catastrophe is reflected, though only in a fragmentary way and without adequately assessing his own role, in the essay he contributed to the "Festschrift fuer Siegfried Moses" (1963) under the heading "Der drohende Sturm". The transformation of the C.V. from a mere defence organisation into a political body, linked up with the big democratic parties of the Republic, was, to a large extent, implemented under his guidance. His vision, his gifts as an analyst of political trends and his ever-growing experience in the field of political propaganda were invaluable assets for the German Jews during those critical years.

When the Nazis came to power he was under no illusions about the future. He knew that if the Nazi régime stabilised itself the fate of German Jewry was doomed. He did not attribute undue chances to the underground opposition though, through his manifold contacts, he eagerly tried to collect inside information about the political climate in Nazi and anti-Nazi circles. At the same time, as a courageous spokesman, he tried to alleviate the lot of his fellow-Jews, as far as this was possible. In the course of the November pogroms he was thrown into a concentration camp and endured the brutalities of Sachsenhausen during that bitterly cold winter.

By the dissolution of the C.V. his work in Germany had come to an end. He found refuge in England. While he was grateful to this country which had given him a sanctuary, the initial period was not easy for him. He had been used to hold leading positions, and now he was dependent on others and barred from responsible work. There followed the period of internment. The stay on the Isle of Man also had its brighter aspects, and as a skilful raconteur he later on brought to life episodes of that time with the same gusto with which he liked to relate anecdotes from his Upper Silesian days in the patois of that district.

After his release he settled in Cambridge, and when hostilities ended he was one of the first ones who collected eye-witness reports from the survivors of the catastrophe. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Head of the London Office of HIAS, the leading American Jewish immigration agency. This work brought him into close contact with Jews from Eastern Europe. Without being condescending, he enjoyed talking with the colourful personalities whom he met among his clients



and who differed so much from the sober "yeckes" of his own background.

Yet soon he again found his niche within the organisational framework of the Jews from Germany. In 1949 the late Kurt Alexander left for the United States, and Reichmann took over his positions as Joint Secretary of U.R.O. and as Secretary of the Council of Jews from Germany. At the same time he became Vice-Chairman of the AJR. Due to the absence abroad of the late Mr. Schoyer, he was in fact the chairman, an office to which he was also formally elected in 1953. He resigned for reasons of health in 1963, agreeing, however, to remain a member of the Executive. Thus he stood at the helm of the AJR for 14 eventful years.

His contribution to the development of the AJR was designed by deep feelings of loyalty towards our past. He constantly reminded us that we had to approach our present-day problems with dignity and self-respect. He kept on stressing that material compensation and welfare work, important as they were, could not be the sole foundations of our existence.

He was relentless in his fight for restitution of recovered assets not only for the individual

victims but also for the organisations which represented the remnants of German Jewry. He felt deeply wounded when for several years some Jewish organisations abroad denied the claim of former German Jews for an adequate share in the heirless and communal former German Jewish property. It is, to a large extent, due to his efforts that these difficulties were ultimately overcome and that the Council of Jews from Germany could provide its affiliates in various countries with the means necessary for their constructive welfare work. He was a fighter who had the courage of his convictions, and, by his imagination and initiative, he was an inspiration to all of us.

For some years his life was overshadowed by his illness. The more he felt that time might be running short for him, the more he also felt the urge to make use of it to the utmost of his ability. He did not spare himself, but we have reason to believe that it was the fulfilment of his deepest desire that he died in harness.

Those who worked with him also got to know other facets of his personality. His generosity was unlimited, and he enjoyed giving pleasure to others. Only a few weeks before his death he paid a visit to a sick friend, though it meant climbing up three flights of stairs, and his last words on his deathbed were a request to his friend and fellow-worker Goldschmidt that, on the occasion of his pending visit to Bonn, he should do something in the interest of a former colleague.

His life, though comparatively short in years, was a very full one. If it was also a happy life, it was, in the first place, due to his companion with whom he had shared good and bad times for almost 35 years. In her he had met a congenial partner, and the harmony between them manifested itself in the most sublime way one could wish for: not by one single melody, but by two melodies, constantly intermingling and thus constantly growing into a great, organic entity.

In a poem at the end of his "Romanzero", Heine looked back on his life. This poem meant very much to Hans Reichmann. In fact, it also reflects the essence of his own earthly wanderings and expresses the feelings with which he will always be remembered by us:

"Verlorner Posten in dem Freiheitskriege,  
Hielt ich seit dreissig Jahren treulich aus.  
Ich kaempfte ohne Hoffnung dass ich siege,  
Ich wusste, nie komm' ich gesund nach Haus.  
Ein Posten ist vakant!—Die Wunden  
klaffen—  
Der eine faellt, die andern ruecken nach—  
Doch fall ich unbesiegt, und meine Waffen  
Sind nicht gebrochen—Nur mein Herze  
brach."

## MESSAGE OF GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Dear Professor Bentwich,

On the tragic passing of Dr. Hans Reichmann, the Secretary General of the United Restitution Organisation, I wish to express to you, on behalf of the German Embassy and myself our deepest sympathy. The services Dr. Reichmann has rendered to the victims of persecution will never be forgotten. His co-operation with this Embassy will always be remembered by us with gratitude.

Yours sincerely,

H. v. ETZDORF.

Further Tributes on pages 4 and 5



Robert Weltsch

## BEWAHRER DES GEISTIGEN ERBES

Die kleine Gruppe von ehemals deutschen Juden, die hier in London um die Erhaltung des Gedenkens des deutschen Judentums bemüht ist, ist unsagbar ärmer geworden. Hans Reichmann war eine zentrale Figur in diesem Kreise. Er, der Nicht-Theologe, war einer der treuesten und ergebensten Jünger—man kann kein anderes Wort gebrauchen—von Leo Baeck, den er tief verehrte, und der ihm in vielen Dingen, besonders in seiner menschlichen Vornehmheit und Integrität, ein leuchtendes Vorbild war. Im tiefsten Innern war er ein frommer Mensch.

Neben all den anderen Funktionen, die er in den letzten zwanzig Jahren erfüllt hat, war Reichmann auch einer der Gründer des Leo Baeck Institutes und Mitglied des Londoner Board, der nun kurz hintereinander Alfred Wiener und Hans Reichmann verloren hat.

Das Vorhaben des Leo Baeck Instituts, die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland zu schreiben und Material darüber zu sammeln, lag Reichmann sehr am Herzen. Immer wieder wies er darauf hin, wie wichtig es ist, die Erinnerung der noch lebenden Menschen als Quelle zu sichern, immer wieder warnte er uns, wie kurz die Frist bemessen ist, und dass gerade dieses Material unwiederbringlich verschwunden sein wird mit der Generation, die noch das letzte Kapitel deutsch-jüdischer Existenz miterlebt hat. Wir haben nicht gedacht, dass er selber, eine fast unerschöpfliche Geschichtsquelle eines entscheidenden Bezirkes deutsch-jüdischen Lebens, uns so plötzlich entrissen werden wird.

Es ist eine kleine Genugtuung für uns, dass es dem Leo Baeck Institut gelungen ist, in den letzten zwei Jahren ihn selbst zum Reden zu bringen, und obwohl er nicht viel—oder jedenfalls nicht genügend—niedergeschrieben hat, hat er doch so manches erzählt, was unser Freund Arnold Paucker auf Tonband aufnehmen konnte, sodass uns im Leo Baeck Institut nicht nur ein Teil seiner Erinnerungen erhalten blieb, sondern wir auch noch seine Stimme hören können, die jetzt verstummt ist.

Reichmann war uns ein lieber und geschätzter Kollege, mit dem jeder gern zusammenarbeitete, weil man wusste, dass er das Sachliche über das Persönliche stellte. Er hatte feste Anschauungen, auch darüber, wie eine Organisation arbeiten muss: er konnte sich mit dem alles überflutenden Amerikanismus nicht befreunden. Er hielt mit seiner Kritik moderner organisatorischer Methoden nicht zurück. Er glaubte, dass durch direkte Hilfe mehr Gutes gestiftet werden könnte als durch kostspieligen Betrieb. Vielleicht unterschätzte er die Erfordernisse des nun einmal gegebenen Rahmens, aber sein Puritanismus entstammte reinsten Motiven.

Im Board des Leo Baeck Instituts war seine Klugheit und Rechtlichkeit eine Stütze bei allen Beratungen. Er war ein Mann, der wusste, dass man zusammenarbeiten kann und muss, auch wenn man nicht in der Beurteilung aller geschichtlichen Faktoren oder Probleme übereinstimmt. Denn das Gemeinsame ist stärker als das Trennende. Das hat uns das

Schicksal gelehrt. Vor dreissig Jahren oder mehr standen manche von uns in getrennten Lagern. Ueberzeugungen kann und soll man nicht abstreifen, aber worauf es ankommt, ist auch den Andersdenkenden, oder teilweise Andersdenkenden, zu respektieren. Das war im Wesen von Reichmanns Noblesse.

Er war eine Brücke zu der grossen Zeit des deutschen Judentums in der Vergangenheit, weil er fest wurzelte in der Kultur, die er in der Jugend in sich aufgesogen hatte und mit der er sich verwachsen fühlte. Wie wir alle, so war er schwer betroffen von dem plötzlichen Zusammenbruch einer Welt, die so fest gegründet schien. Er hat seine Würde bewahrt, aber der erschütterte Glaube, das zerstörte Vertrauen, hatte, mehr als der zugefügte Schaden, brennenden Schmerz in seiner Seele entfacht. Man kann wiedergutmachen, man kann versuchen zu überwinden, man kann wieder anknüpfen an Gedanken und Beziehungen, aber ein Bruch des Vertrauens lässt sich nicht heilen. Oft fühlten wir, Reichmann schauerte vor den heimlichen Folgen des Geschehenen, vor einer Demoralisierung, vor der Täter und Opfer nicht bewahrt werden können. Er hat diese Wunde in seinem Innern getragen. Bei all seiner Energie, seinem klaren Bewusstsein der Pflicht zum Leben und Wirken, seiner Lust am Tun des Guten, war seine Menschlichkeit, ja sogar sein Humor, beschattet von einer leisen Melancholie, die aus der Begegnung mit unausweichlicher Tragik stammt.

Und doch lebte er gern, und er hatte das Glück, seine Eva neben sich zu haben, aber tief im Innern schien er zu wissen, dass seine Welt zerbrochen war, und dass er den Tod mit sich herumtrug. Er war ein Mann von besonderem Charme, dem Liebe und Verehrung mit Recht zuteil wurde.

Wir Kollegen vom Board des Leo Baeck Instituts werden sein Andenken in Ehren halten.

### BOARD OF DEPUTIES' CONDOLENCE

June 16, 1964

Dear Mrs. Reichmann,

At the first meeting of the newly elected Board, which was held last Sunday, the President moved a vote of condolence with you on the lamented passing of your husband. He referred to the distinguished career of your husband, his brave efforts to help as an official of the Central-Verein whilst still in Germany, and to his indefatigable endeavours in his later years as General Secretary of U.R.O. for the thousands of indigent claimants whose claims for restitution and compensation he furthered in the most effective way.

His fine qualities of mind and character won him the respect and affection of all with whom he came into contact.

In conveying this vote to you, I was desired by the Board to express their hope that knowledge of the high regard in which he was universally held will in some small measure lighten your burden of sorrow.

Yours sincerely,

A. G. Brotman

Secretary.

Franz Boehm

### ERINNERUNG AN EIN GESPRÄCH

Professor Dr. Franz Boehm (Frankfurt/M.) schrieb nach Erhalt der Todesnachricht einen Brief an Dr. Kurt May, dem wir Folgendes entnehmen:

Erschuettert lese ich heute in der Zeitung die Todesanzeige von Dr. Hans Reichmann. Bei der Zusammenkunft der Delegationen der Verfolgtenorganisationen in Bonn vor zwei Wochen habe ich sehr lebhaft seiner gedacht und wurde mir bewusst, dass ich ihn schon so lange nicht mehr gesehen hatte.

