

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Annual AJR Board Meeting

On January 30, the AJR held its Annual Board Meeting at Hannah Karminski House. It was the first time that the Board met in the AJR's own premises. The timing of the Meeting was also of historical importance under another aspect: 1966 is the 25th year since the AJR was founded.

The Meeting was attended by more than 60 Board members from London and the Provinces. In his opening address, Mr. A. S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR, paid tribute to the Executive and Board Members who had passed away: Mr. Henry Bendhem, Dr. Hans Fleischhacker, Mrs. Hannah Philipp and Mrs. Ruth Berlak. He also extended a special welcome to the new Board Members who were elected at the latest General Meeting, and congratulated Dr. Ludwig Guttmann, a Board Member of long standing, on the award of a Knighthood.

In his general report, Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary, stated that the year under review had been marked by two outstanding achievements: the opening of Hannah Karminski House and the successful conclusion of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund. With the establishment of *Hannah Karminski House* with its beautiful Club Rooms the AJR Club was enabled to expand its activities. There were regular informal meetings in the afternoons and evenings both for elderly people and for middle-aged former refugees who were still working. Furthermore, functions of various kinds were arranged on Sundays. The Meeting Hall and the kitchen facilities were also available for other organisations and for private parties.

The "Thank-You Britain" Fund had raised about £92,000 among 4,500 contributors. The individual donations ranged from £1 to £2,000. Although all major organisations of former refugees had been associated with the scheme, its success was due mainly to the AJR which had put its administrative facilities at the disposal of the Appeal. A brochure carrying the addresses delivered by Professor Sir Hans A. Krebs and Lord Robbins at the Handing-Over Ceremony at Saddlers' Hall under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. M. Behr, would be sent to all contributors. The special committee set up by the British Academy for the awards of research fellowships would commence their work in the course of the next weeks.

Turning to the activities of the AJR proper, the speaker stated that the services of the *AJR Social Services Department* and the *AJR Employment Agency* were used not only by pre-war refugees, but also by new arrivals.

As far as the work for the Homes was concerned, Dr. Rosenstock reported that one of the general tasks which had come into the foreground was the creation of more facilities to keep the residents active. With regard to finances, he stated that in 1964 the deficit

for the four ordinary Homes with altogether 180 residents had amounted to £11,800, and for Osmond House with 37 more infirm residents to £16,000. Reserves had been set aside for a limited number of years, but the maintenance of the Homes would have to be secured beyond that period and precautionary measures would have to be taken in time.

Two further building projects were under consideration. One scheme consisted of the extension of Osmond House to provide accommodation for 12 to 14 further residents. This would be highly desirable because, apart from new applicants, there were residents in the other Homes who would benefit from a transfer to Osmond House. It would be equally desirable to establish a special hostel for those residents of the Homes who had lost their sense of orientation. Both schemes would, however, have to be kept in abeyance until it is known, whether and to what extent further funds become available.

The speaker paid tribute to the devoted services of the staff and of the House Committees, all the members of which had come from the ranks of the AJR. It would, however, become increasingly necessary to enlist the co-operation of more members of the comparatively younger generation. He also stressed the continued happy co-operation with the C.B.F.

As before, *AJR Information* had rendered indispensable services not only by informing members on current developments, but also by making personalities and organisations in this country and abroad aware of our special hopes and demands.

Turning to Finances, the speaker reported that in 1965 the expenses (including those for the production of *AJR Information* and the maintenance of the AJR Club) had amounted to about £15,000 of which only about £8,000 was covered by subscriptions and donations, leaving a deficit of £7,000. A scrutiny of subscription payments had revealed that about 33 per cent of the members paid the standard rate of £2, 18 per cent less than £2, 38 per cent between £3 and £5 and only 11 per cent more than £5. Both at the previous Board Meeting and at the latest Annual General Meeting speakers from the floor had expressed their amazement at this low level and pressed for measures by which the deficit could be substantially reduced. Accordingly, the Executive had decided to increase the standard rate from £2 to £3 from 1966 onwards, and at the same time to ask members for a voluntary assessment beyond the minimum rate, wherever possible. Individual letters to that effect were being sent to all members.

Mr. A. S. Dresel, Chairman, reported that decisive progress had been made in the preparatory work for the erection of a *Flatlet*

Home at Avenue Road, Highgate. The architect's plans had been finalised. They provided for 48 one-room flatlets in a tower block, 4 two-room flats, 1 three-room flat, a caretaker flat, communal rooms and other amenities. Each flat would be a self-contained unit with kitchen, bath and w.c. The plans had gone out for tender and a decision on the building contractors would be taken shortly. Altogether the costs (purchase price of site, building costs and professional fees) would be in the neighbourhood of £320,000. It was hoped to obtain a mortgage of £200,000. Of the remaining £120,000 two-thirds would be defrayed by the C.B.F. and one-third by the AJR Charitable Trust.

The annual running expenditure for maintenance, fuel and service on the mortgage was estimated at about £21,500. Part of this would be covered by public subsidies. However, the actual extent of these subsidies would depend on the fate of the Housing Subsidies Bill 1965 which had had its Second Reading in the House. All necessary applications had been submitted to the authorities concerned, and although in view of the uncertainties involved no definite timetable could be set up at this stage, everything would be done to speed up the implementation of this important scheme.

The flatlets are meant for people over 60 who can still manage their own household. However, as the residents will require some kind of care, it is intended to engage a Matron.

Dr. E. A. Lomnitz, Deputy General Secretary, reported on the efforts aiming at the erection of *Self-Supporting Homes* for those who, due to the assets at their disposal, do not qualify for admission to the existing Homes. At present a site in Stanmore for the erection of a *Self-Supporting Old Age Home* is under consideration, but further developments depend on the decision of the planning authorities. As a first step towards the establishment of a *Self-Supporting Flatlet Home*, a *Housing Society* has been founded under the name of "Eventide Housing Society". As in the case of the *Old Age Home*, it is not easy to find a suitable site, but several offers have been followed up.

Dr. F. Goldschmidt, Chief Legal Adviser to URO and representative of the Council on the Legal Committee of the Claims Conference, reported on the negotiations carried out by Dr. W. Breslauer and himself in connection with the "Haushaltssicherungsgesetz". (Details have been published in recent issues of *AJR Information*—Ed.) He also dealt with the negotiations about a new Implementary Order to the *Federal Indemnification Law*. One of the main demands of the Council was an increase of the minimum "Renten" for persecutees who had been employees.

Dr. Goldschmidt reported that, contrary to previous Federal Parliaments, the present Parliament had no special committee on restitution and compensation. These tasks were now dealt with by a larger committee in charge of all questions arising from war and persecution. Rechtsanwalt Martin Hirsch, who was the chairman of the Indemnification Com-

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A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Continued from page 1

mittee of the previous Parliament, had been appointed Vice-Chairman of this new Committee.

Summing up the general position Dr. Goldschmidt pointed out that quite understandably the promulgation of the Budget Law had had a most disquieting effect on all persecutees. However, claimants should retain a certain sense of proportion and also remember that, on the whole, restitution and compensation had been enacted and implemented on a much larger scale than many had expected 15 years ago. Nevertheless, as before, the Council of Jews from Germany considers it its duty to remain vigilant.

The reports were followed by a vivid discussion in which the following Executive and Board Members participated: Dr. W. Dux, Dr. L. G. T. King, Mr. F. Godfrey, Dr. E. Gould, Mr. C. F. Flesch, Dr. H. G. Sandheim, Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, Dr. Martin Levy (Leicester), Dr. J. Loeb, Mr. B. N. Bergmann (Glasgow), Dr. Erna Goldschmidt, Mr. O. L. Einstein (Manchester) and Dr. Eva Reichmann.

All speakers expressed their appreciation of the widespread and effective work of the AJR. With regard to the Homes, some of them stressed the need for the establishment of a special hostel for disturbed residents of the Homes. Others stated that it would be most advantageous to the atmosphere in the Homes, if the Committee in charge of the selection of new residents gave greater preference to applicants in a comparatively good physical and mental condition.

The question was also raised whether, in view of the great demand for accommodation in the Old Age Homes, it would not be more advisable to erect a further Old Age Home instead of a Flatlet Home. In the reply from the Chair, it was pointed out that the considerably larger funds required for the establishment and maintenance of another Old Age Home would not be available and that, indirectly, the Flatlet Home would also relieve pressure on the Old Age Homes.

Speakers from the Provinces stressed that their attendance at the Board Meeting would enable them to pass on the first-hand information received to members in their areas.

Questions connected with Right-wing and antisemitic trends in Germany were also raised, and it was agreed that greater activity in this sphere might become necessary for the AJR.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was moved by Mr. W. M. Behr.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

ATONEMENT TO JEWISH PEOPLE

Main Object of Dr. Adenauer's Policy

In an interview on the occasion of his 90th birthday, Dr. Adenauer stated that reconciliation with France and atonement to the Jewish people had been the two main objectives of his policy when he became Chancellor. "We had to come to a settlement with France, and we had to try to make good the wrongs afflicted on the Jews by the Nazis, as far as this was humanly possible."

The Chancellor also recalled his meeting with Ben-Gurion in New York on the occasion of his visit to the United States. During his stay he also laid a wreath on the memorial to the murdered Jews. He had been warned by the American authorities that this might create disturbances, but nothing happened.

SHADOWS OF THE PAST

Auschwitz Nazi Freed

Robert Mulka, former adjutant of Auschwitz, has been released from prison owing to ill health. Last August he was gaoled for 14 years, but as he had appealed he had not yet begun to serve his sentence.

Scientists in Cairo

According to Dr. Alfred Seidel, a Munich lawyer, between 20 and 25 West German scientists are still working on the development of Egyptian rockets. He said that an American expert had succeeded Professor Wolfgang Pilz, the head of the West German rocket team in Egypt, who returned to Germany last year.

RIGHT-WING PAPER DENIES EXTENT OF PERSECUTION

In two of its recent articles the Right-wing *National- und Soldatenzeitung* (Munich) tried to refute the extent of the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis. One of the articles carries the heading: "The Lie of the Six Million Murdered Jews" and the sub-heading: "Thus we are Blackmailed". In another article, published under the heading "We Discovered the Lie of the Gas Chambers", the paper deals with the position in the Dachau Concentration Camp and sets out to explain the difference between gas chambers, as used in Auschwitz, and crematoria which were in use in most of the camps to dispose of the bodies of the perished prisoners.

The Organisation of Persecutees in Bavaria has lodged a strong protest with Federal Minister of Justice Herr Jaeger, demanding the prohibition of the paper. Both articles, the protest states, were an insult to the memory of the millions of Jews and resistance fighters who were murdered by the Nazis. The *National- und Soldatenzeitung* has a circulation of 200,000 and is the second largest weekly in the Federal Republic.

NEO-NAZI SENTENCED

An eight months' sentence was meted out in Frankfurt on Bruno Luedtke, for distributing anti-democratic pamphlets, using Nazi emblems and establishing links with National Socialist groups abroad in an attempt to undermine German democracy. The court was told that Luedtke wanted to revive National Socialism as a religion. The four months Luedtke spent in custody were deducted from the sentence and he was put on probation for the remaining four months, thus going free. A medical report was considered and Luedtke promised he would never again take part in politics.

TRIAL

A Lueneberg court acquitted Otto Loebel, a former Nazi police officer at Czestochowa. A survivor of the ghetto there, Mr. Zeev Toronczyk, told the court that Loebel had always helped the Jews whenever he could and that he had once helped a Jewish woman to escape. The other defendant, former policeman Kurt Jericho, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

AUSTRIA

Sympathy for Nazis

The acquittal of some Nazi war criminals and neo-Nazis and the light sentences imposed on others in Austrian jury trials has been reported before. Robert Verbelen, sentenced to death *in absentia* by a Brussels court in 1947 for the murder of Belgian Resistance fighters, was recently acquitted by a Vienna court. Erich Rajakovitch, a former S.S. lieutenant-colonel, charged with complicity in the murder of 83 Dutch Jews, was sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment in March last year, his actual sentence amounting to six months as he had been held for two years. Murer, ex-commandant of the Vilna Ghetto, secured an acquittal despite the fact that a handful of survivors testified to having witnessed personally his killing of their relatives. When the verdict was announced the public applauded wildly and escorted Murer home in triumph. Franz Novak, Eichmann's aide in Hungary, was sentenced to eight years—an unusually stiff sentence by Austrian standards—for organising deportations in the full knowledge of the fate awaiting deportees at Auschwitz. However, he now faces a retrial.

There is a persistence of antisemitic feeling in a country whose post-war Jewish population of 11,500 amounts to a minute fraction of 1 per cent of the general population. There was, for instance, the occasion during a performance of Lessing's "Nathan the Wise" at Vienna's National Theatre when the line: "No matter; the Jew must be burnt", led to an outburst of clapping in the gallery. An antisemitic statement made during a television—and Student Union-sponsored—appearance of the veteran Nazi, Professor Borodajkewicz, triggered off counter-demonstrations and physical violence, when a neo-Nazi student fatally injured an elderly non-Jewish concentration camp survivor. The culprit was let off and Borodajkewicz is still on paid leave of absence.

