

AJR INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

SOLIDARITY AND SUCCESS

AJR General Meeting

For the first time the AJR held its General Meeting in its own premises at Hannah Karminski House. The large attendance reflected the interest taken by the members in the current efforts of the organisation.

Mr. A. S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR, opened the Meeting. He paid tribute to the memory of honorary officers who had passed away during the year: Dr. H. Fleischhacker, Mrs. Hannah Philipp and Mrs. Ruth Berlak, members of the Board, and Mrs. Edith Feig and Mrs. Aennie Eliel, members of the Otto Hirsch House Committee.

In his general report Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR, stated that the outstanding events during the year under review were the conclusion of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund appeal and the establishment of Hannah Karminski House. The proceeds of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund would be used for the award of Research Fellowships and Annual Lectures under the auspices of the British Academy. Applications for the first Fellowship Award would be scrutinised shortly. Lord Robbins, President of the Academy, had agreed to give the Inaugural Lecture. (A report is published in this issue.—The Ed.)

Hannah Karminski House had been officially opened last December by the Mayor of Camden, Councillor Samuel Fisher. During the short time of its existence the House had already proved a boon, not only for the AJR but for the community at large. The AJR Club could now meet in sufficiently large premises, and the homely atmosphere of the Club had attracted many new members. The Meeting Hall, which had a capacity of about 120 persons, but could also be divided into two smaller sections, and to which a large kitchen was attached, was also available for hire by other organisations and for private functions.

Turning to the Homes for the Aged, the speaker pointed out that in view of the great number of applications the admission policy had still to be restrictive. It was, therefore, not possible to admit persons with comparatively larger assets at their disposal. The pressure was also reflected in the fact that most of the selected new residents were over 80 years of age at the time of their admission.

As only a comparatively small number of residents were able to pay the full maintenance rate there were annual deficits which had to be covered from the reserves derived from the heirless Jewish property in Germany. However, these reserves were limited, and a stage had been reached when it had become necessary to consider ways and means by which the Homes could be kept operating for the total period during which they were expected to be required by the refugees from Nazi oppression.

In the day-to-day work of the Homes staff problems played an increasingly great part. This especially applied to nursing and kitchen staff, but it would also be necessary to train in time younger people for senior positions so that they may take over if and when the need arises. In the interests of the residents it would be highly desirable if people of our own background could be found for this vocation. Equally, it would be necessary to find younger people in our midst who would secure the continuity of the work of the various House Committees.

The establishment of a Home for senile residents and the extension of Osmond House (the Home for more infirm residents) were under active consideration. However, the decision on these schemes had to be held over until it could be ascertained whether further means would come to hand.

During the year under review planning permission for the Flatlet Home at Avenue Road, Highgate, had been obtained. The scheme had also gone to tender and a building contractor had, on principle, been appointed. However, as the Housing Subsidies Bill on which the implementation of the scheme depended had lapsed due to the dissolution of the previous Parliament, the commencement of the building work had to be held over until a new Bill would be passed by the present Parliament.

The number of callers on the Social Services Department of the AJR had increased, and new problems had arisen for the growing number of those in our midst who, in the course of time, had aged and were in need of care. Most of those looking for work were over 60 years of age and wanted to do part-time work. Quite a few people were in need of accommodation, often because the houses in which they had occupied furnished rooms for many years had been sold. In view of their age and state of health the choice of new accommodation was often restricted for them to ground-floor rooms. The AJR Social Services Department also helped people who could not cope on their own with the removal to new premises.

There had been no changes in the production of *AJR Information* as far as the editorial side was concerned. However, the repeated increases of printing and despatch costs had created financial problems. The deficit could be reduced if more firms came forward and purchased advertising space.

As in previous years, the AJR had harmoniously co-operated with the C.B.F. in the administration of the Homes. It had also participated in the appeal for the Churchill Forest in Israel, launched under the auspices of the Jewish National Fund. Furthermore, the AJR was represented at a number of organisations, especially in the Camden area,

e.g., the Council of Christians and Jews, the Camden Council of Social Services and the Camden Council for Community Relations.

A report on the efforts to establish Self-Supporting Homes for those who, due to their financial position, were not eligible for admission to the existing Homes was given by Dr. E. A. Lomnitz, Deputy General Secretary of the AJR. He stated that at present the purchase of a site in Stanmore, to be used for the erection of a Self-Supporting Old Age Home was under consideration. (More detailed information is published on page 11 of this issue.—The Ed.) To establish a Self-Supporting Flatlet Home a Housing Society (Eventide Housing Society Ltd.) had been founded. However, it had proved to be very difficult to find a suitable site.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. F. E. Falk, Honorary Treasurer of the AJR, reported that during the year 1965 the income from subscriptions and donations had amounted to £8,275, and the expenditure to £16,840 (including an allocation of £1,500 to the fund for Employees' Termination Allowances). Of the deficit, £6,000 had been covered by a grant from the Allocations Committee of the C.B.F. out of the heirless property in Germany. To safeguard the continuity of the work it would be imperative for the AJR to finance its activities out of its own resources. It was hoped that the increase of the previous standard subscription rate of £2 to £3 and the general appeal to all members for an increase of their subscriptions would result in a higher income in 1966. However, although probably the deficit would thus be lower than last year the income would still not be sufficient to make the AJR a self-supporting organisation. The speaker appealed to the members to make their payments under a Deed of Covenant wherever possible, and also asked those of them who were in business to place advertisements in *AJR Information*.

Turning to the expenses, Dr. Falk especially dealt with the costs of *AJR Information* and of the AJR Club. Lastly, he referred to the Revolving Fund established several years ago from a grant of the Allocations Committee and used for advance payments to restitution claimants. This scheme had proved to be most successful, and the fact that all loans had been repaid testified both to the diligence of the Committee which was in charge of the applications and to the moral integrity of the recipients.

Dr. F. Goldschmidt reported on questions of restitution and compensation. He stated that, at least for the time being, major legislation had come to a conclusion by the promulgation of the Final Federal Restitution Law of October 2, 1964, and the Final Federal Compensation Law of September 18, 1965. The representative body of the Jews from Germany in questions of restitution had always been the Council of Jews from Germany of which

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SOLIDARITY AND SUCCESS

Continued from page 1

the AJR was the British constituent, and amongst those who throughout the years had acted as spokesmen of the Council had been Dr. W. Breslauer and Mr. A. S. Dresel.

Whilst, notwithstanding the limitations, there had been progress as far as restitution and compensation to Jews from Germany was concerned, the position of those victims of Nazi persecution who came from Austria was highly regrettable. Efforts in this field had started as far back as 1954 during the negotiations at The Hague. However, the representatives of the German Federal Republic had taken the view that Austria could not be regarded as an occupied country like other States which had come under the Nazi rule, because the annexation of Austria had been enthusiastically welcomed by wide sections of the Austrian population. Although Germany had declined to accept responsibility for the measures in Austria, she had made certain payments to that country under the so-called Kreuznach Agreement. Efforts aiming at improving the position had been constantly made, but had met with only very limited success.

Compensation Set-back

The speaker also dealt with the set-back created by the Haushaltssicherungsgesetz of December 9, 1965, which stipulated the deferment of certain kinds of compensation payments. The Council had strongly protested against these provisions of the Law. When the Law was promulgated all the same, its representatives took part in a conference with the German authorities at which certain hardships were removed, reiterating at the same time that they still considered the regulations of the Law as basically unjust.

Turning to problems which might arise in the future, the speaker stated it had to be realised that the period of the "economic miracle" in Germany had passed its climax. He also expressed the view that certain recent events, e.g., incidents on the occasion of ex-Chancellor Adenauer's visit to Israel, might unnecessarily impair the feelings of good will. On the other hand, it should be recognised that Germany had made very substantial global and individual payments to the victims of Nazism and he was confident that the work in the field of material restitution and compensation would come to a satisfactory conclusion.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Goldschmidt for his report and for his own effective work in the interest of the victims of Nazism.

In the course of the ensuing discussion various problems were taken up by the floor. One of the questions concerned the taxability in this country of pensions to former civil servants and former Jewish communal officials. Mr. Dresel and Dr. Falk explained that, when the AJR succeeded in having the B.E.G. annuities exempted from taxation, the decisive argument accepted by the Government had been the tax exemption of these payments in Germany. This argument did not apply to the pensions which were also taxable in Germany and for which credit was given in the U.K.

Other questions raised during the discussion concerned the work of the AJR Employment Agency and the possibility of securing the financial foundations of the organisation.

The Meeting was concluded by the election of the Executive and Board. The Chairman, the other members of the Executive and the Board Members were re-elected, and Mr. R. Elton and Mr. R. Graupner were co-opted to the Board.

RESTITUTION AND COMPENSATION

BUNDESENTSCHAEDIGUNGSGESETZ

Fristverlaengerung fuer Substantiierung

Wenn ein Antrag auf Entschaeidigung fristgerecht, aber ohne Darstellung des den einzelnen Entschaeidigungsanspruch begruendenden Sachverhalts gestellt worden ist, so muessen nach § 190a BEG (in der Fassung des Schlussgesetzes)

1. Angaben zur Person und zu den wirtschaftlichen Verhaeltnissen,
2. eine Darstellung des den Anspruch begruendenden Sachverhalts,
3. Angabe von Beweismitteln,
4. Angaben ueber Art und Umfang des Anspruchs

bei Vermeidung des Ausschlusses bis zum 30. September 1966 nachgeholt werden.

Auf Draengen der Verfolgtenorganisationen hat nunmehr der Bundestag am 1. Juli die Frist um 6 Monate, d.h. bis zum 31. Maerz 1967, mit den Stimmen der CDU und der SPD gegen die Stimmen der FDP verlaengert.

Es muss betont werden, dass die Anmeldefristen des B.E.G.-Schlussgesetzes nicht verlaengert werden.