Eine Begegnung, die sich mir als die letzte eingepreagt hat, ereignete sich in Bonn im Anschluss an einen Vortrag, den seine Frau im Zusammenhang mit der Woche der Brüderlichkeit gehalten hatte. Gerstenmaiers hatten das Ehepaar Reichmann, Dr. Shinnar, den verstorbenen Theologen Iwand und meine Frau und mich eingeladen. Gerstenmaier hatte nach Tisch ein Gespräch ueber das Thema aufgebracht: moegliche juedische Existenz nach der Katastrophe, und vertrat die These: Israel oder Synagoge, ein drittes gibt es nicht, die Unmoeglichkeit eines Daseins in der Assimilation ist offenkundig geworden.

Waehrend die anderen Teilnehmer zustimmen schienen, war das Ehepaar Reichmann, wie mir schien, bestuerzt und hielt es nicht fuer angemessen, irgendeine Form juedischer Existenz innerhalb der geschichtlichen Voelkerwelt ein fuer allemal apodiktisch auszuschliessen. Meine These, dass es nach der Katastrophe noch viel weniger als je zuvor Sache der nichtjuedischen Voelker sei, zu diskutieren, in welchen Formen juedische Existenz moeglich sei, sondern dass die nichtjuedischen Voelker jede Daseinsform zu respektieren haetten, in der individuelle Juden und Gruppen von Juden zu existieren wuenschten, wurde von Gerstenmaier sofort akzeptiert; er bemerkte aber, sicher zu recht, dass das ein anderes Thema sei; wenn man aber, wie er das getan habe, von geschichtlichen Wahrscheinlichkeiten rede, dann draenge sich einem nach dem Ereignis der nationalsozialistischen Judenverfolgung doch die Annahme auf, von der er ausgegangen sei.

Reichmanns, er und sie, legten in einer Weise, die mich sehr bewegt hat, dar, wie in den Juden, nicht anders wie in jedem geistig belebten Menschen, das Beduerfnis lebendig sei, an universalen kulturellen, moralischen, geistigen Bewegungen teilzunehmen; dass dieses Beduerfnis nie und nimmer gleichbedeutend sei mit Selbstpreisgabe und dass sie sich mit Entsetzen gegen den Gedanken auflehnten, den Juden und nur den Juden werde—nicht etwa von ihrem eigenen Gott und ihrer Religion, was schliesslich ihre eigene Sache sei—sondern von den anderen Voelkern die Teilnahme am universalen geistigen Geschehen nur gegen das Opfer der Selbstpreisgabe und des voelligen Aufgehens in einem "Gastvolk" gestattet. Die Juden haetten in der universitas humana genau das gleiche reichsunmittelbare Buergerrecht wie die Mitglieder aller anderen Voelker und Religionen; die Isolierung sei eine Sache der freien Wahl, nicht der von aussen auferlegten Quarantaene.

Alle Teilnehmer an diesem Gesprach standen unter dem Eindruck, dass aus den Worten von Herrn und Frau Dr. Reichmann ein tiefes Leid sprach, das weder durch religioese Troestung, noch durch zionistische Zuversicht zu beschwichtigen war. Wir alle haben noch lange ueber das Gesprach nachgedacht; es hat jedenfalls dazu beigetragen, dass mir Dr. Reichmann teuer war und dass mich sein Tod erschuettert.



## TRIBUTES AND MESSAGES

### A SELFLESS SERVANT

I worked with Hans Reichmann for fifteen years and in all my experience I have not known a man more completely and selflessly dedicated to a cause. He became Secretary of the United Restitution Organisation when it was struggling with small means, and against strong resistance in Germany, to obtain restitution of property and compensation for the indigent refugees from Central Europe in many countries. He had a major part in making the Organisation the biggest legal aid society which was ever created, and in obtaining belated justice for tens of thousands of the poor victims of Nazi persecution. The common feeling shared by all who worked with him is the loss, not only of a devoted and dedicated colleague, who knew more than all of us about German Jewry, but of a personal friend for whom we had deep affection. His essential quality was human kindness and care for others. In all his contacts with URO's staff of a thousand men and women, whether they were directing lawyers or the humblest clerks, he brought a friendliness and sympathy which made for the smooth working of a complicated enterprise.

Reichmann had a hard life and sore trials in his early middle age when he was at the height of his powers. He was proud of the part which German Jewry had played in Western civilisation, and his ideals were shattered by the catastrophe of the Hitler régime. He was himself imprisoned, and a victim of Nazi barbarous cruelty, and finally uprooted from his native country which he loved dearly. He fought courageously in Germany against Nazi attacks to the end, and came to England only shortly before the outbreak of the war. During the war he did useful, if humble, war service. And as soon as the war was over he returned to his life's work, helping to organise the survivors of German Jewry in this country and other countries for mutual aid and cultural activity. He was happy that he could apply his great legal knowledge and his unique experience of German administration and of Jewish communities to secure material reparation for those who, like himself, were uprooted from their homes; and that his wife, his perfect helpmate, was at the same time engaged in the work of moral reparation.

NORMAN BENTWICH.

### SPRECHER DER VERFOLGTEN

Die tiefe persönliche Trauer um unseren treuen, tapferen, hilfreichen und zuverlässigen Freund wird von dem Gedanken und von dem Wissen begleitet, dass die deutschen Juden eine der wenigen noch gebliebenen grossen Persönlichkeiten verloren haben.

Mit ihm sind unersetzliche Kenntnisse des Zeitgeschehens verloren, der Zeit vor und nach der Katastrophe, gute, böse und erschreckende Erfahrungen einer geschichtlichen Periode deutsch-juedischer Kultur und gemeinsamen Zusammenlebens. Es war zu wünschen und zu hoffen, dass es Hans Reichmann noch vergoentet gewesen waere, der Nachwelt eine historische Darstellung und einen Rechenschaftsbericht zu geben, wie er als Vorkaempfer fuer die Ziele des Central-Vereins seine fruehere Arbeit gesehen, wie er sie nach dem Zusammenbruch beurteilt hat und wie er ueber die Zukunft juedischer Existenz dachte.

Hans Reichmann war im deutschen Judentum und in der juedischen Welt ueberhaupt bekannt, geachtet und geschaezt; er besass

eine umfassende Kenntnis deutsch-juedischer Verhaeltnisse. Sein Rat und seine Meinung waren auf diesem Gebiet unentbehrlich, sein Verlust ist nicht zu ersetzen. Niemals hat er seine Arbeitskraft im Dienst der vielfaeltigen juedischen Interessen geschont.

In den letzten 15 Jahren, oder besser, schon seit Beendigung des Krieges, war sein Hauptanliegen die wichtige Frage der Wiedergutmachung. Er, der fuer die Rechte der Juden in Deutschland und in der Welt furchtlos eingetreten ist, der die Methoden, die mit dem Ziel der Entrechtung und Vernichtung der Juden angewandt wurden, bis in alle Einzelheiten studiert und kennengelernt hat, der selbst die Schrecken des Konzentrationslager Sachsenhausen mit wachem Auge erlebt und beobachtet hat, der dann die Leiden und Schwierigkeiten der Emigration erfuhr und neben sich sah, war nach seiner ganzen menschlichen Grundhaltung und nach seiner Vorbildung der berufene, anerkannte Sprecher und Verfechter einer deutschen moralischen und rechtlichen Wiedergutmachung.

Seine Verdienste um die Wiederherstellung des Rechts und um eine faire, angemessene Durchfuehrung von Rueckerstattung und Entschaeidigung koennen nicht hoch genug eingeschaezt werden; es ist nicht moeglich, die staendigen, oft aufregenden Verhandlungen zu schildern, die er mit den Behoerden, mit Vertretern der Regierung, mit Parlamentsabgeordneten und mit den beteiligten Organisationen fuehrte. Diese Verhandlungen hat er vorwiegend als Generalsekretaer der URO geleitet; man wusste auf der Gegenseite, dass die von ihm vertretenen Forderungen auch moralisch begruendet waren.

Fuer die grosse Verfolgtenorganisation der URO war es von unschaetzbarem Wert, dass sie von dieser integren Persoenlichkeit gefuehrt wurde. Mit grosser und sicherer Menschenkenntnis hat er bei der Auswahl der Mitarbeiter seinen Einfluss ausgeuebt. Und durch seinen Einsatz fuer die berechtigten Interessen der vielen Mitarbeiter war er allen ein wirklich guter Freund.

Aber nicht nur die URO, der Hans Reichmann lange Jahre hindurch ein Vorbild gewesen ist, die Wiedergutmachung ueberhaupt hat einen grossen Verlust erlitten.

Trotz seiner geschwaechten Gesundheit ist er in den letzten Tagen vor seinem Tod nach Deutschland gekommen, um wichtige allgemeine politische Probleme und Tagesfragen unter dem Vorsitz von Professor Bentwich mit den Mitgliedern des Board zu beraten. Wir waren sehr froh, als Hans Reichmann zunaechst mit deutlich sichtbarem Optimismus in seiner lebhaften, anregenden Art, die auch seinen alten Humor erkennen liess, mit uns diskutierte, und wir sind unaussprechlich traurig, dass wir ihn dabei verlieren mussten.

KURT MAY,

Leiter der URO-Bueros in Deutschland.

### A FIGHTER FOR JUSTICE

The sudden death of Dr. Hans Reichmann came as a grievous shock to the Central British Fund and the Jewish Trust Corporation.

When in 1948 the Central British Fund took an active interest in problems of restitution and compensation and helped to bring about the formation of URO, close contacts developed between the executive officers of the C.B.F. and Dr. Reichmann. Later on, in 1950, the C.B.F., in co-operation with a number of Jewish bodies, among them the Council of Jews from Germany, established the Jewish Trust Cor-

poration and Dr. Reichmann was one of the twelve original members of the Corporation who signed its Memorandum of Association.

Dr. Reichmann was passionately devoted to the cause of justice and right for those who suffered at the hands of the Nazis. His work for URO, the energy and devotion he brought to this difficult operation, inspired admiration in all in touch with that body. The outstanding success of the Organisation was, in large measure, due to him.

To be the General Secretary of such a body, whose intricate operations cover the whole field of restitution and indemnification, was in itself a task taxing to the full a man's strength. Yet Dr. Reichmann found the time to influence decisively the world-wide activities of the Council of Jews from Germany and to take a leading part in the formation of the Leo Baeck Institute and the Leo Baeck Charitable Trust. Through that Trust and also as a member of the Central British Fund Allocations Committee he was connected with the administration of funds recovered by the JTC and their application for the relief and welfare of Nazi victims.

The undersigned mourns the passing away of a dear colleague and friend, whose kindness and endearing human qualities matched the greatness of his mind.

DR. C. L. KAPRALIK,

Joint Secretary, Central British Fund,  
General Secretary, Jewish Trust Corporation.

### EIN REPRESENTANT JUEDISCHER ZIVILCOURAGE

Dr. Hans Reichmann war ein Kronzeuge des deutsch-juedischen Aktivismus.

Ich habe einen sehr starken Eindruck von seinem Eintreten fuer die aus Deutschland ausgewanderten Juden nach 1945 gehabt. Er stand in der vordersten Linie in dem Streit um die Rechtswiederherstellung, die sich Wiedergutmachung nennt. Hierbei mussten notwendigerweise Interessengegensaeetze auftreten. Dr. Reichmann hat sich niemals davor gescheut, sich auch mit diesen Fragen auseinanderzusetzen, wobei er Mut und Charakterstaerke bewiesen hat, Eigenschaften, die seltener sind als Fleiss und Intelligenz.

Ich moechte ihn als einen Vertreter der innerjuedischen Zivilcourage bezeichnen, wie er waehrend und vor der nationalsozialistischen Unterdrueckung ein Exponent des geistigen Widerstandes war.