A report issued by the European office of the American Jewish Committee says that there is indication of a "widespread state of mind dangerous for democracy in Austria". It is clear, states the report, that large sections of the Austrian population "have their own reasons for considering Nazi crimes as not crimes at all; or, at any rate, as crimes that should be excused".—(J.C.)

Accused Applauded in Court

In Salzburg two former Polish officers are charged with complicity in the mass murder of Jews in Stanislaw, Poland (now U.S.S.R.) during the war. The brothers, Johann and Wilhelm Mauer, acquired Austrian nationality after the war.

The court was adjourned when members of the public clapped their hands and shouted "Bravo" after Dr. Kirsch, defending counsel, alleged that the brothers were the victims of a "Jewish plot". When proceedings were resumed, Dr. Olscher, the prosecutor, expressed surprise that spectators in court listened unmoved to evidence of atrocities, which contrasted with their applause when allegations of a "Jewish plot" were made. The prosecutor read a document showing that evidence for the trial was compiled by the Central Agency for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes at Ludwigsburg, and not by an Austrian, Jewish or a Communist institution.

Survivors of the Stanislaw Ghetto told the court that the Mauers took an active part in the executions. The brothers claim that they were used only as warders during the shooting of prisoners. At the preliminary inquiries they said they had never entered the ghetto and had served as interpreters.—(J.C.)

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

IN PARLIAMENT

Appointments

Mr. John Silkin, M.P., has been appointed Government Whip to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. George Rogers. The youngest son of Lord Silkin, Mr. Silkin, aged 42, was in November, 1964, appointed an assistant Labour Whip.

Mr. Reg Freeson, M.P. for Willesden East, has been appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mrs. Barbara Castle, the Minister of Transport. He held the same post with the previous Transport Minister, Mr. Tom Fraser.

"The Joel Brand Story"

Lord Moyne tabled a question in the House of Lords asking whether official records show that the interview ever took place between the late Lord Moyne and the late Joel Brand, alleged by the BBC in a "Radio Times" edition and given verbatim in a play entitled "The Joel Brand Story".

However, he withdrew the question after a letter by him was published in a later edition of the "Radio Times", together with an editorial footnote according to which the broadcast of the play did not imply an endorsement of the historical truth of the events shown.

Prospective Candidates

Mr. C. Bernard Kissen has been adopted by Labour for the Hastings constituency. The Labour Party has chosen Mr. Cyril Rofe for the Esher constituency. Mr. Michael Colne has been chosen to stand for the Liberals at that constituency.—(J.C.)

INCREASE IN ANTISEMITISM

Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, at a council meeting gave a warning against the Anglo-Jewish community treating recent outbreaks of antisemitism with complacency. He was referring specifically to the recent attack in Stamford Hill by a gang of armed youths on a 17-year-old yeshiva student.

The attention of the Home Secretary had been drawn to this incident and to other attacks on Jews in that locality, said Mr. Edelman. As a result a special detective squad had been set up to investigate and stamp out violence in the neighbourhood.

There had also been a serious rise in anti-semitic activity in other areas, said Mr. Edelman.

FASCISTS BANNED

The National Youth Movement, the junior section of the British National Party—an extreme Right-wing group—was refused permission to hold a rally in Trafalgar Square on February 6. The refusal was on the grounds that any such meeting "might result in public disorder". The section is said to have about 50 members, and was formed only recently for boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 21.

Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist Party, has been banned from taking part in a debate at the Bournemouth Municipality College.

MOSLEYITES AT BY-ELECTION

Over 1,500 votes were polled in a recent Greater London Council by-election by Robert Ramage, a candidate of Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement. Ramage gained just over 7 per cent of the 21,877 votes cast. The seat was won by the Conservative candidate who polled 18,490 votes, with the Communist candidate receiving 1,858.

According to Ramage, his pre-election campaign involved attacks on proposed rate increases, housing shortages and coloured immigration. The Communist candidate, Mr. R. Ward, stated that Ramage made a big issue of racial discrimination, although he said nothing which was basically antisemitic. Mr. Ward added that he was surprised at the number of votes polled by Ramage.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

Communal officials state that the trend revealed by the Registrar-General's office has not been arrested, and the percentage of Jewish marriages performed in England and Wales continues to drop. A proportional decline in Jewish marriages has taken place every year since 1934. Twenty-two years ago, nine out of every 100 marriages in this country with a religious ceremony were Jewish. By 1962 this number had dropped to six.

A spokesman for the Jewish Marriage Guidance Council stated that the greatest number of Jewish divorces occurs among young married couples. Promiscuity was on the increase and this, coupled with the drift away from religion, was contributing to the growing divorce rate among Jews. It is believed by lawyers and others with professional knowledge of the subject that the rate of break-ups in Anglo-Jewish marriages is increasing. Among the Orthodox, divorce is due, nine times out of ten, to mental illness, which has a particularly high rate among Jews, of one or both partners. Another common factor is the mismanagement of the sex relationship and the misuse of birth control devices; the tendency towards gambling; the high proportion of interfering parents and the large number of spoiled young Jewish wives. Religion, too, can be a cause of conflict as well as a binding factor. Jewish couples also tend to go direct to a solicitor instead of to a marriage guidance counsellor. Mixed marriages are the most vulnerable of all. Some of these marriages turn out well but the majority fails, the heredity backgrounds of both partners being too dissimilar to make for a successful marriage, the conflict worsening when there are children.

JEWISH MAYORS

The United Jewish Friendly Society gave a reception in honour of Councillor S. Fisher, Mayor of Camden, and the only Jewish Mayor of any of Greater London's 32 boroughs.

The next Lord Mayor of Leeds will be Alderman Joshua Samuel Walsh, leader of the Labour group on the Leeds City Council.

Alderman Bernard Langton, Lord Mayor of Manchester, was presented with a medallion on behalf of the Mayor of Jerusalem, at a reception given in Manchester by the Israel Government Tourist Office in conjunction with El Al and the Zim Company.

BIRMINGHAM HONOURED

A testimonial dinner to honour the City of Birmingham was arranged by the Central Synagogue and attended by about 250 guests. The Lord Mayor was presented with an inscribed silver menorah as a token of the esteem and affection of Birmingham Jewry towards the city. There could, said the Lord Mayor, be no better symbol of the valued Jewish contribution towards the city's welfare and progress.

"CHRISTIAN" ANTISEMITISM

In a review in the *Sunday Times*, Professor Hans Kueng, of Tubingen University, Germany, wrote about the achievements of the Second Vatican Council. He stated, *inter alia*, that "the monstrous crimes of Nazi antisemitism would have been impossible without the hidden and often 'Christian' antisemitism of more than 1,500 years, an antisemitism which was manifest even in the Council debates. . . ." The Council's unambiguous rejection of antisemitism and call for co-operation with the Jews introduced a new period of Judaeo-Christian relations after 2,000 years of Church history, said Professor Kueng.

SENIOR CHAPLAIN TO RETIRE

The Rev. Dr. I. Levy is to retire in September as senior Jewish Chaplain to the Forces. He will be succeeded by the Rev. C. K. Harris, minister of the Kenton Synagogue.

Lord Sieff

Mr. Israel Moses Sieff, who received a life peerage in the New Year Honours List, has chosen the title of Baron Sieff of Brimpton in the Royal County of Berkshire. Lord Sieff was elected a member of the Court of Patrons of the Royal College of Surgeons, in recognition of his, his family's and Marks & Spencer's support of the college.

Churchill Chair

The third annual dinner of the British Friends of Bar-Ilan University, held at the Savoy Hotel, was held on the first anniversary of the death of Sir Winston Churchill. The main event was the inauguration of the Winston Churchill Chair of International Relations and Political Science. £28,000 has been raised of the £100,000 required for the endowment. Mr. Herbert Bowden, M.P., recalled the highlights of Sir Winston's pro-Zionist activity. It was fitting, he said, that the Chair should bear the name of the great man who had all his life described himself as an unrepentant Zionist.

An honorary fellowship of Bar-Ilan was bestowed on Professor Paul Dirac, of St. John's College, Cambridge, the eminent physicist and Nobel Prize winner, recently a visiting professor at the university.

Youth Aliyah

Because of lack of funds, Youth Aliyah will, until April, have to refuse to accept 4,000 children who have arrived in Israel and 2,000 more still in the Diaspora who wish to enter the State. The only exceptions will be those who are totally orphaned. This is the first time, in more than 30 years of its existence, that Youth Aliyah has been obliged to shut its doors against children in need. It was pointed out that the ban comes at a time when children in many parts of the world are suffering anti-Jewish discrimination or, as in the case of India, abject poverty.

£1,000 for Cancer Research

A cheque for £1,000 was handed over to the Yorkshire Council for Cancer Research by the Leeds Jewish ladies' committee for the British Empire Cancer Campaign. As a tribute to the memory of the committee's chairman and founder, Mrs. Marion Collins, a commemorative plaque will be affixed to the Council's offices.

Birth Control Sanction

In a statement published in the journal of the Hendon Reform Synagogue, the Ministers' Assembly of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain gave permission to members of the Reform movement to "exercise birth control measures". The statement said that parents had the right to determine the number and to space the births of their children in accordance with what they believed to be in the best interest of their families. The Ministers' Assembly only asked that "this responsibility be exercised in the light of the ethical and moral teaching of Judaism, which places a strong emphasis upon the blessing of family life".

Jews' College Deficit

Jews' College has an accumulated deficit of over £20,000. Unless more help is forthcoming it will find itself in a serious financial situation. Although subscriptions for the past year increased by over £5,000, expenditure is also increasing.

Yiddish Writers

A conference of Yiddish-speaking writers was held in London. Entitled "Yiddish in Jewish Life", the symposium was organised under the auspices of the cultural department of the World Jewish Congress. Partici-

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Vietnam Policy

At the invitation of the U.S.A. Government, leaders of the Jewish War Veterans visited South Vietnam. Thereafter, a statement, signed by the Veterans' president, was issued, expressing "disgust" with statements from Jewish organisations urging a cessation of bombings of North Vietnam and the start of negotiations to bring a peaceful settlement of the situation.

Leaders of the Liberal rabbinical and congregational organisations then issued a statement viewing the Veterans' statement with "shock and dismay". There was also a carefully phrased statement by the Synagogue Council of America, the consultative body of the modern Orthodox, Conservative and Liberal rabbinical and congregational organisations. This urged cease-fire negotiations.

The Liberal statement said that "bomb-rattling jingoism is no more tolerable from a Jewish source than from a militaristic general demanding that we bomb the 'enemy back to the Stone Age' . . ."

The Synagogue Council's statement (the first time that the entire Jewish religious community with the exception of the extreme Right has taken a position—and one having the unanimity which the statement received—on an international issue going beyond immediate Jewish concern) called upon President Johnson to resist pressures for escalating the war in Vietnam.

In New York, 29 Liberal rabbis met Mr. Arthur Goldberg, America's U.N. representative, to discuss Vietnam. The rabbis left determined to keep the dialogue on peace going. The Liberal movement plans the establishment of inter-religious groups in every community to deal with the problem of peace.

Antisemitic Incidents

The American Jewish Committee has issued a report on the 14 antisemitic incidents in the United States between August and December, 1965. The report concludes that the rash of vandalism against synagogues and other Jewish institutions is "expressive of a lingering, violent antisemitism" in the United States. The fact that the acts were "malicious" but "not centrally sparked" make them more "disquieting" than if they were part of an organised plot.

According to the report, even in instances where the culprits were teenagers the acts of vandalism could not be classified as "mischievous behaviour" but rather as "deliberate expressions of hostility towards Jews".

A Soviet newspaper, *Soviet Russia*, commented that "strange as it may seem", Zionist leaders in America and Israel were taking no steps to halt rampant antisemitism in the United States. The newspaper tells of synagogues being bombed, cemeteries desecrated and Jews barred from restaurants and bars carrying signs reading: "Negroes, dogs and Jews not allowed."—(J.C.)

Rabbis for Germany

A group of between ten and 15 American Liberal rabbis are to visit West Germany in June to give German trainee teachers a fortnight's series of lectures on Judaism, the story of the Jewish people and the Holocaust.

Organised by the commission on inter-faith activities of American Liberal Jewry, the project was suggested by Rabbi Joseph Asher, who left Germany in 1936. Visiting his old school there, Rabbi Asher found there was a thirst for a knowledge of Jewish history and theology and a "total ignorance" of Judaism, "its mission in the world and its contribution to the ethics of our time".

MINORITY GROUPS AND U.N.

Action by the United Nations on the issue of the preservation of the cultural and spiritual rights of minority groups has been called for. This was done by the Israeli, French and Finnish experts on the sub-commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. Dr. Meir Rosenne, of Israel, said that violations of the "cultural groups" and "attacks on the freedoms of a group" occurred even today, and called for the specific mention of this "cultural, spiritual and mental genocide" by the United Nations.

It was also proposed that the sub-commission recommend to all States which have not yet ratified the Genocide Convention to do so. The United States has not yet signed. Recently Britain announced her intention to sign.