DURCHFUEHRUNGSVERORDNUNGEN

ZUM BEG

Durch ein bedauerliches Druckversehen auf Seite 4 der Juli-Ausgabe von AJR Information ist die Tabelle der Renten fuer Berufsschaden in einem Punkte nicht so wiedergegeben, wie es vom Autor im Manuskript angegeben war. Die Hoechstrenten im einfachen, mittleren und gehobenen Dienst werden nicht erst ab Vollendung des 55. Lebensjahres, sondern bereits ab Vollendung des 50. Lebensjahres gezahlt. Dagegen erfolgt die Ansetzung der Hoechstrente bei Berechtigten, die in den hoeheren Dienst eingestuft sind, erst ab vollendetem 55. Lebensjahr. In allen Faellen ist das Lebensalter am 1. Oktober 1953 massgebend.

Bei den Mindestrenten fuer Lebensschaden (Tabelle auf S.3 der Juli-Ausgabe) ist eine Luecke in der urspruenglichen Verordnung durch Verordnung vom 1. Juli 1966 (Bundesgesetzblatt Nr. 26) ausgefuellt worden. Hiernach betraegt die Mindestrente fuer die erste und zweite Halbwaese, wenn keine Rente fuer die Witwe oder den Witwer gezahlt wird, ab 1. Oktober 1966 je 120 DM.

BUNDESRUECKERSTATTUNGS-GESETZ

Mitteilung zum Haerteausgleichsverfahren

Das Bundesfinanzministerium hat zu Haerteausgleichsverfahren nach Par. 44a des Bundesrueckerstattungs-gesetzes folgende Mitteilung erlassen:

"Bis zum Ablauf der Anmeldefristen am 23. Mai 1966 sind bei der Sondervermoegens- und Bauverwaltung in Berlin rund 250.000 Antraege eingegangen, davon allein in den letzten 5 Arbeitstagen vor Fristablauf ueber 120.000. Die Bearbeitung dieser Verfahren ist mit erheblichen organisatorischen und personellen Schwierigkeiten verbunden; daher bittet das Bundesfinanzministerium die Antragsteller, folgendes zu beachten:

"Bei Eingaben muessen die von der Sondervermoegensverwaltung den Antragstellern genannten Registernummern angegeben werden. Soweit die Registernummer noch nicht mitgeteilt werden konnte, muss die Nachricht der Sondervermoegensverwaltung abgewartet werden.

"Fehlende Beweismittel sollten nicht einzeln nacheinander, sondern gesammelt in einem Schreiben eingereicht werden.

"Die Sondervermoegensverwaltung hat keine Moeglichkeit, aus irgendwelchen Gruenden Verfahren bevorzugt zu erledigen. Die Antraege werden in der Reihenfolge ihres Eingangs bei der Sondervermoegensverwaltung bearbeitet. Unvollstaendige Akten werden ausgesondert und koennen erst bearbeitet werden, wenn alle Unterlagen vorliegen und die vorher vollstaendigten Akten bearbeitet sind.

"Antraege auf bevorzugte Erledigung sowie persoenliche Vorsprachen sind zwecklos. Von Sachstandsfragen und Mahnungen sollte Abstand genommen werden."

WEST BERLIN COMMUNITY OFFICE SET ON FIRE

On July 9, the West Berlin Community Office at Joachimsthaler Strasse was set on fire. People outside raised the alarm when they noticed smoke coming out of a window and the caretaker put out the fire before the arrival of the police. The day before the fire, swastikas and antisemitic slogans were found smeared in different parts of the city. Police have offered a reward of 5,000 DM. for information leading to the arrest of the persons responsible. In a front-page article of the *Allgemeine Unabhangige Juedische Wochenzeitung* Mr. Heinz Galinski, Chairman of the Berlin Jewish community, strongly called for greater vigilance against right-wing enemies of democracy.

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HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

RACE RELATIONS ACT

During a debate on the Race Relations Act in the House of Lords, Lord Stonham, Under-Secretary, Home Office, condemned the burning of synagogues and incitement to racial and religious hatred. He stated earlier that the Government was studying the effectiveness of the Race Relations Act.

Mr. Maurice Orbach has fixed December 16 for the second reading of the Bill he is introducing into Parliament to amend the Race Relations Act. The Bill seeks to amend the law relating to discrimination on racial grounds "so as to prohibit housing, employment and other economic discrimination". It also strengthens and gives statutory authority to the Race Relations Board and the conciliation committees. In addition Mr. Orbach is trying to extend the section of the Act dealing with incitement to apply to any person who persuades any other person to commit a crime or misdemeanour.

The considerable sympathy in Parliament for such amending legislation is recognised by the Ministers immediately responsible. Discussions proceeding between these Ministers is likely to lead to the Government submitting further proposals.

"GREATER BRITAIN MOVEMENT"

During a discussion in the House of Lords on the activities of the Viking Book Club, Lord Brockway stated that he is to bring in a Bill amending the Race Relations Act to cover racial propaganda distributed by private book clubs. He had made arrangements with M.P.s to introduce a similar measure in the House of Commons.

Lord Russell of Liverpool said that a friend of his had obtained from the Norwood premises of the club a pamphlet of the Greater Britain Movement, "best described as the Nazi party of this country". He said the pamphlet bore great similarity to a chapter in "Mein Kampf". It contained "the old nonsense about the Aryan race" and said that citizenship of the State should be denied to the "large coloured and influential Jewish communities". The removal of the Jews from Britain to one of the world's open spaces was advocated. Lord Russell asked whether criminal proceedings could be taken under the Race Relations Act.

Lord Stonham, Under-Secretary, Home Office, said that even if distribution was confined to club members, leaders of the G.B.M. would not be safe to assume that it was not an infringement of the Act. Detestable as these views were, there was no evidence they had been disseminated to members of the public at large.

SLAUGHTER BILL

The Slaughter of Poultry Bill was given a formal first reading in the House of Commons. It seeks to ensure the humane slaughter of poultry and requires stunning before slaughter. Mr. David Ensor, who brought the Bill forward, realises that stunning is against the principles of shechita and has written into the Bill a clause to exempt the Jewish method of ritual slaughter from this provision.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION CONVENTION

Mrs. Eirene White, Joint Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said in Parliament that the question of signature and ratification of the United Nations Convention on the elimination of racial discrimination by the United Kingdom is under active consideration. She hoped to be in a position to announce a decision later in this year.

CONCILIATION COMMITTEE

Bishop Joost de Blank is to be chairman of the Greater London Conciliation Committee. This is the first of the local committees to be set up by the Race Relations Board under the Race Relations Act.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., has been elected chairman of the Socialist group of the Western European Union. This, the largest political group of the Union, was formed in 1955 and consists of the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy and West Germany.

Three Jewish Labour M.P.s have been elected to the chairman's panel in Parliament. Sir Myer Galpern, Mr. Harold Lever and Sir Barnett Janner will preside over some of the sittings of the House in committee and also take the chair in standing committees where Bills are considered after second reading. Sir Barnett is among those nominated to act in connection with the issuing of warrants for by-elections, when the Speaker is away. He has also been elected to the executive of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Union and has been made chairman of the new Benelux group of M.P.s.

In the Cabinet reshuffle resulting from Mr. Frank Cousins' resignation, Mr. John Silkin, M.P., was appointed Chief Government Whip. Mr. Silkin, 43, younger son of Lord Silkin and a solicitor by profession, was first made a Whip in January and appointed Deputy Chief Whip in April.

MOTION ON SOVIET JEWRY

More than 160 M.P.s of all parties signed a motion in Parliament noting with concern "the continuing difficulties confronting Jews in the Soviet Union". The motion called on the Government "to use its good offices to secure for them the basic human rights afforded to other Soviet citizens".

Sir Barnett Janner, co-sponsor together with Sir Ian Orr-Ewing of the motion, officially brought it to the notice of Mr. Herbert Bowden, Leader of the House. He requested the Government to provide time for a debate on the motion at an early date.

NAZI GUARDSMEN

In the Commons Mr. Reginald Freeson asked what steps were being taken, arising from information supplied to him, regarding the British Nazi Party's recruitment of members from among serving Guardsmen. The Minister of Defence for the Army replied that although soldiers were forbidden to take an active part in political activities, membership of any political party was not in itself an offence.

OFFENSIVE WEAPONS CHARGE

John Tyndall, leader of the Greater Britain Movement, was fined £20 with 10 guineas costs at Marylebone magistrates court. Four other members of the movement were each fined £10 with two guineas costs and another member £15 with two guineas costs. Charges against one man and a woman were dismissed.

The accused were found guilty of possessing offensive weapons—30 wooden coshes. The court had been told that the coshes were to protect the vehicle in which they were found from attacks by Jews. The magistrate said that the possibility of attack was not a reasonable excuse for carrying the weapons.

WOLFSON COLLEGE

A new Oxford college is to be endowed, to be called Wolfson College. It will be a full graduate college of the university, specialising particularly in science and technology. Three Jewish personalities are concerned with the endowment: Sir Isaac Wolfson, whose Wolfson Foundation will contribute £1½ million; Mr. Shepard Stone, European director of the Ford Foundation which is giving an equivalent sum; and Sir Isaiah Berlin, Chichele professor of sociology and political theory at Oxford, who is to become master of the new establishment.

Churchill Forest

Twenty thousand people subscribed £100,000 to the Winston Churchill Forest in Galilee, where 300,000 trees will be planted in memory of the great statesman and friend of Jewry. The donors' names appeared in the commemorative volume presented to Sir Winston's widow at a dinner arranged by the Jewish National Fund in London's Guildhall.

Mr. Rosser Chinn, president of the J.N.F., addressed the distinguished gathering of 600, which included Lady Spencer-Churchill and other members of the family, leading representatives of the three parties and the American Chief Justice Earl Warren. Speakers were Mr. Herbert Bowden, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, for the Government; Sir Alec Douglas-Home deputising for the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Edward Heath; Lord Rea representing the Liberal Party; and the Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Aharon Remez. The commemorative volume was presented to Lady Spencer-Churchill by Lord Sieff. Mr. Randolph Churchill replied on his mother's behalf.