Die juedischen Gemeinden haben nicht nur deswegen Grund, seiner mit grosser Dankbarkeit zu gedenken. Er war es auch, der sich gegen jede Diskreditierung der Juden in Deutschland nach 1945 wandte, eine engere Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Organisationen anstrebte und bei einer Ratstagung des Zentralrats selbst als Redner auftrat.

Der Verstorbene hat mich persoenlich in vielfacher Hinsicht ermutigt, und ich werde daher diesen Mann nicht nur wegen seiner allgemeinen Verdienste um die juedische Gemeinschaft, wegen seiner humanen Gesinnung, wegen seiner Aufrichtigkeit, sondern auch deswegen niemals vergessen, weil er mir durch seine Entschiedenheit bei der Beantwortung sehr zweifelhafter Probleme einen besonderen Rueckhalt gegeben hat.

Der Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland, und ueberhaupt die juedischen Gemeinden, betrauern mit der von uns hochverehrten Frau Dr. Eva Reichmann diesen unersetzlichen Verlust, der uns alle aufs tiefste getroffen hat.

DR. H. G. VAN DAM,

Generalsekretaer des Zentralrats  
der Juden in Deutschland



## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### FRENCH COMMUNISTS' CONCERN

A letter published in "France Nouvelle", the French Communist weekly, written by M. Maurice Thorez, who has now become honorary national president of the French Communist party, deals with the book "Judaism Unmasked", published by the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences early this year and now withdrawn.

Admitting the anti-Jewish character of the book, Mr. Thorez stated that its publication had been an "accident" and he was convinced that the authors and publisher would be punished.

### DEFENCE OF PIUS XII

The controversy over Pope Pius XII and his wartime silence about the Nazi extermination of the Jews continues.

A communiqué issued by the Italian Foreign Ministry and immediately broadcast said that the Italian Government "strenuously deplores the campaign of calumny against the memory of Pope Pius XII being conducted by some members of the Italian press". Members of the Government, the communiqué continued, were "living witnesses to the paternal solicitude of the lamented Pontiff for his defence of the supreme values of humanity and civilisation."—(J.C.)

### POPE PAUL DEPLORES PERSECUTION

In an audience with leaders of the American Jewish Committee, Pope Paul VI strongly deplored "the horrible ordeals of which the Jews have been victims in recent years". The evening edition of the Vatican newspaper "Osservatore Romano" carried the report on the audience across four columns on its front page under the heading "The Church and the Jews", quoting the Pope in full in both Italian and in English.—(J.C.)

### SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS ATTACK ARREST LAWS

Dr. Sherman, chairman of the Central Ecclesiastical Board of the South African Union for Progressive Judaism, told a meeting attended by 2,500 people that the clause which allows anyone to be detained for 90 days without a charge being preferred against him, had made a "hollow mockery" of whatever pride South Africa could take in the high standard of her courts.—(J.C.)

### BELGIAN NAZI

Robert Jan Verbelen, the Belgian former S.S. general now awaiting trial for war crimes in Vienna, where he was arrested two years ago, lived there under the name of Isaac Meisels, a Jewish diamond merchant who was deported from Drancy concentration camp to Auschwitz in 1943 and never heard of again.

Verbelen was a leading Belgian Nazi. As a journalist and novelist he was engaged in pro-Nazi activities as early as 1936. He escaped from Belgium after the liberation and was tried in absentia for war crimes by a Belgian court and sentenced to death, after being found guilty of more than 100 murders.

In Vienna he lived unmolested, using Isaac Meisels's papers to obtain Austrian citizenship, and writing articles for neo-Nazi periodicals under the pseudonym of Jean Marais until his arrest. A request by the Belgians for his extradition was rejected by Austria.

During the war he betrayed many Belgian politicians and Resistance men and women to the Germans and committed many acts of murder and terrorism.—(J.C.)

### NETHERLANDS

#### Churches Honour Rabbis

The services in three churches in the centre of Amsterdam on Holland's national remembrance day, commemorating those who died in the last war, were each opened by rabbis reading from the Old Testament.

After the services the congregations went in procession to the national monument in Dam Square, where wreaths were laid in the presence of Queen Juliana of the Netherlands and Prince Bernhard. The actor, Mr. Rob de Vries, who is of Jewish origin, recited stanzas of the Dutch National Anthem.

#### Amsterdam Liberals Build New Synagogue

The corner-stone was laid on Monday of a new Liberal Jewish synagogue in Amsterdam. Building is expected to take two years at an estimated cost of £120,000. The cost is being shared by the Dutch Government and the World Union for Progressive Judaism. The synagogue is being built in Europa Boulevard in the fashionable district of Amsterdam South now under construction.—(J.C.)

### AUSTRALIAN NAZIS

Senator Cavanagh, Labour, said in the Australian Senate that a group calling itself the Australian Nationalist Party had held a meeting in Sydney, wearing Nazi-type uniforms and swastika armbands and displaying pictures of Hitler. He asked whether the formation of a Nazi Party in Australia was a breach of Commonwealth law.

Replying, Senator Gorton, Minister of Works in the Federal Government, declared that the Nazi Party in Australia was part of the lunatic fringe. He said nobody in Australia wanted to see a Nazi party in the country and he hoped the Government would do everything possible to suppress totalitarian movements of all kinds. In any case, the Nationalist Party's claim of 2,000 members was considered grossly exaggerated.

#### "IN SAME BOAT"

In an editorial commenting on the disclosure that a number of neo-Nazis had been distributing hate leaflets in Canada, the *Torontoer Zeitung*, a German-language weekly in Toronto, called for the ending of a "hate campaign" against the German people.

"Strange as it may seem, Jews and Germans in many respects are in the same boat", stated the editorial. Both, because of their recent history, had become over-sensitive.

Rather than a "law against antisemitism as asked for by the Jews", the newspaper proposed the introduction of a general law against defamation of all racial and religious groups.—(J.C.)

### ARGENTINA

#### Eichmann's Son Leader of Nazis

Adolf Eichmann, Junior, the second son of the Nazi war criminal, proclaimed himself the Leader of the Argentine Nazi Party which he said aims at achieving a World Union of National Socialists. At a press conference he appeared in a Nazi-style uniform with a swastika on his armband. He said that his father had dedicated his life to fighting for all those who were "bleeding under the Jewish-Zionist yoke".

#### Arab League Activities

The Buenos Aires daily *El Mundo* declares that the Argentine Government will not renew the visa granted to Hussein Triki, director of the Latin American office of the Arab League, when it expires.

Triki's anti-Israel activities and his close association with neo-Nazi and antisemitic groups in Argentina and other countries have been denounced by many Jewish and non-Jewish groups. A Liberal Congressman has asked the Government to explain Triki's diplomatic position and why, if he has no diplomatic immunity, he has not yet been expelled from the country.

#### Pledge by Minister

The Foreign Minister of Argentina, Senor Zavala Ortiz, has assured leaders of the World Jewish Congress that his Government will not tolerate racist propaganda against minority groups living in the country. The W.J.C. delegation which met Senor Ortiz was in Buenos Aires for a conference of the South American executive of the organisation. These assurances followed similar undertakings by President Arturo Illia.

#### New Ambassadors

Argentina's new Ambassador to Israel, Dr. Adolfo Gass, is a Jew and a leader of the Friends of Hebrew University. Two of his colleagues among the ten new ambassadors nominated by the Argentine Parliament, are also Jews—Dr. Samuel Daien, Ambassador to Mexico, who is also a member of Daia, and Dr. Samuel Alperin, who has not yet been accredited to a country.—(J.C.)

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## HOME NEWS

## CIVIC HONOURS

Three members of the Jewish community have been installed as mayors of London boroughs. Councillor John W. Shock has been elected as Mayor of Hendon, Councillor Harry A. Farbey, as Mayor of Southgate, and Councillor Murray Medway, as Mayor of Finchley.

Liverpool City Council unanimously elected Councillor Louis Caplan as Lord Mayor. A civic service was held at the South Broughton Synagogue to mark the election of Alderman Joseph Davis as Mayor of Salford. Manchester elected Alderman Dr. William Chadwick as its Lord Mayor.

Councillor Stanley M. Atkins, immediate past Mayor of Hammersmith, has been appointed chairman of the new London borough of Hammersmith. He is president of the Shepherd's Bush, Fulham and District Synagogue.

Councillor Samuel Gonshor, who was unanimously elected as Luton's Deputy Mayor, is the first Jew to hold this post and the first to take office in the newly proclaimed County Borough of Luton.

Mrs. Eileen Cassel, elected as chairman of Bowden Urban District Council, is also connected with several Jewish organisations in addition to the Council of Christians and Jews.

## JEWISH LEADERS IN OCCUPIED EUROPE

## Symposium Refutes Charges

Four survivors in London of the Nazi holocaust refuted the charges made by Hannah Arendt in her book, "Eichmann in Jerusalem," that Jewish leaders in occupied Europe collaborated with the Germans and that the Jewish masses went meekly to their deaths.

Speaking at a symposium organised by the Golders Green Zionist Society, Dr. Elisabeth Eppler, cultural secretary of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress, and the author, Dr. Eva Reichmann, described in detail the rescue work which Jewish communal organisations carried out. Both stressed that in such rescue work a certain degree of co-operation with the authorities was unavoidable.

Mr. W. Schindler, a survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto, quoted examples of courageous acts by Jews to disprove Miss Arendt's charge of cowardice. Mr. R. Ajnsztein, formerly a Pole, who spent the war years in Jerusalem, stated that the Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe often had to contend not only with their German tormentors but also with the hostility and brutality of their non-Jewish compatriots. In such conditions there could be only a very limited opportunity for resistance. In similar conditions non-Jews had gone to the slaughter as meekly as had the Jews.—(J.C.)

## GLOBAL TOURS BLACKLISTED

Global of London, the travel firm of which Lord Mancroft is chairman, is to be boycotted in the Middle East. The ban is being imposed by the Ministries of the Interior of Syria, Jordan and the Lebanon. It means that agencies and hoteliers are forbidden to have any dealings with the group. Lord Mancroft has no intention of resigning his position.—(J.C.)

## FASCIST SPLIT

After reports that Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist Movement, had dismissed John Tyndall, the movement's national secretary and Jordan's right-hand man, Tyndall stated that he had not been dismissed but that he had dismissed Jordan, following the unanimous decision of an emergency council.

## ANTISEMITIC ARTICLES

"New Radical", a magazine published by the Cambridge University Conservative Association, devoted one of its latest issues to the "Far Right".

One of the articles, "The Global Subversives", written by an undergraduate, Michael Coward, states: "The first leaders of this (world subversive) movement were the House of Rothschild. They were later joined by Eastern European Jews domiciled both in England and America." An editorial note written by Mr. Aidan Sudbury, a prominent Conservative student, states that "the vast majority of people in this country share with the ultra-conservatives a dislike of foreigners... and a desire to see Britain powerful. Their views may be the result of prejudice but that does not prove them wrong".

The second article, "Tales of the Far Right" by R. S. Maurice-Williams, states: "It seems likely that Mosley himself had little dislike for the Jews." Many students believe that it represents an attempt to whitewash the British fascist movement.

After publication a letter appeared in "Varsity", a student newspaper, protesting against what it called "unqualified editorial approval" of the views expressed by the magazine's contributors.

## INTERNATIONAL MEETING PLACE

A new building for Friends' International Centre, run by the Quakers, was opened in London by Miss Marganita Laski. Miss Laski described the Centre as "an oasis in a desert of hate" which was trying to bring together people who, in the context of the day, probably hated each other.

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

## SUDDEN DEATH OF BOARD'S NEW PRESIDENT

Alderman Abraham Moss who was elected President of the Board of Deputies at the first Board Meeting of the 1964-67 session suddenly died on June 20, only six days after his election. He had received 155 votes, while Sir Barnett Janner who stood for re-election received 140 votes. Alderman Moss, who was 64, was Lord Mayor of Manchester in 1953-54. He was a member of the Board of Deputies for some 40 years and Vice-President for the past two terms.