BRAZILIAN WOMAN'S ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Freida Eidelman, a Jewess whose parents emigrated to Brazil from Poland, is the first woman in Brazil to gain a doctorate in atomic engineering. The diploma granted by the Military Engineering Institute in Rio, was presented to Dr. Eidelman by the President of Brazil.—(J.C.)

YUGOSLAVIA

Memorial

Osijek, capital of Slavonia in northern Yugoslavia, has in a principal square erected a memorial to Slavonian Jews killed in action or murdered by the Nazis. The memorial was designed by Oscar Nemon, who now lives in Britain but who was born in Osijek.

About 60,000 Yugoslav Jews perished at the hands of the Nazis.

Jewish Family Remembered

Prominent guests, including the Vice-President of Yugoslavia, attended the dedication ceremony of the "Brothers Baruch School" in the Dorchol district of Belgrade. Many Jews had lived in the district before the war. The street in which the school stands was also renamed "Brothers Baruch Street". Of the three brothers Baruch and two sisters, two were killed in action and the other three murdered by the Nazis.

JEWS ATTACKED IN GEORGIA

Details have been received of a series of antisemitic incidents in the town of Kutaisi in the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, towards the end of last year. After a drunken Russian was refused any more drink by a Jewish liquor store-keeper, the Russian went to the police and alleged that the Jew had "drawn his blood." This resulted in the stoning of individual Jews and stones being thrown into the courtyard of the synagogue. A band of hooligans followed a Jewish funeral procession to the cemetery, where they seized the corpse and threw it on the ground. A Jewish driver was also stabbed while delivering bread, in front of an angry crowd some of whom shouted: "We don't want bread from a Jew."

After a Jewish delegation called on the local authority, the authorities intervened and order was restored. There have been no further incidents, a threat of similar disturbances in the near-by town of Kulashi being averted by prompt action on the part of the authorities.

Kutaisi has 138,000 inhabitants, about 35,000 of whom are Jews.

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Abolished Jewish Identity Cards

There are reports that a new Soviet identity card is to be introduced doing away with the separate identification of minority nationalities. At present, identity cards held by Jews, Ukrainians, Georgians and others, are stamped accordingly. But if the reports are correct, identity cards will be inscribed only with the words "Soviet citizen."

REACTIONS IN THE WEST

British Communists' Statement

A statement by the executive of the British Communist Party discloses that on two recent occasions the British Party successfully approached the Soviet Party once to protest against the publication of T. Kytchko's "disgraceful book" ("Judaism Unmasked") and again to request that matzot be made available to observant Jews in the Soviet Union.

Although the statement was made in response to two branch resolutions about the position of the Jewish minority in the Soviet Union, it was explained that it did not follow that the executive had accepted the criticism contained in those resolutions. Mr. Bert Ramelson, a member of the executive and chairman of its advisory committee on Jewish affairs, stated that if there ever was a case of antisemitism or interference with religious freedom in the U.S.S.R., the British party would naturally take it up. He denied that the executive's statement implied the party's acceptance that such a case had already been made out.

The statement asserted that the Revolution had put an end to the antisemitic pogroms of Tsarist Russia and that the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. had "placed in the forefront of its principles the right of freedom of all religions and opposition to antisemitism. The Communist Party will in future, as it has in the past, do all in its power to condemn antisemitism and interference with the right to worship whenever and wherever they manifest themselves", the statement concluded.

Anglo-Jewry's Concern

Private talks on practical ways in which British Jewry can help alleviate the plight of Soviet Jewry, were held in London. Taking part were members of the Board of Deputies' foreign affairs committee and representatives of 13 communal organisations. It is understood that the consensus of opinion was that a combination of "quiet diplomacy" (invoking also the assistance of friendly governments) and of public protests to mobilise world opinion, offered the best hopes of influencing the Soviet authorities.

In a statement after the talks the Board referred to the continued denial to Russian Jewry of facilities which were accorded to other minority groups and to the plight of those Jews who were not allowed to be reunited with their families in Israel and elsewhere.—(J.C.)

Students' Campaign

The World Union of Jewish Students has launched a campaign to draw the attention of students throughout Europe to the plight of Soviet Jewry.

An exhibition covering all facets of Russian Jews' life has been seen in Brussels and will probably be shown in other countries. Visitors will be asked to sign petitions, to be handed to the Russian embassies in the various European countries, asking for equal rights for Russian Jewry.

The World Union, in a statement issued from its headquarters in Paris, has expressed "deep anxiety and fear" for the future of Soviet Jewry.

Peter Ury

"JOEL BRAND" AUTHOR IN LONDON

Interview with Heinar Kipphardt

One of the most recent visitors to Britain's shores was Heinar Kipphardt, the German dramatist and playwright, whose plays have been shown in 26 countries. He was invited by the German Embassy and gave talks and lectures in London and at several universities in the Provinces.

I asked Kipphardt what he thought about the English Radio version of his play "The General's Dog", and he replied that he found the production excellent. I also told him that after Rudolf Cartier's production of his play "Joel Brand" on BBC Television, Lord Moyne's son had complained to the press that his father was shown as if he had been an enemy of the Jews, and I asked Kipphardt whether his description of Lord Moyne was based completely on documentary facts. He replied that he could well understand a son wanting to uphold the good reputation of his father, but that, as a playwright, he had done nothing to incriminate Lord Moyne morally. He had merely shown him in his function as Minister of State in the Near East at that particular time, basing his facts on the documents of Ira Hirschmann and Joel Brand himself, and he did not believe that any man could have acted differently at that point of history, when Great Britain was in such a difficult and contradictory position in the Near East.*

When asked, why it had taken 20 years before a group of writers like Hochhuth, Weiss and himself began to write about the Nazi past, Kipphardt stated that he did not think my question was justified. There had been quite a number of German authors who had written about this very subject as early as 1945. On the other hand, he did agree that some lapse of time was required until it became possible to write about Fascism in a detached and objective way, without being carried away by emotions. Asked about the productions of his plays in both East and West Germany, he said he did not know on which side of the Iron Curtain they had been more successful. He equally liked the productions of the Berliner Ensemble and of the Munich Kammertheater.

Kipphardt is now working on a new play which is in a way also connected with the Joel Brand story. It has the provocative title "Bruder Eichmann", and is based on documentation of the Jerusalem trial such as the cross-examinations and medical reports. The play deals with the problem of how it came about that someone who, as a super-conformist, started as the opposite of a criminal, was transformed by his urge to comply with the trends of his environment. The author tries to find out how much a man like this is the object of history and to what extent

* For further reference see page 3, column 1.

he becomes active in making history. At what stage, he asks, can man still free himself from the compulsion of a system? In other words: why did my neighbour not develop into an Eichmann, and would I, had I been a bit older, have become an Eichmann, or at least a little Eichmann, a creature who follows orders and thinks he is in the right?

I am sure there are a great many people all over the world who are deeply concerned with this problem, and Heinar Kipphardt has taken it upon himself to deal with it.

REFUGEES HELPED THOMAS MANN

Whilst it is well known that on many occasions Thomas Mann promoted and supported efforts for the benefit of his fellow refugees, two recent publications remind us that, although on a considerably smaller scale, he also received help from people who eventually were to share his fate as refugees.

When reporting on the recent death in Preston of Czech-born Rudolf Fleischmann, the "Guardian" recalls that it was due to his good services that, in 1936, Thomas Mann and members of his family received Czechoslovakian passports. At that time Fleischmann was a member of the City Council of Prose (CSR). He had already succeeded in obtaining a passport for Heinrich Mann, and he knew that President Benes was anxious to grant Czech citizenship to Thomas Mann as well. Yet Fleischmann encountered opposition amongst his colleagues on the Municipal Council. Ultimately he succeeded, last but not least, with the help of a local priest, Father Jerabek, who based one of his Sunday sermons on Thomas Mann's "Joseph" novel. In 1945 Father Jerabek was shot at the door of his church by the retreating Germans as he refused to allow them to use it as a strongpoint.

Fleischmann had to flee when the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia and with the help of a Dr. Joachim Schreiber, a German colonel who was a member of the Resistance Movement, managed to cross the German border. He ultimately settled in Preston where he was also actively associated with the Labour Party and the Fabian Society.

Another story is recorded in an article by Ida Herz, published under the stimulating heading "Ein Roman wandert aus" in the American periodical *The German Quarterly*. The authoress was closely associated with Thomas Mann from 1925 onwards and her name frequently appears in the published collection of his letters. After Thomas Mann had left Germany, she retrieved from his house in Munich material required by him for his "Joseph" novel and passed it on to him through an arranged address in Basle. At his request, she also sent him items from her own collection of writings by and about himself. This collection survived the war because it was deposited in the cellars of the French Legation in Munich. It is now part of the Thomas Mann Archives in Zürich.

The article also recalls atrocities committed against the Jews in Nuernberg, where Miss Herz lived, and quotes from her correspondence with Thomas Mann during those difficult years. In the light of future events, it is amazing that this subject could then be dealt with between people still in Germany and emigrated adversaries of the régime. Miss Herz herself had to flee in 1935 in order to escape arrest. As many of our readers know, she is now living in London.

Old Acquaintances

Germany: Fritz Kortner will direct "Maria Magdalena" in Berlin and "Othello" in Vienna; his own play "Die Zwiesprache", with Karl Paryla in the lead, will go on tour.—Wolfgang Staudte is directing the filming of "Ganovenhede", based on Ch. Rudolph's play, with Gert Frobbe and Curt Bois.—Peter Zadek produced "The Cherry Orchard" for Cologne TV.—Alfred H. Unger's German adaptation of Benjamin Britten's "Billy Budd" was successfully presented in Cologne.—G. Rennert is to become musical director of Munich's State Opera.—Annemarie Steinsieck is to appear in Georg Kaiser's "Kolportage" at Berlin's Tribüne.—Wolfgang Liebeneiner directed Kanin's "Leb wohl mein Traum" at Hamburg's Kammertheater, with his wife Hilde Krahl and his daughter Johanna Liebeneiner in the cast.—Jan (H.G.) Lustig, husband of Fritzi Massary's only daughter, Liesl Frank, adapted "The Killing of Sister George", starring Inge Meysel, to the German stage.

News from Everywhere: Erich Kaestner attended the Copenhagen opening of an exhibition in his honour.—In Kuessnacht Erika Mann is working on a film script based on her father's novel "Der Zauberberg".—Seventy-four-year-old Ludwig Berger received the German Cross of Merit with Stars.—Erwin Leiser was elected president of the Oberhausen Film Festival.

Austria: Ernst Haussermann, director of Vienna's Burg has been appointed professor at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.—Leopold Lindtberg and G. F. Hering received the Grillparzer Prize.—Robert Gilbert and G. Bronner made a German version of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying", starring Theo Lingen and Anita Hofer, at Theater an der Wien.—Eva Kerbler of Israel will take the part of Eboli in Gustav Manker's production of "Don Carlos" at the Josefstadt.—Robert Stolz, currently conducting "Die Fledermaus" at the State Opera and "Der Zigeunerbaron" at the Volksoper, has composed the music for a new ice show, "Regenbogen".—Kurt Meisel will direct Grass's "Plebejer" at the Burg.—Wieland Wagner will produce "Elektra", with Karl Boehm conducting, at the State Opera.

Switzerland: Rainer Litten staged a Fritz von Unruh matinee in Basle.—Duerrenmatt's new play, "Der Meteor", directed by Lindtberg, with Leonard Steckel, Gustav Knuth and Therese Giehse, scored a success at Zurich's Schauspielhaus.—Veit Relin directed Tennessee Williams' "The Rose Tattoo" in Basle, starring Wanda Rotha from London.

Obituary: Ruth Yorck, better known as Ruth Landshoff, died in New York. She was the intimate friend of many famous people, including Toscanini, Max Reinhardt and Carl Vollmoeller, mentioning them in her memoirs, "Klatsch, Ruhm und kleine Feuer".—Hermann Kassack, whose novel "Die Stadt hinter dem Strom" was much discussed after the war, died in Stuttgart at the age of 70. He was president of the German Academy of Arts.—The well-known and courageous educationalist, F. W. Foerster, has died in Switzerland at the age of 96.

Milestones: Stage designer Rochus Gliese is 75 and still going strong.—Eduard Kandler, a member of all three Berlin opera houses, has reached the age of 90.—On her 75th birthday Lion Feuchtwanger's widow, Martha, who lives in Hollywood, received the Great German Federal Cross of Merit.—The actress, Elsa Wagner, well remembered by former Berliners, is 85 years old.

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RECHTE DER VERFOLGTEN AUS DEUTSCHER SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Die Grundlagen fuer Anspueche der Verfolgten aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung sind in diesen Blaettern wiederholt ausfuehrlich eroertert worden. Nachdem aber die einschlaegigen Gesetze mehrfach geaendert und verbessert worden sind, erscheint es angebracht, unter Beruecksichtigung des Gegenseitigkeits-Abkommens zwischen der Bundesrepublik und dem Vereinigten Koenigreich, die wesentlichen und allgemein gueltigen Voraussetzungen fuer solche Anspueche, soweit sie die Verfolgten betreffen, noch einmal zusammenzustellen.