The A.J.R. which was associated with the appeal was represented at the dinner by its chairman, Mr. A. S. Dresel, and its general secretary, Mr. W. Rosenstock.

New J.W.B. Homes in Finchley

Two new Homes of the Jewish Welfare Board were officially opened at Ballards Lane, Finchley, on July 8. One of them, Barnet and Silvia Shine House, comprises 20 one-room and four double-room flatlets with kitchens and bathrooms, the other one, John and Violet Rubens House, is an Old Age Home with accommodation for 31 residents. The average age of the residents is 71 in the Flatlet Home and 81 in the Old Age Home. Both Homes are linked up with each other and jointly administered by the same matron and her staff. The erection of the Homes was possible due to the munificence of the two families whose names they bear and each of which contributed £30,000. The official opening address was delivered by Mrs. Margaret H. Thatcher, M.P. The Hon. L. H. L. Cohen, president of the J.W.B., was in the chair.

World Jewish Congress

Following his recent appointment as director of the new Institute of Jewish Affairs, Dr. S. J. Roth has resigned as general secretary of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress. He will continue as executive director of the European division of the Congress. Mr. Jack Barnett, organising secretary of the British Section, has been appointed as its acting general secretary.

Dwindling Congregations

Dwindling congregations of the United Synagogue may be closed down altogether or may have to share a minister with a neighbouring synagogue. At its meeting in London, Mr. G. M. Gee, joint treasurer of the U.S., called for a drastic pruning of expenditure and a regionalisation of ministers to alleviate the situation. It was also pointed out that the U.S. was without a medium which presented or fairly reported the traditional Orthodox viewpoint. Sir Isaac and his hon. officers are considering the establishing of their own communal journal.

Oxford Synagogue

A £5,000 donation has been promised by Mr. Charles Clore towards a new synagogue and student centre in Oxford. This is additional to a grant of £25,000 promised by the Wolfson Foundation on condition that the Oxford Jewish congregation raises the rest of the £100,000 required.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Jews in Birch Society

The ultra Right-wing John Birch Society claims to have about 1,000 Jewish members which is about 1 per cent of the total membership claimed by the organisation. There is some justification to the claim that Jews belong to the society as an organisation of some of them known as the Jewish Society of Americanists was recently formed.

According to Michael Kogan, a member of the new group's executive committee, "there is nothing in the John Birch Society programme to attract antisemites . . . if somebody is found to be an antisemite he is expelled". The Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith has, however, more than once denounced the society as antisemitic. Recently its general counsel stated that the creation of a joint organisation (The Jewish Society of Americanists) did not "relieve it of antisemitic taint, any more than the fact that the society employs a handful of paid Negroes excuses its opposition to civil rights."—(J.C.)

"Anti-Gentilism"

Columbia University has been offered £35,700 to conduct a study of "Jewish beliefs and anti-Gentilism". The offer was made by the propagandist "Action Committee on American-Arab Relations". Such a study would involve an examination of "Jewish prejudices against Christians" and, in the view of the would-be sponsors, might show that the "Chosen People" concept of the Jews is the root cause of both antisemitism and "anti-Gentilism."

ARGENTINE JEWRY

The anti-Peronista coup in Argentina is not expected to affect the Jewish community, unless irresponsible elements take advantage of the situation. However, matters seem to be well in hand and the community is calm.

C.B.F. AID FOR INDIA

Dr. Rebecca Rainsbury, who recently spent some time in Bombay, at a meeting of the national advisory conference of the Central British Fund put forward suggestions for specific projects by the C.B.F. to benefit Indian Jewry.

She mentioned the need to extend into a day-care centre the kindergarten at one of the two Jewish schools, at present open only on half-days. A medical clinic and a dental centre were also needed and she would like to see inaugurated a hostel for children and a block of flats.

DANGEROUS HEBREW SONG!

The popular French singer, Dalida, included the Israeli folk-song "Hava Nagila" at a concert in Casablanca. The city authorities were informed by some of the audience that she had sung as "Israeli patriotic hymn" and she was called in for questioning. It is understood that she was ordered to be confined to her hotel and asked to leave the country as soon as possible, departing next morning.

DUTCH RELEASE WAR CRIMINAL

Willy Lages, the former Nazi security police chief in Amsterdam and one of the last four German war criminals held by the Dutch, has been released from Breda prison in Holland for three months because of illness. He was sentenced to life imprisonment after the death sentence passed on him had been commuted. He is now seriously ill in a Bonn hospital.

Lages was head of the "Aussenstelle" of the Nazi security forces in Amsterdam, responsible for the deportation of 70,000 Jews. Various organisations of victims of the Nazis have protested at his release.

SOVIET UNION

Writer Rejects Trial Findings

The Russian-Jewish author and satirist, Yuli Daniel, gaoled for five years in February, wrote from detention to the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* rejecting the trial and its findings. The paper refused to publish his letter and it appeared in the Italian weekly, *L'Espresso*, which stated it had been smuggled out of Russia.

In his letter Daniel says that the investigating magistrates, the prosecutors and the court tried to convince Sinyavsky and him that their works were read and advertised only by the enemies of Russia. He finally admitted being guilty of "improvidence", but after the trial and the verdict he was able to read Russian papers and obtain information about the foreign press. He then realised that his regret and acknowledgement of guilt originated only from lack of information. Now he retracted his expression of regret "for the harm which our works are supposed to have caused, because the only damage which can be connected with the names of Sinyavsky and Daniel was caused by the arrest, the trial and the verdict."

Supreme Soviet

In the recent elections, five Jews were again elected to both chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. They are: Binyamin Emmanuilovich Dymshyts, who is Deputy Prime Minister; Yuli Borisovich Khariton, academician; Rafael Chamovich Khersonsky, a turner in a factory; Ilya Grigorievich Ehrenburg, writer; and Alexander Borisovich Chakovsky, writer and secretary of the Executive of the Writers' Union.

Khersonsky is the only Jewish member among the five people elected for Birobidjan, the autonomous Jewish republic of the Soviet Union. He replaces Rebecca Vishchinkina, who was the only Jewess among her colleagues. Chakovsky replaces another Jew, Army General Jacob Grigorievich Kreizer, commander of the Soviet Far East Military Area.—(J.C.)

POLAND

Old Age Home

A leading Warsaw architect, Mr. Julian Kranz, has been asked to submit plans for rebuilding the city's Jewish old age home, to accommodate 150 instead of 100 persons.

Sholem Aleichem Street

According to the Novosty news agency, Kiev has decided to name a street in the Darnitsa district in memory of Sholem Aleichem to mark the 50th anniversary of his death.

HUNGARY

Israeli Film

Hungary has bought the Israeli film, "The Glass Cage," which includes original shots from the Eichmann trial.

Tribute to Rabbi

To celebrate his 85th birthday and the 60th anniversary of his induction as a rabbi, a portrait of Rabbi Professor Richtmann has been unveiled in the Hungarian Rabbinate at Budapest. Professor Richtmann is an expert in Hungarian Jewish history.

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AUTHORISED BECHSTEIN RETAILERS

PLEAS FOR RUSSIAN JEWRY

Letter to "The Times"

In a letter to "The Times," a group of leading British intellectuals protested against the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. The letter said that the survival of Soviet Jews as an historic nationality has been threatened and claimed that the Soviet Union lagged far behind other East European countries in allowing Jews victimised by the Nazis to reunite with relatives abroad. The 32 signatories include Lord Boothby, Professor Hilde Himmelweit, Mr. Bernard Kops, Lord Robbins and Dame Sybil Thorndike.

Rabbi Dr. Jacob K. Shankman, president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, made an appeal to the Union to approach the Soviet Government on behalf of Russian Jewry. He was delivering the presidential address at the opening session of the Union's 14th international and 40th anniversary conference, in London.

The French Foreign Minister, M. Couve de Murville, for the second time presented a memorandum to the Soviet authorities in Moscow, asking them to remove the disabilities imposed on the two-and-a-half million Soviet Jews.

Communist's Evidence

A recent issue of *Tribune* deals with evidence presented to the British Communist Party by Mr. Alec Waterman shortly before his death in April. Mr. Waterman was a leading member of the Jewish advisory committee of the British Communists. One of the points made is the fact that over 470,000 Yiddish-speaking Jews in the Soviet Union are deprived of all such cultural opportunities as are afforded to other national linguistic groups.

Mr. Waterman stressed that there were crude anti-religious propaganda and publications, religious discrimination and the absence of any purposeful propaganda against antisemitism.

POLITICAL ASYLUM

A Russian-Jewish journalist, Mr. Leonid Finkelstein, has been granted political asylum in Britain. Mr. Finkelstein, who is reported to have worked for a Russian science magazine, came to this country recently with a party of Soviet writers and artists.

BULGARIAN EX-MINISTER VISITS ISRAEL

The former Bulgarian Minister of Information, Mr. Dimo Kazassov, visited Israel as the guest of the Bulgarian Immigrants' Association. During the Second World War when the German Nazis ordered the deportation of Bulgarian Jews, Mr. Kazassov wrote an open letter to the then Bulgarian Prime Minister warning him not to implement the laws against the Jews. He was thereafter imprisoned.

The Bulgarian Jewish immigrants, numbering about 40,000, entertained Mr. Kazassov, who also planted a tree in the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles in Jerusalem.

BELGIAN SYNAGOGUE CENTENARY

The centenary of the building of Arlon synagogue has been celebrated by the 60-member community. Arlon is the main city of the Belgian province of Luxembourg where, before the Nazi occupation, several hundred Jews lived.

FRENCH COMMUNITY

According to the Jewish Information Service, the Jewish population of France has increased in ten years from 300,000 to 500,000 persons. Part of the increase was due to the immigration from North Africa and part to an increased birth rate among French Jews. Paris has the largest community in the country—300,000 Jews—followed by Marseilles with 65,000 and Lyons with 20,000.

