

ISSUED BY THE  
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

8 FAIRFAX MANSIONS, FINCHLEY RD. (corner Fairfax Rd.), London, N.W.3

Telephone: MAIda Vale 9096/7 (General Office and Welfare for the Aged),  
MAIda Vale 4449 (Employment Agency, annually licensed by the L.C.C.,  
and Social Services Dept.)

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Friday 10a.m.—1p.m.

Robert Weltsch

## FLASHBACK TO MAY 1945

Twenty years have elapsed since that memorable event, VE-Day, that final defeat of Hitler's forces of evil. If we consider that the whole period of Nazi rule had lasted only twelve years and seemed unending, we become aware that we have now moved on a great deal. A new generation has grown up which has not known Hitler; for them Nazism is a thing of the past of which one learns from history books. Nor have they any personal experience of the time preceding the Hitler rule, when German Jewry was still intact, albeit imperilled, and was an active and creative community. Jewish youth, even from Continental families but often born already outside Germany, has no clear idea of what German Jewry once meant; neither, of course, have most young Germans of the post-Hitler age.

But for all of us who were privileged to witness it, that first week of May, 1945, will remain unforgettable. It was certainly a feeling of incomparable relief, of elation similar to that expressed in the famous chorus of Sophocles' *Antigone*, hailing the ray of the sun after the departure of the enemy. The world, so it seemed, had not, after all, succumbed to the dark forces of evil. Although for some time the defeat of Nazi Germany was assured one had trembled what they would still be able to draw to the abyss with them in their *Götterdämmerung*. And, alas, soon enough there came an anticlimax. Only when the curtain rose again could the public at large, as distinct from the informed few at the top, fully realise what had been destroyed. Europe was in ruins, large cities were reduced to debris, fertile plains to waste land. Whole populations were displaced and mixed up, there was despair and perplexity, and no quick remedy seemed at hand. Experts argued it would take decades to clear up the mess and to build some new organised civilised life on the ruins.

For the Western world it was also the first encounter with the truth about the extermination of Jews and about the concentration camps which were now liberated. Many had suspected that there was unspeakable horror in these camps, but it was outrageous to see all expectations and guesses surpassed, and to be faced with the mechanism of a systematic extermination industry which had never before existed in human history. Mankind—and the Jewish people in a special way—was divided into two parts, the victims and the survivors. This could not fail to create a lasting neurosis and a guilt complex. Evidence of this we have in life and also in literature. "To realise that you are a survivor is a shock—at the realisation of such election you feel like bursting into

tears", notes Saul Bellow's Moses Herzog, one of the modern spokesmen of such a situation, almost twenty years after the event.

If we now try to draw a balance sheet and to compare our world of 1965 with the expectations of those days, we have to admit that the material damage of the war has been repaired much faster than was anticipated. Europe has been enjoying an unparalleled post-war prosperity, and the loss of colonies has brought no real material harm to the former empires. Technology has had an unprecedented upsurge. But moral values were not so easily restored. The optimism of a dawning world of United Nations and of the "no more war" type had to be discarded as thirty years before, and had to give way to the split world of antagonistic blocs equipped with nuclear weapons. New dangers menace mankind and turn our time into an age of fear for which English writers are also using the German word *Angst*, referring to Freud and Kafka.

## Impact of the Past

Moreover, the world is still haunted by the nightmare of the concentration camps. What happened there still remains inexplicable in human terms. It is understandable that human beings would prefer to extinguish this memory and to find some kind of peace of mind again. But can that be done by simply forgetting, so as not to be disturbed in the enjoyment of life? Only last year, the twentieth post-war year, some of the horrors of those times were revealed to the generation which has grown up in the meantime, by the trials against the people responsible for the conduct of the camps. One of them, different from other trials because not a criminal case, occurred in England, of which we have now a record in a book "Auschwitz in England" (MacGibbon & Kee). There a British judge could give the memorable verdict that Auschwitz represents the greatest crime in history. In Germany the public—if it listens—can hear of the undeniable facts day by day in the protracted Frankfurt Auschwitz trial and others. We should keep in mind that the question to be decided there is only the establishment of individual guilt of the persons accused; the facts themselves are not in dispute. And from the moral and historical point of view these facts are what really count.

We all feel that we are helpless in the face of such unbelievable human behaviour and nobody is able to react properly or to give moral satisfaction. It has been said that crimes of this magnitude cannot have a time limit. This does not imply a desire for vengeance. We can hardly be interested

in the personal fate of miserable sub-human creatures who took part in those massacres. To condemn these deeds today requires no heroism. If the Germans choose to live with murderers and to admit them to honoured places in their society—what to many of them appears abhorrent, as we know from at least two moving speeches in the *Bundestag*—it is their affair. But it is certainly a point of principle that crimes of this kind cannot "expire". Unfortunately the establishment of this principle in all clarity immediately after the end of hostilities was omitted. It is an omission on the part of the Allied governments which, in spite of some solemn declarations, did not evaluate the uniqueness of the matter. We should not forget that the war crime trials of the Allies which started twenty years ago did not have the desired effect. True, the top Nazis were hanged. But many of the principal criminals, some of them sentenced to death, were released by the Allies after a few years of prison. That was not consistent with the uniqueness of the facts.

On the other hand it must be admitted that the Federal Government, however reluctantly in a difficult position, has made an effort to find and indict the murderers, though it is no less evident that much of this endeavour is frustrated by the application of ordinary procedural rules which are not tailor-made for such cases. The whole affair is a very sad chapter and—in a wider sense—shows the impotence of Man when confronted with events which transcend the power of rational understanding.

We have also to realise that the West German Government does whatever it does in the face of open resentment on the part of German public opinion. We should not be interested to make it more difficult for them than it is anyhow, or not to appreciate the good will where it is sensible. Therefore there is no point in ill-conceived demonstrations like those staged in America by unauthorised bodies. One cannot fail to appreciate that the Federal Government, both under Adenauer and under Erhard, has shown good will and readiness to atone for the crimes that had been committed on behalf of the German nation. No similar attitude, alas, was forthcoming from the East German State. It is also significant to compare the attitude of the two German States to the State of Israel during the last weeks; it is in some way dictated by general international policy, but it cannot be separated from the cardinal point of responsibility towards the Jews.

As to the decision reached on the question of the time limit, the compromise which has been achieved may perhaps satisfy practical requirements, but it has not, as many Germans themselves admitted, the moral grandeur expressed in the speeches

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## FLASHBACK TO MAY 1945

(Continued from page 1)

of the two deputies mentioned above. It suffers from the smell of any compromise achieved in interparliamentary bargaining, especially in an election year. What is more perturbing is the outspoken aversion of the majority of the German population to be reminded of the Nazi crimes.

We are now living in the aftermath of the Nazi catastrophe. The greatest part of the survivors have been able to return to more or less normal life. They are again integrated in human society, whether in Israel, where most of the inmates of the camps proclaimed that they wanted to go after the liberation, or in other countries. As far as the Jewish people as a whole is concerned, we had to familiarise ourselves with the fact that European Jewry as we had known it had ceased to exist. Yet the final solution in the sense of complete extermination had not been attained by Hitler. New Jewish communities grew up elsewhere, and paradoxically they flourish better than ever, though mainly in a material sense. Those who were lucky enough to escape in time before hell broke loose are now firmly settled in this country, or in America, or Israel, or some other community which gave them refuge. The biggest accumulation of Jews is now in the United States, which plays the leading part in the Jewish Diaspora, not only politically and financially but also as its representative type. The rise of the second generation of the former East European immigrant Jews has led to some remarkable intellectual achievements in America as, in fact, in Britain, especially in the literary field. These Jews now experience those strains of assimilation which were a characteristic feature of Jewish life in Central Europe until 1933.

One of the results of the world's post-war approach to the Jewish question was, of course, the creation of the State of Israel. This changed the Jewish position in the world and created new problems on the international plane to which Jews in general, owing to their bond with Israeli Jews, cannot be indifferent. It is clear that the Jewish people is on the threshold of a new epoch in its history. A new type of Jew is emerging, while in Israel itself some sharp divisions are increasingly felt, as between Jews of Oriental and of European origin, or between the rigid Orthodox and the Liberals. Moreover, the possibility of a drifting apart of Israeli and Diaspora Jews cannot be discounted. And the intellectual power to bridge this gulf is hardly perceptible.

Yet, although we are conscious of the difficult problems of today, we cannot fail to be grateful for the turn European history—and Jewish destiny—took twenty years ago.

## Anglo-German Compensation Agreement

### TIME LIMIT FOR REGISTRATIONS

According to the Anglo-German Agreement of June 9, 1964, the German Federal Republic undertook to pay to the United Kingdom the sum of one million pounds sterling for the benefit of certain U.K. nationals who as victims of National Socialist persecution suffered loss of liberty or damage to their health or, in the case of those who died in consequence of such persecution, for the benefit of their dependants. The distribution of this sum has been left to the discretion of H.M. Government.

The details of the Agreement were described in the October, 1964, issue of *AJR Information*, where it was also stated that the registration of claims will close on July 31, 1965; the necessary forms may be obtained from the Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

No application for registration can be accepted in respect of any person, if compensation for the imprisonment, death or disablement of that person has been paid, or is or was payable out of other moneys provided by the German Federal Republic. The Foreign Office also states that detention in a normal internment camp or prisoner-of-war camp does not fall within the scope of registration.

### BEDEUTUNG FUER OPFER AUS OESTERREICH

Die folgenden Ausfuehrungen befassen sich mit der Frage, inwieweit das Britisch-Deutsche Wiedergutmachungsabkommen fuer aus Oesterreich stammende Naziopfer und ihre Hinterbliebenen von Belang ist. Dieser Personenkreis ist bereits zum Grossteil auf Grund des oesterreichischen Opferfuersorgegesetzes berechtigt, Entschaedigung aus dem Titel des Freiheitsverlustes zu beanspruchen. Da Oesterreich zur teilweisen Bestreitung dieser Leistungen Zahlungen von der Bundesrepublik Deutschland erhalten hat, so schliesst die Anspruchsberechtigung auf Grund des Opferfuersorgegesetzes die Registrierungs-moeglichkeit aus.