## Duke Praises Community

Addressing the dinner of the Jewish Welfare Board at the Savoy Hotel, London, the Duke of Edinburgh who was the guest of honour praised the "remarkable scale and scope" of the Board's activity and the spirit in which various age groups and social groups co-operated for the well-being of the needy. When most of the men donned paper yarmulkas for Grace, Prince Philip took out his own black yarmulka.

## Leo Baeck College

Final approval for the link between the Reform and Liberal movements in connection with the administration and finance of the Leo Baeck College was given unanimously by delegates from all parts of Britain who attended the annual conference of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain held at Bournemouth. This means that in future Reform and Liberal ministers and teachers will receive their training at the college.—(J.C.)

## Research Centre

A department for post-graduate research is to be opened at Jews' College, London, in the autumn, under the leadership of Dr. Naphtali Wieder, a lecturer at the College.

## David Kossoff Recites Bible

About 1,500 people listened spellbound in a Welsh Congregational Chapel in Swansea to actor David Kossoff, telling them Bible stories. He travelled to South Wales without fee to assist the Swansea Council of Christians and Jews. A long-playing record of the Morriston Orpheus Choir was presented to the actor, who received a civic welcome to Swansea.

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# JEWRY—EAST AND WEST

## RUSSIA

### Economic Offences Trials

Arkady Grinberg, sentenced to death by the Moscow City Court in March as the alleged ringleader of a huge fraud gang, has appealed against his sentence.

Reports continue to appear in the Soviet press about alleged economic offences by people bearing Jewish names. The Minsk paper, *Sovietskaya Belorussia*, carried a story about the trial of a man called Boris Raikhlin, on charges of having stolen watch parts from a factory and selling them in Tallinn, Estonia. *Trud* reported the case of a man called S. M. Margulies, accused of having embezzled about £450,000 during the past five years which, it was stated, was wages due to workers. In another embezzlement case Josif L. Klempert was sentenced to death by the Moscow Supreme Court for embezzling property.

### Antisemitic Literature

*Vechernaya Moskva*, a Moscow evening paper, has reported that two centrally situated bookstalls in Moscow were operating a black market in reproductions of antisemitic literature.

### Christian Pilgrims to Israel

The first Christian pilgrims from Russia since the First World War visited Tel Aviv recently. The group included 14 lecturers and clergy from the Moscow Theological Academy, headed by Archimandrite Filoret. They were accompanied by Archimandrite Yuvenalis, who heads the Russian Church Mission in Israel and went to Moscow especially to escort the group.

Ten Soviet nuns previously arrived in Jerusalem to join the Russian convent there.

### Lenin Prize

Dina Ruffinova Gabe, a Soviet Jewish microbiologist and a research worker of many years' standing, has been awarded the Lenin Prize for her outstanding contributions to Soviet science. She is one of two Soviet microbiologists whose work, according to an article in *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, has opened the door wide for soil microbiology in Russia. No work has been comparable in this field in Russia in the last 50 years.

### New Synagogue Refused

According to a tourist recently returned from the Soviet Union, the Soviet authorities' promise to make another building available for a synagogue in the Ukrainian town of Zhitomir has not yet been fulfilled. The last synagogue in the town was demolished in 1962 to build flats. Worshippers, said the tourist, sought to buy a house to use for prayer out of their own money but the authorities refused permission for this.

## RUMANIA

### Theatre Exchanges

Mr. Julian Shwarz, an actor-member of the Bucharest Yiddish Theatre who is also a leading Jewish writer in Rumania, said in Warsaw that there were great possibilities for an exchange of visits between the Yiddish State Theatre of Bucharest and that in Poland. This would be welcomed by the Jewish communities of both countries and would do much to stimulate cultural relations between the two countries and their Jewish communities.

### MARTYRS' MEMORIAL IN YUGOSLAVIA

The Yugoslav and Hungarian Jewish communities have erected a memorial to 700 Hungarian Jews killed by S.S. men at Crvenka, Yugoslavia, during the war. The memorial is in the Jewish cemetery at Sombor where the victims were later reburied. They were among the Jews deported for forced labour in the Bor copper mine.—(J.C.)

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

### State Prizes

The annual awards of State prizes for achievements in the previous year include a number to Jews in Czechoslovakia. Dr. Arnost Guttman, a corresponding member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, was awarded a prize for being one of the founders of a modern school of physiology. Dr. Bedrich Heller, also a member of the Academy of Sciences, received an award for his work in the field of electro-technology.

Mr. Jan Kadar, a film director, received an award for his work in the film "Death is a Little Angel". The book from which the film was made has a Jewish theme and the non-Jewish author also received an award as did Mr. Kadar's non-Jewish colleague, Mr. Eomar Klos.

### Prague Rabbi Retires

Rabbi Dr. Bernard Farkas, the Chief Rabbi of Prague, has resigned at the age of 63. He promised the community to continue as chairman of the communal committee and carry out his duties as a member of the Rabbinate, as far as his health permitted.

## AMERICA

### Eshkol's Visit

Israel's Prime Minister, Mr. Eshkol, visited the United States and was received by President Johnson. A communiqué issued after the visit reiterated American concern for "the territorial integrity and political independence of all Middle Eastern countries" and emphasised the "firm opposition of the United States to aggression and the use of force or the threat of force against any country".

The United States State Department reacted sharply to a statement issued by Arab ambassadors in America attacking Mr. Eshkol's visit. Mr. George Ball, the Acting Secretary of State, summoned all 13 ambassadors and is reported to have told them that the United States was shocked by their statement describing Israel as a threat to Middle East peace and saying that the visit might have serious implications for the future of U.S.A.-Arab relations.—(J.C.)

### Willy Brandt Meets Jewish Leaders

On the occasion of his visit to New York, Willy Brandt, the Leader of the German Social Democratic Party, met representatives of the Jewish Labour Committee. The committee leaders asked him to use his influence to help create a climate of opinion in Germany which would make it impossible for judges to pass light sentences on Nazi criminals. They further requested that the 20-year statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi criminals be eliminated and that the amendment to the German compensation law should provide indemnification for those Jews who had left countries behind the Iron Curtain after October, 1953.

### Karlsruhe Mayor Addresses Jews from Badenia

On the occasion of his visit to the United States Gunter Klotz, Mayor of Karlsruhe, addressed a meeting of Jews from Badenia, held under the auspices of the "Aufbau". He said that, like many Germans, he felt deeply ashamed of the crimes committed against the Jews to whom German culture owes so much. He had always been anxious to re-establish contacts with Jews from Badenia, and he felt it was most gratifying that advertisements published in the papers of various countries of emigration had resulted in many replies from them.

## Religious Leaders' Plea

Jews throughout the United States went to synagogues on May 22 and 23 to observe the Sabbath as a period of national prayer and intercession on behalf of the Jews of the Soviet Union.

High ranking officials of the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches were among the 2,000 Christian leaders who joined with Jewish leaders in signing a "Letter of Conscience" urging the Soviet authorities to alleviate measures against the Jews. The letter was presented to the American State Department and officials of the United Nations for transmission to Moscow.

The protest appealed to the Soviet authorities to extend to Jews in the Soviet Union the full measure of equality to which they are entitled under the Soviet constitution; to eradicate every vestige of antisemitism; to allow unrestricted worship and religious and cultural bonds with Jewish communities abroad; to grant Jews permission to rejoin their families in other countries and to cease making Jews the scapegoats in the Governmental campaign against economic crimes in the Soviet Union.

### Dr. Prinz Arrested

Rabbi Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress, his wife and Theodore Bikel, the actor and entertainer, together with ten leaders of the American Jewish Congress, were arrested in New York after they had picketed the Jordanian pavilion at the World's Fair in protest against a mural which, they said, "libelled the Jewish people".

The mural, which refers to "the splitting of Palestine" and blames the plight of the Arab refugees on "strangers from abroad", has been the subject of many protests from Jews and national organisations but the president of the Fair, Mr. Robert Moses, who is a Jew, has so far ignored them. Because of the mural Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Israeli Prime Minister, cancelled his intended visit to the fair.

Dr. Prinz and his fellow-demonstrators were paroled without bail until the hearing of the case.—(J.C.)

### Truman on Antisemitism

At a U.J.A. luncheon in New York, Mr. Harry Truman, the former President, said that antisemitism in America "is as great a challenge to our sense of fairness and morality" as discrimination against Negroes. "It is about time we faced up to the offensive treatment accorded to the Jewish people here and everywhere."

Mr. Truman attacked the civil rights authorities and Church leaders, including those in the Vatican, for ineffectiveness in fighting antisemitism. He also criticised the champions of equal rights for Negroes for not protesting against antisemitism. The spiritual leaders had proved ineffective, said Mr. Truman. Even at the Vatican "where historic reforms are under consideration", problems of antisemitism had to be shelved for lack of agreement.

### Brooklyn Chasidim form Night Defence Patrols

A group of Brooklyn Jews, Chasidim and others, have formed a night patrol to try to prevent crime in their neighbourhood, the Crown Heights district, which is 75 per cent Jewish and backs on Bedford-Stuyvesant, a Negro slum area in New York.

Residents of Crown Heights have been "housebound with fear" since the attempted rape of a rabbi's wife some weeks ago and the rape and murder of a Jewish school-teacher, Miss Charlotte Lipsik, last week.

Rabbi Samuel Schrage, who founded and leads the Patrol Group, convened a meeting of Negro leaders and convinced them that the battle was between the community and crime and not between Jews and Negroes.



H. W. Freyhan

## MEYERBEER AND HEINE

The centenary of Meyerbeer's death on May 2nd has not gone entirely unnoticed in this country. Several articles have appeared in the Press and in musical periodicals, and their authors have attempted the customary evaluation of Meyerbeer's achievement and of his place in the history of music, arriving at widely differing results. Our opera houses have ignored the anniversary, and it cannot be denied that the works of the once so popular master are today a considerable box-office risk, although successful revivals have recently been staged in Milan, Hamburg, Munich and Zürich. In England, the only practical tribute was paid by the B.B.C. in a studio performance of Meyerbeer's last opera, "L'Africaine", with a cast that did full justice to the work's exacting vocal demands. The broadcast made it quite obvious that any revival of Meyerbeer must depend on the participation of singers of the highest quality. The current revivals of other nineteenth-century operas which had fallen into oblivion have shown what can be done in this respect.

It is unlikely that any such revivals could restore the fame which Meyerbeer enjoyed in his lifetime. It is easy enough to recognise him as one of the "V.I.P.s" in nineteenth-century opera whose art led to the greater achievements of others and, as someone has put it, culminated in "Rienzi", "Aida", etc. But apart from this historical function, Meyerbeer's music must be considered in its own right, and here one cannot ignore the powerful impression it made on some of the great minds of his time. Even if we accept that he was over-rated there still must have been some spark that kindled such boundless enthusiasm and it would seem a worthwhile task for a musicologist to probe into this question and to undertake a fresh study of Meyerbeer's scores.

Besides some respectful remarks from Goethe, who pondered if Meyerbeer could compose "Faust" (Zelter may have interested Goethe in his former pupil, who was then only at the beginning of his career), there is the initial wholesome praise by two men whose ardent admiration later turned into bitter antagonism: Heine and Wagner. Both were, of course, far greater geniuses than Meyerbeer, but in their later dealings with him they both happened to display their worst sides. Both had enjoyed his support, and Heine even his personal friendship, and yet they were to become his most dangerous enemies. The German Meyerbeer scholar, Heinz Becker, whose publication of Meyerbeer's letters and diaries (Vol. 1) was reviewed in "AJR Information" in September, 1962, has carried out valuable research into the Heine-Meyerbeer relationship.\* The sub-title "Neue Dokumente revidieren ein Geschichtsurteil" points to the perusal of hitherto unpublished documents, especially Meyerbeer's diaries, whose publication the composer had prohibited in his will. They were, therefore, never intended to serve any propagandistic or apologetic purpose and must consequently be regarded as a particularly trustworthy source. In view of Heine's ruthless attacks, this is of primary importance since it clears Meyerbeer of many of the accusations that were levelled against him.

