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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Robert Weltsch

ISRAEL AND THE WORLD

It is no exaggeration to say that this summer Israel has been at the centre of world interest to a degree never envisaged before. Moreover, it was demonstrated in a spectacular way that today a close sentimental link exists between the State of Israel and the Jewish people as a whole, notwithstanding the fact that the majority of Jews are not Israeli citizens. Perhaps one may say that the fate of Israel in these days has affected the position of Jews everywhere. Certainly a potential catastrophe of Israel and its inhabitants, widely considered imminent during the anxious time when hostile forces assembled at Israel's frontiers and when international action, or inaction, proved unable to prevent a collision, would have been an immeasurable tragedy for us all.

In the rapid transformation of the atmosphere during the last two incredible months all this is slowly receding into past history, at least as far as world opinion is concerned. One is now concerned with the position created by the war, not with the circumstances that led to it. The achievement of the Israeli army has been praised all over the world, from the strategic and tactical point of view not less than as a manifestation of courage, technical efficiency and devotion. American and other reporters are competing in rushing out pamphlets and paperbacks recounting the history of this *Blitzkrieg*, not without the usual nuance of sensationalism, which may be understandable in this case but makes one weary by repetition, and is disliked in Israel itself. One cannot complain that this war has not been widely reported, at least in the West, and there is nothing one could add. Even some amount of boasting is unavoidable after such a victory.

In Israel, however, a visitor arriving on the morrow of the war, senses primarily the general feeling of immense relief. True, the army had always been convinced that it would conquer, but wide circles of the population, and perhaps more so Jews in the Diaspora who have relatives there, were not so sure. No feeling can be more legitimate than this feeling of relief. Whenever the outside world, and even Jews themselves, criticise ugly events in which Jewish soldiers were involved—such as brutality to civilians or looting (I have not heard of a single case of rape)—one inevitably is confronted with the unassailable argument of "compare it with what would have happened to us if we had been conquered." There are, however, obvious limits to this reasoning, especially when one thinks of the future.

When all allowance has been made for the irrational reaction to the unbearable tension of the soldier in battle—a common phenomenon in all wars—there were still some unnecessary acts of cruelty against innocent

civilians, there is the terrible plight of the refugees, and some deplorable magniloquence in speeches and the press. But on the whole, what one British observer called "the arrogance of the military", though occasionally apparent, is less conspicuous in Israel than it would be in Egypt after a sweeping victory, or indeed in many other countries. On the whole, the Jewish soldier abhors inhumanity and is shocked by the atrocities of war.

A Mark of Humanitarianism

This sentiment found a notable expression in one of the noblest speeches I listened to in Israel, made, oddly enough, by the very man who was the war leader and the planner of the campaign, General Izchak Rabin (45). It happened at an unforgettable ceremony on Mount Scopus, in the amphitheatre of the old Hebrew University which had been inaccessible for nineteen years; a spot unique in the world, with the view, on the East side, of the undulating desert leading to the Dead Sea with the mountains of Moab in the background, while the grandiose panorama of Old and New Jerusalem, with the marvellous Mosque of Omar in the centre inside the city walls, unfolds on the West side. Honorary doctor degrees were bestowed there by the President of the Hebrew University, Eliyahu Elath (once Israel's Ambassador to the Court of St. James's), on seven men and one woman. The woman, Dr. Helen Kagan (82), a Russian-born physician, held in highest esteem by members of all communities, was for half a century an indefatigable pioneer of children's welfare and of social work. Among the men there were several veteran scholars and personages such as the president of the State, Salman Shazar (50 years ago in Berlin under the pen-name of R. Salman a prominent contributor to Martin Buber's monthly "Der Jude"), and the Governor of the Bank of Israel, David Horovitz, who came to Israel from Galicia via Vienna after the First World War. One of the men also honoured in this way was Pinchas Rosen (80), alias Felix Rosenbluth, the German-born lawyer who had been Israel's first Minister of Justice.