EINER DER LETZTEN AUS DER ZEIT DER SYMBIOSE . . .

Heinz Liepman zum Gedenken

Vor zwei Jahren sahen wir uns in Agarone—dem zwischen Bellinzona und Locarno an einem Berghang gelegenen tessinischen Dorf, wo die Liepmans ein hiebsches Weekend-haueschen erworben hatten. Schon damals, als wir im fahlen Licht einer trist im Winde schaukelnden Bahnsteiglampe von einander Abschied nahmen, war sein Gesicht vom Leiden gezeichnet. Trotzdem konnte ich nicht an ein so schnelles Ende glauben, denn er war arbeitsfreudig wie je und hatte noch viel neue Pläne.

Damals war gerade bei Rowohlt sein letztes grösseres Buch erschienen: "Karlchen oder die Tuecken der Tugend"—ein mit geradezu Doebblinscher Vehemenz geschriebener Schelmenroman eines Mannes, der den Dingen auf den Grund gehen will und sich dabei immer tiefer in den Hintergründen seiner eigenen Gedankenwälder verläuft; es war, als ob Liepman, in dem sich juedische Intellektualitaet und Verbundenheit mit seiner hamburgischen Heimat auf ganz eigenartige Weise vermachten, einen Dialog mit den Spokenkockern (Geistersehern) seiner norddeutschen Kindheitswelt begonnen hatte.

Ein Fragender war er auch vorher stets gewesen—und das gehoerte fuer mein Gefuehl mit zu seinen groessten Vorzuegen, dass er eben nicht einer jener Allerweltsweisen sein wollte, die auf alles eine Antwort haben. 1905 geboren, gehoerte er zu der Generation, die den Ersten Weltkrieg von der schwarzweissrot angemalten Schulbank aus miterlebt, danach aber um so mehr zu bezweifeln hatte. Und Heinz Liepman besass dann nicht einmal mehr die Eltern, die ihm falsche oder richtige Antworten haetten geben koennen, denn sein Vater, der patriotisch-kriegsfreiwillig die Uniform angezogen hatte, war gefallen und seine Mutter kurz darauf gleichfalls gestorben. Drei grosse noch vor der Hitlerzeit veroeffentlichte Romane Liepmans—"Der Friede brach aus", "Naechte eines alten Kindes" und "Die Hilflosen"—spiegeln die Einsamkeit eines jungen Menschen im Fragemeer der Zeit wieder, sein Suchen nach Waerme und mehr Menschlichkeit in einer leisen, oft bestrickend schoenen Melodie im Vielklang der Literatur der Nachkriegsjahre. Dabei war auch Liepmans gepflegter, gewissenhaft praeziser deutscher Stil bemerkenswert, der die Tatsache, dass auch seine Buecher zu den seit 1933 "verbotenen" gehoerten, doppelt

grotesk erscheinen laesst. Buchhaendlerisch waren "Die Hilflosen" ein besonderer Erfolg; sie wurden in zwolf Sprachen uebersetzt und mit dem Internationalen Harper-Literaturpreis ausgezeichnet.

Nach Ausbruch des Nazismus gelang es Liepman zuerst nach Holland, Frankreich und England zu entkommen, auch auf der Flucht unentwegt schreibend und die Barbarei in effektvollen Buechern wie "Das Vaterland" und ". . . wird mit dem Tode bestraft" bekaempfend—Buechern, die vielleicht wenig sinnvoll gewesen waeren als Monologe eines sich ausgestossenen fuehlenden Emigranten, aber dadurch, dass auch sie in verschiedenen ausserdeutschen Sprachen erschienen, ihren Waffenwert bekamen als Dokumente der Anklage und Aufrufe zur antinazistischen Gegenaktion.

Zur rechten Zeit noch gelang Heinz Liepman die Weiterwanderung nach den U.S.A. Nach verschiedenen Ueberwasserhaltejobs fand er 1943 eine Anstellung als Redakteur bei "Time", wobei ihm nicht nur die Intensitaet, mit der er englisch gelernt hatte, dienlich war, sondern auch die bereits in fruheren Jahren erworbene tagesjournalistische Praxis.

Nach seiner Rueckkehr nach Deutschland hatte er erneute literarische und journalistische Erfolge; mit einer fesselnden Illustrierten-Serie ueber Rasputin, mit einem reportageartigen Roman "Der Ausweg" ueber Qualen und Heilung eines Morphinisten, mit verschiedenen Rundfunkproduktionen und vor allem auch mit einer grossen Zahl von scharf profilierten Theater- und Buchkritiken, die er fuer "Die Welt" und "Die Welt der Literatur" schrieb. Trotzdem spuerte er, mit geradezu tragisch anmutender Verspaetung, dass seine Prae-Hitleridentifizierung mit dem deutschen Geistesleben und die Wiederaufnahme dieser Identifizierung fuer einen Juden deutscher Herkunft ihre Probleme hatte und so stellte er, ohne je Zionist geworden zu sein, eines Tages die rhetorische und eben nicht nur rhetorisch gemeinte Frage "Muessen wir wieder auswandern?" die auch in der 1960 erschienenen Schrift "Ein deutscher Jude denkt ueber Deutschland nach" (Ner Tamid-Verlag) sowie in einer groesseren Presse-Kontroverse ihren Niederschlag fand.

Hans Liepman wanderte von neuem aus. Die letzten Jahre lebte und arbeitete er in Zuerich, wo seine feinsinnige Gattin, Frau Dr. Ruth Liepman, eine der fuehrenden internationalen literarischen Agenturen leitete. Es war hier in Zuerich, wo er seinen "Karlchen"—Roman, vielleicht sein reifstes Werk, beendete und von wo er zahlreiche Schweizer Kulturberichte schrieb; ferner war es hier, wo er eine groessere Untersuchung ueber das Problem der Heeresdienstverweigerung (Rowohlt-Verlag) verfasste und wo er laengere Zeit hindurch kritische Zeitglossen fuer die "Weltwoche" schrieb—teils Besinnliches, teils Stimulierend-Provozierendes, auch hier, wie mir scheint, etwas Deutsch-Juedisches eigner Praegung schaffend. So fand sowohl sein literarisches als sein journalistisches Streben vielseitigen und vielformigen, nicht leicht auf einen Nenner zu bringenden Ausdruck. Literaturgeschichtler der Zukunft werden ihn als einen der letzten Vertreter der deutsch-juedischen Symbiose durchaus positiv bewerten. ERICH GOTTGOTREU.

Old Acquaintances

Our friend Pem is on holiday. He will resume his column next month.

VATICAN DECLARATION

The Archbishop of Westminster in a statement announced the establishment of a national commission to implement the Vatican Council's declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations. Cardinal Heenan said the new body would have the widest possible terms of reference. It would not only discuss social and historical problems but also initiate theological dialogue.

The chairman and members of the commission have been chosen. One of its members, Father Simon Blake, stated that nothing explicit had as yet been worked out regarding the activities of the commission. There was a colossal problem as there had formerly been a very deep-seated prejudice in Catholic teaching. It would undoubtedly take a long time to change the attitude of mind of many people.

Mrs. P. Rosenberg, also a member of the commission, is a Catholic and the wife of a Jewish doctor.

RABBI MEETS POPE

Pope Paul VI gave an audience to Rabbi Abraham Hershberg of Mexico. The rabbi has visited many countries, including the Soviet Union, in his "quest for religious freedom throughout the world and greater co-operation between the main religions."

Interviewed, Rabbi Hershberg said he had informed the Pope of his project for a "summit conference of world religions in Geneva to save the world from nuclear destruction and make religious freedom, especially behind the Iron Curtain, a fact of life". He said the Pope had replied that if other religious leaders would attend such a meeting, he would consider attending himself.—(J.C.)

ANTI-JEWISH BOOK

Shock has been expressed by French journalists at statements against the Jews in a new book, "Sociology of Paris Life", by Philippe Bourvard, a columnist on *Le Figaro*. The author, who is partly of Jewish origin, attacks "Jewish Freemasonry", the Rothschilds and "Jewish influence" on the press. The book says that, as the Nazi death camps limited the number of Jews, the rest had more facilities to regroup. Their concentration of power had become greater since, as a whole, the most important succeeded in escaping the net.

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GERMAN-JEWISH ORTHODOXY

Two New Publications

The two books under review* deal with an often neglected aspect of Jewish history and have in common that they offer an outline of some of the contributions of German-Jewish orthodoxy to the general educational and cultural achievements of the post-Emancipation era.

Long before his emigration from Germany to this country, the late Hermann Schwab had become widely known through his *Dreams of Childhood*, his *Memories of Frankfurt* and numerous essays, poems and short stories. Not restricting himself to religious objects, he also wrote on nature and travel, architecture, the theatre and literature. After his arrival in England he devoted the remaining decades of his long life to an account of *The History of Orthodox Jewry in Germany* and to that of its *Jewish Rural Communities*. In addition, he published reflections on what had become *A World in Ruins* and 1933, *Ein Tagebuch*.

His last work, *Chachme Ashkenaz*, consists of short biographical and bibliographical notes on nearly a hundred orthodox men of letters, some of whom had a lasting influence on the inner life and institutions of German Jewry from the 18th century to our own day. Even where the great rabbinic authorities of the earlier period had only an indirect or passing connection with the chosen geographical area, their inclusion is welcome, since their literary legacy reflects the forebodings of fundamental changes in the religious and social structure of the Jewish people as a whole and, at the same time, a determined opposition to the decline of faith and traditional observances.