The material which Becker presents—letters, diary entries and newspaper articles, all meticulously and sensibly annotated—reveals the gradual deterioration in the relationship

between composer and poet. The manifestations of Heine's hostility are no less objectionable than Wagner's, but unlike Wagner, whose change of attitude had, at least basically, artistic grounds (and whose aversion against Meyerbeer's operas was shared by unprejudiced men like Schumann and Mendelssohn), Heine had admittedly none but personal reasons for his enmity. Like Wagner, Heine credited Meyerbeer with the worst motives for the support he had received from him. In Heine's case this support had been largely (though not exclusively) financial, and although Meyerbeer, who was all his life hypersensitive about Press notices, may not have shrunk from calculated interference, Heine's frequent and blatant requests for money, as well as Meyerbeer's well-disposed attitude towards him, throw quite a different light on this matter.

Misunderstandings played their part, too, and one must commend Becker for the way in which he disentangles this web without much moralising: clearing Meyerbeer by documentation and yet making allowance for Heine's pitiful physical condition. Even so, Heine's malicious insinuations and public attacks against Meyerbeer's work stand out badly in comparison with the musician's undiminished admiration of Heine's art. Meyerbeer was probably a much more straightforward man than his adversaries assumed, but his strong ambition and his fanatical devotion to his work may have created an image of self-centredness which was bound to evoke antagonism. It should be added that Heine's conversion played no part, since it had not been an obstacle to their earlier friendship. Meyerbeer never abandoned Judaism, but although he was by no means devoid of religious feelings there is no evidence that he was a practising Jew.

## Heine as Music Critic

From Heine's three posthumous anti-Meyerbeer poems, which are as witty as they are unscrupulous and downright nasty, one turns back to the ninth of his "Vertraute Briefe", written in 1837, and published a year later in Lewald's "Allgemeine Theater-Revue". It compares Meyerbeer with Rossini, and even if Heine's knowledge and understanding of music was not that of an expert, Becker's comment might still stand: "In diesem Artikel hat Heine mit Abstand das Treffendste niedergeschrieben, was jemals ueber Meyerbeer gesagt wurde". With a fine instinct, Heine outlines the difference between the Italian master's emphasis on melody with the German-trained Meyerbeer's care for harmony (which includes the importance of the orchestral accompaniment) and for the demands of the drama. With prophetic insight Heine brings out those aspects in Meyerbeer which make him a prominent forerunner of Wagner, who was to realise these trends to a full and radical extent.

Heine singles out Act 4 of "Les Huguenots" as Meyerbeer's greatest creative triumph, mentioning especially the wonderful love duet. It was this duet which caused Meyerbeer's other great enemy, Richard Wagner, to pay him (as J. W. Klein points out in the May issue of "Music and Musicians") "the most moving of all tributes. Shortly before he died Wagner attended a performance of 'Les Huguenots.' As the sublime love duet reached its tragic climax the tears streamed down Wagner's cheeks. 'I could not help being moved,' he whispered, shamefacedly, to a friend, 'but don't tell the Wagnerites!'"

## Old Acquaintances

**Milestones:** Lilli Palmer celebrated her 50th birthday on the Continent. She started as a pupil of Ilka Gruening and appeared first on the stage in Darmstadt before she went to London via Paris to become a film star. She started her second career in the German film "Feuerwerk".—Peter Martin Lampel of "Revolte im Erziehungsheim" fame is seventy; he lives in Hamburg.—Mia May, star of the silent pictures "Veritas vincit" and "Herrin der Welt", celebrated her 80th birthday in Hollywood.—Felix Guggenheim (Hollywood), husband of former German film star Evelyn Holt, and friend and adviser of Remarque, Werfel, Feuchtwanger, Ceram, Thorwald, and Dr. W. Keller, is sixty. He was director of the "Deutsche Buch-Gemeinschaft" in Germany.

**Austria:** Dorit Kreysler, the former Ufa star, appears in the Graz performance of "Blume von Hawaii".—Christiane Hoerbiger will partner Ernst Deutsch in Hauptmann's "Vor Sonnenuntergang", directed by K. H. Stroux, at the Burg.—Former critic and playwright, Hans Weigel, married actress Elfriede Ott in Vienna.—On his 70th birthday Paul Hoerbiger received the Golden "Ehrenzeichen".—Maria Fein gave a recital at Vienna's Konzerthaus.—Helmut ("Herr Karl") Qualtinger and Carl Merz wrote "Die Hinrichtung" for production at the Volkstheater.—Hans Moser, ill in hospital, announced he would not retire from stage and screen.

**U.S.A.:** Conrad Veidt's widow Lily will visit Europe shortly.—Berlin-born Rudi Fehr will come to Europe to supervise the dubbing of "My Fair Lady" for Warner Brothers.—Otto Preminger casts his next film, "In Harm's Way", with Patricia Neal, John Wayne, Kirk Douglas, Tom Tryon, Jill Haworth, and Burgess Meredith.—Oscar Homolka and his wife, Joan Tetzl, for the first time appear together on the screen in "Joy in the Morning".—Ruth Marton, a daughter of the late Dr. K. Muehsam, wrote her first novel, "The Divorcees", and sold it to "Amica", a leading Italian magazine for women.

**Books and Authors:** Rudolf Arnheim, formerly on the staff of the *Weltbuehne*, published Picasso's *Guernica*, with Faber and Faber in London.—Stefan Zweig's letters to Gisella Selden-Goth were published by Hans Deutsch in Vienna.—Hans Habe's American report, *Der Tod in Texas*, a best-seller in Germany, will be published by Harraps here in London.—Erna Pinner's new book, *Unglaublich und doch wahr*, has been published with her own illustrations by Kemper-Verlag in Heidelberg.

**Obituary:** The actor Klaus Kammer who, a few weeks ago, played on the London stage in the "Andorra" performance of the Schiller Theater, has died in Berlin. He was only 35 years old.—Rudolf Keller, the 89-year-old former publisher of *Prager Tagblatt*, died in New York.

**Home News:** Mischa Spolianski will score and conduct the music of the new Warner Bros. film, "The Affair of the Villa Fiorita", starring Maureen O'Hara and Rossano Brazzi.—At the "Indian Institute of World Culture" Lily Freud-Marlé gave a lecture about Sigmund Freud, illustrated by her own unpublished photos.

**Germany:** In Munich's "Kleine Komödie" Adolf Wohlbrueck plays Molnar's "Leibgardist", together with Susanne von Almassy.—Tilla Durieux will appear in the Wuppertal performance of "Der Samen unter dem Schnee", based on a work by Silone.

PEM

\* Heinz Becker: Der Fall Heine-Meyerbeer. W. de Gruyter. Berlin.



## TWO BOOK REVIEWS

### IN MEMORY OF FRANKFURT'S "PHILANTHROPIN"

On February 15 several hundred former teachers and pupils of the Frankfurt "Philanthropin" held a re-union in New York. On the occasion the participants were presented with a recently published monograph\* as a souvenir, of which they will probably remember best the following two quotations: The one is Goethe's reply to Bettina Brentano who had told him of her interest in the newly founded Philanthropin: "Please continue to keep me informed from time to time on this worthy institution which counts you among its protectors". The other, so entirely different, is the official order dated July 7, 1942, by the Minister of Education of the Nazi Government which put an end to the school's 138-year-old existence: "After previous consultation with me the Minister of the Interior has instructed the Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland to close all Jewish schools by June 30, 1942 . . . this order is not to be made public."

These two messages illustrate the hopeful beginnings and the shameful end of one of the most outstanding Jewish educational institutions in Germany.

"Documents and Recollections" is the subtitle of the small, elegant and unpretentious book which the Commission for the Study of the History of Frankfurt Jewry has edited, jointly prepared by the last headmaster of the school, Dr. Albert Hirsch (Storm Lake, Iowa, U.S.A.) and the Municipal Archivist of Frankfurt, Dr. Dietrich Andernacht, who has devoted a great deal of research to the Jewish aspect of Frankfurt's history. Only a limited number of copies of this attractive and well-illustrated publication will be available for the book trade as it has, in the first instance, been printed for distribution among the former "Philanthropinists". Since the book would also be of interest to wider circles of readers, this seems regrettable, and it is hoped that a second edition will follow soon.

The book covers a span of nearly five generations of teachers, pupils, benefactors and supporters of the school. It was called "Philanthropin" because it was meant to be a centre of "love for humanity". As such it was conducted by Michael Less (1807-55), Dr. Sigismund Stern (until 1867), Dr. Hermann Baerwald (until 1899), Dr. Salo Adler (until 1919), Dr. Otto Driesen (until 1937) and Dr. Albert Hirsch (until 1939), at first in the Judengasse, later on in the Schaefergasse, the Kompostellhof, the Rechneigrabenstr. and, finally, in the Hebelstr., where the building still stands.

The present little volume is not meant to be a systematical and complete history of the Philanthropin; as stated in the introduction, this will have to wait until a complete history of the schools and educational institutions of Frankfurt a.M. is compiled. On the other hand, it was important to preserve the recollections of those who are still amongst the living. Equally valuable are the—often very tragic—life histories of nearly 120 teachers which are briefly reviewed in the index. Some of these names have become known far beyond the circles of the school: Albert Bielschowsky, the historian of literature whose Goethe biography has become a standard work; Michael Creizenach, protagonist of Reform Judaism; Arthur Galliner, who became well known in Germany and England

as a painter and engraver; Lazarus Geiger, the philosopher of languages; Isaak Markus Jost, who was the first to attempt the compilation of a comprehensive history of the Jews and, finally, Isidor Kracauer, the historian of Frankfurt's Jewry.

During the months to come exactly 160 years will have passed since Siegmund Geisenheimer, a young idealist member of the Rothschild banking house, conceived the idea of founding the Philanthropin.

The souvenir book, the second publication of the Commission for the Study of the History of Frankfurt Jewry, deals mainly with the events from 1933 to 1945. In doing so it follows the idea of Frankfurt's present Mayor, Werner Bockelmann who, in his introduction to the Commission's first publication, "Documents on the History of the Jews in Frankfurt 1933-1945", stressed that the production of an historical record of Germany's Jews should begin with the closing chapter.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

### EVERY MAN HIS OWN HELL

We are neither angels nor animals alone but both. This is the basic condition of human life. We are able to build the loftiest philosophical systems, to write heavenly poetry and to compose divine music. And at the same time . . . once in Athens in the amphitheatre of Herodes Atticus, I saw Euripides' "Hecuba", a classical tragedy which describes unspeakable outrages of horror and barbarity. I left the theatre in the dark of the night and I looked up to the Acropolis where the Parthenon was shining in radiant brightness. The bloodthirsty play and the most serene, the divinely proportioned temple of all temples—they are contemporaries.

Nearly every crusade was sullied by massacres of Jews, and the same crusaders also sacked the most Christian city of Constantinople, the brutality of which cried out to high Heaven and is not forgotten by the Greeks to the present day!

Antisemitism, alas, is only one aspect of the dark and wild instincts which we all harbour, and if there had not been so many horrifying outbursts of what is "animal" in man throughout human history antisemitism would never have gained ground.

All this is neither comforting nor disheartening—it is simply history. We as Jews have neither right nor reason not to see antisemitism in its correct perspective.

The same is true for the problem of guilt. How guilty were the Turks and how guilty the Armenians who were all but exterminated by them? How guilty were the Spaniards and how guilty their victims, the Incas? How guilty are the white and the black Americans in the Southern States of the U.S.A.? It is a great temptation if you are one of the majority and it is a sad misfortune to belong to the minority. This is an ancient and universal law.