Allgemeine Voraussetzungen

Anspruch auf Rentenzahlung aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung besteht, wenn die Wartezeit erfuellt ist. Die Wartezeit setzt sich aus Beitrags-, Ausfall- und Ersatzzeiten zusammen. *Beitragszeit* ist die Zeit, fuer die Beitrage geleistet oder, z.B. wegen Krankheit oder Arbeitslosigkeit, gutgeschrieben wurden. *Ausfallzeiten* sind die Zeiten, in denen der Versicherte nach Vollendung des 15. Lebensjahres in Schul-, Hochschul- oder Fachausbildung gestanden hat, wenn er im Anschluss daran innerhalb von 2 Jahren eine versicherungspflichtige Beschaeftigung oder Taetigkeit aufgenommen hat. *Ersatzzeiten* sind bestimmte Zeiten einer unverschuldeten Unterbrechung der Beitragsleistung. Dazu zaehlt z.B. die Freiheitsentziehung durch nationalsozialistische Verfolgung, etwaige Krankheit und Arbeitslosigkeit im Anschluss daran, Arbeitslosigkeit durch Verfolgung und schliesslich auch die Zeit von der Auswanderung bis zum 31. Dezember 1949.

Ersatzzeiten werden grundsaeztlich nur dann angerechnet, wenn der Versicherte in Deutschland nach dem 1. Januar 1924 mindestens einen Monatsbeitrag geleistet hat. Wenn aber der Versicherte vor dem 1. Januar 1924 bereits die volle Wartezeit von 180 Kalendermonaten erfuellt hatte, dann werden die Ersatzzeiten wegen nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung auch angerechnet, obwohl er keinen Beitrag nach dem 1. Januar 1924 geleistet hat. Das ist insbesondere wichtig fuer alle diejenigen Verfolgten, die in Deutschland vor 1924 eine versicherungspflichtige Taetigkeit ausgeuebt haben, dann aber entweder von der Versicherungspflicht befreit oder selbstaendig gewesen sind.

Wenn der Verfolgte in Deutschland nicht versichert gewesen ist, dann werden die Ersatzzeiten wegen nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung angerechnet, wenn der Betreffende nach der Bundesrepublik oder West-Berlin zurueckkehrt und dort innerhalb von 3 Jahren eine rentenversicherungspflichtige Beschaeftigung aufgenommen hat.

Wenn der Verfolgte in Deutschland nicht versichert gewesen ist, aber in Gross-Britannien eine versicherungspflichtige Beschaeftigung bis zum 27. August 1949 aufgenommen hat, dann werden die Ersatzzeiten wegen nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung auf die *englische* Versicherungszeit angerechnet. Das bedeutet, dass der Versicherte, um englische Retirement Pension zu erhalten, nicht die englischen Voraussetzungen fuer eine volle Wartezeit zu erfuellen braucht, da zu den englischen Beitragszeiten die deutschen Ersatzzeiten wegen nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung angerechnet werden. Dies ist wichtig fuer diejenigen Verfolgten, die infolge Alters oder Krankheit in Gross-Britannien entweder nicht lange genug Beitrage leisten konnten oder den Jahresdurchschnitt von 50 Beitragswochen nicht erreichten.

Altersruhegeld

Deutsches Altersruhegeld wird grundsaeztlich erst nach Vollendung des 65. Lebensjahres, bei Maennern sowohl wie bei Frauen, gezahlt. Davon gibt es zwei wesentliche Ausnahmen: — Maenner und Frauen, die das 60. Lebensjahr vollendet haben, aber mindestens ein Jahr ununterbrochen arbeitslos gewesen sind, und weibliche Versicherte, die 60 Jahre alt sind, ihre Taetigkeit aufgegeben haben und in den letzten 20 Jahren mehr als 10 Jahre eine versicherungspflichtige Beschaeftigung auch in England ausgeuebt haben, koennen das sogenannte vorgezogene Altersruhegeld beanspruchen.

Voraussetzung fuer Altersruhegeld ist, dass bis zum Antrag auf Altersruhegeld eine Versicherungszeit von 180 Kalendermonaten zurueckgelegt ist (Beitragszeit plus Ersatzzeit plus Ausfallzeit). In diesem Falle hat der Versicherte einen Anspruch auf innerstaatliche deutsche Rente. Sie ist voellig unabhengig von dem Anspruch auf die englische Retirement Pension. Hat der Versicherte auch die Voraussetzungen fuer die englische Retirement Pension erfuellt, so erhaelt er beide Renten nebeneinander und unabhengig voneinander.

Hat aber der Versicherte die Wartezeit nur in einem Lande oder in keinem dieser Laender erfuellt, dann erfolgt die Berechnung der Altersversorgung auf Grund des Gegenseitigkeits-Abkommens zwischen der Bundesrepublik und dem Vereinigten Koenigreich. Dann werden die Beitrags- und Ersatz- und Ausfallzeiten zusammengerechnet und es wird die sogenannte Vertragsrente festgesetzt, die sich aus einem englischen Anteil und einem deutschen Anteil zusammensetzt und die fuer gewoehnlich dazu fuehrt, dass der in Gross-Britannien lebende Verfolgte im Gesamtergebnis mehr erhaelt als er erhalten wuerde, wenn er nur die englische Retirement Pension beanspruchen koennte.

Rente wegen Berufs—oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit

Die Wartezeit betraegt nur 60 Kalendermonate.

Berufsunfaehig ist ein Versicherter, dessen Erwerbsfaehigkeit infolge von Krankheit etc. auf weniger als die Haelfte von Gesunden mit aehnlicher Ausbildung und gleichwertigen Kenntnissen herabgesunken ist. *Erwerbsunfaehig* ist der Versicherte, der infolge von Krankheit etc. eine Erwerbstaetigkeit in gewisser Regelmassigkeit nicht mehr ausueben kann.

Erfuellt der Versicherte die Voraussetzungen fuer die deutsche Rente und fuer das englische Sickness Benefit, dann muss die sogenannte Vertragsrente berechnet werden. Es ist nicht so, dass neben dem Sickness Benefit die deutsche Rente wegen Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit beansprucht werden kann. In diesem Falle wird die Vertragsrente auch berechnet nach den Beitragszeiten und gleichgestellten Zeiten in beiden Laendern. Es kommen zwei Anteile zur Auszahlung, die zusammen nicht geringer sein duerfen als die Rente, die der Person zustehen wuerde, wenn kein Gegenseitigkeits-Abkommen geschlossen worden waere.

Eine deutsche Rente wegen Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit kann aber nicht fuer die Zeit gezahlt werden, fuer die englische Retirement Pension gewahrt wird. Das ist schon begrifflich nicht moeglich. Rente wegen Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit setzt voraus, dass der Versicherte zwar zur Arbeit bereit, aber

dazu nicht faehig ist. Retirement Pension setzt voraus, dass der Versicherte dem Arbeitsmarkt nicht mehr zur Verfuegung steht. Wird also englische Retirement Pension einer weiblichen Versicherten mit 60 Jahren gewahrt, dann muss der Antrag auf deutsche Berufsunfaehigkeits- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeits-Rente umgestellt werden auf einen Antrag wegen vorgezogenen Altersruhegeldes, entweder weil in den letzten 20 Jahren mehr als 10 Jahre eine versicherungspflichtige Taetigkeit ausgeuebt wurde oder weil Arbeitslosigkeit seit ueber einem Jahr vorliegt.

Die Voraussetzungen fuer die englische Retirement Pension sind, dass bei Frauen nach Vollendung des 60. und bei Maennern nach Vollendung des 65. Lebensjahres 156 Beitragswochen tatsaechlich geleistet wurden und dass ein Durchschnitt von 50 Wochen pro Jahr waehrend der ganzen Versicherungszeit als Beitrag oder Gutschrift nachgewiesen werden kann, wobei bei verheirateten Frauen auch noch der sogenannte Half-Test zusaetzlich erforderlich ist (vgl. Leaflet N I 15 Ministry of Pensions S.8 No. 7). Sind die Voraussetzungen nicht oder nur teilweise erfuellt, kann u.U. eine geringere Rente nach dem National Health Scheme gezahlt werden.

Anspruch bei Beitragserstattung wegen Heirat

Weibliche Versicherte, die wegen Heirat ihre Beitrage zur deutschen Sozialversicherung erstattet erhalten hatten, hatten damit ihre Anspueche auf deutsche Sozialversicherung verwirkt. Das ist durch das BEG-Schlussgesetz dahin abgaendert worden, dass verfolgte Versicherte, die in der Zeit vom 30. Januar 1933 bis zum 8. Mai 1945 Beitrage wegen Heirat erstattet erhielten, nunmehr das Recht haben, in der gesetzlichen Rentenversicherung weiter versichert zu sein, indem sie weitere Beitrage zur Versicherung leisten. Es wird erwartet, dass in naechster Zeit die Zulaessigkeit der Anrechnung von Ersatzzeiten wegen nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung auch in diesen Faellen ausdruecklich angeordnet wird.

Continued on next page

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DEUTSCHE SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Continued from page 6

Hinterbliebenen—und Waisenrenten

Diese Ansprüche werden im wesentlichen nach den Gesichtspunkten, die hinsichtlich des Altersruhegeldes erörtert wurden, behandelt werden, d.h. auch in diesen Fällen werden, wenn die Voraussetzungen dafür gegeben sind, beide Renten in voller Höhe nebeneinander gezahlt oder, wenn das nicht der Fall ist, die sogenannte Vertragsrente mit den entsprechenden Anteilen.

Anrechnung deutscher Sozialleistungen auf Wiedergutmachungsrenten

Deutsche Sozialversicherungsleistungen werden auf die Berufsschadensrenten nach dem Entschädigungsgesetz nicht angerechnet; sie werden aber bei Bemessung des Hundertsatzes der Lebensschaden- und Gesundheitsschadensrenten bei der Würdigung der wirtschaftlichen Verhältnisse berücksichtigt.

Das Altersruhegeld wird auf die Versorgungsbezüge früherer deutscher Staatsbeamten, Angestellten im Öffentlichen Dienst, Juedischen Gemeindebeamten etc. insoweit angerechnet als es auf Beiträgen beruht, die während der Beschäftigung im Öffentlichen Dienst gezahlt wurden. In den Fällen also, in denen der Berechtigte nur im Öffentlichen Dienst Sozialversicherungsbeiträge geleistet hat, wird das Altersruhegeld voll auf die Pension angerechnet; obwohl er materiell keinen Vorteil erlangt, ist der Berechtigte verpflichtet, das Altersruhegeld zu beantragen, da die Versorgungsbezüge auf alle Fälle um diesen Betrag gekürzt werden.

Witwenrenten aus der Sozialversicherung werden auf die Berufsschadenswitwenrente nach dem Entschädigungsgesetz nur insoweit angerechnet als sie gewisse Beträge, ab. 1. Oktober 1964 DM 230, monatlich, übersteigen.

Beiträge zu ausländischen Sozialversicherungen

Unter gewissen Voraussetzungen können "Vertriebene" aus den in 1938 und 1939 in das Deutsche Reich eingegliederten Staaten Ansprüche aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung dann geltend machen, wenn das Deutsche Reich die ausländischen Versicherungsträger und ihr Vermögen übernommen hatte. Beitragszeiten zu einem nicht-deutschen Versicherungs-Institut werden den nach Bundesrecht zurückgelegten Beitragszeiten gleichgestellt.

Wie eingangs gesagt, bezwecken diese Ausführungen die Rechts- und Sachlage so allgemein verständlich darzustellen wie sie sich zur Zeit praktisch auswirkt; sie sind nicht erschöpfend und können auch nicht alle Probleme erörtern, die sich aus der Fülle der Gesetze und der Rechtsprechung ergeben; sie im Einzelfalle zu lösen ist Aufgabe sachverständiger Rechtsberater.

DURCHFUEHRUNGS-VERORDNUNG ZUM H.S.G.

Am 11. Februar hat der Bundesrat die Durchführungsverordnung zum Haushaltsversicherungsgesetz angenommen. Sie enthält die Bestimmungen, die in der Konferenz zwischen Vertretern der Regierung und der Verfolgtenverbände in Aussicht genommen waren und über deren Inhalt in der vorigen Ausgabe von "AJR Information" berichtet wurde, d.h. unter anderem die Regelung, dass Anspruchsberechtigte im Alter von 65 und mehr Jahren sowie Ansprüche bis zu 5,000 DM von dem Zahlungsaufschub nicht betroffen werden.

In der gleichen Sitzung nahm der Bundesrat auch drei Durchführungsverordnungen zum Bundesentschädigungsgesetz an, deren Verkündung aber erst in einigen Wochen erfolgen wird. Eine Darstellung des Inhalts wird zu gegebener Zeit erfolgen.