Wie in *AJR Information* wiederholt im einzelnen dargelegt, wurde, sieht das Opferfuersorgegesetz Haftentschaedigung fuer derzeitige und ehemalige oesterreichische Staatsbuenger sowie fuer Personen vor, die zwar nicht oesterreichische Staatsbuenger waren aber vor dem 13. Maerz 1938 durch mehr als zehn Jahre ununterbrochen in Oesterreich gewohnt hatten. Ist das Opfer nicht mehr am Leben, so besteht ein Anspruch fuer die Witwe, sofern die Ehe vor dem 1. Mai 1945 eingegangen wurde, ferner fuer die Kinder falls deren Lebensunterhalt vom Opfer im Zeitpunkt seiner Inhaftnahme oder der Besetzung Oesterreichs im Jahre 1938 ganz oder zum ueberwiegenden Teil bestritten wurde oder haette bestritten werden muessen. Hinterbliebenen Eltern, Geschwistern, und Witvern kann die Entschaedigung nur dann zuerkannt werden, wenn sie mit dem Opfer zum Zeitpunkt der Inhaftnahme im gemeinsamen Haushalt gelebt hatten, von ihm zum

ueberwiegenden Teil erhalten wurden und eine soziale Beduerftigkeit gegeben ist.

Durch die Bestimmungen des Opferfuersorgegesetzes wurde fuer die ueberwaeltigende Mehrzahl der Konzentrationslagerhaeflinge und ihre naechsten Angehoerigen ein Entschaedigungsanspruch geschaffen, von dem gewiss die meisten Anspruchsberechtigten bereits Gebrauch gemacht haben. Es eroeffnet sich nunmehr jedoch immerhin fuer eine voraussichtlich nicht allzu umfangreiche Kategorie von Opfern, die auf Grund des Opferfuersorgegesetzes nicht anspruchsberechtigt sind, die Moeglichkeit, auf Grund des Britisch-Deutschen Abkommens um die Registrierung anzusuchen. Dabei ist eine wesentliche Voraussetzung, dass das Opfer in einem Konzentrationslager angehalten war, oder in einer Einrichtung, in der die Bedingungen denen eines solchen Lagers vergleichbar waren, was wohl auf einzelne Zwangsarbeitslager und Polizeigeftaengnisse zutreffen wird. Internierung, normale Gerichtshaft und Anhaltung in einem Kriegsgefangenenlager sind ausdruuecklich von der Internierung ausgenommen.

Angehoeerige der folgenden Personen-gruppen sind zur Registrierung aus dem Titel eines solchen Freiheitschadens auf Grund des Britisch-Deutschen Abkommens berechtigt da sie auf Grund des Opferfuersorgegesetzes nicht anspruchsberechtigt sind:

1. Personen, die nicht oesterreichische Staatsbuenger waren und am 13. Maerz 1938 einen kuerzeren als zehnjaehrigen Aufenthalt in Oesterreich hatten, fuer die von ihnen erlittene Haft, sowie die Hinterbliebenen solcher Opfer.

2. Jene Witwen, die mit dem nicht mehr lebenden Opfer die Ehe nach dem 1. Mai 1945 eingegangen hatten.

3. Die ehelichen Kinder nicht mehr lebender Opfer fuer die von den Eltern erlittene Haft, vorausgesetzt dass ihr Lebensunterhalt nicht im Zeitpunkt der Inhaftnahme oder der Besetzung Oesterreichs zur Gaenze oder zum ueberwiegenden Teil vom Opfer bestritten wurde oder haette bestritten werden muessen.

4. Hinterbliebene Eltern, Vollgeschwister und Witwer, vorausgesetzt dass sie mit dem Opfer zur Zeit der Inhaftierung nicht im gemeinsamen Haushalt gelebt hatten, oder von ihm nicht zum ueberwiegenden Teil erhalten worden waren und auch derzeit nicht beduerftig sind.

Es ist nicht erforderlich, dass in den unter 1-4 genannten Faellen die Hinterbliebenen britische Staatsbuenger sind oder in Grossbritannien leben. Es ist jedoch unbedingt notwendig, dass das Opfer selbst am 1. Oktober 1953 (oder bei Verstorbenen vor dem 1.10.1953 zur Zeit seines Todes) die britische Staatsbuengerschaft besass. Voraussetzung ist ferner, dass fuer das Opfer bzw. seine Hinterbliebenen kein Anspruch bestand, auf Grund der deutschen Entschaedigungsgesetzgebung oder anderer Gesetzesmassnahmen fuer den Freiheitschaden Entschaedigung zu erhalten.

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## HOME NEWS

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

## IN PARLIAMENT

## Race Relations Bill

The Race Relations Bill introduced in the Commons and drafted by Sir Frank Soskice, Home Secretary, makes discrimination on grounds of race or colour in public places an offence. Incitement to such discrimination will also become an offence, as will the scrawling on walls and roads or any public places of race hatred slogans and symbols. Penalties of up to £200 fine and six months' imprisonment for a first offence and of up to £1,000 or two years' imprisonment for a second offence are provided. Neglect to provide facilities or service in public places, unreasonably delaying their provision and overcharge, will also be an offence. The permission of the Director of Public Prosecutions will be needed for any "racial discrimination" prosecution.

Objections will probably be voiced on Second Reading at the many loopholes in the Bill. This still allows discrimination to continue in such private places as golf clubs, shops, "independent" fee-paying schools and in employment. It will not be an offence for a landlord to turn away a coloured would-be tenant, but a "no coloured" clause will not be enforceable at law against a tenant who wishes to sub-let.

## Hate Leaflets

In the House of Commons Mr. Geoffrey Rhodes protested at the distribution of anti-semitic literature in Newcastle. Mr. Rhodes in a question to Mr. George Thomas, Under-Secretary, Home Office, said that leaflets which bore the Nazi swastika and the vile message "Send the Jews to the ovens" had been distributed to Jewish families in Newcastle, some of whom had lost relatives in the Nazi ovens during the Hitler régime. Mr. H. E. Randall said that there had also been a considerable circulation of these documents in Gateshead.

Mr. Thomas replied that Sir Frank Soskice, the Home Secretary, was keeping in mind activities of this sort in framing the provisions of the Bill dealing with incitement to racial hatred.

## New German Ambassador

Mr. Tom Driberg asked Mr. Michael Stewart, the Foreign Secretary, why "in view of Herr Blankenhorn's former support of Hitler and the ideology and policies of the Nazi Party," it was decided not to advise the West German Government that this man would be *persona non grata* as ambassador in London.

The Foreign Secretary replied that all the relevant facts were available to the British Government and it was decided in the light of these facts that Herr Blankenhorn's appointment as ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany would be welcome.

## CIVIC HONOURS

With the Greater London Council coming into existence, Alderman Emanuel Snowman became the last freeman of Hampstead, and Councillor Samuel Fisher the first Mayor of Camden.

Alderman Hyman Appleby Leon and his daughter, Mrs. E. Posnansky, were installed as deputy Mayor and Mayoress of the new London borough of Richmond upon Thames. The Alderman was Mayor of Richmond on two former occasions and has been deputy chairman of Richmond upon Thames council since it was formed last May.

## MOSLEY MEETING

Mosley's Union Movement held a meeting in the Kensington Town Hall, despite a protest from the British-Caribbean Association, which had urged Kensington Borough Council not to allow the hall to be used "to stir up communal strife".

## BUDGET SPEECH

## Dollar Premiums and Restitution

In his budget speech the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the Bank of England would no longer grant the Dollar premium on transfers to this country of capital restitution and compensation payments, gifts and receipts under wills. During the debate, Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid reminded the Chancellor that, "rather against the best judgement of the Treasury" and after "a number of battles over the years", the House had agreed that compensation payments should be freed of British income tax. Similarly, the recipients, none of whom were persons of large means, should benefit from the remittances being made to them at the premium rate. Sir Henry expressed the hope that the Chancellor would make an alteration before the Second Reading of the Finance Bill and allow these payments to be transmitted at the old investment rate.

Together with other organisations concerned, the AJR has also taken up the matter. It has pointed out that capital restitution and compensation payments were not in the same category as gifts and receipts under wills, because they represented something the person in question already had and replaced spoliated objects of losses concerned. Therefore, they should be treated in the same way as the proceeds of other foreign assets of which, according to the new regulations, 25 per cent had to be surrendered at the official rate of exchange while 75 per cent could be disposed of at a premium.

## FAREWELL TO DR. H. VON ETZDORF

Former refugees from all walks of life were among the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. Sulzbach at a Farewell Party given by them for the retiring German Ambassador, Dr. H. von Etdorf. Paying tribute to the Ambassador, Mr. Sulzbach particularly stressed the humility with which Herr von Etdorf had worked for the establishment of personal contacts with the former refugees and their groups and organisations. In his reply, Herr von Etdorf stated that the position of those who had come to this country in consequence of their persecution in Nazi Germany had always been a great genuine concern for him and that he had considered it one of his paramount tasks to help overcome the effects of the terrible happenings of the past.

During his tenure of office, Herr von Etdorf has also been in contact with the AJR and its kindred organisations and their Hon. Officers. He has attended several of their functions and his interest in the well-being of the former refugees is also reflected in a visit he paid of his own accord to one of their Old Age Homes. We thank Herr von Etdorf for his often experienced help and understanding and wish him happiness and health in his retirement.

## DIRECTOR OF EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Mr. Peter Diamand, who has been appointed artistic director of the Edinburgh Festival in succession to Lord Harewood, was born in Berlin in 1913 to a Rumanian father and an Austrian mother. In 1933 he emigrated to Holland and became secretary to the pianist, Arthur Schnabel. He married a pupil of Schnabel's, the Italian pianist Maria Curcio. After the German invasion, he was for some time in the Jewish concentration camp of Westerbork, but survived the war in hiding. In 1948 he became managing director of the Holland Festival, a post he has held ever since.