Only a few of the entries record names and other relevant information which could not be found in the *Jüdisches Lexikon* or the *Encyclopaedia Judaica*. Advanced age and the concomitant difficulty of access to public libraries prevented the author from consulting these and other up-to-date standard works of reference. The exclusion, on the other hand, of the names and contributions of some famous scholars and educationalists seems due to the fact that their concept of orthodoxy did not quite coincide with his own. One thinks of men like Zacharias Frankel, Israel Levy, Michael Guttmann, Eduard Baneth, Arthur Marmorstein, Adolf Buechler and many others. Yet his strict adherence to the Law did not preclude him from holding a broader view of traditional Judaism than most of the members of the *Frankfurter Religionsgesellschaft*, to which he belonged. Thus, Moses Mendelssohn and Naphtali Herz Wessely, the representatives of the earlier Haskalah movement, are considered to belong to the *Sages of Germany*. Here, the author could follow Hirsch, who respected both for their religious integrity and incorporated some of their views into his own writings. Wessely is, in fact, described as the forerunner of Hirsch's *Torah im Derech Eretz* ideology, though their respective motives do not support such unqualified generalisation. Jacob Bernays, one of the greatest classicists of the 19th century, is equally included in Schwab's list, and it is not held against him that he taught at the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary, the training school for what has been defined as historical or conservative Judaism. Isaac Heinemann, lecturer at the same institution, Editor of the *Monatsschrift*

für *Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* from 1920 to 1938, and, simultaneously, Professor of Classical Philology at Breslau University, shares the honour accorded to his distinguished predecessor.

Among the rabbis one comes across an appreciative entry on Seligmann Baer Bamberger of Würzburg, though any reference to his opposition to Hirsch's policy of separation from the existing communities is omitted. Marcus Horovitz, too, and his successor in the Rabinat of the *Frankfurter Grossgemeinde*, Nobel, are recorded as eminent leaders of their congregations. Again, we learn nothing about the difficulties, raised against the appointment of the former, by Hirsch and some of his followers. *The Letters of Esriel Hildesheimer*, only recently published by the Leo Baeck Institute, throw interesting light on the background of a conflict which stirred the conscience of many at the time. As to Nobel, there is a slightly apologetic note attached to his biography, according to which he wrote about his revered teacher, Hermann Cohen, that not all his views are "in accordance with Jewish historical tradition, to which we are firmly wedded."

Towards the end of the volume we read a moving tribute to Franz Rosenzweig. He was not, as stated by the author, "a convert to orthodoxy," but perhaps the first and most outstanding representative of a new form of Jewish piety who, during the short span of his life, became as committed to "learning" and observance, as he remained spiritually creative and free.

Dr. Alexander Carlebach, now living in Israel, is known to many for the success he achieved as rabbi and educationalist in London and Belfast, and for his occasional spirited letters to the Press. The period covered by the book here reviewed, is more restricted than that of Schwab's *Chachme Ashkenaz*, but the reader is compensated by a detailed

account given of the history of the *Adass Yeshurun Synagogue* in Cologne, and of the efforts of the devoted men and women who stood at its helm from its modest beginnings to its tragic end. In 1863 attempts to introduce certain reforms into the ritual of the old "United Synagogue" led to the formation of a secessionist *minyán*. The development of the small, strictly observant congregation was helped by the transfer in 1875 of a small orthodox Teachers' Seminary from a suburb of Cologne to the centre of the city.

A few years later the constitution of the Seminary stipulated that "any principal to be appointed must be of German nationality and of undoubted patriotic convictions, able to prove his academic education and his pedagogic ability. He must also hold a rabbinic diploma and be a firm adherent of Jewish Law, as laid down in the *Schulchan Aruch*". Such regulations clearly reflect the influence of the French Revolution and that of the era of Emancipation, as well as Hirsch's *Torah im Derech Eretz* ideology. Their contents, and the order in which they are presented, would be inconceivable before the 19th century. With little awareness of the problems involved, the orthodox had adopted their opponents' aims of full political and cultural integration into the now open society. At the same time, they wished to maintain and to strengthen their religious organisations and succeeded in doing so without compromise and with extraordinary financial sacrifices. Thus, the considerable amount of 100,000 marks was made available for the completion of the new building of the Seminary as early as 1883. No information is given as to how this money could be raised by a community which, even thirty years later, consisted, according to Carlebach, mainly of middle-class people, a few professionals and a limited number of textile, timber and metal merchants, and their employees.

It was only in 1910 that, due to the efforts of the author's father, Dr. Emanuel Carlebach, who shortly before had become rabbi of the now independent *Austrittsgemeinde*, the *Lehrer-Seminar* obtained State recognition. At about this time it had acquired a Natural Science collection and a Physics Laboratory, and the number of its students had risen to thirty-eight. Apart from Jewish subjects, Arithmetic, German, French, History, Art and Gymnastics were taught by nine teachers, most of them Gentiles. One of them was, in fact, put in charge of the training of the Synagogue's choir. All this is not as revolutionary as it may appear, since non-Jewish teachers were employed in the *Berliner Jüdische Freischule* some 125 years earlier. In this case, the Haskalah—and Reform—tendencies of its founder David Friedländer, were the motivating forces which stood behind the new venture. But, in the 'twenties of the 19th century, Chacham Bernays had set a precedent for changes of this kind in the orthodox *Talmud Torah Schule* of Hamburg.

Further educational institutions of the *Adass Yeshurun* were established in quick succession; first a primary, then a full elementary school, called *Moriyah*. Both provided the candidates of the Seminary with teaching practice and the members of the *Adass* with the opportunity to give their children a Torah-centred environment during their absence from home. It was probably not without some justification on the part of the orthodox that they lacked confidence in the religious outlook of the Jewish school of the *Grossgemeinde*, which, nevertheless, contributed year after year a substantial subsidy to the *Moriyah*. Almost immediately after the end of the First World War the achievements of the small



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* Hermann Schwab: *Chachme Ashkenaz*. The Mitre Press, London, 1964. 131 pages. 18/-. Alexander Carlebach: *Adass Yeshurun of Cologne*. Belfast, 1964. 180 pages. 25/-.

Continued on page 7

GERMAN-JEWISH ORTHODOXY

(Continued from page 6)

congregation were crowned by the foundation of *Yavneh*, a secondary school for boys and girls, modelled on earlier comparable establishments in Frankfurt, Hamburg, Leipzig and Fuerth.

The period between 1914 and 1918 has previously been dealt with by Carlebach in an article, *A German Rabbi Goes East*, which, dedicated to the memory of his father, appeared in the 1961 issue of the *Leo Baeck Year Book*. The relevant section of the book, here discussed, is a summary of this essay and belongs only indirectly to the history of the *Adass Yeshurun* in Cologne, since it deals with the activities and experiences of Rabbis Emanuel Carlebach and Pinchas Kohn as advisers on Jewish education to the military government in Poland. One learns, not altogether with surprise, of the close co-operation between these two prominent representatives of the *Trennungsortodoxie* with high officials of the German administration and the special Department for Jewish Affairs, headed by Dr. Ludwig Haas, a member of the liberal faction of the *Reichstag*, himself an assimilated Jew.

The account of the bitter fight between West European Zionists and Agudists for the souls of Polish Jewry, reveals an apparent inability on either side to overcome differences in outlook, however understandable and justifiable in themselves, even in times of a disaster that involved millions of people. From the outset, none of them could reasonably expect a unification of the various groups of their co-religionists, who were sharply divided into Chasidim, Socialists (Poale Zion), Bundists and uncommitted members of the upper classes. At the beginning, the Chasidim, too, mistrusted the *Torah im Derech Eretz* piety they were meant to adopt, but eventually Carlebach and Kohn succeeded in the reform of the old, often disorderly, *Chadarim*, in the establishment of training courses for teachers, in the opening of a school for girls and a number of orphanages. In spite of the instability of the immediate post-war years, all these institutions continued to exist under the new Polish Republic and were gradually able to extend their beneficial influence beyond the circles for which they were primarily intended, until the great catastrophe overcame the whole of European Jewry.

After the return of Carlebach to Cologne at the end of the First World War, a more friendly relationship between the larger and the still relatively small secessionist congregation began to develop. When he died in 1927, at the age of 53, the Teachers' Seminary, the primary, elementary and secondary schools had grown in size and importance and attracted staff and pupils of the wider community. But the clouds before the storm were gathering, and in the end all efforts to expand the range of educational and communal activities in response to the needs of a now almost united community, proved to be in vain.

There can be no doubt that the books by Schwab and Carlebach will help towards an understanding of the cultural, political and administrative set-up of the whole of German Jewry in the post-Emancipation era. Carlebach's book in particular contains statistic and demographic material, not hitherto brought together. The fact emerges that the numerically insignificant minority of the orthodox, which hardly comprised more than 10 per cent of a total of 20,000, was instrumental in strengthening the religious outlook of the majority. A future historical evaluation of the period would be incomplete without taking into

consideration the communal, charitable and educational activities of comparable groups, which were dispersed all over the country. Very little, too, would otherwise be remembered of their literary output in an independent press, in periodicals or books, and of their many *Chewroth* for study, for the care of the sick and the dead. We would, of course, also remain without knowledge of the continuous internal strife between the radical and less radical adherents of the organised *Trennungsortodoxie* and of the effects such struggles had on the changing patterns of relevant congregational constitutions.

Yet, the two books could only be written because their authors did not completely identify themselves with the communities which they describe. This becomes clear in the selection of Schwab's *Chachme Askenaz* and in his comments on them and, even more so, in Carlebach's *Adass Yeshurun*. Especially the latter does not seem to advocate secession, unless there are strong reasons in favour of it. There are, nevertheless, sentences and sentiments which mar trust in his objectivity. Terms, for instance, like "liberal plutocrats", applied to the reform-members of the General Representative Council of the Cologne community, are uncalled for if one considers that "reactionary voting systems" were common practice at the beginning of the 20th century, even among the *Austrittsgemeinden*. Equally, few will find it proper to describe Ernst Simon as one who "could flirt with the orthodox ways of thought and life".