Yet it is necessary for us to come down to particulars. After all, our own destiny and life is more important to us than generalities—however true. James Parkes' new book\* could be called a "primer" for non-Jews. As such it does its job splendidly. The author, an Anglican priest, objectively and ruthlessly lays bare the roots of antisemitism in the early Christian Church. This is the more ghastly as the early Church itself suffered as a minority

with everything this implies. In the year 200 the Church Father Tertullian bemoaned the fact that: "If the Tiber overflows into the city, if the Nile does not flow into the countryside, if the Heavens remain unmoved, if the earth quakes, if there is famine or pestilence, at once the cry goes up: 'To the lions with the Christians'". It is a melancholy thought about the Church in general and on human nature in particular that about 150 years after Tertullian another of the great lights of the Church, Chrysostom, told his Christian audience: "Your Jewish neighbours sacrifice their sons and their daughters to devils; outrage nature; overthrow from their foundations the laws of relationship; have become worse than wild beasts; and, for no reason at all, murder their own offspring to worship the avenging devils who are attempting to destroy Christianity".

As soon as Christianity had a privileged place in the Roman Empire, those evil words were followed by worse deeds. "The Church set out to destroy the equality of Jews before the law. Jews were excluded from one profession after another. They might receive no civic or imperial honours."

This was done in the name of God and of the only true religion. But the terrifying thing is that the motif does not really matter. Nearly 2,000 years later similar crimes were perpetrated in the name of other deities or idols. What price "enlightenment"?

The Muslims, on the whole, left the Jewish religious customs and Holy scriptures in peace. There was no need to resort to the distortions of Jewish Scriptures as the Christians had done. The Muslims had not incorporated the Old Testament into their sacred writings. Their revelations surpassed and superseded everything which had gone before. Of course they caused Christians and Jews to suffer. After all, they were only "human"!

Space does not permit a description of Dr. Parkes' historic outline throughout the Middle Ages and modern times, but mention should be made of some points of special interest. It is often believed the Jews were the only money-lenders in the Middle Ages. This is not so. The rulers licensed them for petty lending on agricultural crops and small enterprises. The rulers received payment for the licences and the Jews were rewarded with the debtors' hatred.

The author's remark that the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are in some ways the "dark ages" of European Jewry may seem odd at first, but it deserves some reflection. We should remember that: "Julius Caesar gave extensive privileges to the Jewish communities of the Roman Empire because he had decided that Judaism made good citizens".

Special chapters are devoted to "Israel and the Arab World" and to "Antisemitism in the Soviet Union". In this connection the author says it is possible to conceal one's beliefs, but impossible to disguise one's practices. It is easier to baptise in secret than to circumcise.

The work has a useful bibliography which, however, does not mention Arnold Zweig's "Caliban".

The book begins with a valuable discussion of the psychology of prejudice and other relevant phenomena. All this must be studied and laid bare, but it is not the "final solution". We have to realise that antisemites are human beings just as ourselves. The irrational, the emotional, or shall we say the purely animal, is insolubly embedded in our make-up. In times of crisis—political, economic, emotional—every weak or minority group will be endangered, be they Jews or others. That is the cruel law of history.

A. ROSENBERG.

\* Das Philanthropin zu Frankfurt am Main, 1964. Verlag Waldemar Kramer, Frankfurt a.M.

\* James Parkes: Antisemitism. Vallentine, Mitchell, London, 1963. Pp. 192. 22s. 6d.



Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

## "THE ASHKENAZI REVOLUTION"

A book has been published in Tel Aviv which has led to an official Government statement, raised questions in the Knesset, evoked editorials in the papers and has got involved in a number of law suits. Entitled "The Ashkenazi Revolution," it deals with relations between the Ashkenazim and Sephardim in Israel.

As a rule it's the Sephardim who grumble. Their Oriental sections feel discriminated against and allege that they are not represented according to their numerical strength in the Knesset, the Civil Service and the Public Institutions. For the first time now somebody speaks of the "Ashkenazi Revolution"—the discontent of the Western Jews. The author, Kalman Katznelson, has on two previous occasions irritated the public by provocative publications. The first time he demanded the expulsion of the Arab minority, and the second time he proposed substituting Hebrew with Yiddish as the official language of Israel. This time he urges a stop to all efforts to amalgamate Orient and Occident in the Jewish State.

Kalman Katznelson, born 58 years ago in White Russia, is the descendant of a well-known family; he is a relative of the President of Israel, Zalman Shazar and his uncle, the late Berl Katznelson, was one of the great Zionist Labour leaders. In opposition to his family, Kalman joined the right-wing Revisionists in 1927 and later the "Herut" party which, however, has disavowed his latest literary venture. The author writes that the Oriental immigrants are not the brethren but the enemies of the Ashkenazim; they hate the Western Jews and are sorry that Hitler did not

finish his business; nothing, so he goes on, could please them more than the defeat of the Ashkenazim and all they stand for. He warns Mapai, the Government party: the Orientals in its ranks pretend to be good Jews but in the end they will show themselves in their true light—as Iraqis, Yemenites, Moroccans, etc.

### Government's Statement

David Ben-Gurion, who did much for the integration of the Sephardic newcomers, advised that this "opus" be buried in silence. In vain—persuaded by the excited public discussion, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol issued a statement in which, expressing his disgust, he deplored the publication and proposed that the Knesset pass a law against group libel. As a result, the book became a best-seller as everyone wanted to know what it was all about. But the publishers' pleasure may be short-lived. The State Attorney is already dealing with a request for intervention made by lawyer Tsidon-Cohen in the name of a group of Sephardic citizens who feel insulted; another Sephardi advocate, Shlomo Behori, a member of Mapai, has lodged a claim for damages as the book is apt to undermine his position among the Ashkenazi party members.

The Chairman of the book trade section in the General Merchants' Association advised members not to include the book in their lists. This, however, evoked a protest by the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz*: the Merchants' Association must not usurpate the part of the censor; it is not up to them to ban a book against which there was no legal injunction.

## DEATH OF PHYSICIST JAMES FRANCK

The physicist Professor James Franck died in Goettingen, where he was on a visit, at the age of 81. He was born in Hamburg and before 1933 was professor at Goettingen University. When the Nazis came to power he resigned, although as a veteran of the First World War he could have kept his appointment. In his well-known, courageous letter of resignation to the Rector of the University, he wrote: "I have requested my superior authority to release me from my post. I will endeavour to continue my scientific work in Germany. We Germans of Jewish descent are treated as aliens and as enemies of the Fatherland, and it is required that our children shall grow up in the knowledge that they may never prove themselves to be German. Jews who fought in the war are to receive permission to serve the State further, but I decline to avail myself of this favour, though I understand the standpoint of those who today consider it to be their duty to remain at their posts".

He left Germany first for Copenhagen to co-operate with Niels Bohr, and later on went to the United States where he held a professorship at Chicago University until he retired in 1947.

Professor Franck, who was awarded the Nobel Prize jointly with Gustav Hertz in 1925, was one of the founders of Atomic Science. He was deeply concerned with the danger of the atom bomb for the whole human race, and did not want to drop the bomb on Hiroshima.

In a telegram to Professor Franck's widow, Federal President Luebkke stated that the news of her husband's death had been received by the German nation with feelings of deep sorrow. The scientific work of the deceased had been acknowledged and admired all over the world. By the example he gave in 1933 when, as a protest against the crimes of the Nazi regime, he resigned as a university teacher, he had earned the lasting respect of all freedom-loving people.

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Y. L. Bato (Jerusalem)

# KOPPEL FRAENKEL AND HIS DESCENDANTS

## The Fate of a German-Jewish Family

In the "Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation" of the seventeenth century no city was likely to vie in splendour with Vienna, the Imperial residence. Small wonder that the Jews were greatly attracted to the metropolis. In 1625, a ghetto was founded on the Danube Island, called "am untern Werd"; it was connected with the walled-in city by a bridge. This ghetto differed from those of other cities by the privileges which its inhabitants enjoyed. Here the Jews could own their houses. They were also entitled to run shops and offices in the actual city, outside the ghetto. The prominent Viennese Jews were by no means pedlars or small money lenders; on the contrary, they transacted large financial deals, including some for the Imperial Court, and they often had to travel widely abroad.

One of the outstanding figures of the ghetto was Koppel Fraenkel-Halevy. The surname Fraenkel was an allusion to the origin of the family which had fled from Franken to Vienna during the Swedish War. Koppel Fraenkel, born in Baiersdorf, must have settled in Vienna between 1630 and 1635 and during the years to follow raised a large family. He had two sons, David Isaak Seckel and Israel, as well as a son-in-law Chaggi Chanoch from Eisenstadt whom he had adopted as a son; he also had four daughters. Rabbi Chanoch, also known as Henoeh Hoenig Levi, who called himself Fraenkel, was the pride of the family. He was a learned rabbi but he was equally well versed in worldly affairs and was the Dayan of the Vienna Beth-Din.

Koppel Fraenkel—in contemporary documents called "Hof Judt in Wien"—was renowned to be the richest man in the ghetto and had dealings with highly placed personalities. When Prince Gregorius Zeika, the deposed Voivode of the Moldau, came to Vienna in 1665 and begged Emperor Leopold I. to intervene on his behalf at the Hohe Pforte, he pawned the Moldau crown jewels and treasures with Koppel Fraenkel.

The uninterrupted pressure under which the inhabitants of the ghetto had to live was in painful contrast with their high level of Jewish and general culture and their prosperity. During its 45 years of existence, the ghetto witnessed a steady sequence of oppressions. Its inhabitants lived under the constant threat of expulsion clamoured after by their enemies, Viennese citizens, who were jealous of their successful Jewish competitors and by Christian clergymen. This agitation was constantly encouraged by Count Kollonitz, the Bishop of Wiener Neustadt, by the Empress—a Spanish princess—and by other influential circles. Finally, in 1669, the Emperor gave in and decided to expel the Jews.

Koppel Fraenkel was not fit enough to withstand this tragedy and passed away on April 17, 1670, a few weeks before the time limit for leaving Vienna expired.

Then followed the liquidation of the ghetto; the Jews were collectively held responsible for the debts of every single member of their community. Their worries were solved by the brothers David Isaak, Israel and Henoeh Fraenkel who—after having satisfied all creditors of the large liabilities of the family of Koppel Fraenkel—paid 20,000 Gulden to the authorities and handed over to them the crown jewels and treasures of the Moldau as

a precious security for any Jewish debts which might not yet be settled.

The Fraenkel brothers went still further in looking after the interests of their community: they deposited 4,000 Gulden with the Vienna municipality against the city's promise to fence in the Jewish cemetery in the Rossau and to look after its maintenance.

The Jewish community of Vienna thus disappeared completely; on July 28, 1670, not a single Jew remained in Vienna. The Fraenkel brothers, however, had received from Emperor Leopold I. a Certificate of Good Conduct and a recommendation to all tribunals and authorities of the Reich before, with their families, they left the Imperial residence.

Together with a whole group of other fugitives from Vienna, they turned to the flourishing Jewish community of Fuerth. Also in their new home they practised generosity and were devoted to the study of the Torah.

Of the three brothers, Israel left again very soon. He became a rabbi in Holleschau, then in Ungarisch-Brod in Moravia and, later still, in Pinsk in Russia; during the last five years of his life he was rabbi in Wuerzburg.

David Seckel became the honoured president of the Fuerth community. His son Eli Jissachar Baermann, when still young, became Dayan in Fuerth, then Chief Rabbi for Schnaittach and the principality of Ansbach, afterwards also Landrabbiner of the Jews of Brandenburg, an office which he administered from Fuerth.