Lionel Kochan

AN ANATOMY OF ANGLO-JEWRY

Is British Jewry drifting away from religion? How many of its children receive some sort of Jewish education? Is the traditionally close family unit tending to break up? What careers do the young people pursue? Where does the British Jew choose to live? Is respect for the Ministry declining?

In 1962 some sixty scholars and experts met in London to discuss these and many similar questions. They were attending a conference on Jewish Life in Modern Britain, held by the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, under the auspices of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

The proceedings of this conference—the papers read and the discussion which arose from them—now stand as a published permanent record of research projects, both actual and potential.*

Major forces have been transforming the contemporary Jewish scene in the past decades. There is evidence, Mr. Ernest Krausz states, in his paper on the Economic and Social Structure of Anglo-Jewry, that the traditional Jewish occupations are being abandoned. The girls appear to be moving away from millinery and dressmaking towards secretarial and sales girl positions. There is a general trend towards trades that lend themselves to self-employment, towards white-collar jobs and towards the professions, particularly medicine, law, dentistry and accountancy. These changes in the economic structure of Anglo-Jewry have had notable effects on its social structure, such as a vast decline in the Jewish working classes and the concomitant disappearance of Jewish trade unions. The rapid move into the middle-class which has affected the majority of the community has resulted in mass migrations to the suburbs away from the older areas of habitation.

These forces and their consequences require that an attempt be made to create a systematic and scientific approach to their study. Mr. Krausz himself suggests that interesting and useful work could be pursued into the effect of industrial and business rationalisation on the number and type of the self-employed, particularly the small man in the community; on occupational distribution in the community as a whole, with special attention to occupational selection among youth; the economic and social condition of the community; social mobility, the rise of a new élite and problems of leadership; and, finally, the effects of suburbanisation, especially as regards the individual's identification with the community and the maintenance of a cohesive minority group.

Mr. Krausz points out that it could be argued that most of the changes in the social-economic structure of the Jewish community have been in line with the trends in the larger British society. The development of tycoonism and competitive aggressiveness, the strong drift to white-collar work and the professions, the move to the suburbs and upper- or middle-class consumption patterns are all the products of Western industrialised society. He suggests that the greater impact that these have had on Jewish society may be explained by the fact that the Jew has exhibited greater adaptability to changing and unstable conditions; he has long been more thoroughly urbanised and

also feels the need to overcome his immigrant or minority status.

Similarly, in a paper on Trends in Anglo-Jewish Religious Life, Mr. Norman Cohen concludes: "The basic fact of religious life in Anglo-Jewry is that the great bulk of the community has only the slightest concern with Judaism." It "shows every sign of disintegration and drift." But he points out that in the non-Jewish world generally standards of religious observance and of religious interest are also at a low ebb.

That actual knowledge of changes in the contemporary Jewish scene requires to be extended becomes apparent from a reading of the first part of the book. The papers covering such other subjects as Jewish Communal Organisation (by Adolph G. Brotman), and Jewish Education in Great Britain (Isidore Fishman and Harold Levy) all demonstrate only too obviously that although intelligent interpretation is abundant, there is a profound lack of satisfactory statistics to form its basis. This is emphasised by practically all of the authors concerned, most of whom provide suggestions as to the course future study should follow.

This aspect is pursued in greater detail in the second half of the book, where a series of experts explore more fully the kind of facts that should be collected and the means by which this can be done. Briefly, these are divided into the statistical and the sociological. The first, efficiently tackled by S. J. Prais, covers such subjects as population and education statistics. It is suggested that some central institution should revive the collection of figures on births, deaths and marriages, as previously compiled by the Board of Deputies, so that long-term trends may be judged more accurately. The number of male births could be ascertained if *mohalim* were obliged to register figures with the Beth Din. Marriages could be analysed in some detail from the Chief Rabbi's authorisation form, or from the abstract prepared for the Registrar-General. Mortality statistics could be obtained from burial societies.

It must be understood that all these statistics would apply to acknowledging Jews only. The Jew by birth existing on the periphery of Jewish society who may not have his child circumcised, who may marry in a registry office, who may, at his death, be cremated, almost completely evades statistical investigation. Should he be included, even if it were possible, in available statistics? It would certainly be of the greatest interest and of immeasurable value. However, the experts agree that it is difficult enough to collect data on "synagogal" Jews, let alone those who have discarded all affiliations. Statistics on the Jewish community will be of value on whatever basis they are calculated and the question of who is and who is not a Jew can be postponed temporarily.

The field of sociological research is discussed by Professor Gould and Maurice Freedman; they deal with such topics as Jewish family life, the extent of inter-marriage, the occupational patterns of the Jews, the Jewish family and Jewish youth, leadership and organisation and the functions of the ministry.

Already, it is reassuring to learn, from Professor Gould's "Postscript" that the need shown at the conference for a more informed view of the structure of the Jewish community in Britain, is enjoying widespread support.

* *Jewish Life in Modern Britain*. Editors: Julius Gould and Saul Esh. Routledge & Kegan Paul. 28s.

A VISIT TO BRESLAU

There are various ways of coming into Breslau (now Wroclaw) from Warsaw and the East. You can land right in the potato fields and will need a car to drive you downtown. Or else you can arrive by train and get into the bustling, newly decorated central station which, at first sight, does not look at all like the old Hauptbahnhof. Or finally you can come by car, driving into the main part of the town from Trebnitz in the north or from the West, using the old autobahn. However you enter, Wroclaw looks just like another strange place—a city you have never seen before and a place which you have never imagined to exist.

You think you'd know every corner and turning and recognise at least half the building you see at first sight. How wrong you are—it's just the other way round. You have the horrible feeling that you have come to the wrong place—to a city you never knew before. There are all these new blocks of flats in the suburbs, and as you come closer to the centre there are the nondescript old blocks and rows of houses. Cars, buses, lorries, trams—wait a minute, these trams do look and sound familiar. Remember how you had to avoid those rails when cycling to school? They are still where they always were, ubiquitous, and the same old trams run along them, although with different numbers. There should be a 2 on the Ring which is now spelled "Rynek", but there is only a 17 and a 9—overcrowded with people, clanging merrily along.

This is a new, young town, with its busy, modern life, and the reminders of the bygone German times are relatively few and of little importance. There is that general feeling of a cleverly planned, beautifully laid-out city south of the Oder river with its numerous bridges, arranged in chessboard fashion around the central square with the town hall, and the other old squares around the city's main churches. The great old cathedrals are still there dedicated, oddly enough, almost all to female saints like Mary Magdalen, St. Elisabeth, St. Dorothy and Holy Mary. Their steep Gothic roofs dominate the view time and again as one goes along the main streets. Great architects were at work here long ago; splendid craftsmen carved this beautiful "Rathush" with its amusing figures, like those above the entrance to the old city hall cellar which still serves as a major hostelry and now even houses a small theatre.

Stop your car anywhere and there will be boys crowding around copying its number-plate, perhaps asking you politely for some foreign stamps or coins, in Polish or even in broken English. You will see a lot of children on their way to and from school, and here and there a young soldier in his khaki uniform with the typical Polish cap. There are a few policemen around, too, and you will possibly spot some gipsy women and children in the crowd. But there are no beggars. None of the barefoot children one used to see in the poorer streets, no drunks, no stray dogs, certainly none of the peasantry which was at one time supposed to constitute the majority of Polish newcomers to Wroclaw.

The Opera still has the same appearance in every respect, right down to the huge red curtain at the ticket window next to the entrance. Maybe the seating is new but upstairs, in the foyer, they still sell chocolates and cold drinks in the right-hand corner, and the people walk around the huge room on the same shiny parquet floor and step out on to

the balcony between the high columns to look down into Swiniczka Street with its noisy streetcars. The ballet we saw is Eastern and was probably never known before the end of the war. But the public does not look so very different from the theatregoers one seems to remember from the olden days: a lot of parents with their offspring, matrons of rather stately appearance with balding husbands, quite a few students up in the balcony seats and high up under the roof where the chandelier has not been changed, and the same obscure painted heads of the great composers look down from the ceiling.

Of course, there are also theatres in town: some repertory, an excellent Polish dramatic theatre and several smaller modern ones. There is also so much musical life in the city: an excellent orchestra and many choirs, concerts of soloists, organ music.

As in bygone days, there are the famous Litfass columns with their public announcements at the street corners, and obviously Wroclaw is visited by quite a number of international stars, artistes and even a French theatre troupe. A lot of sporting events are taking place, and the cinemas are numerous, too.



Ruins of Museum

There are large general book stores, special shops for technical books and international bookshops: Russian, German, the International Book Club and the Hungarian store with its books and art section. You meet German-speaking shop assistants in all of them, and the quality of the volumes as well as of the paperbacks and textbooks is excellent. The same applies to the music and record stores.

At night, driving to the south and the park by the railroad encircling the elegant quarters and forming the border line between Breslau proper and the villages we all knew so well, in the dark all of a sudden we seem to be back in our own old suburb. Every street is laid out as it always was, every turn of the road is familiar, every street name comes back to memory, and what appeared to be such a strange, bewildering place is now our own old Breslau again. Let's drive around the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Platz and into the Hohenzollernstrasse. On the left is the church of St. John next to the Jewish Hospital, almost right across from the red brick water tower with its familiar shape. But most of the houses are gone from the old familiar streets.

I visited a professor at the University, at my own old law faculty. As before, the main University buildings of the old Jesuit "Leopoldina" are again far too small to house even the classical faculties, and there are lecture halls and staff facilities in many adjacent

buildings in the same neighbourhood, not to mention the clinics and laboratories beyond the river behind the old Cathedral. Wroclaw has become the main centre of academic education in Western Poland. Poznan also has a large university but Wroclaw's has more students, especially of higher technical learning who, as in German times, are mainly attached to the special Technical University with its splendid old and new buildings along the Oder river. The University proper teaches Catholic theology, law, philosophy, including natural sciences, and medicine.

Painstaking, loving care has gone into the faithful reconstruction of hundreds of old houses, churches and monuments all over the inner City of Wroclaw. Stone after stone is hand-carved and fitted together into just the same façades which gave the old quarters of Wroclaw-Breslau their originality throughout the centuries. Some of the streets, after reconstruction, look much more like the medieval streets of old Breslau than they did during the two world wars. There has been a clean up of the old streets following the branches of the Ohle river where, in medieval days, tanners used to ply their trade, but where rank slums had developed during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The churches are all redecorated and renovated. The old church, Santa Maria in Arena, the German Sandkirche, was being rebuilt, as only the outer walls were left standing after the bombardments. No effort, no expense was spared. There were numerous craftsmen at work. Soon the church will be as well restored as the main "Dom" itself, which is now back to its full glory, with all painted ceilings renovated, all stained-glass windows replaced, every single part of its complicated decoration re-established. No wonder that once again large groups of tourists, guided by polyglot churchwardens, can be seen admiring the beautiful old chapels and naves, just as you see many buses from places as far away as Italy or Paris unloading hundreds of visitors on the Ring to admire the old Gothic town hall.

Catholicism in Wroclaw seems to be more lively and more beloved by the people than it ever was in German Breslau times. The former main Protestant churches of Breslau are now all serving the Catholic faith, with German Catholic services in one of the main parish churches and Polish masses and services everywhere else, except for tiny St. Christophorus church, still serving a very small German Protestant minority. A burning problem is the Jewish question: there were many more Jews in Wroclaw in the years after the war than now. Even a Polish-Jewish theatre existed ten years ago, but emigration to Israel made its continuation impossible. The old Synagogue in Wallstrasse still exists and services take place regularly and without hindrance or restriction. But there are still ardent Zionists in Wroclaw, anxious to leave and to join their relatives in Israel.

Not that there is any antisemitism—we asked detailed questions, and there did not seem to be any real reason for complaints. The Jewish children in the schools, for instance, are treated in the same way as their non-Jewish schoolmates. They go to the boy scout camps with all the others and receive scholarships and study grants. They feel secure and it seems, from the bits of information we could gather, Polish to the core. But, of course, there are still the adults who are not assimilated, the people who never felt Polish and who cannot identify themselves at all with the aspirations of the Polish People's

Continued on page 9, column 1

A VISIT TO BRESLAU

Continued from page 8

Democracy. Their training and usual occupations in trade and commerce do not fit into the new economy either and their specific skills cannot easily be used. Their mentality does not seem to be sufficiently adjustable and thus they make only little progress, if any. No wonder they wish to join their own people in Israel or in the United States with its millions of well-established Eastern European Jews. That Jewish learning cannot flourish when the congregations have no true hope for the future is a foregone conclusion even though, as we were told, there is right now a gifted and learned rabbi officiating at the old Storch Synagogue. But good care is taken of the old, the sick and the poor.