There is, moreover, little acknowledgment of the indebtedness of the secessionist sections to the development of Jewish and Gentile philosophical and political ideas, which have changed the faith and face of the whole of Jewry during the past 175 years. The achievements of the *Jüdische Wissenschaft* are not referred to at all, though the bibliography contains a fair number of books which could not have been written without it. Value judgments concerning the struggle between a secular and a religious concept of Judaism hardly go beyond vague generalisations and lack detailed references, which must be based on traceable source-material, culled from both sides of the combatants.

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HISTORY OF JEWS IN ZABRZE (HINDENBURG)

A symposium on the City of Hindenburg (formerly Zabrze), recently published in Essen, includes an article by Dr. Bernhard Brillung about the Jews of this town.

The Community was founded in 1840 as a branch of the Beuthen Congregation and became independent in 1872. Dr. Brillung deals with Jewish events and personalities, the Synagogue, the Municipal Jewish School, the cemetery, the Rabbis and teachers, the lay leaders, the Jewish organisations and, last, but not least, with the exciting period of the Upper Silesian Referendum (1919/21). Quoting a memorial book published in 1924 by Rabbi Dr. Saul Kaatz, he states that 51 Jewish citizens of Hindenburg fell in the First World War. In 1928 the Community comprised 1,140 members and was the third greatest community in Upper Silesia (after Beuthen and Gleiwitz). In 1931, the membership increased to 1,200. Many Jews left the town after the expiration of the German-Polish Minority Treaty. The last Rabbi was Dr. Saul Kaatz, born 1870 in Schwersenz, who was appointed in 1895 and, together with the remnants of his Community, was deported in 1942.

E.G.L.

AUSTRIA

Mauer Retrial

The Austrian Supreme Court has ordered the retrial in Vienna in September of Johann and Wilhelm Mauer, acquitted by a Salzburg jury in February on charges of complicity in the mass murder of Jews in Stanislav, Poland (now U.S.S.R.) during the Second World War (cf. April, 1966 issue of *AJR Information*). The jury found the brothers not guilty on nine charges. On two charges it was found they "had no other choice but to obey orders". The case was sent to the High Court for review after Dr. Melzer, the president of the Salzburg court, refused to accept the verdict, setting it aside as a "clear error."

It is expected that the retrial of Franz Novak, a former S.S. officer and assistant to Eichmann, will open in October. In December, 1964, a Vienna court sentenced him to eight years' imprisonment on charges of "actions and omissions endangering the lives" of Hungarian Jews he sent to concentration camps. The verdict was quashed by the Austrian High Court a year later, on the ground that the court had not considered the question of manslaughter.

"Thousands of Nazis Convicted"

Dr. Fritz Bock, the Austrian Vice-Chancellor, who is also Minister of Trade, visited Israel to attend the Tel Aviv international trade fair. He told a press conference that anti-semitism was no more widespread in his country than in many others. While some verdicts in the recent trials of men accused of war crimes "must have made a bad impression abroad" these were "exceptional cases". Thousands of Austrian Nazis had been convicted and some had been sentenced to death and executed.

Professor Appeals

Professor Taras Borodajkewycz has appealed against the decision of a disciplinary commission of the Vienna College for Foreign Trade for his compulsory retirement. Complaints had been considered that the professor had boasted of his pre-war membership of the Nazi Party and had made antisemitic remarks at a press conference last year.

BONN AID

The West German Chancellor, Dr. Erhard, told a press conference in Bonn that there would be no vacuum when the economic agreement with Israel, signed in May, expired. Germany would, he said, continue to assist Israel in the development of her economy.

Elizabeth Snowden-Palmer

MEETING A GREAT OLD MAN OF THE ARTS

Birthday Tribute to Joseph Oppenheimer

July 13 was an important day in the life of Joseph Oppenheimer, M.R.S.P.P.—it was his 90th birthday. Like Winston Churchill, he can look back over a span of life which was lived to the full, and in the course of which he had many memorable encounters.

Joseph Oppenheimer was born in Wuerzburg in 1876, the son of a well-to-do vine-grower family. He says himself: "I was very lucky with my parents and grandparents". They were understanding, they appreciated his love for art. Young Joseph was a dreamer at school, always sketching, not taking great interest in the more down-to-earth subjects. His parents, granting him every wish, allowed him to leave school at the age of 15. He studied painting in Munich under Professor Hackel and etching under Professor Raab. Later he had studios in Rome, Paris and New York. But the city with the greatest impact on him and the city of his love is London, where he arrived for the first time in 1890, returning there every year. In 1903 he found the, perhaps, most famous studio in London, at the Pheasantry, in Chelsea's King's Road. "London seemed to me the most picturesque town in the world. I felt it belonged to me—this London, with its hansom cabs, its horse-drawn buses, its Café Royal. You know everybody went to the Café Royal, it was rather a kind of club, even more so than the Chelsea Arts Club. Epstein came there, everyone came".

Oppenheimer is best known as a portrait painter: he was a member of the Berlin Sezession and is a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters. But his English scenes prove that he is equally proficient as a landscape painter. His "Piccadilly Circus" was exhibited at the Royal Academy, and his "Regatta at Henley" can be seen again at the Mercury Gallery.

But painting portraits gave Joseph Oppenheimer his chance of meeting the great and famous. He has, perhaps, a weakness for the fairer sex. "You see, there are only beautiful women in my family. My mother and grandmother were beauties, my daughter and granddaughters are beautiful and my wife is lovely". But he immediately adds that to him the meaning of beauty is best expressed by Goethe: "It is the spirit which shapes the shell, and spirit means soul and character and inclinations and everything". Among the women he painted were Deborah Kerr, Pamela Mason, Diana Wynyard.

But Oppenheimer also painted men, e.g., Chaim Weizmann, the former Chief Rabbi Dr. Hertz and Dr. Brodie, Dr. Elath, the musicians Menuhin and Klemperer, just to mention a few. "Yes, I have painted a good many men. The first when I was 13. It was in Kissingen. I saw Bismarck, and when I watched all the American and English women giving him flowers I thought I must get near that man to see whether he really has three hairs as shown in his caricatures. I did a sketch of him, and then, I don't know how I had the pluck, went up to him and gave it to him. He was extremely amused, put my hand into his colossal soft paw and made me walk along with him; it probably amused him. When later he sent the sketch back to me I was first a little disappointed, but it turned out that it was a nice gesture, because he had added his signature". Oppenheimer's portraits of English men include the Earl of Athlone and former Prime Minister Macmillan. "I had only two and a half sittings with Macmillan, but I enjoyed going to Admiralty House." The picture was commissioned by former pupils of Summerfield School, Macmillan's own former school.

The meeting which Oppenheimer cherishes most was with Einstein. "I did drawings of him and painted him in his office. While I was there he seemed not to notice me. But he said afterwards that the painting was the best work of mine he had seen. I gave it to him later, on his 50th birthday".

Looking back on his life, Joseph Oppenheimer says: "Well, it was always interesting, never boring. It could not have been nicer, and, though I have a very good memory, I used to forget times of pain and illness. I always wanted to be, as they call it in German, 'springlebendig'—jumpy, quick and, well, orderly at the same time. And I hated other people to be slow. Yet now I have turned that way myself—and this is a disgrace".

DR. MAX FREYHAN 85

We extend our sincerest congratulations to our friend, Dr. Max Freyhan, who recently celebrated his 85th birthday. By his expert knowledge in the field of literature, he has been an inspiration to many in our midst. We wish him many happy returns in undiminished vigour and good health.

Herbert Freeden (Jerusalem)

GERMANY AT TEL AVIV FAIR

For the first time the colours of the German Federal Republic were flying among the flags of 45 countries which took part in the International Trade Fair in Tel Aviv. There were 1,212 foreign firms represented, more than in such established fair centres as Trieste, Izmir, Salonika and Bari, and just slightly less than in Barcelona. Most important—there was an unprecedented representation by the African countries of which 17 were participating.

For the first time, too, advertisements of the German Embassy appeared in the local papers, with the slogan "Science helps Education," which used the opportunity of the trade fair to tell the readers that Germany is one of Israel's main export markets. The beginnings of German-Israeli trade relations were naturally marked by German supplies based on the Restitution Agreement. However, by 1961, this unilateral trade had already been replaced by a two-way commerce, and by 1965 Israel's exports to Germany totalled over DM 200 million. The list of goods is headed by citrus fruit, especially oranges and grapefruit, but vegetables, processed fruits and juices also found their place in the German market. In addition, a number of semi-finished industrial goods have been exported. German exports to Israel, which increased to DM 276 million last year, consist mainly of hardware, machinery, motor cars and electro-technical products.

The visitor to the German Pavilion who expected to find there an array of heavy equipment and machinery, might be somewhat disappointed, but teachers, educators, language tutors, scientists and researchers, students and musicians and youth leaders had a pleasant surprise. In the centre of the display was a "Language Lab," the most sophisticated method of acquiring a language phonetically. In Israel, of course, with her many new immigrants struggling with the Hebrew language, such aids and instruments in the hands of the modern educator are of special interest.

Another part of the Pavilion was a "Music Instrumentarium", and a special exhibit was devoted to Berlin, bearing a purely documentary character. Fifty-five German firms were represented; 28 of them with teaching and learning aids, nine with musical instruments, one with the language Laboratory and 17 various Berlin enterprises.

Great Britain was the first country to have a "National Day" at the Fair. For this occasion, a Royal Anglian regimental band arrived from Cyprus in full regalia. The popular attraction of the British Pavilion was the "Piccadilly Inn", a pub built in sixteenth-century Tudor style. It served Scottish smoked salmon and other British delicacies.

Eastern Europe, with the exception of Poland and Yugoslavia, were regrettably absent from the Fair, and so were several friends of Israel in Asia. Hong Kong was represented for the first time. Considering that it is doing \$200 million-worth of business with the Arabs every year, its appearance in Tel Aviv was quite an act of defiance of the Arab boycott.