Chaggi Chanoch Halevy—called Morenu Henoeh in Fuerth—surpassed his brothers by his strong personality, his distinguished manners and his vast knowledge. Soon the most prominent Christian men of learning in Nuernberg and at the University of Altdorf frequented his house. In all questions of Jewish knowledge he became the guide of the scientists Wagenseil, Christoph Arnold and Conrad Fromueller.

Of the sons of Morenu Henoeh, Hirsch and Elkan were outstanding. The former became Chief Rabbi of the Kurpfalz in 1702 and Chief Rabbi of Schwabach in 1709. Morenu Henoeh once told Wagenseil that his father had entreated his descendants to stay away from the Kabbala. Unfortunately, Hirsch did not heed this warning; on the contrary, he became involved with practising Kabbala, and this proved to be the trap through which he and his brother Elkan came to grief.

Elkan succeeded in gaining the confidence of the Markgraf of Brandenburg-Onoholzbach who made him his Court Jew. He seems to have filled this position with great competence; no Jew, either nearby or far away, could be compared with him as far as influence and wealth were concerned. Occasionally he would use his influence to the advantage of the Jews of Fuerth but all the same he was not popular with them, and some of them even hated him.

For a long time, two Jews of bad reputation and criminal record who had embraced Christianity and who resented Elkan because of his position, had planned to denounce him. A good opportunity seemed to offer itself in 1710 when Markgraf Wilhelm Friedrich promoted his Court Jew to the office of "Ober-Parness". The denunciation which reached the Markgraf in 1712 comprised sixteen allegations, the tenth of which read: "Elkan Fraenkel has insulted a baptised Jew in the presence of other Jews."

Thereupon a stringent enquiry was opened against Elkan in the course of which he was also accused of the possession of Jewish books of anti-Christian contents, of having uttered insulting remarks against the Markgraf, of having conducted treasonable correspondence and of having committed sexual offences. Even by the laws of the time the proceedings were illegal; still, in spite of lack of any proof Elkan was sentenced to heavy corporal punishment and life imprisonment. His fortune—the real target of the ruler—was confiscated, and his wife and daughter had to leave the country.

Thus the president of the Ansbach and Fuerth communities, the Court Jew and privileged favourite of the Markgraf, was dragged through untold indignities; through eight long years he had to suffer in the dungeon of the Wuelzburg, an old castle in the Frankish Jura, until death liberated him in 1720. His fate was similar to that of Joseph Suess Oppenheimer, Court Jew of Prince Karl Alexander of Wuerttemberg, who lost his life and fortune twenty-six years later under similar circumstances.

But one victim was not enough: Elkan's brother, Rabbi Hirsch Fraenkel, was also accused of sorcery and blasphemy; his Kabbalistic practices were used as the main incriminating argument. After he had been dragged to the Mauerburg near Schwabach in 1713, he was liberated almost miraculously twenty-four years later. During great floods, which threatened to wipe away the tower of the citadel, he and the other prisoners were ordered to leave the grounds of the castle. When the people saw the old man who was stooping after years of suffering, they took pity on him, and he was set free by the intervention of the Municipal Council. Broken in body and spirit, he lived for another three years in the midst of his family in Georgensmuend and died, 78 years old, in 1740.

In the course of time the great family of Fraenkel Halevy, by marriage and migration, spread over the whole of Germany. Part of the family remained in Fuerth, and its destinies can be followed up until the middle of the nineteenth century.

Poland also gave shelter to descendants of Koppel Fraenkel. In the nineteenth century Rabbi Jizchak Itzig Fraenkel, a grandson of the aforementioned unfortunate Rabbi Hirsch, was Rabbi in Fordon near Bromberg in the Province of Poznan. His children emigrated further East and settled in Congress-Poland.

The question arises, whether descendants of the venerable Koppel Fraenkel are still in our midst. Professor Dr. Abraham Fraenkel Halevy, Emeritus Professor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a faithful guardian of the religious tradition of the family, came to Erez Israel from Munich. In all probability he is a direct descendant of Koppel Fraenkel. His great-grandfather, born in Fuerth in 1792 and of identical name, had founded the Munich branch of the family in the early years of the last century. A Chanoeh Meir Fraenkel immigrated from Poland to Erez Israel; his son, Yehuda Fraenkel, a respected lawyer in Tel Aviv, is very conscious of his descent and proud to belong to the offspring of Koppel Fraenkel of Vienna.

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## Odyssey with 900 emigrants aboard

### 25 Years Ago the "St. Louis" Sailed from Hamburg

The following article was published in *Die Welt* (Hamburg) of May 12, 1964.

The motor vessel "St. Louis" was one of the smartest ocean-going liners of the Hamburg-America Line. Shortly before the Second World War it was ordered to ship 900 Jewish emigrants from Hamburg to Havana. The passengers had paid a high price for their entry visas into Cuba. On May 12, 1939, the ship left the Elbe.

Soon after its departure an old teacher died, heartbroken. Quietly by night his body was consigned to the waves. A young man from the Baltic, member of the ship's galley, was so depressed by the incident that he jumped overboard at the spot where the coffin had slid over the rail. And the first mate hanged himself.

However, during the calm passage a more confident spirit asserted itself amongst the passengers. Nowhere do parting sorrow and anxiety for the future dissolve so gently as on a well-found ship in fair weather. Besides, the captain of the "St. Louis", Gustav Schröder, was not only one of the ablest of mariners, but a gentleman with considerable knowledge of intellectual and artistic matters, tactful and warmhearted.

Full of hope they landed at the pier in Havana. Relatives and acquaintances had

arrived, but so had armed police. They forced those who had disembarked back on board. No one was allowed to leave or board the ship except the captain, who spent five days with the authorities, sending cables and wireless messages, moving heaven and earth to help his floating guests to obtain the landing right for which they had paid so dearly. In vain; under threat of force he was driven to leave the harbour.

The commotion on board was understandable. A lawyer, Dr. Löwe, cut the veins on his wrist and dropped overboard. Two sailors jumped after him and retrieved him so quickly that the ship's doctor was able to stop him from bleeding to death. Captain Schröder succeeded in having this one emigrant put on shore.

The rest had been sent out to sea again. The order, de-coded, read: Return to Cuxhaven. Had it been obeyed it would undoubtedly have sealed the passengers' destiny.

So Captain Schröder decided not to obey. He spoke encouraging words to the despairing. He then attempted various secret landings along the coast of Florida and the West Indies; but everywhere patrol-boats were on the look-out. Still relying on comforting messages from New York, among others from the banking house of Warburg, he cruised end-

lessly about, criss-crossing the air with urgent wireless appeals to the international relief committees. At last provisions and water became scarce and the ship's course had to be directed back to Europe.

The nearer they came to the North Sea the more did the passengers become a prey to doubts. Schröder formed the most sensible of them into a committee, and also one for spiritual care. Owing to his personality a downright panic was avoided; only the children were pleased that the journey had been lengthened.

But some of the young people grouped together for purposes of sabotage. Mutiny was in the air. Schröder had only time to make the bridge ready for defence when a wildly shrieking mob rushed it. The captain went to meet them, imperturbably, and said quietly: "We are landing in England". It was a lie spoken under stress. But, being a man of his word, he actually drafted a landing plan with the chief engineer. Under pretext of engine damage and fire the "St. Louis" was to be seen on to shallow ground on the south coast of Britain at the ebb, and the passengers were to be put ashore in boats as shipwrecked. At full tide it would be impossible to get away again. This humane manoeuvre of a ship in distress was made unnecessary by a telegram: The Jewish relief organisation had obtained landing permission in Belgium. After arrival the passengers were distributed between Belgium, Holland and Great Britain.

HANS LEIP.

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## MEMORIAL MEETING FOR HANS REICHMANN

On June 11 a memorial meeting for the late Dr. Hans Reichmann was held in London under the auspices of the United Restitution Organisation, the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain, the Council of Jews from Germany and the K.C. Fraternity. The main speaker was Dr. F. Goldschmidt, who had been associated with Hans Reichmann for more than 35 years.

Reichmann's personality, he stated, was to a high extent shaped by the specific atmosphere prevailing among Jews in Upper Silesia, from where his family stemmed. As a student he joined the K.C. Fraternity, which had been founded in 1886 as the first Jewish Fraternity in Germany and whose members fought for the honour of German Jewry at the universities.

Referring to Reichmann's activities as one of the leading personalities of the Central-Verein, he recalled that he had been one of those who had tried to develop that organisation into a movement comprising all sections of German Jewry, excluding only those who denied the possibility of Jewish existence in the Diaspora. When the Nazis came to power he, together with his friends, worked for the co-operation of all Jewish organisations under the auspices of the Reichsvertretung.

In his work for U.R.O., which commenced in 1949, he always stressed the importance of the human element, and impressed on his colleagues that the day-to-day work must never descend to mere routine. By his unrelenting activities he had a decisive share in the efforts by which the lot of the persecutees could be alleviated.

Dr. Walter Breslauer, Vice-President of the Council of Jews from Germany, described Reichmann as a man full of ideas. He had worked for the Council from 1949 onwards, first as its Hon. Secretary and later on as a member of the Presidium. The establishment of a Central Fund for relief in special cases of need and the forthcoming publication of a Memorial Book in honour of the perished German-Jewish communal leaders were examples of the manifold ventures initiated by him.

Mr. Alfred S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR, stated that the passion with which Reichmann devoted his energy and experience to our cause was a stimulus for all who worked with him.

He and his colleagues on the Executive had lost a close friend.

Mr. A. G. Brotman, Vice-Chairman of U.R.O., said that Reichmann's regard for the cultural values of the old Germany was matched by his love and affection for the British people and its institutions which he probably sensed and appreciated even more than those born and bred in this country. Many thousands throughout the world owed much of their relief from years of hardship to his devoted efforts.

Tributes on behalf of the Wiener Library and the Leo Baeck Institute were paid in messages from Mr. C. C. Aronsfeld and Dr. Robert Weltsch who had been unable to attend.

In his opening address, Professor Norman Bentwich who presided, extended a special welcome to Minister Dr. Thierfelder and other members of the German Embassy and to the numerous representatives of Jewish organisations.

The impressive gathering was opened and concluded by recitals rendered by the String Quartet, Maria Lidka, Deirdre Moody, Mary Long and Anita Lasker.

At the funeral on May 28 at the Willesden Liberal Cemetery, addresses were delivered by Rabbi J. J. Kokotek, who officiated, and by Professor Norman Bentwich.

### HAMPSTEAD ZION HOUSE

The coming of age of Hampstead Zion House at 57 Eton Avenue, was marked by a most pleasant function. The House had been acquired during the second world war at the initiative of a group of Zionist minded refugees, and for 21 years has never closed its doors.

Mrs. F. Jezierski, one of the speakers, gave examples of the various activities linked up with the history of the House where, during the bombing period young trainees, were accommodated, where continuously, lectures of various kinds were held, and where several organisations had found a permanent home. She also paid tribute to the most active House Committee which included Mr. W. M. Behr, Dr. F. E. Falk and Dr. H. N. Feld. The other speakers at the function were the Israeli Consul General, Mr. Benjamin Peled, Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., and Miss Miriam Karlin. Dr. H. N. Feld was in the chair.

## THEODOR HERZL SOCIETY

At the recent General Meeting of the Theodor Herzl Society, Mr. Herbert M. Hirsch, who is also a member of the AJR Board, was elected Chairman. He succeeds Dr. F. E. Falk, a member of the AJR Executive, who resigned after having held the office for the last two years. Dr. W. Schindler, the Vice-Chairman, will again organise the special series of Winter Lectures in conjunction with London University which have become a regular feature of the N.W. London scene.

### MEETING OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWS FROM CENTRAL EUROPE

At this year's annual meeting of the Federation, which is the AJR's corresponding organisation in the U.S.A., the main report was given by the Executive Vice-President, Dr. Herman Muller. It was also announced that Dr. Muller has resigned as Executive Vice-President. However, he will continue to be head of the New York office of U.R.O. In recognition of his 20 years' devoted service to the cause of the Federation an illuminated address expressing the gratitude of the organisation was handed over to him by the President, Dr. Curt C. Silberman. Dr. Muller will be succeeded as Vice-President by Mr. Herbert Seeliger.