But the man who attracted the most advertence, and indeed admiration, was General Rabin. He was the only speaker called upon to reply. Reflecting on the question of why the award of an academic title to a soldier was justified, he emphasised the importance of spirit and morale in the otherwise odious task of a soldier. With a modesty and humanity, seldom observed in a victorious Field-Marshal, he gave all the honour to the fighting men, actually a people in arms, bound together by brotherhood and comradeship. After describing the hardships and odds which the army had to overcome against numerically

superior forces, there came a significant passage worth quoting verbally, as it has not received the publicity it deserves. He said:

"In a growing measure we are faced with a strange phenomenon among our soldiers. They cannot rejoice wholeheartedly, and more than a trickle of sorrow and shock intrudes into their celebration. There are some who prefer to abstain from all celebration. The men in the front lines were witnesses not only to the glory of victory but they saw the price of victory. Their comrades fell beside them bleeding. And I know that the terrible price which our enemies paid, deeply touched the hearts of many of our men. It may be that the Jewish people never learned and never accustomed itself to feel the joy of triumph and of conquest, and we receive it with mixed feelings."

That this highly sophisticated ceremony on the Scopus, where all who count in Jewish intellectual Jerusalem were present, was a peculiar "victory parade"—certainly different from the way in which such occasions are usually celebrated—may be regarded as an understatement.

Apart from the tribute paid here, though in an oblique form, to the losses of the enemy, these words reveal understanding for the horrors and the human tragedy involved in all wars for both sides. This is a truer reflection of the actual feeling than often displayed self-righteousness. Indeed, many of the young boys who faced hardship and death, and also observed the appalling suffering of the Arab soldiers, often abandoned by their officers and dispersed in the desert or in the mountains, who saw all this bloodshed and misery, had the shock of their lives. The visitor to Israel in these weeks can easily find out that the "mixed feelings" of which the General spoke, are not confined to soldiers, but can be sensed also in a great part of the civilian population. It is not only the uneasiness caused by horrors not contemplated at the birth of the Zionist movement, but also the doubt about the future and the prospect of shouldering an unprecedented situation.

Search for a Solution

Israelis are asking themselves what solutions can be found to the political problem which has now been re-opened in all its implications, as it was in 1917, 1937, 1947 and 1957. World opinion has become more critical and almost impatient with the victor. Although the official line taken at present confines itself to the statement that nothing of the conquered Arab territories will be given up without compensation, most Israelis understand that in any case the overriding problem remains that of finding a form of co-existence with the Arab world.

This relationship—and the foundation of the future—cannot rely on military victories nor on subjugation of a hostile population. It is incompatible with the hatred aroused now in

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the Arab camp. To conquer the hatred and to remove the feeling of humiliation of the enemy is more important, and possibly even more difficult, than military action. At the moment Israel offers the surprising picture, not sensed in this way since the days of the Mandate and of unified Palestine, of Arab and Jewish crowds mixing freely, especially in Jerusalem. But it is a transitory stage. The political battle is continuing on two fronts, on the spot and at the United Nations, in an actually remote and often distorting atmosphere of power struggle where often the impression is created that facts and truth have no meaning against the interests of Great Powers.

One can easily assume that Russia will not be prepared to give up the pre-eminence attained now in the Middle East owing to her patronage of the Arab world and the turning of Egypt and other "progressive" Arab countries into satellites. Beyond all expectations, she has now come near to what she had in vain attempted for a century and which had eluded her, primarily owing to British opposition, in 1852, 1877, 1915, 1923, and in other circumstances in 1940 (in the Molotov-Ribbentrop talks). While in 1877 Disraeli deprived the Russians of the fruits of military victory by sending the fleet to the Bosphorus as a reminder that local victories do not decide global issues, the roles are now strangely reversed in 1967, with the Russian gunboats and missile carriers appearing in Alexandria to boost the defeated ally. (Perhaps President de Gaulle is now aspiring to the role of "honest broker" which Bismarck assumed in 1878.) Such facts of international diplomacy in the power game have to be kept in mind.

On the other hand, in Palestine itself a direct contact is again possible between Jews and Arabs. This gives an opportunity for new thinking, or rather a return to old thinking and perhaps old controversies. Today it is obvious to everybody that Israel, or rather the old Palestine, is a bi-national country and can be made viable and prosperous only if some system is devised which is based on this fact.