GERMAN-ISRAELI YOUTH CENTRE

A German-Israeli youth centre has been established in Munich. The sponsors are the Prime Minister of Bavaria, Alfons Goppel, and the poet and writer, Erich Kaestner. The aim is to increase understanding between the youth of the two countries. It is also planned to establish a German-Israeli cultural centre.

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IN MEMORIAM

DR. FRIEDRICH M. ILLERT (WORMS)

Selten wohl ist in Worms das Hinscheiden eines Mitbuergers so allgemein und so einmuetig betrauert worden wie der Tod des um die Bewahrung der Kultur und die Erforschung der Geschichte dieser alten Stadt verdienten fruheren Stadarchivars Dr. Friedrich Maria Illert. Kurz vor Vollendung seines 74. Lebensjahres ist er am 26. Juni gestorben. Jahrzehntlang hat er mit einer an Leidenschaft grenzenden Hingabe und, in der dunklen Zeit der Unterdrueckung des Geistes, mit Zivilkourage um die Erhaltung der Wormser Kulturstaetten gekaempft, auch und nicht zuletzt der juedischen.

Die Erhaltung des auf das 11. Jahrhundert zurueckgehenden, ehrwuerdigen juedischen Friedhofs und die Bewahrung der unschaetzbaren Werte des Archivs und des Museums der ehemaligen Israelitischen Religionsgemeinde mitsamt den beruehmten Machsorim aus dem Jahre 1273 sind ihm zu verdanken. Er hat das nicht ohne Gefaehrung des eigenen Lebens getan. Alle diese Schaetze wurden, wie erinnerlich, 1957, nach langwierigen Verhandlungen, an denen Dr. Illert massgeblich beteiligt war, nach Israel ueberfuehrt.

Illert war es auch, der den Wiederaufbau der alten Synagoge mit allen Kraeften betrieb und foerderte. 1961 wurde sie feierlich neueingeweiht, und kein geringerer als der damalige Stellvertreter des Bundeskanzlers, Professor Dr. Ludwig Erhard, hielt die Weiherede.

So hat nicht allein die Dom-, Luther- und Nibelungenstadt Worms einen hochangesehenen Kulturtraeger verloren. Auch die juedische Gemeinschaft beklagt einen verstaendnisvollen, stets bereiten, ehrlichen Freund ihrer Geschichte und ihrer Gegenwart, ihrer Kultur und ihrer Altertuemer.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

PROFESSOR NATHAN STEIN

Professor Dr. Nathan Stein passed away in New York at the age of 85. He held many leading positions in Jewish life both before and after his emigration. In Germany, where he was a partner in the banking firm Strauss in Karlsruhe, and a lecturer at the Technische Hochschule of that city, he was, for many years, president of the Badische Oberrat. He was also one of the founders of the Reichsvertretung in 1933.

He continued his work for the German Jews when he settled in the United States, especially in his capacity as president of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, the American corresponding organisation of the AJR. After his resignation, for reasons of age, the Federation made him its honorary president.

Professor Stein also took a deep interest in the work of the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. He furthered its efforts by serving on its board and by making a substantial endowment to the Institute. Professor Stein will be remembered with respect and gratitude by all those who knew him from his manifold and devoted Jewish activities.

MR. BERNARD SINGER

Mr. Bernard Singer, who was the chairman of the Association of Jewish journalists in pre-war Poland, died in London recently at the age of 73. He came to this country in 1943, via the Middle East, after having spent some time in a Soviet labour camp. After the war he became, until his death, the expert on Soviet and East European affairs of the "Economist".

MR. GEORG EHRLICH

The sculptor, Georg Ehrlich, recently died at the age of 69. He was born in Vienna and came to London in 1937. His works include two bronzes exhibited at the Festival of Britain in 1951, and he also contributed to the L.C.C. open-air sculpture shows. In 1961 he was awarded the Sculpture Prize of Vienna.

Letter to the Editor

CENSORSHIP IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Sir,— Dipl. Ing. K. K. Wolter has published a two-volume book, "Die Postzensur". The first volume comprises the period from 1745, the earliest beginning of any postal censorship, to 1939, and the second volume the time from the beginning of the Second World War up to the present.

The section which may interest your readers is the one covering the postal censorship of the concentration camps in Germany from 1933 until 1945. Although the book is an entirely philatelic research work, it is regrettable that the chapter dealing with this subject could not be fully covered because of lack of information. On the other hand, it would be highly desirable to place on record what Jewish as well as non-Jewish prisoners had to endure under the Nazis from the earliest time of that régime in 1933 up to 1939.

Readers who have kept any correspondence of their own, or of relatives and friends are, therefore, asked to forward it to me. In the case of letters only the covers would be required, because all that is wanted is the censorship markings. The material thus received would be incorporated into a supplement to Mr. Wolter's book which he intends to publish.

Yours, etc.,

O. WINTER.

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ROUND AND ABOUT

HILDESHEIM HONOURS SIR HANS KREBS

Professor Sir Hans Krebs was made an Honorary Citizen of Hildesheim, the city of his birth. At the official ceremony, held in the Town Hall on July 6, the Mayor, Oberstudiendirektor Boyken, described Sir Hans as the most outstanding of the town's four Honorary Citizens. He also recalled the work of Sir Hans's late father, who had been a well-known laryngologist in Hildesheim. He thanked Sir Hans for his constant interest in the reconstruction of the town after the war. "The fact that you resumed contacts with us is also a contribution to the moral reconstruction of our city." In his dignified reply, Sir Hans stated that by its decision the city had also honoured the memory of his father, whose last years had been darkened by the political happenings. "By the history which our generation had to go through, the normal relations which everybody has to the place where he spent his youth, have been disturbed, and in many cases destroyed once and for all. I must confess that today I have also 'officially' re-obtained the attachment to my native town". After the ceremony, Sir Hans paid a visit to his former school, the Andreaneum.

HAMBURG REMEMBERS ABY WARBURG

To mark the centenary of the birth of Aby M. Warburg (1866-1929), a Memorial Meeting took place at the Hamburg University. The main speaker was Professor Ernst Gombrich (London) and addresses were also delivered by the Rector of the University, Professor Karl-Heinz Schaefer, and by Professor C. G. Heise, the former director of the Hamburg Kuntshalle, who was also a pupil of Warburg's. On the occasion of the ceremony it was announced that the Hamburg school authorities had decided to endow an Aby Warburg Stiftung to sponsor studentships at the Warburg Institute in London.—(E.G.L.)

VICKY MEMORIAL CONCERT

The impact left by Vicky on the public life of his country of adoption became evident anew when the Royal Festival Hall was filled to capacity at a concert given in his memory on July 10. The audience included the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, several members of the Government and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Edward Heath. In his impressive brief tribute, Mr. Michael Foot stated that Vicky, "like his fellow-Jew Heine", would certainly have liked to be remembered first and foremost as a fighter for freedom. The concert consisted of chamber music by Mozart, Schubert and Mahler, three composers whose works were particularly cherished by Vicky.

MARTIN-BUBER-STRASSE IN BERLIN

On the first anniversary of Martin Buber's death, the Berlin Borough of Zehlendorf renamed the former Kaiserstrasse "Martin-Buber-Strasse". Buber had lived in Zehlendorf when he was head of the "Juedische Verlag". At the ceremony Mr. Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Berlin Jewish community, thanked the Borough Council for its decision.

FORMER HALBERSTAEDTER MEET IN TEL AVIV

A short while ago the "Verband ehemaliger Halberstaedter" in Israel held its second meeting in Tel Aviv. Rabbi H. B. Auerbach (formerly Halberstadt) spoke about the role played by the Halberstadt community in Jewish life. He recalled that Halberstadt was the seat of the German Section of the "Agudath Israel", of the "Bund gesetzentreuer Gemeinden in Deutschland" and of the Orthodox "Preussische Landesverband." The community owed much to the generosity of leading Jewish enterprises, especially the metal firms Aron Hirsch & Sohn, Sam. Baer's Soehne and H. J. Meyer & Soehne.

F.W.V. ANNIVERSARY DINNER

To mark the 85th anniversary of the foundation of the F.W.V., a dinner was held in London on July 16. The function was attended by more than 150 "Bundesbrueder", quite a few of whom had especially come to England from the U.S.A. and other countries overseas. Dr. E. Gould, who presided, extended a welcome to them as well as to the representatives of other fraternities and of the AJR. Referring to the ideological differences which, in former times, had separated the F.W.V. from the K.J.V. and the K.C., he stated that the happenings of the past decades had taught us to see things under different aspects. The State of Israel had become a reality, and all Jews now considered it their duty to fight openly for their rights and their honour. At the same time, the basic aims of the F.W.V., mutual understanding and tolerance, had still retained their topicality. It was in this vein that Sir Hans A. Krebs, himself a member of the Fraternity, proposed the toast to the F.W.V., or rather, as he put it, to the ideas for which the F.W.V. stood.

FAREWELL PARTY FOR MRS. ILSE WOLFF

Former and present staff members and friends of the "Wiener Library" met at an informal party in honour of Mrs. Ilse Wolff who, after 26 years of service, relinquished her position as Librarian at that Institute. She will take up freelance work. Mrs. Wolff had a responsible share in building up the library which, starting from small beginnings and under great difficulties, has developed into a comprehensive and indispensable research and information centre. On behalf of her colleagues, Mrs. C. Aronsfeld paid tribute to her work and conveyed their best wishes for her future.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Gumprich.—Mr. Erich Gumprich (formerly Trier), of 21 Grosvenor Court, 75 Christchurch Avenue, London, N.W.6, celebrates his 70th birthday on August 3rd.

Rosenthal.—Mr. Leo Rosenthal (formerly Frankfurt a/Main), 105 Eton Hall, Eton College Road, Hampstead, London, N.W.3, will celebrate his 90th birthday on August 9.