There was a sad trip to the cemetery in Cosel. The Nazis, of course, let the old burial grounds go to ruin and nothing much has been done to restore them to order and dignity ever since. Yet there were also no further disturbances, everything was left in place, and nobody prevented new caretakers from taking on the work that pious relatives abroad wanted done. But what a sad spectacle to see the wilderness of an abandoned piece of ground, with some old gravestones and monuments slowly sinking into the ground and crumbling away, disappearing into a wild growth of shrubs, trees, grass and nettles! The graves you come to find, and for which a caretaker has promised to take responsibility, are there all right, and the promised labour has been faithfully done. Names have been re-engraved and gilded, concrete slabs and platforms have been properly laid out and built. The stonemason in his skull cap stands at his place of work, with his sad smile, asking for recognition and reward. Are you now satisfied? Have we done all you wanted us to accomplish? Of course he has—and for not too much money he has certainly done as good a job as anybody could do in this wilderness. But standing by the graves and thinking of those who are remembered here is such sorrow, and realising that one will never see this place again, seems the only thing one can think of. This spot which was once holy and consecrated has lost its meaning. It is not even a reminder of those whose names are now once again legible on the heavy plaques of granite and fieldstone.

So, once again, let us take to the road. Not far from the city limits, as we drive south, there appears that well-known old silhouette of the first of the mountains in Silesia's wide plains. The Zobten with its forests greets us, only half an hour away, on our way to the Sudeten chains farther to the south. It is a lovely road, over brooks and rivers, through fields and sleepy villages. But as we turn our heads for a last glimpse, we cannot see any trace of the great old city we left behind us. The flat plain seems uninterrupted green land all along the wide horizon.

A.E.L. ☉

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

"... ONLY MORE SO"

"The Jewish people is like all other nations—only more so," it was once said. This also seems to apply to the present rise of prices: All over the Western world prices are climbing—in Israel, too... only more so. "But last week I paid much less," protests the guest when the waiter presents him with the bill for a cup of tea. The waiter shrugs his shoulders. "Wait till the new rents come into effect, then you will only be able to pay for a cup of tea in instalments".

Up to election day on November 2, 1965, price controls were rigorously enforced and the cost of living index was not allowed to jump above the slow upward trend on the world market. Now that the Day of Judgement by the voter has passed, Israel is experiencing a price explosion, with the Government not always setting a good example.

Rents for apartments, offices and shops will, on the average, be doubled, and so will municipal taxation. Fees for secondary schools were raised from one day to the next by 33 per cent and in the last form amount to £1,000 per year. Radio licences, too, have been increased by 33 per cent. Newspapers have increased the price of their copy by 50 per cent, but some can no longer cope with the fast rise of costs, and two dailies have closed down. Fares for buses, fees for sick insurance, prices for textiles, milk produce and leather goods have risen by 20 per cent, with bread to follow suit soon. Statisticians have calculated that by the end of the current year an average family which wants to preserve the living standard it had in 1965 will have to spend an additional £200 per month.

Now the new grading of the civil servants, for which they fought over a period of two years, will come into force. Just when the civil servants thought they would benefit from an average salary rise of 18 per cent, prices began to run amok, and the purchasing power of their pay diminished. As a result, labour unrest which plagued the economy in the past will worsen. Last year the number of registered strikes reached the record of 277 with a loss of 203,000 working days. This brings little Israel into the class of countries with the highest occurrence of strikes—U.S.A., Great Britain and Italy. Most of the strikes in Israel were "wild" and not authorised by the trade unions; 108 of them broke out in the civil service—from post, telegraph and telephone to doctors, nurses and pharmacists in State hospitals.

What is needed and expected from Finance Minister, Pinhas Sapir, and Economic Minister, Haim Zadok, is the formulation of a clear, well-defined economic policy—be it the devaluation of the Israel currency in order to keep exports competitive, or strong and drastic deflationary measures. Prime Minister Eshkol emerged victorious from the elections because to the voter he seemed the best guarantor of stability. He will have his hands full to meet these expectations in the economic field.

IDA KAMINSKA IN LONDON

Mrs. Ida Kaminska, founder and director of the Yiddish State Theatre of Poland, received a warm welcome when she made a personal appearance at the Hampstead Classic where her film, "A Shop in the High Street", was showing. She was in London at the joint invitation of the management of the cinema and of the Memorial Committee which sponsored the opening performance.

During a personal interview Mrs. Kaminska said that a new Jewish cultural centre was being built in Warsaw, which will also house her theatre company. It would be equipped with every modern technical device and a large stage. The company was now preparing a stylised version of an old Jewish comedy as well as Arthur Miller's "Incident at Vichy".

Mrs. Kaminska said that the troupe had received invitations to visit six countries including Israel and West Germany. There was also a promising possibility of a tour of the Soviet Union. "A Shop in the High Street", a Czech film, was her first post-war film and the only non-Jewish one in her career.

At a reception given in her honour by the Memorial Committee, attended also by representatives of the Polish Embassy, Mrs. Kaminska spoke of the impact the film had made all over the world by depicting the dreadful influence which evil had even on otherwise good men during the Nazi period.

Mr. Reg Freeson, M.P., chairman of the Memorial Committee, stated that soon a conference of interested organisations would be convened jointly by the Board of Deputies and the Committee to decide on a permanent memorial to the Jewish martyrs.—(J.C.)

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Egon Larsen

THE UNCANNY GERMANS

The publishers, Macdonald, made a special point of bringing out their English edition of a book by Hermann Eich, under the title "The Unloved Germans", on Armistice Day. It is a strange and disturbing book which will provide plenty of material for thought and discussion for the £2 it costs—as much because of what it says as what it does not say. One hears that it caused much controversy when it appeared two years ago in Germany (Econ-Verlag). Excellently translated by Michael Glenn, it tries to sort out a German writer's ideas and feelings about his country and fellow-countrymen, and at the same time to present what he believes to be a balanced picture of that nation to the Western world (he regards the East apparently as hopeless).

There are two things about the book which strike the reader in this country first. The German title is "Die unheimlichen Deutschen", and that is rather another adjective than "unloved": it puts the emphasis on a completely different aspect of Germany's image in the outside world. The other point concerns the author himself. Dr. Eich was born in the Rhineland in 1913; the publisher's blurb informs us that he is now editor-in-chief of the *Düsseldorfer Zeitung* and *Westdeutsche Zeitung* and that he was "at one time editor of the *Berliner Tageblatt*". When was that? Surely not before 1933, when he was only twenty; and any editor after the paper's *Gleichschaltung* until its demise would have had to write for the régime. We are not told that Dr. Eich was sent to prison, to a concentration camp or sacked for defying Goebbels's wishes.

Eich strikes his main theme right from the start: one should not generalise about whole nations; still less should one stick to preconceived notions, for they can change like individuals: "If a Saul can become a Paul, may not an evil nation become good?" The Germans, he says, have a special interest in proving that a nation can undergo a fundamental change and that the crimes of the Third Reich represent only one

aspect of the German national character.

The persecution of the Jews and their systematic annihilation, says Eich, form the crux of the question whether the Germans are fundamentally evil and corrupt. He quotes Golo Mann who believes that the Germans were in 1933 no more antisemitic than other European nations; and according to Eich the reaction of the German public to the burning of synagogues in 1938 "proved to Hitler that he could never bring the whole German people to approve of pogroms and destruction of the Jews after the manner of Tsarist Russia". It had therefore to be done comparatively secretly, and "German guilt lies not in the mass-murders themselves but in giving Hitler *carte blanche*", he concludes. "Today, the mass-murder of the Jews strikes the Germans as something incomprehensible. The world expects them to feel some kind of personal guilt. But this is not easy for those who are unable to feel any direct link between themselves and the perpetrators". Not even if one has voted them into power, cheered them and given them *carte blanche*?, we may ask.

What, then, of the German resistance? It is true, as Eich says, that "the courage, the sacrifices and the failure of the men who plotted against Hitler can only properly be assessed and appreciated by those who know what it means to live under a dictatorship". But he goes on to show that many of the few who did resist had been "Sauls" who supported the régime until Hitler looked like losing the war. Thus, Stauffenberg had led a torchlight procession to celebrate the 30th January, 1933, and regarded his act of 1944 as an expiation of guilt; Goerdeler had made a speech full of praise for Hitler in 1937, and later believed he could talk sense into Hitler if he had the chance: "If only the Führer knew what's going on!" Nebe, another conspirator of the 20th July, had taken part in an extermination action in Russia with the S.S., and Rommel was, until his moment of insight, a firm believer in National Socialism. Curiously enough, Eich devotes only a few meagre

lines to the noblest of the resistance fighters, who made their truly heroic and fatal gesture at a time when Hitler's star was still in the ascendant—the Munich students Hans and Sophie Scholl. He censures Thomas Mann (whom he seems to dislike intensely) for calling Bishop Galen an "incorrigible priest" when he exhorted the Germans to regard the advancing Allies as enemies.

"Those who judge the anti-Hitler conspirators by too harsh standards", says Eich, "should not in justice overlook the fact that they were supported neither by their own people nor by anyone abroad" (my italics). Precisely; the German people as a whole let them die on their butcher's hooks. "There is not a single example of a German having made an effective public stand in defence of the persecuted—such as that made by King Christian X of Denmark (who put on the Star of David in 1940)", says Eich in another context.

He lists the "six classic German faults" as seen by foreigners: the Germans are crude, noisy and tactless; they are nationalistic, especially in their inflexible attitude towards the Eastern bloc; they betray their territorial greed by refusing to recognise their new frontiers; they are still militaristic, striving to compensate for the weakness of their conventional forces by the acquisition of nuclear weapons; they still have the tendency to genuflect to authority, and will continue to accept dictatorial measures; and they worship material success. Is this picture true? Eich believes that it is largely distorted, because "the sinister German is a much more rewarding subject for his detractor than the dull, honest citizen of the Federal Republic". No, he says, the Germans themselves must begin to realise that good and evil are not confined by time or frontiers and that they are not to be found in one nation alone, and *das Ausland* should shed its prejudices; besides, it should not overlook the fact that the Germans, however great their past guilt, "have now been reduced, in terms of international politics, to impotence". What curious reasoning! Still, it is an absorbing book as well as a revealing one, and it is lavishly illustrated with photographs which, in themselves, tell Germany's story—though often differently from the author.

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EXHIBITION OF OLD PAINTINGS

Alfred Brod Gallery

Any exhibition of Dutch paintings—as indeed of old masters in general—is a challenge. From our own world of doubt, uncertain searching, negation, mocking, fear and often of destruction (all this so frequently expressed in works of art or would-be-art) we seem to enter a realm of certainty, faith, untrammelled beauty, in fact a lost paradise. This “shocking and revolutionary” experience is a wholesome exercise.

What I mean is exemplified in Judith Leyster's Still Life. It is dominated by a large piece of tablecloth of a dark blue colour. The cloth has a radiant luminosity. On the table we see beautifully painted fruit and a splendid pewter jug which holds a charming surprise. Glowing from its dark background is a sort of fiery little ball, a reflection of a self-portrait. A lady painter in the seventeenth century, an interesting fact.

Many a great name is magnificently or pleasantly represented in this Exhibition: van Goyen, Wouwermans, Avercamp, Cornelis de Heem, etc.

But we must stop for a moment in front of the striking “Portrait of a Young Man” which the catalogue attributes to Carel Fabritius. He is the bridge between Rembrandt and Vermeer van Delft which with some imagination we may detect in this moving portrait.

Most intriguing to Jews with a German background will be a sketch by Anton Raphael Mengs (1728-79). His father was Ishmael Israel Mengs, a Jew from Germany, who abandoned Judaism and became a Court Painter in Saxony. His son, Anton Raphael, was one of the most famous and influential painters of his century. Winckelmann was his close friend. Mengs was celebrated in Madrid and Rome, attaining the distinction of being Direc-

tor of the Vatican Academy. When in England, he painted an altar-piece for All Souls' College at Oxford. We sometimes puzzle how an artist who was able to fascinate and delight the best connoisseurs only 200 years ago can be so utterly forgotten today. His sketch in this Exhibition, “The Apotheosis of Saint Eusebius”, accounts at least for his fame in his own time. The composition, if traditional, is masterful. The Saint kneeling on a cloud and surrounded by angels is beautifully drawn. The whole picture is informed by an elegance and feathery lightness that makes you gasp.

A. ROSENBERG.

SCHOENBERG'S PLANS FOR A “JEWISH PARTY”

A recent article in the *Guardian*, “Schoenberg's letters to his cousin,” by R. Steiner, gives details of the composer's correspondence with the tenor, Hans Nachod, who had created the part of Waldemar in “Gurrelieder.” In 1933, the year of his return to Judaism, Schoenberg wrote to his cousin: “You may have heard that it is my intention to rally the Jews to common action. I have not done very much so far, because everything depends on the right beginning. Now, I think it likely that the first step will be the publication of my own journal. . . . I would prefer to travel as a speaker at public meetings. . . . My paper should if possible right from the beginning be published in German, Yiddish and Ivrit. . . .” Three weeks later, he continues: “I never said I am a Zionist, but I said I want to estab-

lish one Jewish party and I will pursue my ideas there. Whether I will succeed, I don't know.”

Nothing seems to have come of these plans, and it was perhaps just as well that Schoenberg should have made his ultimate contribution through his music: in works like the “Kol Nidre” of 1938 and the “Survivor from Warsaw” of 1947 (apart from the earlier “Moses and Aron”).

H.W.F.