## MOCATTA LIBRARY ARCHIVES

The Librarian of University College, London, which houses the Mocatta Library, has appealed to leading Anglo-Jewish families to deposit their personal archives with the Library. The Mocatta Library, said Mr. Scott, could well be the nucleus of a possible national Jewish archive.

## Israel Sieff Honoured

The World Jewish Congress marked Mr. Israel Sieff's half-century of public endeavour by a dinner at the Hilton Hotel. Three Labour Ministers were among the 400 guests—Miss Jennie Lee, Sir Elwyn Jones, Q.C. and Mr. Anthony Greenwood—which included Members of both Houses of Parliament, prominent scholars, scientists, writers, artists and businessmen, the Israeli Ambassador and many colleagues of Mr. Sieff engaged with him in Zionist and W.J.C. work. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the W.J.C. and of the World Zionist Organisation, paid tribute to Mr. Sieff's work.

## Synagogue Concerts

Orchestral concerts are being given by Philomusica of London, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Horowitz, at Rabbi Dr. Louis Jacobs's New London Synagogue. Believed to be the first time that such concerts have been held in an Orthodox synagogue, they have come under criticism from the Chief Rabbi. Speaking at the 50th anniversary celebrations of the New Synagogue, Stamford Hill, Dr. Brodie said that the suggestion that the shool should be used for the purposes of giving concerts of a secular nature, was repugnant to the Jewish idea of *Kedusha*.

## Synagogue Fire

The Brondesbury Synagogue, which was to have celebrated its 60th anniversary this summer, has been burnt out. The police are treating the fire as a case of arson and believe that the blaze might have been the work of fascists.

## Wembley Liberal Synagogue

The foundation-stone of the Wembley Liberal Synagogue has been laid on the site at present used by the congregation. It is hoped to complete the building in time for the High Holy-days.

## Youth Centre Plan

The Board of Deputies has given its support to a scheme for building a large centre in London for Jewish youth. The opinion was expressed that the building should be in the centre of London so that all parts of Metropolitan Jewry can benefit.

## Hebrew Teachers

The National Union of Hebrew Teachers has begun a recruitment campaign designed to bring Jewish youngsters into the teaching profession. Jewish fifth and sixth formers from secondary schools in all parts of the country are being encouraged to regard teaching as a worthwhile profession. A lecture course for teachers has been given and a summer study tour of Israel is also planned.

## Westcliff Aged Home

Described as "one of the finest and best-equipped homes for the aged in the whole country", a home for the aged in memory of Mrs. Victoria Oppenheim, was consecrated and opened at Westcliff. The home was the gift of the late Mr. A. L. Oppenheim as a memorial to his wife. The family had taken over the remaining financial burden involving a total cost of over £75,000. The Southend Aid Society also raised more than £14,500.

## South Manchester School

All seven congregations, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, in South Manchester are combining to establish a Jewish day school. Its name will commemorate the late Alderman Abraham Moss and it will have a link with the King David School. The governors of the King David School have given an assurance of help in the planning and organisation and it is hoped that the school would qualify for a capital grant.

## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### AMERICAN NEWS

#### Jobs Discrimination

Twenty of the 50 major utilities accused last year by the American Jewish Committee of bias against employing Jews have met A.J.C. leaders. According to a recent report, "significant progress" is being made in eliminating discrimination.

#### Prayers in Congress

Rabbi Sidney Harsztark, a survivor of Dachau concentration camp, delivered the invocation at the opening session of the House of Representatives on Purim.

#### Rabbis March

Representatives of most of the major national Jewish organisations and rabbis participated in the march in support of Negro civil and voting rights from Selma, Alabama, to the State capital of Montgomery.

Rabbi Lothar Lubasch, a former refugee from Berlin, of the (Reform) Mishkan Israel Temple, the only congregation in Selma, and the Jewish merchants of the town protested openly at the rabbis' support of the Negroes' struggle for civil rights, stating that the Jews of Selma stayed out of "politics". Replying to criticism, Rabbi Seymour Siegal, Associate Professor of Theology at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (Conservative) and secretary of the (Conservative) Rabbinical Assembly, who took part in the demonstrations, asked how Jews, "who have tasted the bitter cup of hatred and contempt, could have stood by without concern and guilt, while so much injustice was going on".

#### Negro Leader Honoured

The American Jewish Committee presented its American Liberties Medallion to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Negro civil rights leader, for "exceptional advancement of the principles of human liberties".—(J.C.)

### CANADA

A three-man Board of Review in Ottawa has ruled that an interim injunction prohibiting the National States Rights Party, based in the United States, from using the Canadian mails, was a public necessity. The injunction is now permanent. The Board's report, tabled in the Canadian House of Commons, stated that the material published was "grossly offensive" and "abusive of both the Negro and Jewish people in our population."

The Mayor of Oshawa, about thirty miles from Toronto, said that the town council had no power, because of the Bill of Rights, to dismiss a man in their employ, alleged to have distributed hate literature.

The Montreal Catholic School Commission has launched an investigation into the activities of an elementary school instructor, Brother René Lahaie, who decorates his classroom with paintings of Jesus and Hitler done by himself. He told an interviewer that he tried to impress on his class that Hitler and Jesus had many common qualities including courage, perseverance and generosity. A chart in the classroom ranks students according to educational and disciplinary merit with the top rank as "S.S." Brother Lahaie said that a phrase on the blackboard "Heil Christ" was chanted by his students some mornings instead of the traditional prayer.

### URUGUAY

A confessed terrorist, who sent a time bomb in a box to a Jewish citizen in Montevideo, denied that he acted to avenge the death of Herbert Cukors, the Latvian Nazi found murdered in a trunk recently. The home-made bomb was defused before it could explode. Everildo Hector Diaz Santos said that he wanted the Jews to believe that the bomb attempt was an act of Nazi revenge. He and an accomplice have been detained in custody to await trial.

### FRANCE

#### Synagogue Rebuilt

The synagogue at Fontainebleau has been rebuilt on the site of the one destroyed by the Germans during the war. The rebuilding in this historic French town was financed by the Consistoire and a war damage payment by the French Government. Dr. Jacob Kaplan, the Chief Rabbi of France, and Baron Alain de Rothschild, the president of the Paris Consistoire, presided at the ceremony inaugurating the rebuilt synagogue.

A new community centre has been opened at Vésinet in the Seine et Oise Department. Several new communities west of Paris will use the centre, which was opened by Rabbi Meyer Jaïs, the Chief Rabbi of Paris, and Baron Alain de Rothschild.

#### Academicians

Professor Bernard Halpern, a member of the French Academy of Sciences and of the Collège de France, was presented with his Academician's sword. During the ceremony at the Sorbonne his recent discovery on the behaviour of cancerous cells was referred to as the opening of a "great new track" and his discoveries in the treatment of allergies were reviewed.

M. Jacques Rueff, the French-Jewish economist, was officially received as a member of the French Academy. The speech in praise of M. Rueff was given by Mr. André Maurois, the French-Jewish writer, in the presence of five French Ministers and the Ambassadors of Britain, Israel and Rumania. M. Rueff was elected in April, 1964, to the 31st seat—that of the late Jean Cocteau, the poet—among the 40 Immortals of the Academy.

### SPAIN

For the first time since 1492, when the Edict of Expulsion was put into effect, legal status has been granted to an association of Jews in Spain. An announcement to this effect has been received by the Executive Council of the Madrid Community in answer to its application for recognition by the Spanish Government. The Barcelona community is expected soon to receive a similar notification. This means legal permission to foster Judaism within the community and underlines the right of Jews to live in Spain and practise their religion there. No Jewish community in Spain has previously possessed any legal protection, rights or status, in a country where all associations must, by law, be registered and approved by the Ministry of the Interior, which does not grant approval very easily.

### FINLAND

Mr. Max Jakobson, at present head of the Finnish Foreign Ministry's political department in Helsinki, is to be Finland's new representative at the United Nations. In 1946 Mr. Jakobson, who was a journalist for many years, worked in London as an editor in the BBC's Finnish department.—(J.C.)

### ARGENTINA

Two Jews were among 99 deputies returned in the elections for the renewal of half the Argentine Chamber of Deputies. There are four Jews among those sitting in Parliament.

### RELIEF WORK IN NORTH AFRICA

#### Activities of British OSE

British OSE will give full support to a programme of medical care for the aged in Tunis; this was stated at an International OSE conference in Paris. During the past year British OSE has, amongst others, also provided care for North African refugees in France, supported a Mobile Medical Unit for Falashas in Ethiopia and sent a public health nurse to Iran to supervise nursing activities among the Jewish community and to train nursing aides.

British OSE raises its funds in co-operation with the Central British Fund.

### SCENE FROM THE EAST

#### Death Sentences

In a dispatch to the New York Communist Yiddish daily, *Morgen Freiheit*, Mr. Solomon Rabinovitch of the Soviet news agency, Novosty, says that Mr. Arthur Miller, the American-Jewish playwright who recently visited Moscow, was told that death sentences for embezzlement charges "do not even make up one-tenth of one per cent of the total number" of those found guilty. Mr. Miller's informant was reported to have added: "As a rule, in all cases, only one per cent of those sentenced to death have been executed."

Jewish sources have compiled a list of about 200 people sentenced to death for so-called economic offences since the trials began in 1961. The Soviet press has confirmed that at least 40 of these people have been executed and it is known that others have been shot without much publicity. Jews made up about 60 per cent of the executions publicised.

#### Jewish Couple Emigrate to U.S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Moshe Markman arrived in New York as emigrants from the Soviet Union, to be reunited with their son whom they had not seen for 45 years. They had applied every year to leave the Soviet Union and have been refused until now.