Thanks for Congratulations

Mrs. Doris Bermann, of Leo Baeck House, wishes to thank all relatives and friends for their congratulations and presents on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Deaths

Baum.—Jenny Rifka Baum passed away in hospital after a short illness on July 19.

Gosliner.—Mrs. Gerda Gosliner (née Flatow) passed away on June 14. Deeply mourned by her husband, Norbert Gosliner, her mother, Sara Flatow, and her brother, Erwin Flatow, 17 Bruntwood Lane, Cheadle, Cheshire.

Steinitz.—Miss Martha Steinitz passed away at Leeds General Infirmary on June 24. Deeply mourned by her relatives and friends.

Rosenthal.—Mr. Joseph Rosenthal, La Paz/Bolivia (formerly Gleiwitz O/S), passed away on July 16, aged 82, only a few months after his wife. He lived in the fear of God and observed His laws. Deeply mourned by his children, Erhard and Anny Rosenthal (née Siedner), Rudolf and Ena Steiner (née Rosenthal), grandchildren and great-granddaughter. May his soul rest in peace.

Schwarzbard.—Mr. Leo Schwarzbard (formerly Leipzig) passed away peacefully after a long illness on July 16. Deeply mourned by his daughter, Mrs. Leni Karriel, sons, Michael, Alfred and Harry Sherwood, and Mr. W. Bard, relatives and friends.

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Miscellaneous

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Personal

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QUIET, REFINED WIDOW, early middle age, with own very nice home in Manchester and some private income, no ties, willing to help in business, would like to meet home-loving gentleman, age up to about 60, with view to friendship/marriage. Any replies in strict confidence. Genuine replies welcomed. Box 725.

GENTLEMAN, 60s, German-born, non-Orthodox, nature-loving, seeks the acquaintance of kind, intelligent lady of similar age. Box 726.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Inquiries

Schönfeld.—Ruth Schönfeld, formerly Berlin, emigrated to Glasgow, left for London 1944, wanted by Mrs. E. Sachs, 248 Kenmure Street, Glasgow, S.1, regarding belongings still stored with her.

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SELF-SUPPORTING OLD AGE HOME

For the past two years a special Sub-Committee set up by the Executive of the AJR has tried to establish a Self-Supporting Old Age Home for those elderly people who, due to their financial position, do not qualify for admission to one of the existing Homes. To make such a Home an economical proposition it is envisaged to provide accommodation for about 50 residents.

It was first intended to purchase a site at Bishop's Avenue, but the authorities considered the available plot as too small for the type of building required.

The Sub-Committee then tried to find another plot. This was very difficult because suitable sites of the required size are very rare in North-West London, a location which is preferred by members of our community. However, recently a one-acre plot in Stanmore has become available which, being near the shopping centre but in the midst of gardens, appears particularly attractive. Negotiations have considerably advanced, and the Sub-Committee expects to receive planning permission at an early date, as the Town Planning Officers have, in principle, already approved the drawings submitted.

The need for a Home of this kind is realised by all quarters concerned. The pressure on the ordinary Old Age Homes has been, and is likely to remain, so great that admission must be reserved for those applicants who, due to their own or their families' financial position, cannot make adequate alternative arrangements. In many cases this has resulted in hardship, because suitable accommodation is most difficult to find; there are hardly any private homes where elderly persons can receive the care and attention which is provided in the Old Age Homes.

The scheme has been based on the idea that all prospective residents contribute proportionately to the funds required for the purchase of the land and the erection of the building. The Home would be owned by a Company of which the residents would become shareholders. These shares would constitute an investment which can be transferred to new residents when the original shareholder either passes away or leaves the Home. The total contribution required by each resident has been tentatively estimated at about £4,000. This is a conservative estimate, and the assess-

ment of the actual costs will only be possible when tenders from building contractors have been obtained. After completion, the Home would be run as a non-profit-making undertaking, and the maintenance costs per resident should, therefore, compare very favourably with those of a commercial establishment of a similar standard.

The scheme can, obviously, only be put into operation if a sufficient number of future residents agree to participate in financing the project. It is also felt that apart from the about 50 persons, for each of whom a "unit" would be reserved, a waiting list of potential further residents would be required to replace those original participants whose names might have to be withdrawn later for one reason or another. Whilst so far more than half of the planned accommodation has already been reserved, these registrations would be insufficient to proceed with the acquisition of the land and the subsequent erection of the Home.

Any persons who are, in principle, interested in the venture and who have not yet contacted the office of the AJR should, therefore, write in and ask for further detailed information.

AJR CLUB

Recital by Children's Choir

On June 26, the Children's Choir of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation, conducted by Mrs. Johanna Metzger-Lichtenstern and accompanied by Mr. P. Lichtenstern, gave a performance at Hannah Karminski House. The programme included Jewish and Israeli songs. Solos were also rendered by David Lawrence, and by Miriam Rae and Doreen Wolffberg, Evelyn Muns, Vivien Brotmacher and Peter White.

Mrs. M. Jacoby, chairman of the AJR Club, thanked the soloists and the members of the choir for their wonderful recitals. The function ended with a collection in aid of the Five Women's Lodges for children in Israel.

NEW YORK COLLECTION OF L.B.I.

London Lecture on September 7

Under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Lodge, the Secretary of the American Section of the Leo Baeck Institute, Mr. Fred Grubel, will speak about the Institute's unique collection of books and documents relating to German-Jewish history. The lecture, which is also open to non-members of the Lodge, will be held on Wednesday, September 7, at 7.45, at 51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3.

'THANK YOU BRITAIN' FUND

Inaugural Lecture by Lord Robbins

On July 6 the inaugural lecture of the "Thank-Offering to Britain" Fund (as it is officially called) was delivered in the Rooms of the British Academy. The speaker was Lord Robbins, President of the British Academy and one of the Patrons of the Fund. The subject of his lecture was "Of Academic Freedom". The audience included not only many Fellows of the Academy, but also a number of Committee Members and supporters of the Fund.

In his introductory remarks Lord Robbins paid tribute to the former refugees who had established the "Thank-You Britain" Fund.

"As a tribute to this splendid donation", he said, "it has been thought fitting that this year's presidential address to the Academy should take the form of a lecture inaugurating the series. I have said elsewhere with what deep personal emotion I have followed the progress of this conception—surely one of the most unordained acts in the history of academic endowments."

In the first part of his lecture, Lord Robbins illustrated the possibilities and limitations of academic freedom as well as the dangers arising from undue outside interference. He gave a number of examples taken from Greek and Roman history and from the Middle Ages. Turning to our times, he dealt with the problems in totalitarian fascist or Communist states and in democratically governed countries. Whilst, in any system, financial support by the State had become indispensable and was bound to result in a certain degree of public control, there should be safeguards against the abuse of such controls. Dealing with the practical problems of higher education in this country Lord Robbins put forward a number of proposals concerning the relationship between the University Grants Committee and the universities.

The contents of the lecture as well as Lord Robbins' appreciative remarks about the Fund received wide publicity in the national press. The full text of the lecture will be printed and copies will be sent to all contributors to the "Thank-You Britain" Fund.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Werner M. Behr, Chairman of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund Committee. He expressed gratitude to Lord Robbins not only for his lecture and his patronage of the Fund, but also for his practical help to refugee scholars when the emergency situation arose in Germany in 1933.

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THE ISRAELI SCENE

DISTORTED VIEW OF GERMANY

Dr. Rolf Pauls, the West German Ambassador in Tel Aviv, opened "German Day" at the international fair in Israel. In his address he said that Israeli newspapers gave a distorted picture of modern Germany. They had paid too much attention to a neo-Nazi group which won 1 per cent of the votes in the last Hamburg elections, but had overlooked the return of a Jew as the new mayor by the largest majority ever recorded.

No good purpose was being served, said Dr. Pauls, by the attempt to depict present-day Germany as a Nazi-trained State. Referring to Israel's recent expression of support for the Oder-Neisse line, he emphasised that Israel must consider Bonn's interests in the matters of relations between the two countries.

Dr. Pauls' remarks aroused antagonism in Jerusalem, including official circles.

BUBER'S LIBRARY FOR UNIVERSITY

The Harry S. Truman Centre for the Advancement of Peace, to be erected at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, has acquired Martin Buber's 20,000-volume library.

EXPORTS TO GERMANY

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry states that, together with the usual exports of citrus fruit and textiles, Israel will this year be selling to West Germany explosives worth about £356,250. West Germany is this year buying goods worth £14,250,000 from Israel, and sending exports worth £28,825,000. It was stated that West Germany is Israel's third best customer, after the United States and Britain.

WAGNER BAN LIFTED

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra's board decided to end the ban on the performance of the music of Richard Wagner and Richard Strauss. This was done for "artistic considerations" and because people's attitude has undergone a change in the course of the years. The Tel Aviv Public Council of the Orchestra, an advisory body, has urged the board to reconsider its decision.

The I.P.O.'s tour of the Soviet Union, postponed in May, is to take place in November. The Moscow State Orchestra will then visit Israel.—(J.C.)

KENNEDY MEMORIAL

About 5,000 Americans and Israelis attended the dedication on American Independence Day of the John F. Kennedy Memorial and Peace Forest of the Jewish National Fund in the Judean hills, near Jerusalem.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, of the U.S.A., expressed the hope that the peace forest would become a living symbol in the search for world peace. The memorial project was, he said, a new link in the tradition of Israeli and American friendship. Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, paid tribute to the late President Kennedy. Other speakers included Mr. Walworth Barbour, the American Ambassador to Israel, and Mr. Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem.

The memorial, a 60-foot-high structure designed in the shape of a tree trunk, symbolises the short career of the late President. The edifice is encircled by 51 columns each bearing the emblem of a State of the Union. A single shaft of light from an opening in the saw-toothed roof illuminates the bust of the late President in an otherwise empty chamber—"shining like an eternal candle." On the walls are inscribed excerpts from President Kennedy's major public addresses. The memorial was designed by the Israeli architect, David Reznik.—(H.F.)

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