LETTERS BY ESRIEL HILDESHEIMER

Publication of Leo Baeck Institute

Under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem, a collection of letters by Rabbi Esriel Hildesheimer (1820-1899), edited by Dr. Mordecai Eliav, was published recently (Verlag Rubin Mass, Jerusalem). It comprises 139 letters, 96 in German and 43 in Hebrew.

Some of the German letters were written when Hildesheimer was a Rabbi in Eisenstadt (1851-1869); they mainly refer to internal problems of Hungarian Jewry and to the writer's attitude to the Reform Movement. Letters of the subsequent period, when Hildesheimer was Rabbi of the Berlin Adath Yisroel Congregation, give an insight into his work for Erez Israel and for the refugees arriving in Germany from Russia; they also deal with his relationship to Samson Raphael Hirsch and with a variety of general problems of German Jewry.

Thus, the letters help to understand the personality of a man who was one of the outstanding leaders of neo-Orthodoxy, and who also played a leading role in the Jewish educational and charitable sphere.

E.G.L.

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ROUND AND ABOUT

"OUR GREATEST BRAIN GAIN"

"Sunday Telegraph" on Refugees

Special reference to the "Thank-You Britain" Fund is made in an article by Philip Purser on "Britons from Europe", published in "The Sunday Telegraph" of February 6 and 13.

"Few decades have brought this nation of immigrants such an enrichment of blood, talent and cosmopolitanism as the 'thirties", he writes. Based on a number of observations and interviews, the author portrays a vivid picture of the arrival and gradual integration of the refugees from Nazi persecution. In doing so, he does not confine himself to the stories of prominent and well-known refugees, but, by a well-balanced selection of "cases", provides a realistic description of the general position. At the same time, he does not gloss over the difficulties of the initial period, arising, on the one hand, from the inherent xenophobia of many Englishmen and, on the other hand, from the unwillingness of some of the newcomers to adjust their living standards to the changed circumstances. Laying stress on the benefit Britain has derived from the refugees and their children, he plays down the share of his fellow-countrymen in this development. While, to quote one example, it was certainly legitimate to bring to life memories of Kitchener Camp by recalling its soubriquet "Anglo-Saxonhausen", the Camp's function as a reception centre for several thousand people who otherwise would have perished also deserved to be emphasised in this context.

Articles of this kind are most valuable as records of some typical features of our history during the past three decades. Yet they also make us aware of the need for a comprehensive work on the wider demographic, psycho-

logical and, last but not least, Jewish aspects involved. The history of an immigration which, by general consent, has been a particularly successful one, has still to be written. As printed source material is comparatively scarce, this task will have to be embarked upon as long as there are still sufficient witnesses alive.

BROADCAST SERIES BY LADY HENRIQUES

Many readers will have heard with great interest the recent morning broadcasts by Lady Henriques in which she vividly recalled her 50 years' life in Stepney. Whilst there have always been people of middle-class origin who did social work in the slums or even stayed there for limited periods, there will certainly be few who, like Lady Henriques and her late husband, Sir Basil Henriques, spent their whole working lives among those in their charge. As a permanent resident of the district, Lady Henriques got a particularly deep insight into the needs of the underprivileged section of its population. Of course, the Jewish aspect also came to life during the talks, and though many of us also had a difficult start when we arrived penniless in this country, nothing is comparable to the poverty and living conditions of those who, at the turn of the century, settled in the East End as refugees from Tsarist Russia.

The talks excelled by the balanced way in which the wider social, economic, sociological and religious problems were linked with colourful, and sometimes also humorous, descriptions of episodes experienced by the speaker during half a century of devoted work for her fellow-men.

APPOINTMENT TO READERSHIP

The art historian, Dr. Helen Rosenau, has been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Reader at the University of Manchester.

AUSTRIAN AWARD FOR DR. KAPRALIK

The Austrian Federal President has conferred upon Dr. C. I. Kapralik, General Secretary of the Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany and Joint Secretary of the Central British Fund, the distinction of the Great Insignia of Honour for Merits for the Austrian Federal Republic in recognition of his work as member of the Boards of Directors of the Austrian Government's Property Restoration Fund, the Austrian Emigrants' Assistance Fund and of the Collecting Agency for Unclaimed Jewish Property. Dr. Kapralik received the Insignia at the Austrian Embassy in London on January 20.

This high distinction has only been bestowed on very few, if any, Jews from Austria, and we sincerely congratulate our friend Dr. Kapralik on the well-deserved recognition of his expert and effective work in the interest of the victims of Nazi persecution.

DISTINCTION FOR JEWISH PROFESSOR

Award passed on to Leo Baeck Institute

Professor Werner Marx (Freiburg) is one of the three recipients of this year's Ruhrpreis for arts and science endowed by the City of Muelheim. The other two recipients are the 70-year-old painter, Otto Pankok, who has a strong anti-Nazi record, and Dr. Guenther Witke, Professor of Chemistry at Bochum University.

Professor Marx, who was born in Muelheim in 1910, was a Referendar when the Nazis came to power. After his emigration he graduated in the U.S.A. and taught social science and philosophy at the New School for Social Research in New York. He was a Guest Professor in Heidelberg in 1958 and 1962, and became Professor of Philosophy at Freiburg University in 1964.

Professor Marx has put the monetary award linked up with the distinction at the disposal of the New York Centre of the Leo Baeck Institute.



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MARGARETE SUSMAN ZUM GEDAECHTNIS

Ein langes, wechselvolles, doch vom Geist begnadetes Leben hat sich vollendet. Margarete Susman ist am 16. Januar in ihrem Zürcher Heim gestorben. Sie, die am 14. Oktober 1872 in Hamburg Geborene, wurde über 93 Jahre alt. Fast 75 Jahre ist es her, dass die damals gerade Zwanzigjährige 1892 in Zürich ihren ersten Gedichtband erscheinen liess, und geistig tätig war sie bis zu der Stunde, da sie für immer einschlief. Zürich war ihr eine zweite Heimat. In dieser Stadt verbrachte sie ihre Jugend und ihre Schulzeit, und auch später zog es sie immer wieder in die Schweiz, bis sie sich 1933, nunmehr als Emigrantin, endgültig in Zürich niederliess.

Wer Margarete Susman kennenlernte und in ihrem Arbeitszimmer in der Zürcher Krönleinstrasse sass, erfuhr, welche grossen Gaben diese Frau, selbst im hohen Alter noch, als Künstlerin und als Denkerin besass. Einzigartig war ihr Gedächtnis an Personen, an Menschen, mit denen sie verbunden war, an Zusammenhänge der geistigen Durchdringung jüdischer und weltlicher Kultur. Sie beherrschte nicht nur die verschiedensten Wissenschaftsgebiete, sondern sie war eine Mitträgerin und in vielem eine Verkörperung der Tradition, die die Verbindung von deutscher und jüdischer Geistigkeit geschaffen hatte.

"Ich habe viele Leben gelebt" so überschrieb Margarete Susman ihre 1964 als Veröffentlichung des Leo Baeck Instituts erschienenen Lebenserinnerungen (Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, Stuttgart). In diesem aufs äusserste bescheiden und zurückhaltend geschriebenen Buch offenbart sich die Vielfalt der Wirkungsmöglichkeiten dieser ein langes Leben geistig schaffenden Frau durch ihr Werk und durch ihre Persönlichkeit.

Begonnen hat sie als Lyrikerin, dann war sie einige Jahre, bevor sie sich der Kunst, Literaturgeschichte und Philosophie zuwandte, Malerin, bis sie 1929 mit ihrem Werk über die "Frauen der Romantik" hervortrat (vermehrte 3. Auflage 1960 Joseph Melzer Verlag, Köln). Aber die Jahrzehnte seit ihrem ersten Gedichtband, dem noch fünf weitere und eine theoretische Abhandlung über "Das Wesen der modernen deutschen Lyrik" (1910) folgten, hatte sie genützt. Mit fast allen bedeutenden Geistern jener Zeit war sie in Berührung gekommen, und mit vielen verband sie eine enge Freundschaft. Unzählige Namen müsste man nennen, der Kreis reicht von Stefan George über Karl Wolfskehl zu Gustav Landauer und Leonhard Ragaz, von Gertrud Kantorowicz über Georg Simmel zu Franz Rosenzweig, Martin Buber und Ernst Bloch.

Immer stärker trat auch das Jüdische, von dem sie ursprünglich nicht ausgegangen war, in ihr hervor. Immer mehr und immer eindeutiger wurde sie eine jüdische Denkerin und ihr tiefstes Bekenntnis legte sie in ihrem 1946 herausgekommenen Werk "Das Buch Hiob und das Schicksal des jüdischen Volkes" dar. Die Jahre nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg waren überhaupt noch eine schöpferisch ungemein fruchtbare Zeit für Margarete Susman. Es erschien 1951 ihre Deutung der Liebe zwischen Goethe und Charlotte von Stein, 1953 veröffentlichte sie ihren letzten Gedichtband "Aus sich wandelnder Zeit", und ein Jahr später gab sie die Aufsatzreihe "Gestalten und Kreise" heraus, in der sich die wohl früheste Deutung Kafkas als religiöse Gestalt findet. Ihrem Lehrer und Freunde Simmel widmete sie noch 1959 eine Studie "Die geistige Gestalt Georg Simmels", die in der Schriftenreihe wissenschaftlicher Abhandlungen des Leo

Baeck Instituts (J.C.B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), Tübingen) erschienen ist.

Manfred Schlösser, ein treuer Jünger ihrer letzten Jahre, hat aus Anlass ihres neunzigsten Geburtstags eine ungewöhnlich schön ausgestattete Festschrift zu ihren Ehren herausgebracht (Erato Presse, Darmstadt, 1964). Ihm ist auch das letzte Buch Margarete Susmans zu verdanken, das unter dem Titel "Vom Geheimnis der Freiheit" gesammelte Aufsätze von 1914-1964 enthält (Agora, Darmstadt, 1965).

Margarete Susman war eine Dichterin, eine Deuterin des Menschenschicksals, eine grosse Gläubige, die trotz allem, was sie erleben und erleiden musste, ihren Glauben an das Gute und Wahre im Menschen nicht verlor. Was sie uns durch ihr Werk und ihre Persönlichkeit gegeben hat, es bleibt und ist teurer Besitz.

HANS TRAMER (Tel Aviv)

NUERNBERG HONOURS WILLSTAETTER

The Realgymnasium in Nuernberg has been named after its most famous pupil, the Nobel Prize winner Richard Willstaetter (1872-1942). Willstaetter, who was born in Karlsruhe, was eleven years old when his family moved to Nuernberg. He passed his final examination at the school in 1890. Later, he became Professor at Munich University but, the victim of many attacks, resigned already several years before the Nazis came to power. Under great difficulties he escaped to Switzerland in 1939, where he died a few years later. To mark the renaming of the school, a special ceremony was held at which the main address was delivered by Professor Kuhn, of Heidelberg University, a pupil of Willstaetter's. Professor Kuhn also announced that a Willstaetter Prize had been endowed for scholarships in chemistry. The director of the school said that Willstaetter had remained as faithful to the memory of his school as to the religion of his ancestors. "By naming the school after him we also want to honour the memory of all other Jewish former pupils."



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AJR MEETING IN MANCHESTER

On February 7 a meeting of the AJR Manchester and District Branch was held at Morris Feinman House (Manchester), with Mr. A. S. Dresel (London), Chairman of the AJR, as the speaker and Mr. O. E. Einstein (Manchester) in the chair. More than 150 people, including a number of non-members of the AJR, were present. Mr. Dresel gave a detailed report on the activities of the AJR. He described the constructive social schemes initiated and implemented by the AJR and dealt particularly with those tasks which were of importance to members both in London and in the provinces, e.g., the production of *AJR Information* and the safeguarding of the rights of the Nazi victims in the fields of restitution and compensation. All those present greatly welcomed the opportunity of receiving some first-hand information on the multitude of current developments with which the AJR is actively concerned. Encouraged by the success of the meeting, the initiators intend to arrange another function of the branch in the near future.

The unexpectedly good attendance of the gathering and the great interest it evoked are of more than local significance. When the AJR commenced its activities during the war, it soon established local branches in all large cities and a great number of smaller places.

Since then, many of those who had moved to the Provinces as evacuees have returned to London, and those who remained have been socially integrated into their environment. The need for regular local meetings therefore decreased and Provincial members retained their links with the AJR as individual members and recipients of *AJR Information*. However, the experience of the Manchester meeting, arranged at the initiative of Mr. Einstein and some other friends there, has shown that members in the Provinces welcome the opportunity of getting some information by way of oral reports and of having an exchange of views with responsible Hon. Officers from London. At the same time, occasional local functions may also provide a meeting-ground for people who have much in common and who might otherwise lost contact.

Any readers in the Provinces who feel that it would be worth while to try and intensify the contacts between former refugees living at their place should get in touch with AJR headquarters.

MAYOR OF CAMDEN VISITS HOMES

On February 2 the Mayor of Camden, Councillor S. Fisher, and the Mayoress paid an informal visit to Leo Baeck House and Osmond

House. They were shown round the Homes and spoke to several of the residents. Councillor Fisher expressed his deep appreciation of the friendly atmosphere and the facilities provided for the residents.