On the same aircraft, said Mrs. Markman, were nine other Jews who had also received their exit passports. Conditions, she said, appeared to have improved "since last October" (when Mr. Khrushchev was ousted).

#### Swedish Protest

A march of about a hundred students was organised by the Jewish Students' Club in Stockholm and the Liberal Students' Club (non-Jewish), to protest against the treatment of Jews in Russia. The students, carrying banners with such slogans as "We won't keep quiet"; "Six million died—let three million live" and "Jews have suffered enough", attempted to hand in a petition to the Soviet Ambassador at the Embassy.

#### Hope in Hungary

Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, recently visited Hungary with Mr. Marcus Lipton, M.P. and Mr. Maurice Orbach, M.P., as members of a parliamentary delegation. While there they took the opportunity of meeting leaders of Hungarian Jewry. According to Mr. Edelman, the Hungarian Jewish community benefits today from a far greater religious tolerance than exists in the Soviet Union. The Jewish community, numbering about 100,000 people was, it seemed, functioning well, he said. Its communal affairs, in the secular aspect, were closely supervised, but it was heartening to see Jewish boys and girls being brought up with the consciousness of being both Jews and Hungarians. There appeared to be complete freedom of worship. The Hungarian Jewish community was apparently facing the future with hope, although with a certain watchfulness. This echoed the general mood in the country.

#### Polish Nazis Sentenced

According to *Folks-Sztyme*, the Warsaw Yiddish journal, a total of 17 former members of the war-time N.S.Z., the Polish antisemitic para-military organisation, have been sentenced to death for murdering Jews in the Katowice area of western Poland. Another 15 members of the group were sentenced to between three and 15 years' imprisonment. Reports also state that six Poles who took part in the war-time murder of Jews in the Kielce area have been sentenced to death, and that a Rawicz court sentenced to death a Pole for torturing Jews in a Nazi prison camp.—(J.C.)

# THE GERMAN SCENE

## STATUTE OF LIMITATION

The West German Parliament, by 344 votes to 96, extended the statute of limitation by 4½ years to December 31, 1969. The ground was that although the war ended in 1945, it was not until 1949 that the West German authorities had been able to take over the prosecution of Nazi crimes and the 20-year period after which the statute comes into force should be reckoned from 1949 instead of 1945.

This motion had been proposed by Dr. Max Guede, a Christian Democrat. Two other drafts were withdrawn because neither had much chance of a majority. One draft proposed that the statute of limitation should be extended by ten years while the other proposed that it be abolished altogether. The Free Democratic Party opposed any attempt to prolong or abolish the statute. A few hours after the Guede motion had been adopted, Dr. Ewald Bucher, the Federal Minister of Justice and a member of the Free Democrats, resigned.

Democratic politicians and newspapers in West Germany have described the result of the debate as "legally and morally unsatisfactory," "a bad compromise" and "a new cause of political damage, loss of prestige and shaken confidence in West Germany all over the world."

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, while welcoming the extension, regretted that it was for only four-and-a-half years. He had hoped it would be for a longer period but the principle was important. The Bundestag, he said, could always reopen the question.—(J.C.)

## JUDGE ACCUSED

Dr. Rudolf Bilfinger, a Mannheim judge who has been accused of Nazi crimes by the Union of Victims of Nazism, has asked for early retirement on pension. According to victims' reports, he was Gestapo chief at Toulouse in Southern France during the war and was sentenced to eight years' hard labour by a Bordeaux court in 1953. Later in the war he was stationed in Cracow, Poland, the same circles state.—(J.C.)

## ZIONIST WEEKLY

"Der Nahe Osten-Afro-Asien und Europa" will be published in Bonn as a German edition of the "Jewish Observer and Middle East Review". It will be edited and printed in London. German advertising will be accepted in the new paper.

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## ANTISEMITIC PAPER

The Munich public prosecutor's office has instituted proceedings against the "Deutsche National-Zeitung und Soldaten-Zeitung" for incitement to racial hatred against the Jewish people. West Germany's third-largest weekly, the paper is the leading press organ of all nationalist, militarist and anti-Jewish circles in the country. Launched 15 years ago as the "Deutsche Soldaten-Zeitung" and calling itself the only publication of former Nazi soldiers, the paper now has a circulation of more than 100,000 copies a week and is on sale in all German-speaking countries and those still supporting German nationalism, as well as in the Arab States.

Dr. Gerhard Frey, the paper's publisher, recently bought up a number of papers representing groups of Germans who either left or were expelled from former German territory in the East. Retaining their former titles, the contents of these papers are identical with that of Dr. Frey's. He also bought most of the shares of "Nation Europa", the widely read fascist monthly published in the Bavarian town of Coburg by Arthur Erhardt. Dr. Frey is known to have the backing of political and industrial groups and is well supported financially.

The "National-Zeitung" is, undoubtedly, Europe's most prominent fascist antisemitic paper and the views it puts forward can be said to reflect the standpoint of a large section of the German people.

## EAST GERMAN ATTACKS

The "Berliner Zeitung", published in East Berlin, stated that West Germany's past military aid to Israel helped to strengthen the Jewish imperialist bulwark against the Arab States.

"Neues Deutschland", the official organ of the East German Socialist Unity Party, defended East Germany's policy to refuse reparations to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution, stating that Israel was an imperialist State and had no right to call for reparations.

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT CRITICISED

The "Humanistische Union", comprising leading representatives of German cultural life, has criticised the appointment of Professor Goetz Freiherr von Poelnitz as rector of the new Bavarian university at Augsburg. The organisation accuses von Poelnitz of being an open supporter of Nazi ideologies, and asks the Bavarian State Government to cancel the appointment.

## GRANT FROM GERMAN FOUNDATION

The Wiener Library, London, is to receive a grant of £50,000 from the Volkswagen Foundation of Germany. This is the first grant of its kind to the Library from a German foundation and will be spread over two years. The money will be used towards specific research projects to enable the Library systematically to study and catalogue hundreds of documents that have remained neglected for years.

Mr. Walter Laquer, director of the Library, also announced that the first steps had been taken towards establishing a research unit on Jewish social and cultural life in modern Europe, to be conducted by Professor Julius Gould, of Nottingham University, who has recently joined the Library's executive committee. Plans also include a symposium on Jewish resistance and Jewish collaboration during the last war.—(J.C.)

## TARNOPOL MURDERS

Friedrich Lex was sentenced to 15 years' hard labour in Vienna on charges arising from the murder of 70,000 Jews in the Tarnopol area, east of Lvov, during the war. The accused was deputy Nazi governor of the Tarnopol area from January 1942 to May 1943 and governor until June 1943. Lex, also ordered to fast every three months, has appealed.—(J.C.)

## LESSING-HOCHSCHULE RE-ESTABLISHED

### Memorial Exhibition in Berlin

"To help in shaping the Man of Tomorrow and to establish an Institute in which the most effective thinkers of the nation may speak to the educated people of all age groups and ranks"—in these words the programme of the Lessing-Hochschule was formulated by its principal, Dr. Ludwig Lewin, in a front-page article of the *Berliner Tageblatt* of October 26, 1928. Now this well-known Institute for Adult Education, which was dissolved in 1933, has been re-established under the name of "Lessing-Hochschule an der Urania", directed again by Dr. Ludwig Lewin.

To mark the reopening, records of the development of the "Hochschule" are shown in a dignified and impressive exhibition, held in the "Akademie der Kuenste" in the Berlin Hansa-Viertel. The bulk of the exhibits derives from material which Dr. Lewin was able to salvage when he emigrated to the United States; he returned to Berlin a few years ago.

Among the items which are displayed are pictures, books and pamphlets, programmes and documents relating to the school, its sponsors and lecturers. Some old Berlin street maps and photos recall the former school's site and its premises in the house of the "Genossenschaft deutscher Buehnenangehoeriger" (Keithstrasse).

Among the great number of personalities recalled in the Exhibition are the late Ambassador Solf (the former school's Hon. President), Einstein (a member of its Presidium), Rathenau (one of its sponsors) and politicians like Stresemann, Heuss, Graf Westarp, Stegerwald and Hellpach. The lecturers and guest lecturers included Martin Buber, Thomas Mann, Arnold Zweig, Lion Feuchtwanger, Ludwig Fulda and Alfred Kerr, to quote only at random. E.G.L.

## INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN JEWS

### A new Foundation in Hamburg

Initiated and financed by the State of Hamburg, an Institute for the History of the German Jews has been established. Its main three objects are the training of expert scholars in this field of research, the collection of source material, and the publication of works related to the subject. The Institute works under the auspices of the Hamburgische Wissenschaftliche Stiftung. The Director is Berlin-born Dr. Heinz Graupe, who obtained his doctor's degree under Eduard Spranger in 1930 and his rabbinical qualifications at the Berlin Hochschule fuer der Wissenschaft des Judentums in 1932. In 1933 Dr. Graupe emigrated to Palestine.

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## BETWEEN EMOTION AND REASON

### Diplomatic Relations with Germany

"Many of us are engrossed in a struggle between emotion and reason", said Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in the Knesset when he announced that the Government of Israel had decided to accept the German Federal Republic's proposal for the establishment of diplomatic relations. And Abba Eban, Deputy Premier, declared on the same occasion: "The question is—where is the point of balance between these emotions and considerations? The question is not: What do we feel? but: What must we do?"

The overwhelmingly large vote of the Knesset in favour of diplomatic relations with Western Germany was, as has been said, "a victory of reason over emotion". This formula, at the same time, limits the significance of what has actually happened. It was, therefore, exaggerated to speak of an "historical turn". The establishment of diplomatic relations is a political act, not a moral revolution. It is, seen both from Germany and from Israel, a matter of expediency, normalising the relations between two States, without implying the reconciliation of two peoples.