For reasons which cannot be discussed here in detail, large parts of the Israeli population, so it seems to me, would now be prepared for new ideas which 40 or even 20 years ago appeared as heresy. It has been almost forgotten—and is anyhow known only to few outsiders—that within the Zionist movement a minority of prominent Jews a long time ago advocated a policy of close co-operation with the Arabs of Palestine in what was sometimes called an "Alliance of Peace" (Brith Shalom) on moral as well as on political grounds. This aim was thought to be accomplishable within the structure of what was called a bi-national state, admittedly a questionable proposition in an age where national homogeneity, even in contradiction to all practical and economical necessities, has been made a dogma of international thought.

It is worth while recalling that Chaim Weizmann, later to become the first President of the State of Israel, was deposed in 1931 at the Zionist Congress because he declared that, in view of the existing Arab population, Palestine could not become a purely "Jewish" state, but had to be a state where Jews and Arabs should live as equals, each of them developing their own cultural aspirations. He stressed that Zionists had to concede to the Arabs in Palestine the same right to live in peace and freedom as the Zionists demanded for the Jews. [See the quotations from Weiz-

mann's speeches in my contribution to "Chaim Weizmann, a Biography by several hands," London, 1962, Weidenfeld & Nicolson.]

True, all these facts and programmes have been obscured and partly obliterated by the emergency caused by the rise of Hitler, when the Jews of Europe were in need of a refuge which no country was prepared to offer them even when the gas chambers of Auschwitz were in operation, and by the Arab revolt of 1936, which led to the Peel Commission's recommendation of Partition, envisaging separate Jewish and Arab states, each in a part of Palestine, albeit with some common links.

Nevertheless, a small Jewish group to which, however, such great men as American-born Juda L. Magnes, Austrian-born Martin Buber and Russian-born Moshe Smilanski belonged, persisted in their contention that Partition (into hostile camps!) was no solution, and that it was up to the Jews to create the climate for honest co-operation. These men and their followers did not hesitate to condemn publicly Jewish terrorism and what they regarded as inhuman acts committed by Jews, as well as any extremist nationalism. Magnes died in 1948, but those continuing his fight are on record as having constantly urged a just solution of the Arab refugee problem. All such actions have, however, been frustrated by the understandable Jewish concern for the "demographic" substance of the State and also by the constant refusal of Arab political leaders to accede to a compromise. It is a sad story of trial and error. Before 1948, a political group in Palestine consisting largely of immigrants from Nazi Germany (who had witnessed the horror of extremist nationalism and racialism) was strongly committed to the policy of bi-nationalism. Men like Georg Landauer and Werner Senator were among the most passionate advocates of such a policy.

In the meantime, much water has flowed down the Jordan, and much has been sinned on both sides to make a *rapprochement* more difficult. In the face of uninhibited declarations of competing Arab leaders proclaiming their plan of total physical extermination of the Jews of Israel there was no choice left but to withstand such intentions. But now that the fight is over (as we hope it is), there is a chance of a completely new start. Men and women on both sides are weary of killing and strife. A volte-face would dishonour nobody; but it has to be understood that it can only be achieved if all elements of humiliation and mutual scorn are eliminated. The new psychological "war" now required is of a quite different character from that of

intimidation. In view of the unsettled international situation, it may be difficult for Israel to draft definite programmes, but there is already some vague talk about a Palestinian Arab State (which would be a modified revival of the Peel Plan of 1937). It must be deeply deplored, from the point of view of Middle East peace as well as of the well-being of Jew and Arab alike, that King Hussein played such an ambiguous role in the present conflict. He may have been forced to do so, he is certainly not a free agent in a world of aggressive and terrorist nationalism which does not shrink from assassination. But his preposterous flight to Cairo on May 30 (his Canossa) in order to ally himself with his arch-enemy instead of following a wise policy of "attentisme" has certainly had disastrous consequences both for himself and his country and for the chances of a settlement satisfactory to both sides.