The visit was a further sign of the great interest taken by the Mayor in our activities.

FORMER PUPILS OF PANKOW ORPHANAGE

Addresses Wanted

Mr. Martin Davidsohn, 7 Mapu Street, Haifa/Achusa, Israel, would like to get in touch with the following former pupils of the Pankow Orphanage: Georg Michaelis, born 4.5.1894, Max and Gabriel Leibman (twins), born 6.10.1905, Moritz Fuhrmann, born 25.4.1905, Carl Eugen Freytag, born 27.11.1917, Schaul Kuerschner, born 1922, Willi Arendt, born 7.12.1913, and Hans Goldstein. Any information should be sent to Mr. Davidsohn.

FEBRUARY ISSUE OF "AJR INFORMATION"

It appears that, for reasons beyond our control, some members have not received the February issue of *AJR Information*. We extend our sincerest apologies to the members concerned and would ask them to get in touch with our office so that we may send them copies now.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birth

Oldham.—To Rose and Frank Oldham, 7524 Oak Park Avenue, Van Nuys, California 91406, U.S.A., on January 23, a daughter, Angelique Judith. Granddaughter for Mr. Robert and the late Mrs. Judith Klein, of California, great-granddaughter for Mrs. Nina Klein, 158 Walm Lane, London, N.W.2 (formerly Berlin) who celebrated her 78th birthday on January 22.

Deaths

Kaczynski.—Martin Kaczynski passed away peacefully on January 29. Deeply mourned by his wife, Edith (née Bach), sons, William and Edward, sister, Meta, brothers-in-law, Martin (U.S.A.) and Dr. Kurt Bach, daughters-in-law, Marian and Marilyn, grandchildren, Nicole and Tania, relatives and friends.—21 Cranbourne Gardens, London, N.W.11.

Meyer.—Karl Meyer, of 25 Belvedere Court, Lytton Road, London, N.W.2, passed away peacefully in his 80th year on December 2, 1965. Deeply mourned by his wife, Ellen, his son and daughter-in-law, Henry and Lois, his grandson, Graham, relatives and friends.

Regensburger.—Max Regensburger (formerly Frankfurt) passed away peacefully on January 21, aged 83 years. Deeply mourned by his family and friends.

Rosenthal.—Harry Rosenthal, Dipl. Ing. Arch., The Studio, 16 North Square, N.W.11 (formerly architect in Berlin and Palestine), passed away suddenly at the age of 73 on January 17.

Schwab.—Ernst Schwab, of 92 Westcotes Drive, Leicester, passed away suddenly on February 3, in his 87th year. Deeply mourned by his wife, sons and their families and friends.

Seidel.—Rudolph Seidel, of 76 Abercorn Road, London, N.W.7, passed away suddenly on January 29. Deeply mourned by his wife, son and family.

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MY WIDOWED SISTER-IN-LAW is very lonely. I would like to find a companion for her. She is 52, attractive, musical, houseproud, likeable nature, not wealthy nor needy. The lucky gent should not be older than 65 and of unquestionable integrity. Box 677.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Loewenthal.—Johnny (Hans Jürgen) Loewenthal, waiter, born 1.3.1927, Bremen, last heard of four years ago London, please contact. Tel. HARrow 7088.

Enquiries by AJR

Hellmann.—Heirs are sought of the late historian, Siegmund Hellmann, Professor in Leipzig from 1923 to 1933. He was born in Munich on March 19, 1872 and died in Theresienstadt on December 7, 1942.

IN MEMORIAM

REICHSGERICHTSRAT I. R. DANIEL COHN

It was learnt with regret that Reichsgerichtsrat i. R. Daniel Cohn passed away in Chicago. After having served as a judge at the Berlin Kammergericht he was promoted to the Supreme Court in Leipzig a few years before the Nazis came to power. Only jurists of the highest standard were chosen for this exalted office. He was dismissed in 1933 and later emigrated to England.

When in 1947 the AJR established a Restitution Department, which was to be the forerunner of URO, Reichsgerichtsrat Cohn became head of that department. However, several months later he left for the United States to join his relatives. Under the law for compensation and nominal reinstatement of former civil servants and judges, he was made a Senatspraesident.

Daniel Cohn was always an upright Jew who also took a great interest in Jewish affairs. All those who knew him will remember him with gratitude and respect.

MRS. HEDWIG ETTINGHAUSEN

With the death of Mrs. Hedwig Ettinghausen, the former refugees have lost a trusted and devoted friend. Born in Germany and married to an Englishman, she came to this country in 1919.

In view of her pre-First World War connections in Germany, she was one of the first persons to whom a large number of people turned on the advent of Nazism. She saved the lives of scores of people by getting visas for them, and, during the years 1933 to 1939, her house became a kind of temporary shelter with different people sleeping there almost every night.

When war broke out Mrs. Ettinghausen was active as an inspector for the Refugee Children's Movement and travelled widely in the South of England, visiting children in their foster-homes and dealing with some of the difficult problems involved. Her house was bombed soon after the blitz started, and she moved to Oxford. There, almost single-handed, she founded a Jewish communal centre where evacuees and refugees could meet. After the war she was instrumental in founding the "Friends of the Children's Village at Beer Jaacov (Israel)", of which she was chairman for many years and later became Honorary President.

All those who knew Mrs. Ettinghausen will remember her warm-hearted and helpful personality with gratitude and affection.

DR. FRIEDA WUNDERLICH

Dr. Frieda Wunderlich died in East Orange, New Jersey, at the age of 81. She was a leading expert in the fields of economics, labour law, social policy and sociology and a lecturer at the New School for Social Research until 1954. In Germany, where she lived until 1933, she taught at the "Berufs-paedagogische Institut" and also edited the periodical, *Soziale Praxis*. At the same time, she was actively associated with practical political work as a member of the Prussian Diet and the Berlin Municipal Assembly.

RABBI J. Y. WEINBERG

Rabbi Jacob Yechiel Weinberg, a universal scholar and outstanding halachist, died in Lausanne at the age of 82. He was formerly principal of the Hildesheimer Rabbinical Seminary in Berlin. The body was flown to Jerusalem and buried in the "Sages Corner" of Har Hamenuhot.

LEOPOLD JESSNER REMEMBERED

To mark the 20th anniversary of the death of Leopold Jessner, the Berlin Jewish community, in conjunction with the Schiller Theater, held a memorial meeting in the Berlin Jewish Communal Centre, Fasanenstrasse. The main speaker was Professor Ludwig Marcuse, who had known Jessner for a great number of years. He recalled that on account of his pioneer work at the State Theatre, Jessner was the target of many reactionary and National Socialist attacks.

Forced to emigrate in 1933, Jessner for some time stayed in Palestine, a country in which he had always taken a great interest. During that period he worked with Habima. He spent the last years of his life in the United States, a lonely and forgotten man.

The actress, Elsa Wagner, read from works by and about Jessner, and Martin Held quoted articles written by Alfred Kerr in defence of Jessner. Recitals were also rendered by Ernst Deutsch.

"THE DEPUTY" BANNED IN BUENOS AIRES

The Buenos Aires Municipal Council has banned further performances of the play "The Deputy", which opened at the La Salle Theatre in January.

Letters to the Editor

PROFESSOR HARRY BRESSLAU

Sir,—I read with great interest Rabbi Dr. S. Neufeld's article, "Albert Schweitzer's Father-in-law" (AJR Information, Vol. XX, No. 12). But I have to disagree with its author's view that "Bresslau's contribution to Jewish historical research is disputed". The papers which Bresslau published in the "Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland" (1887-1892), are considered gems of the Judæo-German historiography. I also beg to differ with Rabbi Dr. Neufeld's suggestion that Bresslau was opposed to Graetz's participation in the work of the "Commission for the History of the Jews in Germany", because in his view "Graetz was too Jewish". The actual reason for his opposition was, I think, that he was as critical of Graetz's scholarly method as Marcus Isaac Jost, Leopold Zunz, Moritz Steinschneider on the one hand, and Heinrich von Treitschke, on the other hand. (By the way, about forty years ago Professor Ismar Elbogen, in a conversation with me, strongly disapproved of Bresslau's stand against Graetz.)

With regard to Dr. Neufeld's remark that he did not know whether Bresslau's daughter abandoned Judaism when she married Albert Schweitzer or earlier, I should like to mention that, according to Jean Pierhal's biography of Albert Schweitzer, Bresslau let his daughter Helene embrace Christianity before she met Albert Schweitzer.

Please allow me also to put straight a minor detail, probably a misprint: the name of one of the well-known Christian historians who co-operated with Bresslau was not Wittenbach, but Wattenbach.

Yours, etc.,

FRITZ FRIEDLANDER.

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Yours, etc.,

DAVID M. STAMLER,

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THE ISRAELI SCENE

AID FROM BONN

West Germany is considering an economic aid programme of about £16½ million, to be used primarily for desalination and irrigation projects. Details are being negotiated. The loan of about £7 million granted to Israel at the end of December was, it is understood, part of the economic aid programme. Bonn's economic aid is granted for specific projects only.

U.S. ASSISTANCE TO JORDAN

According to President Johnson's annual report to Congress, United States military aid to Jordan in the fiscal year which ended last June totalled over £1½ million. Saudi Arabia received about a third of this amount. The report stated that the money made available to Saudi Arabia was for training purposes.

Many millions of dollars were also expended by America on economic aid to the Arab countries during the twelve months up to June, 1965.

The report declared there had been some success in mitigating the effects of the Arab boycott on certain American firms and individuals, although there had been "little progress in 1965" in whittling down still further the restrictions imposed on American citizens by Arab countries on the ground of religion, principally with respect to travel.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES

A meeting of Orthodox Jews was held in Zurich to protest against the activities of Christian missionaries in Israel. Rabbi Jungermann, of Tel Aviv, told the meeting that of 1,300 missionaries active in Israel, 400 were converts from Judaism. He estimated that 10,000 Jews were reached by the 51 institutions of a missionary or near-missionary nature in Israel, and that 2,000 Jewish children were being educated at Christian schools. There were also, he said, eleven mission hospitals and many clubs.

BOYS' TOWN

Mr. David Amittai, a director of Boys' Town Jerusalem, on a visit to London announced that a school for technology and education is to be built at a cost of £40,000 at Boys' Town, with money raised by the Town's British Friends. This is one of five new technical schools planned.

TRADE UNION VISITS

It is expected that about 350 young West German trade union members in twelve groups will spend between two and three weeks in Israel this year, working part of the time in a kibbutz.—(J.C.)

"BLAU-WEISS" YOUTH HOSTEL

To perpetuate the name of the "Blau-Weiss", former members of that leading Zionist Youth Organisation in Germany sponsored the establishment of a youth hostel in Arad to be named "Beth Blau-Weiss". More than 400 former Blau-Weiss members attended the opening ceremony on January 14.

The idea of the hostel had been conceived at a Blau-Weiss rally held in Naharaya in 1962 to mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Blau-Weiss.

GERMAN VISITORS

According to the Deutschland-Berichte (Bonn) the number of German visitors to Israel in 1965 amounted to 12,229. This is an increase of 18% as compared with 1964. There were altogether 228 group travels comprising more than 6,000 visitors, including 28 youth groups who worked in kibbutzim, 140 study groups and 60 groups of tourists and pilgrims.

In January, this year, the headquarters of the Israeli Tourist Office for German-speaking countries was transferred from Zürich to Frankfurt/Main.

TRIBUTE TO REFUGEE NURSE

Miss Gerda Weber, a Sister at the Kingsbury Maternity Hospital, recently died after a road accident. She was born in Breslau and came to this country with a refugee children's transport before the outbreak of war.

In a tribute published by several papers in the district, the Hospital House Committee stated that there must be many hundreds of mothers in the districts of Willesden, Wembley and Harrow who have cause to remember with gratitude the late Miss Gerda Weber. "In her early days", the statement goes on, "Miss Weber worked very hard and tried to get her parents, whom she loved so dearly, to the safety of this country. Unhappily, she did not succeed, and they, with other near relatives, perished in the concentration camps.

"Miss Weber had set herself to the service of her fellow human beings with great devotion, kindness and even greater skill. She also taught many generations of pupil midwives and medical students in their craft. Her colleagues, doctors and midwives, remember a shy, cultured young woman, rather frail of figure, who did not enjoy very good health but who was devoted to the mothers and babies she served so well."

PARKES FELLOWSHIP

Southampton University is to establish a research fellowship in connection with the Parkes Library recently donated to the university by the Rev. Dr. James Parkes. The fellowship is for research within the general field of relations between the Jewish and non-Jewish world, enabling the holder to use the resources of the Parkes Library and to assist in its development.

APPOINTMENT FOR FRANZ REIZENSTEIN

The composer and pianist, Mr. Franz Reizenstein, who also repeatedly gave recitals for the residents of our Homes, has been appointed visiting professor of composition at Boston University and will stay in the U.S.A. for several months.

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