"Many regret that the German proposal was not the fruit of a profound moral awakening among the German people but was almost forced on Bonn by Arab impudence", writes the *Histraduth* paper, *Omer*. On the other hand, it was held, no opportunity should pass without consolidating Israel in the political arena and strengthening her security. It is, therefore, somehow naïve to read a statement, made in Bonn after a Cabinet meeting: "The Federal Government desires to create a clear basis for social and human relations between Israel and the German people."

It is just these aspects which are not affected by diplomatic recognition. The formal relations are between States and not peoples and cover the political, security and economic fields. Social contacts can only be made by

individual citizens, and it is up to them to act according to their own convictions. A formal act between two governments will not make any difference here. To some extent, this also applies to cultural relations. German books, newspapers and records—not to speak of "Volkswagen" if one regards cars as tools of civilisation—have long been imported into Israel, and it is left to everyone's discretion to buy them or not. German scientists have been working at the Weizmann Institute, and there is hardly a concert of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra without works by Beethoven, Brahms or Schumann.

The question whether Richard Wagner or Richard Strauss should be performed will hardly be solved by diplomatic relations, nor the problem of inviting German orchestras or theatrical troupes because in each case each artist would have to be thoroughly screened as to his past in the Nazi era—surely not a basis for exchanges on a large scale. Here only time can bring changes, and the emergence in Germany of a new generation that grew up after the holocaust.

### GERMAN REPARATIONS

With the signing in Bonn of the agreement for the delivery to Israel within the next twelve months of goods worth 250 million DM (about £22½ million), the West German reparations treaty with Israel enters its fourteenth and final year. The amount in the agreement is the same as in previous years.

Since 1952 Israel has bought West German goods worth £216 million and crude oil worth £95 million under the treaty. Seventy per cent of the West German deliveries were investment goods and the rest raw materials. About 1,500 industrial projects were equipped with modern machines and West German supplies were used in building the Timna copper works, increasing the production of electric power and expanding the railways. West Germany also built 49 ships for Israel's merchant fleet.

### BISHOP OF AUGSBURG TO VISIT ISRAEL

Dr. Joseph Stimfle, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Augsburg, has accepted an official invitation to visit Israel. He has frankly spoken of the Christian churches' responsibility for antisemitism over the centuries and has called for practical steps by the churches to remove religious sources of antisemitism. Dr. Stimfle is the first West German Roman Catholic bishop to have received such an invitation from Israel.

### FREEDOM OF JERUSALEM TO MARTIN BUBER OPPOSED

The proposal to make Martin Buber a Freeman of Jerusalem has aroused a controversy. National Religious Party councillors have expressed opposition against the award because they resent Professor Buber's attitude towards Orthodoxy.

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### OTTO KLEMPERER 80

On May 14, Dr. Otto Klemperer will celebrate his eightieth birthday. It is typical of him that he will be on a concert tour, giving infinite pleasure by his art.

No one who has heard or taken part in one of his performances, be it live or recorded, can have failed to experience how the music takes on a new dimension. A feeling of intense vitality is transmitted, and the "so well known" becomes the "newly discovered." This phenomenal man has now been with us conducting for nearly sixty years. All this time this giant—also in actual size—has worked incessantly with one aim before him—truth: truth through knowledge of, and in obedience to, the composer's intention. It is no coincidence that Dr. Klemperer never conducts without a score. When he opens the first page it is as if he, in a sense, sees the work for the first time. At the performance, the preparations, the rehearsals, the surroundings, are all forgotten and the printed music is re-created through his visionary power and the skill of his hands.

It is worth remembering the hardships and trials Dr. Klemperer has experienced. Not only was he obliged by a hostile régime to leave his native country but he has also been the victim of serious ill-health throughout his career. But every difficulty has been overcome—sometimes as if by a miracle—through his indomitable will-power and strength.

We have been very fortunate that in recent years Dr. Klemperer has spent so much time in London. From his Hyde Park headquarters he has exerted a tremendous influence on the musical scene. It is hard to believe that one man could have been responsible for the enormous number of superlative concerts, broadcasts and recordings which Dr. Klemperer has given us. He has also conducted three operas at the Royal Opera House, two of which he produced himself. These performances were so impressive that we hope for his early return to Covent Garden; one tends to forget that Dr. Klemperer originally came from the opera house.

Let us wish the octogenarian many more years of satisfaction and pleasure in his work. Spring seems an appropriate time to celebrate Dr. Klemperer's birthday: Rejuvenation is his "Leitmotif".

OTTO FREUDENTHAL.

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

#### Sir Hans Krebs

The Nobel Prize winner, Sir Hans Krebs, has been awarded the gold medal of the Royal Society of Medicine. The award will be presented at a dinner in July, to be presided over by Lord Cohen of Birkenhead.

Sir Hans, who is also one of the Patrons of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund, was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1953 for his work in physiology and medicine and is continuing the same research at Oxford, where he is professor of biochemistry.

#### Fellows of Royal Society

Professor Hans Leo Kornberg and Dr. Hans Kronberger have been appointed Fellows of the Royal Society.

Professor Kornberg, who is 37 years old, came to this country at the age of eleven from Germany, where his family was killed by the Nazis. He is Professor of Biochemistry at Leicester University.

Aged 45 and scientist-in-chief at the reactor group of the Atomic Energy Authority, Dr. Kronberger was awarded the O.B.E. in 1957. He came to this country from Austria in 1939.

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F. Walter

## DEUTSCHE UNTERHALTUNG IN ENGLISCHEN ABENDKLASSEN

Sieben Jahre lang habe ich "nebenamtlich" Unterricht in deutscher Konversation am Polytechnic in der Regent Street gegeben. Nun, da meine Dienstzeit abgelaufen ist, ist vielleicht die Zeit gekommen, einmal darauf zurückzublicken und etwas davon zu erzählen.

Meine Schüler, die ich zweimal wöchentlich, von sieben bis halbneun Uhr abends, in die deutsche Sprache einzuweihen oder in ihr weiterzubringen hatte, setzten sich aus den verschiedensten Berufs- und Altersschichten zusammen. In den Mehrzahl waren es junge Leute zwischen zwanzig und dreissig, aber auch weit ältere Jahrgänge bildeten ein nicht unbeträchtliches Kontingent. Sie waren oft sogar am frischesten und muntersten bei der Sache. Kein Wunder, denn sie brauchten Deutsch nicht mehr zum Fortkommen im Berufsleben, sondern betrieben es—sehr weise—als einen ihrer "hobbies" im Ruhestand. Die jungen Männer und Mädchen hingegen kamen nach einem achtstündigen Arbeitstag geradeswegs aus ihren Büros oder Geschäften.

Mein Respekt für sie, meine Bewunderung für ihren guten Willen, mit dem sie nach des Tages Mühe und Last am Abend noch eine fremde Sprache, dazu noch eine so schwere wie die deutsche lernen wollten, war grenzenlos. Ueberanstrengte ich sie nicht, wenn ich deutsch mit ihnen redete? Denn das war es, was von mir erwartet und verlangt wurde. Meine Klassen wurden im Programm des Polytechnic als "German Conversation Classes" geführt. Deutsche Konversation zu machen, mit anderen Worten: nur deutsch zu reden und so dafür zu sorgen, dass die oft noch mit den Anfangsgründen der Sprache Ringenden es doch auch gleichzeitig schon zu einiger Geläufigkeit in deutscher Unterhaltung brächten—das war die theoretisch vortreffliche Idee dabei.

Praktisch liess sie sich allerdings nicht durchführen. Denn allen neuzeitlichen, anderslautenden Parolen zum Trotz lässt sich

das Pferd nicht beim Schwanz aufzäumen; das Erlernen einer fremden Sprache vollzieht sich immer noch in drei langsamen und beschwerlichen Stadien: erst lernt man sie mit Hilfe von Grammatik und Wörterbuch lesen, dann allmählich sie verstehen, wenn sie von anderen, deren Muttersprache sie ist, gesprochen wird, und erst ganz zuletzt lernt man sie selber sprechen.

Ich liess es mir also getrost gefallen, dass man mir auf meine deutschen Fragen (falls man sie verstanden hatte) englische Antworten gab, und half meinen Schülern dann, sie zu übersetzen. Um korrekte Grammatik wollte und sollte ich mich dabei nicht viel kümmern. Denn mit dieser plagten sich die Schüler an ein oder zwei anderen Abenden in einer anderen Klasse, was meine Hochachtung vor ihnen ins Ungemessene steigerte. Aber wie konnte ich ihnen dazu verhelfen, ihre Sätze richtig zu bilden, ohne ihnen zu erklären, was daran grammatikalisch noch falsch war? Ausflüge, ja geradezu Forschungsreisen in dieses unerforschliche Gebiet mussten immer wieder angetreten und konnten nicht anders als zweisprachig unternommen werden, genau so wie unsere Plaudereien, bei denen jeder redete, wie ihm der Schnabel gewachsen war, nämlich zuerst in seiner Muttersprache und dann in der fremden.

Tat ich recht daran, vom Programm abzuweichen und mit meinen Schülern nicht nur deutsch, sondern auch englisch zu reden? Lerneten sie etwas dabei? Sie haben mir oft genug versichert, dass sie "good progress" machten, worauf ich sie schleunigst bat, doch lieber "gute Fortschritte" zu sagen. Von diesen glaubte ich mich tatsächlich am Ende jedes Halbjahrs überzeugen zu können. Wie kamen sie nur zustande? Indem wir bald in der einen, bald in der anderen Sprache miteinander redeten, bekamen meine Schüler allmählich ein Gefühl für das, worauf es doch eigentlich ankommt: auf die unübersetzbaren idiomatischen Unterschiede beider Sprachen, die Verschiedenartigkeit ihrer Empfindungs-, Denkungs- und Ausdrucksweise. Hatten sie diese erst einmal halbwegs erfüllt oder verstanden, dann konnten sie auch meine Sprache verstehen, sich mir in dieser verständlich machen.