The only real and reasonable solution would be the restoration, in some new form, of a unified Palestine, with a Jewish and an Arab state (in the American sense) and the free co-operation of both peoples. Jordan, after all, as well as Israel, are artificial creations of British policy. There did not exist a "Jordanian," not even a "Trans-jordanian" state before 1920, just as there was no "Jewish National Home" before the Balfour Declaration. Perhaps the last war had the salutary effect not only of pulling down frontiers, absurdly marked by barbed wire, but also of opening new alleys of constructive thought. In the framework of Palestine (as a whole) there would be no difficulty in solving the refugee problem, and there is no doubt that ample means would be forthcoming (also from Jewish sources) for the purpose of healing this festering wound which is such a burden on the Jewish conscience. It would be a triumph of humanity, and for the Jewish side a triumph vastly surpassing military victory, if there were a sincere belief in the concept of a "peace without victors and vanquished". As far as the average man in the street is concerned, there would be no obstacles, as was demonstrated by the quasi-fraternisation in Jerusalem when Israel took the bold step of opening the gates of "Jordanian" Jerusalem to free traffic in both directions.

Unfortunately, much time has been lost. Many of us have waited in vain for a great gesture of reconciliation immediately after the military victory. Inevitably, with the passing of time, the fronts are tending to harden again. One cannot be sure of the developments in the unpredictable Arab camp and, more important, in the chancelleries of the Great Powers. As things are, both sides have to take account of Great Power interests, but Palestine offers a unique opportunity of establishing a really—not only phraseologically—"neutral" orbit, like Austria or Switzerland. It is also commonplace to say that Jerusalem is and must remain—and be seen to remain—a supra-national, universalist centre of three great religions and cultural traditions. What an asset to Israel!

At the time of writing, all is still in flux, threats and massing of arms continue, and nobody knows where human folly may lead. But at least on the Jewish side the greatness of the opportunity must not be missed. It is reassuring that in the ranks of the present Israeli Government voices were heard in favour of co-operation instead of aggrandisement. What would be the verdict of history if at such a moment internal party politics and the inclination to woo nationalist sentiment would prevail over the imperative of wisdom and humanity!

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THE MIDDLE EAST

THE ISRAELI SCENE

The Israeli Minister of Finance, Mr. Pinhas Sapir, whilst on a two-day visit to London told the "Jewish Chronicle" that the cost of the war to Israel was estimated at well in excess of £200 million. While some damage had been caused to industrial properties, the main loss was in tourism, transport and export revenue. The net cost to Israel of maintaining the occupied territories on the West Bank of the Jordan was, he said, between £1 million and £2 million per month.

Speaking in Tel Aviv to foreign correspondents Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Israeli Prime Minister, reiterated Israel's determination not to relinquish the areas under her control which were necessary for her security and self-defence. If the Arab States agreed to discuss peace and forego war, all problems could be solved in direct negotiations for the benefit of all parties, and Mr. Eshkol emphasised that he saw better prospects for direct negotiations than ever before. In conclusion he stated that the many millions of dollars Israel had received from Jews abroad had helped to ease the economic burden of the war.

Israel has formally extended the jurisdiction of the Jerusalem municipality to include the Old City of Jerusalem and its suburbs, previously occupied by Jordan. In reaction, Yugoslavia and 14 co-sponsoring nations introduced a resolution at the United Nations General Assembly calling on Israel to withdraw to her pre-war truce lines. President Johnson issued a statement urging consultations before any decision was taken about the status of the Holy City. The State Department said that Israel's "hasty administrative action" could "not be regarded as determining the future of the holy places or the status of Jerusalem in relation to them".

The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Arab Refugees (Unrwa) Commissioner-General, after visiting the areas occupied by Israel, stated: "There has been no pressure to force refugees out, although rumours to this effect have been circulating". Those who wish to leave are being provided with transport by the Israeli authorities as far as the crossing point. Persistent Cairo reports that the Israelis had attacked and destroyed the hospital at El Arish have been denied by the International Red Cross.

REPERCUSSIONS IN ARAB COUNTRIES

A London "Times" correspondent recently reported that hundreds of Jews had been arrested in Egypt after Israel's victory. Fifty-four Jewish refugees from Egypt who arrived in Naples said they had been thrown into prison when hostilities broke out. They escaped because they had Italian passports. Another 50 refugees from Egypt arrived in Cyprus. The "Times" correspondent said that the 2,600 Jews living in Egypt are in terror of what the future may bring.