Reports were also given at the meeting by Rabbi Dr. Max Grünwald on the work of the Leo Baeck Institute, by Dr. Hans Frank about the activities of United Help, by Dr. Herbert Strauss, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Younger Generation and by Mr. Benjamin Ferencz, former Director-General of JRSO, on the relations between Germany and the Jews.

### MRS. ALICE WOLFF 80

Mrs. Alice Wolff, of 3 Hemstal Road, N.W.6, will celebrate her 80th birthday on July 14. For over 25 years Mrs. Wolff has looked after a large number of refugees who have adopted her boarding-house as their home. She is carrying on this work now as before, with the same individual interest in the comfort and well-being of her guests, helped in this task by her young daughter-in-law. All her many friends and boarders, past and present, will join us in wishing the octogenarian many happy returns of the day and many more active years among her family and guests.

### FAMILY EVENTS

#### Births

**Baddiel.**—To Sarah (née Fabian) and Colin Baddiel on May 28, at Troy, N.Y., U.S.A., a second son, David Lionel. Both doing well. Second grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. E. Fabian, 42 Hertford Street, Cambridge.

**Barzel (Brazil).**—A daughter, Miriam, Yonit Tal, was born on May 28 to Monika (née Friedmann), B.D.S.(Lond.), L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.), and Alan. Kfar Hanassi, Israel. First grandchild for Edith and Rudy (R. J.) Friedmann, of 38 High Point, North Hill, Highgate, London, N.6.

**Kester.**—A son (David Martin Albert) was born on May 23 to Simon and Stephanie (née Leyser), 28 Highpoint, North Hill, London, N.6. Second grandchild for Paula Leyser, B.8 Calthorpe Mansions, Five Ways, Birmingham, 15.

#### Ruby Wedding

**Ehrlich.**—Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Ehrlich, 1391 Commonwealth Avenue, Allston 34, Mass., U.S.A., celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on May 22. In Berlin where they lived prior to their emigration, Mr. Ehrlich was publisher of the monthly "Posener Heimatblaetter".

### Golden Wedding

**Zadek.**—Mr. Alex and Mrs. Else Zadek, née Freundlich (at Schlochau Westpr.) 1420-36th Avenue, Seattle 98/22, Washington, U.S.A. (formerly Bromberg, Stettin, Jerusalem), celebrated their Golden Wedding on June 7. Their daughters Hilde, Ruth, Edith and their relatives and friends from all over the world extend their heartiest congratulations. Wishing them many happy returns.

#### Birthday

**Bermann.**—Mrs. Doris Bermann, Leo Baeck House, The Bishop's Avenue, London, N.2, celebrated her 88th birthday on June 12.

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### Miscellaneous

**CONTINENTAL SILVER** and old china wanted by Australian collector. Write in confidence. Box 435.

#### Personal

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### MISSING PERSONS

#### Personal Enquiries

**Laske.**—Will the widow of Dr. Bernhard Laske, late of 171 Lordship Lane, Tottenham, London, N.17, who died on September 15, 1962, please communicate with Messrs. Ewart Price & Co., Solicitors of 1 Downshire Hill, Hampstead, London, N.W.3.

#### Enquiries by AJR

**Gerber.**—Mrs. Hildegard Ruth Gerber, born April 20, 1902, in Stargard Pommern. Last known address 8 Camden Hill Gardens, London, W.8. Wanted in connection with a restitution claim.

**Neustadt.**—Charlotte Neustadt, formerly Gartenstr. 87 Breslau, Germany, then of Acton/Hammer-smith area, would like to come into contact with relatives and friends.



## Letter from Jerusalem

## ISRAELIS WITHOUT MAIL

June 1, 1964

While the Arab front has greatly been strengthened by Khrushchev's visit to Egypt and Hussein's tour to Washington and Europe, the Israeli citizen lives in a kind of—involuntary—idyll. All income tax problems have been solved for him, for the time being—the tax officials are on strike, but even if they were at work a reminder from the tax authorities would hardly reach him: the post office workers are on a “go-slow”-strike, with the result that only 20 per cent of the mail is being handled.

In the meantime, over three million postal items have piled up in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa alone. The economic life is disrupted and the export trade, dependent on outside communication, is especially hard hit. The fourfold increase of overseas trunk-calls is just one of many signs of the difficulties that have arisen.

The labour unrest in almost all public services has led to grotesque situations. A warning strike of radio engineers cut off Israel from the world for two hours. Arrivals at Lod and Haifa were pleasantly surprised to receive their luggage without Customs' check—the Customs men were out on strike. In hospitals doctors had to wash the patients, as there was a strike of the nurses; now a doctors' strike is in the offing and patients hope that the nurses, in turn, will not have to fill their places. . . . Engine drivers and teachers, technicians and attorneys already have issued strike warnings.

All this can be traced to one cause: for the past three years salaries of State-employed persons have been “frozen”, while the cost-of-living climbed. In the same period prices of flats in Tel Aviv, e.g., have risen by 80 per cent. The actual occasion for the uproar was the “Horovitz Report”, a governmental commission chaired by the Governor of the Bank of Israel, David Horovitz, which examined the wage-scales of the civil service and recom-

mended a unified system for all categories, in place of the present multitude of salary scales. The first protest came from State-employed physicians, engineers, jurists and teachers, who feared to lose their privileges. In the course of application, however, the new grading system met with growing opposition also in other circles. Both in preventing and in arbitrating the conflicts the Histadruth has proved powerless. In the face of its dwindling authority various proposals were put forward for compulsory arbitration outside the orbit of the trade union, and the matter is still under discussion.

Viewed against the background of the sharpened anti-Israel drive of the Arab States, the labour unrest becomes even more regrettable. The position of the Arab States in this respect is easier; structurally they are dictatorships, where strikes are not permitted and workers would not dare to vent their discontent openly. The damage which the strikes cause to Israel's economy are the price a democracy must pay for its freedom.

HERBERT FREEDEN (Jerusalem)

## B.B.C. TREES

Twenty trees in one of the J.N.F. Forests have been planted by a television unit of the B.B.C. engaged on making a film in Israel, as a mark of appreciation for the help and kindness the unit received.

## JABOTINSKY MEMORIAL

A public meeting is to be held at St. John's Wood Synagogue on July 9, to coincide with the reinterment of the remains of Vladimir Jabotinsky in Israel. Mr. Arthur Lourie, the Israeli Ambassador, will be among those present and the Chief Rabbi and other communal leaders have agreed to sponsor the meeting.—(J.C.)

## YOUNG GERMAN SENTENCED AS ISRAELI SPY

Frohwald Huettenmeister, a 26-year-old Doctor of Philosophy from Cologne, who was

accused of spying for Israel, was sentenced by a Cairo court on Wednesday to ten years in prison and fined £1,000.

Huettenmeister spent several months working on a kibbutz in Israel in 1958 and later studied Judaica and archaeology at the Hebrew University. The many friends he made while in that country speak of him with sympathy and respect. They stress his sincerity and “spiritual cleanliness” and describe him as “representing a new type of German youth unknown to us before”.

A professor at the Hebrew University said: “I do not believe Cairo's accusations.”—(J.C.)

## SCIENTISTS IN EGYPT

## Resolution of Socialist International

Leaders of twelve Socialist parties who were in London for a meeting of the Socialist International have expressed deep concern at the work of German scientists in Egypt.

Deploping the lack of effective action by the Bonn Government, leaders of the German Social Democratic Party said the only effective way to deal with the situation was to enforce paragraph 26 of the German Constitution which makes preparation for an aggressive war an offence under the law.

Mr. Harold Wilson, Leader of the Labour Party, was chairman of the sessions, together with Dr. S. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative in London. The British Labour Party, said Mr. Wilson, was fully aware of the dangerous implications of the activities of German experts in Cairo and would continue to raise this matter in Parliament.

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution expressing concern at the disclosures that “numerous scientists still holding German Federal Citizenship are actively engaged in the manufacture of weapons and other operations in Egypt designed to bring destruction to the State of Israel, thus endangering the peace in the Middle East.”—(J.C.)

## RUBINSTEIN CHAIR

Artur Rubinstein, the pianist, attended the dedication of a chair of musicology bearing his name at the Hebrew University. The accumulated fees for Rubinstein's five previous concert tours in Israel, amounting to some £10,750, were earmarked by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra to establish the chair.

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The fourth series of lectures delivered under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Institute was concluded with an address delivered by Dr. Heinrich Strauss, Jerusalem, on the subject "Jüdisches Kunstschaffen — ein Minoritätenproblem" on Monday, the 11th May, 1964, in the Reading Room of the Wiener Library.

The speaker pointed out that controversy has ever raged on the question of whether there is a Jewish art at all. Its existence was denied by such eminent art critics as Bernard Berenson, while affirmed in the broadest terms of reference by others; Cecil Roth, for instance, who defines as Jewish art all art created for Jewish objects (which would include synagogues erected by Gentile architects) and all art created by Jews (which would include the art of converts expressing manifestly Christian traits). This *ad hoc* definition seemed unsatisfactory to the speaker. In his view art is Jewish when it contains what is specific to the Jewish people which expresses in its artistic achievements its fate as a cultural minority group, an island in a sea of world culture, be it originally in the realm of Egypt—Babylon or later in Europe.

Jewish art is largely one of adaptation, but what is decisive here is in what way it varies from the original. Thus at first Greek motifs were adapted for religious Jewish purposes and often significantly altered. As was the case with other minorities (e.g., Armenians), who took their art largely from their surround-

ings, the minority often remained conservative and acted as a faithful preserver of the traditions of the host nation. Also, a considerable amount of cultural mimicry was involved. Accordingly, Jewish heroes may appear as German mercenaries, as in the case of the Nuremberg Hagadah, and even parodies and caricatures in which the Jew is malignantly portrayed by a Gentile observer are faithfully copied by the Jewish artist, as in the Wormser Machsor.

By numerous well-selected lantern slides Dr. Strauss succeeded in conveying vividly the 3,000 years of Jewish adaptation of the art of Gentiles and the problems of assimilation involved. To him a significant Jewish art has emerged throughout the ages, never static, but ever displaying a dynamic tension between the ancient traditions of Judaism and the styles of the Gentile environment surrounding the Jewish minority.

### 

The entire collection of about 4,000 books of the Parkes Library, established in 1956 as a centre for the study of relations between the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds, is to be moved to Southampton University. The director of the library, the Rev. Dr. James Parkes, is retiring soon and selling his house in Hertfordshire, which contains the library, but Dr. Parkes hopes to keep in touch with the library which will still bear his name.

## 

### 

Sir,—In the May issue of AJR Information you published a statement by the Federal German Minister of Justice "that the demand to extend the statute of limitations" in the case of Nazi crimes "must be rejected on legal grounds".

The practice now prevailing in the Federal Republic to apply the limitation provisions of the German Criminal Code to Nazi crimes is alarming. It completely overlooks the fact that Nazi crimes are not only crimes according to German internal law but that they are also crimes under international law. This is well established by the London agreement of 1945 for the prosecution of war crimes, the Nuremberg judgment on the major war criminals and the Control Council laws and directives. A time-limit does not exist for the prosecution of crimes under International Law.

According to Article 25 of the Federal German Fundamental Law the rules of International Law form part of Federal German law and take precedence over Federal German internal law. The demands of International Law for the prosecution of Nazi criminals without any limitation of time must, therefore, take priority over the limitation provisions of the German Criminal Code. The application of a time-limit to prosecutions for war crimes and crimes against humanity is not only a breach of International Law but also a breach of the Federal German Constitution.

Yours, etc.,

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