Aber doch immer nur unter einer Voraussetzung: wer sich mit einer heterogenen, von Semester zu Semester wechselnden Gruppe berufstätiger, von des Tages Arbeit ermüdeten und erschöpfter Erwachsener am Abend auf deutsch unterhalten will, der darf sie nicht als seine Schüler, er muss sie als sein Publikum, behandeln, dessen "Entertainer" er ist. Dafür gibt es kein deutsches Wort, und das lieferte uns wieder unterhaltenden Gesprächsstoff.

Der schwerste Augenblick war immer der erste, der Anfang jeder Stunde, mit dem man gleich den richtigen, d.h. Interesse und Aufmerksamkeit erweckenden Ton anschlagen musste. Engländer, dachte ich mir, reden zur Anknüpfung eines Gesprächs gern vom Wetter, und so brachte ich ihnen einmal den Wetterbericht aus einer deutschen Zeitung mit. "Eintrübung aus Westen", begann ich vorzulesen und hörte sogleich wieder damit auf. Du lieber Himmel, wie liess sich das erklären und übersetzen? Einer der älteren Herren aus dem Publikum kam mir zu Hilfe. Er sei neulich bei seiner häuslichen deutschen Lek-

## Old Acquaintances

**Milestones:** The author, Moritz Goldstein, who was court reporter for the *Vossische Zeitung* under the pseudonym of "Inquit", celebrated his 85th birthday in New York, where he lives. His works include the famous essay "Deutsch-juedischer Parnass", published in the *Kunstwart* (1912).—Hans Leibelt, who acted under the direction of Reinhardt, Jessner and Barnowsky, is still going strong in Munich, where he celebrated his 80th birthday.

**Germany:** Curt Bois took the part of Puntilla at Berlin's Schiller-Theater.—Fritz Kortner successfully directed his production of "Kabale und Liebe" in Munich. He has started rehearsals for "Macbeth" with Elisabeth Bergner in Berlin.—Grete Mosheim will appear in O'Neill's "Eines langen Tages Reise . . ." in Munich.—Erich Engel is to produce Hochhuth's "Stellvertreter" in East Berlin.—In Hamburg Willy Haas was awarded the Great Federal Cross of Merit, First Class.—Ernst Deutsch has been awarded this year's "Berliner Kunstpreis".

**Obituary:** Benvenuto Hauptmann, son of Gerhart Hauptmann, died in Locarno at the age of 64.—Peter Martin Lampel, the nearly forgotten author of "Revolte im Erziehungshaus" (1929), died at the age of 70 in Hamburg.—The 85-year-old actor, Fred Immler, one of Asta Nielsen's first partners, died in Coburg.—Fritz Ritterfeldt, the 67-year-old librettist of Jean Gilbert's first operetta, "Jungfernstift", has died in Hamburg.—Franz Doelle, who wrote "Wenn der weisse Flieder wieder blüht" and other hit tunes, died in Leverkusen, aged 81.

**News from Everywhere:** Lily Darvas, the widow of Molnar, went to Budapest to star in "Olympia".—Carl Zuckmayer has disclosed that he is working on a new comedy and on his autobiography, "Als waer's ein Stueck von mir".—Walter Slezak, whose book, "Wann geht der naechste Schwan", is a best-seller, paid a visit to Vienna to dub his own films into German.—Lotte Lenya, now living in the United States, is to appear in "Mother Courage" in Recklinghausen.—Martin Miller's adaptation of Duncan's "Katalysator" was successfully produced in Wiesbaden and Vienna.—Louis Hagen, author of "Arnheim Lift", went to Munich to write a sequel to "Follow my Leader".—Karl Otten's widow Ellen, now living in Locarno, is editing Mynona stories.

**Home News:** Julius Gellner visited Hamburg to produce the radio adaptation of Yehuda Amichai's "Besuch eines jungen Mannes".—Ken Adam designed the sets for the British thriller, "The Ipcress File", filmed by Otto Heller.—Marlene Dietrich is to tour South Africa before appearing again at the Edinburgh Festival.—Lily Kann appeared on TV in Bernard Kops's "Enter Sally Gold".—Tom Kempinski took the part of Borachio in the Old Vic production of "Much Ado About Nothing".—Michael Rittermann will appear in "The Spy Who Came Out of the Cold".—On May 3 Josa Morgan-Ruffner, widow of Paul Morgan, will lecture on Munich.—Werner Finck will be at the London German Institute on May 10.—Anna Mahler plans to live in London again for part of the year.

**U.S.A.:** Felix Jackson-Joachimsohn resigned as Vice-President of N.B.C. and will do independent productions for TV.—Anita Hofer, whom Gottfried Reinhardt discovered for his German film starring Alec Guinness, took the part of Polly in New York's German production of "Dreigroschenoper"; Martha Schlamme was Jenny, with Adolf Rott responsible for the production.

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(Continued on page 8, column 1)

## Deutsche Unterhaltung in Englischen Abendklassen

(Continued from page 7)

türe auf den Ausdruck "Trübsal blasen" gestossen und habe mich schon voriges Mal fragen wollen, was damit eigentlich gemeint sei.

"Sie haben mir das Stichwort gegeben" sagte ich. Stichwort? Das sei ein Wort, das man noch nie zuvor von mir gehört habe. Schon wollte ich es auf englisch sagen ("you gave me the cue"), als ich mich noch rechtzeitig auf ein paar deutsche Synonyme besann und etwas von "Wink, Hinweis, Fingerzeig" sagte. Das wurde verstanden, und auf diesem Umweg kamen wir auf den Sinn und Doppelsinn von "trübe" und "heiter" zu sprechen und wurden darüber selbst wieder heiter. Wie anders als bei allgemeiner Heiterkeit liess sich klarmachen, dass "Eintrübung" sowohl im Sinn der Wetterwarte wie in dem der Gemütsverfassung das Gegenteil von "Aufheiterung" ist?

Viele meiner Schüler waren in englischen Unternehmen tätig, die mit deutschen Firmen in Geschäftsverbindung standen. Einer von ihnen kam eines Abends mit dem Brief eines deutschen Kunden in die Klasse, in dem dieser "einen Auftrag stornierte". Man habe sich tagsüber im Büro den Kopf darüber zerbrochen, was "stornieren" heisse. Keiner kannte das Wort. Ob ich wüsste, was es bedeute? "I haven't the faintest idea", sagte ich—"Ich habe nicht die leiseste Ahnung". "Ahnung"—sei das nun das deutsche Wort für "Idea"? Nein, das denn doch nicht, das keineswegs, "Ahnung" sei durchaus nicht dasselbe wie "Idee". Nicht die leiseste—oder geringste—Ahnung zu haben, das sei eben

nichts weiter als die deutsche Redewendung, die etwa der englischen "not to have the faintest idea" entspreche.

Aber was denn "Ahnung" nun eigentlich bedeute, und ob es auch ein Verbum dazu gäbe? Da war ich nun hübsch aufs Glatteis oder auf englisch "in deep water" geraten. Wie sollte ich meinen Schülern diese vielleicht deutschesten aller Worte des Ahnens und Erahmens mit all ihren Ober-, Zwischen- und Untertönen, in der ganzen Vielfalt ihrer Bedeutung und Anwendung auch nur annähernd begreiflich machen? Ich versuchte es mit Beispielen aus der Umgangssprache wie mit solchen aus der Poesie, mit der einen oder anderen, mehr oder minder ungenau erinnerten Gedichtzeile, die mir gerade dazu einfiel.

Warum wir denn nicht einmal ein ganzes deutsches Gedicht miteinander lesen und übersetzen könnten? schlug man mir vor. Nichts konnte mir erwünschter kommen. Mit diesen jungen, blassen und müden Menschen anderthalb Stunden lang deutsche Konversation zu treiben, auch wenn man ihnen dabei in ihrer eigenen Sprache so weit wie möglich entgegenkam,—schon längst hatte ich bemerkt, dass man sie damit überforderte.

Von nun an beschäftigten wir uns in der zweiten Hälfte der Stunde mit deutscher Lyrik und hatten beiderseits reichen Gewinn davon. Wir begannen mit Heine, weil mir ahnte, dass er der Klasse am leichtesten und einfachsten zugänglich sein werde. Durch das offensichtliche Gefallen, das sie an ihm fanden, die Mühe, die sie sich mit ihm gaben, lernte auch ich ihn, der früher nicht zu meinen Lieblingen gehört hatte, besser kennen und lieben. Und

als wir dann zu meinen Lieblingen, zu Claudius und Eichendorff übergingen, da konnte ich sie ihnen nahebringen, weil ihnen nun ahnte, was sich besser errahnen als erklären lässt.

Waren sie damit dem "Ziel der Klasse" nähergekommen? Werden sie nun, nachdem wir uns für immer getrennt haben, einen deutschen Geschäftsbrief lesen und schreiben oder während ihres Urlaubs in Deutschland eine Unterhaltung in der Landessprache führen können? Aufrichtig gesagt: ich bezweifle es. Aber als wir vor ein paar Monaten Abschied voneinander nahmen, wünschten sie mir nicht nur auf englisch "Good luck", sondern auch auf deutsch "Alles Gute", versicherten mir nicht nur in ihrer Sprache "that they had greatly enjoyed their lessons", sondern auch in unserer, dass sie "ihren Unterricht sehr genossen" hätten.

Und dann überreichte mir einer von ihnen etwas, was er, gleichfalls auf deutsch, ein "freundliches Andenken" nannte. Es war eine Uebersetzung von Eichendorffs "Mondnacht", sorgfältig und liebevoll mit der Hand geschrieben. Ich nahm das Blatt dankbar, sogar etwas gerührt entgegen, wagte es mir aber erst zu Hause richtig anzusehen.

"Es war, als hätt' der Himmel die Erde sanft geküsst"—du lieber Gott, dachte ich bei mir, wie lässt sich das denn in irgendeiner anderen als der deutschen Sprache sagen? Nun, ich habe es mir seitdem viele Male durchgelesen und finde es jedesmal hübscher und wohlgelungener übersetzt. Es hält sich nicht nur getreulich an den Wortsinn des Gedichtes, es gibt aufs feinste auch seinen poetischen Zauber wieder. Und seitdem bilde ich mir ein, dass meine abendlichen Gastpiele am Londoner Polytechnic doch nicht ganz vergebens gewesen sind.

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E. G. Lowenthal

## A BLACK BOOK ON THE HOLOCAUST

Yad Vashem, the institute founded in 1953 in Jerusalem in memory of the Jewish martyrs and heroes, has recently published a comprehensive "Black Book of Localities whose Jewish Population was exterminated by the Nazis". It contains, arranged by countries, those places "whose Jewish population was extirpated by the Nazis". In the preface to these statistics, which have become warning documents, it is emphasised that "there were tens of thousands of Jewish settlements in Europe, large and small, and also some consisting of only a few souls". Many of these communities had existed for centuries, many for more than a thousand years. "This book", the preface states, "contains a list of almost 34,000 places in Europe where Jews were domiciled without a break until the catastrophe". The book records that in the period 1933-45 almost all these places had been made Judenrein and that from at least 25,000 places the Jewish population had been transported with a cruelty never before witnessed.

One-half of the book is taken up by a list of almost 17,000 places in Poland where Jews were settled before the outbreak of war. There follow in order of magnitude (expressed in the number of places): Germany (3,400

places), Rumania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Soviet Russia, Austria, Yugoslavia, Latvia, Holland, Lithuania, Greece, Norway, Luxembourg and Estonia. It was found impossible to analyse the countries Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France and Italy, because, as we are told in a short explanatory commentary, the killings throughout "did not take place in these countries", but mostly en route to the concentration camps or in the extermination camps. The number of Jewish victims is estimated at 45,000-57,000 in Belgium, 90,000-140,000 in France and 15,000-20,000 in Italy.

The total Jewish population of Germany on June 16, 1925, was 564,379 (or 0.9% of the total population); on June 16, 1933, 502,799 (0.76%); and on May 17, 1939 (including the Saar Territory), 213,930 (0.31%). About 170,000 Jews in Germany fell victim to Nazi persecution, to whom those German Jews have to be added who were deported from Nazi-occupied countries in which they had taken refuge.

The total number of murdered Jews was given as 5.7 million in the report of the Anglo-American Commission set up in 1946 to examine "the problem of the European Jews and Palestine".

### "THE REPRESENTATIVE"

Rolf Hochhuth's play, "The Representative", will be presented in French next season by one of the most important Brussels theatre companies. It has already been shown in Flemish in Antwerp, and denounced by Cardinal Suenens, Primate of Belgium, as an insult to the memory of Pope Pius XII.

In Bologna, leading Jews and Roman Catholics united to protest against the granting by the City Council of permission to stage the play in the municipal theatre. The protest was led by Cardinal Lercaro, Archbishop of Bologna. As a parish priest in Genoa during the war he hid Jews and anti-fascists wanted by the Nazis. He told the protest meeting that the aid he and other priests gave Jews was "directly and personally inspired and desired by Pope Pius XII".

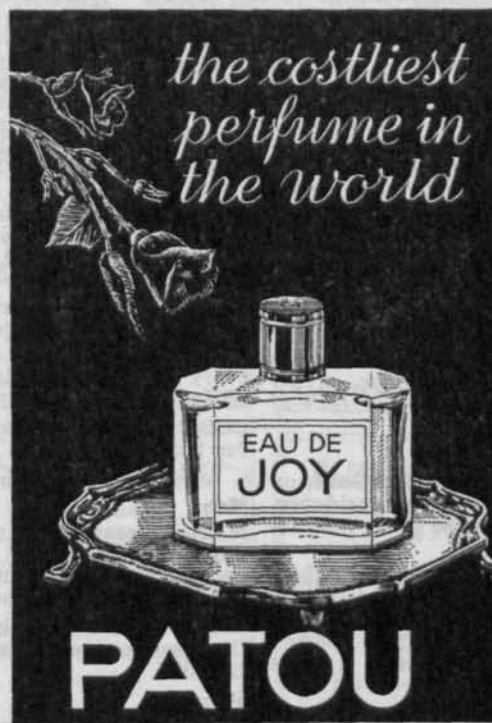
Professor Federico Alessandrini, deputy editor of "L'Osservatore Romano", the Vatican paper, told a Rome audience that the Nazi régime always rejected the requests of the Holy See to assist concentration camp victims. He quoted statements by Jews expressing gratitude to Pope Pius.

After a private reading in a Venetian theatre of "The Representative" by members of a Left-wing cultural club, swastikas were found painted on a number of buildings. Cardinal Urbani, of Venice, denounced the reading as an "affront" by a group moved by Communist ideals to pursue political interests under the label of culture.—(J.C.)

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# A LINK WITH THE PAST

## "Juedischer Verlag" Almanac

When, in 1902, the newly founded "Juedische Verlag" published its first Almanac, the *Berliner Tageblatt*, in a review, expressed doubts as to whether there was really a need for a publishing house which labelled itself as a Jewish enterprise and expressly aimed at concentrating its production on works of Jewish relevance. Yet, in the course of his review, the author had to admit that the venture had been worthwhile. Similarly, at first sight, the need of a German language Jewish Almanac in 1964\* may appear questionable—and again, as 62 years before, these doubts turn out to be unwarranted.

The handsomely presented Almanac consists of extracts from books and periodicals, published by the "Juedische Verlag" in the course of its chequered history. Originally closely associated with the Zionist Organisation, the Verlag increasingly gained independence under the management of Dr. Ahron Eliasberg and his successor, Dr. Siegmund Kaznelson. The Nazis decreed its dissolution in December, 1938; yet the continuity of the enterprise had already been secured by the foundation of a subsidiary, the "Jewish Publishing House", in Jerusalem. In 1957 the "Juedische Verlag" was re-established in Berlin. It is now administered by the heirs of Siegmund Kaznelson, who died in 1959.

The contents of the Almanac have been taken from publications which were of decisive influence on many of us during our formative years. Their authors include Achad Haam, Jakob Klatzkin, Theodor Lessing and Sammy Gronemann, to quote only a few at random. The dangerous life in a Jewish settlement is described by David Ben-Gurion (1916), and the author of an essay on assimilation and self-preservation, published in "Der Jude" 1917/18, is Salman Rubashov, now Salman Shazar, President of the State of Israel. We are also reminded that the production of the Verlag included standard works such as the five-volume "Juedische Lexikon", Arthur Ruppin's "Soziologie der Juden" and the German translation of Simon Dubnow's

"Weltgeschichte des juedischen Volkes".

The Almanac opens with extracts from a pamphlet about the project of a Jewish University (1902), jointly written by Martin Buber, Berthold Feiwel and Chaim Weizmann. It ends with quotations from two works, published after the holocaust, in 1959: "Juden im deutschen Kulturbereich—Ein Sammelwerk" and "Juedisches Schicksal in deutschen Gedichten—Eine abschliessende Anthologie", both edited by Siegmund Kaznelson. In a way, the first and the last pages of the Almanac thus symbolise the beginning and end of a spiritual pilgrimage which many Jews from German-speaking countries had to make: At the beginning of the route the concentration of the intellectual forces as a dam against diffusion and loss of identity appeared to be the paramount task. This concentration has now become a visible reality in Israel though, to some extent, as the result of a catastrophe the magnitude of which nobody dared to foresee. Yet today, in a detached and perhaps even nostalgic way, we also realise, more than before, the positive values and creative forces emanating from Jewish life in German-speaking countries, as manifested in the two last publications of the "Juedische Verlag".

Apart from being a memorial of the past, the Almanac also carries many contributions which have retained their topicality, in spite of the lapse of many eventful years.

W.R.

### SEDER CELEBRATIONS AT OLD AGE HOMES

As in previous years, due to the most gratifying assistance of several friends, the residents of all five Old Age Homes in London and of Morris Feinmann Home (Manchester) could enjoy Seder celebrations. At Otto Schiff House the Seder was given one night by Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, whose wife and daughter also attended and whose grandson read the "Ma'nishtana", and the other night by Mr. K. Fraser. Seder was also held at Leo Baeck House by Mr. E. S. Baum and Mr. F. Rosenthal, at Heinrich Stahl House by Mr. F. Rosenthal and Mr. S. Smith, at Otto Hirsch House by Mr. G. Japhet and Dr. E. Sommer, and at Osmond House by Mr. G. Moses.

Fritz Friedlander

MAX HERRMANN

Centenary of his Birth

Though Max Herrmann was an excellent German-language and literary scholar and also a brilliant university teacher whose lectures at the Berlin University were well attended, he was, because of his Jewish origin, only appointed a professor in 1919, after the downfall of the Imperial régime. Herrmann, born in Berlin on May 14, 1865, was an expert on German literature in the age of Humanism as well as on the history of the German drama and theatre. His profound book, "Albrecht von Eyb und die Frühzeit des deutschen Humanismus", was published in 1893, and his standard work, "Forschungen zur deutschen Theatergeschichte des Mittelalters und der Renaissance", published in 1914. This drew him into a fruitful controversy with another authority in the field of German theatre history, Professor Albert Koester of Leipzig, whose ideas about the Meistersinger stage differed from Herrmann's. Through Herrmann's initiative the "Theaterwissenschaftliche Institut" was founded at the Berlin University in 1922. His wife, Helene, was a scholar in her own right and did research work on Heine's "Romanzero" and on Heinrich von Kleist.

### DEATH IN CONCENTRATION CAMP

For Max Herrmann, whose mind was so deeply rooted in German culture, it was a particular blow of fate when the Nazis took over. The "Gesellschaft für deutsche Literatur" still had the decency to honour him publicly on the occasion of his 70th birthday in 1935. However, he was nevertheless prevented from completing another *magnum opus*, "Die Entstehung der berufsmässigen Schauspielkunst im Altertum und in der Neuzeit"; the fragmentary manuscript was published after the war in 1962. As Herrmann did not leave Germany in time, he was deported to Theresienstadt, where he is said to have died on November 17, 1942, but according to another source he perished in Auschwitz.

\* Almanach 1902-1964. Juedischer Verlag, Berlin. 176 pages. DM.9.80.

### FAMILY EVENTS

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

#### Deaths

**Gotzl.**—Mr. Charles Buba Gotzl, on April 14, suddenly, at his residence, The Firs, Hawthorne Road, Shrewsbury.

**Maritschek.**—Mrs. Olga Maritschek, of 53 Neville Court, Abbey Road, London, N.W.8, widow of the late Dr. M. Maritschek, passed away on March 15, after a short illness, aged 85.

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### MISSING PERSONS

#### Personal Inquiries

Lewin.—Mrs. Helga Lewin (née Krebs), last known address, 37 Alexandra Road, N.W.8, daughter of Johanna and Hugo Krebs, sought by Mrs. Else Salomon (née Holz), WorpSwederstr. 8, W.-Berlin.

#### Enquiries by AJR

Emmerich.—Mrs. Irma Emmerich (née Schreiber), born June 14, 1894, in Annen, emigrated to London on July 28, 1939.

Neumann.—Alice Neumann (née Leiser), born July 14, 1914, and husband, Abraham, born about 1904, believed to have come to London from Israel in 1947, sought by friend in Germany.

Neustadt.—Hilde Neustadt (née Herzfeld), from Berlin Niederschoenweide, married to Mr. Martin Neustadt.

Wiegand.—Henriette Wiegand (née Rosenblatt), born March 12, 1901, in Nieder-Ellguth, Kreis Kreuzburg. Sought by near relatives.

# OBITUARY

## IN MEMORY OF NELLY WOLFFHEIM

Miss Nelly Wolffheim, the well-known expert on kindergarten teaching and child psychology, recently passed away in her 87th year. Her writings include a book on psychology in the nursery school (1930) which was translated into English, Spanish and Hebrew. She spent the last years of her life at Otto Schiff House, and several of her articles dealt with the problems of community life among the old. She was a great asset to the Home where she will be sadly missed by the staff and her fellow residents.

In 1933 Miss Wolffheim organised courses for Jewish kindergarten teachers. One of her pupils of those days writes:

I met "Nelly", as she knew we called her, in 1937, when I was to go to her training course. I explained that I wished to work with children who had to live in institutions, having myself spent some years in a Berlin orphanage. She thought that such a background "might be helpful to me". But her own interests and teachings were much wider than that of children in institutions—they embraced every practical aspect of nursery school life; a penetrating knowledge of psychology of the child, parent and teacher.

Her teaching was clear, concise and simply worded wherever possible, but it probed deeply. It encouraged us to think responsibly and to work conscientiously. Close observation of the developing child and a growing understanding of that process, as well as an appreciation of the role of the parent, she said, would teach us more than any number of learned textbooks. And, how pleased we were that the "old lady" showed such lively reaction to what we then thought were revolutionary and young ideas. Little did we realise, that ideas were her stock-in-trade!

She took an active interest in our future. She helped some, to the extent of exposing herself by intervening with the Nazi authorities on behalf of "her students".

In those days Nelly Wolffheim, who was slight in build and completely white, appeared to me as a wise, old and unshakable institution. Four years later, when I visited her in Oxford, where she lived in very cramped circumstances, she seemed very much younger in outlook, but physically more fragile. Thus,

through the years that I knew her, she almost reversed the process of ageing. She mentioned, for example, that a young friend had painted a portrait of her—she had a fine and interesting head—and had called it "Head of an Old Woman". This, she regarded as a most inapt description.

And inapt it was: for years later, when I learned that she had "retired" to Otto Schiff House, I telephoned asking if she would see me, expecting that she would be delighted to have a visitor in her retirement. Delighted she was, but retired, certainly not! She explained that at that moment she was far too busy to receive social callers, and would I 'phone again some months later. I 'phoned again, offering to do some typing, if that would be useful to her. This, she accepted at once! From then on, almost until her death, I had the great pleasure of seeing her from time to time. After only an hour with her, life would seem fuller to the visitor. Her zest for life, work, fun and new people was infectious.

Her outlook remained clear and positive and she retained her full faculties for work and capacity for experiencing pleasure and displeasure, of criticism and understanding in all subjects that interested her. For instance, she was amazed when I offered to drive her to the polling station last October, for it was natural, that she had made her own arrangements in good time, long before I mentioned the subject.

Thus, to the last, her life was full—and ours is the loss of a fine mind and a warm and generous friend.

ERNA WIERSCHOWSKA.

EDWIN BAER

Mr. Edwin Baer passed away in London on April 5 in his 84th year. Prior to his emigration he was the owner of the leading bookseller firm of Joseph Baer (Frankfurt), founded by his great-grandfather in 1785 and liquidated by the Nazis in 1934. In the course of the 150 years of its existence the firm had prominent thinkers, politicians and intellectuals among its clients, and handled many works of unique bibliophilist value.

Mr. Baer was an interested member of the AJR and a personal friend of several of its leading personalities.

## CHRISTOPHER HEROLD

Christopher Herold who, some weeks ago, died suddenly in New York at the early age of 45, was the successful author of a number of historical and biographical books. He became known almost overnight by his biography of Madame de Stael, published under the title "Mistress of an Age" and translated into 17 languages. It was the Book of the Month both in the U.S.A. and in Britain and received the American National Award 1958. Two of his further works, "Bonaparte in Egypt" and "The Age of Bonaparte" were also widely recognised. At the time of his death he was working on a biography of Rousseau and on a major book about the German Romantics. His ultimate aim, however, was to write fiction, and he regarded his historical writing only as a preparatory stage towards this goal.

Herold was of mixed parentage. On his mother's side, he was a grandson of the famous pianist, Arthur Schnabel; his father, a distinguished Hamburg psychoanalyst, came from a non-Jewish family of Brno industrialists. Yet Christopher Herold stood not only "between the races" but also between several civilisations. He was brought up first in Czechoslovakia and later on in Germany. When the Nazis came to power he left for France, and he ultimately settled in the United States. His absorption of the cultural inheritance of all these countries was quite astonishing.

In spite of his quick success early in life he remained a modest, almost shy man. R.H.

## HENRY BENDHEM

The AJR announces with deep regret the death, at the age of 72, of its Executive Member, Mr. Henry Bendhem. Born in Southern Germany, he was a metal merchant in Berlin until he came to this country in 1934, where he established himself anew in his trade. He was closely associated with the Golders Green Beth Hamidrah and for many years Hon. Treasurer of its Talmud Torah School. His special interest was in the field of education and he rendered outstanding services as Chairman of the Board of Governors of Menorah Primary School.

Mr. Bendhem was a member of the AJR almost since its inception and became a member of its Executive in 1954. As long as his health made it possible he took an active part in the Executive's deliberations.

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# Organisational News

## BROTHERHOOD WEEK IN N.W. LONDON

The North West London branches of the Council of Christians and Jews will hold their third Brotherhood Week between June 9 and 17. The functions, all of which begin at 8 p.m., include talks by Sister L. Gabriel of the Convent of Our Lady of Zion on "Jewish Roots of Christianity" (Hampstead Synagogue, Dennington Park Road, on June 9) and Father Michael O'Dwyer, M.A., on "The Brotherhood of Man" (Anson Hall, Chichele Road, N.W.2, on June 14, as well as meetings in Hendon, Finchley and Southgate. The full programme may be obtained from the Council of Christians and Jews, 41 Cadogan Gardens, S.W.3 (SLOane 5010).

## COVENANTS TO CHARITIES

### Position Unchanged

The Budget proposal regarding the disallowance of surtax deductions for all covenants does not affect payments to charities, because these had already in the past been disallowed for surtax deductions. Therefore, covenants, e.g., for the AJR Charitable Trust or the "Thank-You Britain" Fund, may be made out under the same terms for the covenants and with the same benefits to the recipients as before.

## CLOTHING FOR ISRAEL

At an "At Home" after their recent visit to Israel, the Chief Rabbi and Mrs. Brodie called for support of the clothing and kindergarten work in Israel assisted by the Federation of Jewish Relief Organisations.

Mrs. Brodie told the gathering that the Federation supports 73 kindergartens and nurseries and a number of youth clubs, the latest being the Tel Aviv/Jaffa Youth Centre.

There is a great demand for clothing both for the children and for adult immigrants from Oriental countries. The Director of the Federation, Mr. Joseph Leftwich stated that in the past people sending clothing thought of it in terms of cast-offs, which in Israel would not be wearable because the people would look like beggars.

However, now the Federation was receiving a considerable quantity of good clothing, and Mr. Leftwich expressed the hope that the quantity of incoming good clothing would increase. The address of the Clothing Department of the Federation of Jewish Relief Organisations is: 131 Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, London, W.9. (Telephone: CUNningham 0131.)

## "HANNAH KARMINSKI HOUSE"

The Communal Centre of the AJR at 9 Adamson Road, Swiss Cottage, will be ready soon. The lower floors of the house will comprise rooms for the AJR Club and a Meeting Hall.

The AJR Executive has decided to name the house after Hannah Karminski (1897-1942), the leading Jewish social worker who voluntarily stayed in Germany and perished under the Nazis.

Hannah Karminski was the National Secretary of the Juedische Frauenbund, and after its dissolution one of the principal officials of the Reichsvertretung. Her entire life was devoted to Jewish social work for which she was predestined not only by inclination, training, experience and administrative ability, but above all, by her warmth and radiant personality. A tribute to her memory is included in "Bewahrung im Untergang", recently published by the Council of Jews from Germany.

The expanded social activities to be carried out at the communal centre are particularly akin to the type of work which was near to Hannah Karminski's heart, and several members of the AJR Club were also personally associated with her work in Germany. By its decision the AJR wishes to honour the memory of one of the finest communal workers during the last period of Jewish life in Germany.

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