In Tripoli 16 Jews were thrown to their deaths from buildings and the Jewish driver of an American school bus was burned to death in his cab by an Arab mob. Jewish refugees from Libya have arrived in Tunisia. A number of Tunisian Jews left the country for France.

Many of Lebanon's community of approximately 5,000 Jews are leaving the country. Although there was mob action against American and British firms when the Arab-Israeli war broke out, Jews in Lebanon were not molested. But the Jews there are not completely reassured by the Lebanese Government's announced determination to maintain law and order.

LIBYAN COMMUNITY

Almost the entire Libyan community—about 4,500 Jews—were held in a camp on the outskirts of the Libyan city of Tripoli. They were given police protection to stop them being murdered by Beduin coming out of the desert in search of easy prey.

EMPLOYMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Yigal Allon, Minister of Labour, stated in the Knesset that the present figure of volunteers had reached 5,000. He claimed that all were doing useful work, but also admitted that here and there snags had occurred and that there might also have been some disappointments, especially among the very young.

Commenting on the position, Dr. Robert Weltsch, who recently returned from a visit to Israel, writes:

"One unexpected aftermath of the Israel War—admittedly a minor problem, but of special interest to non-Israeli Jews—is the embarrassment caused by the influx of several thousands of volunteers, who came to Israel, or were brought there by various institutions, in order to help the war effort. It was a spontaneous and enthusiastic movement, an expression of widely felt sympathy with Israel. But as it often happens when idealism clashes with reality, there was not sufficient work to do for these young people, who arrived after the six days' war was over, and many of whom were of the naive opinion that even unskilled people could fulfil some useful function. The arrivals also included adventurers of the beatnik type, travelling on public expense. A number of people could be temporarily employed due to their specialist knowledge, e.g., as doctors and nurses. Some of the unskilled youths were sent to kibbutzim, where there was a shortage of man-power during mobilisation. Yet there were very few experts in fields in which they could have been of use to the army, such as mechanics able to repair tanks or planes.

"Attempts to employ the volunteers in a regular way met with fierce protests by unemployed workers, whose number is now estimated at 36,000. The situation calls for a realistic analysis, as it might recur if ordinary immigrants were admitted without preconceived plans for their settlement."

MORE FACILITIES FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

More facilities for new immigrants were announced by the Jewish Agency Executive. These facilities include free tuition at an Ulpan for the first six months after their arrival; flats without key money and at a reasonable rent; an option to buy their flats on easy terms; income tax at minimal rates for the first three years. The old rule of no customs duty for new immigrants on any of their belongings or equipment also remains in force. The Jewish Agency Executive confidently expects at least 15,000 new immigrants in the coming year.

TOURISTS FROM NEW YORK

The State Department passport office in New York has been besieged by thousands of intending tourists to Israel. People are wanting to see "the new Israel", including the occupied territories.

BOLIVIAN ENVOY ACCREDITED

The Bolivian Ambassador was the first diplomatic envoy to be accredited to the Israeli Government in reunified Jerusalem. He presented his credentials to President Shazar the day the city was opened. Dr. Olivo Suarez Morales, the Ambassador, has taken up residence in Jerusalem.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN OLD JERUSALEM

The many fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls found in the Rockefeller Museum in eastern Jerusalem since the liberation are being catalogued by two Israeli experts. Although shells hit the building only a small number of exhibits were damaged, and the museum has now been reopened to the public.

The fine collection of Palestinian archaeological exhibits in the museum include the Lachish letters comprising 21 inscribed potsherds found in 1935, believed to date from 589 B.C.E. when the Babylonians threatened the town.

RUSSIAN "ATROCITIES" ACCUSATIONS

An article, "Anne Frank and Dayan", appeared in "Izvestia", the principal organ of the Soviet Government. Their correspondent in Rome, L. Kolosov, based the article, composed of lurid stories of Israeli atrocities on what he had been told by "certain Italian journalists" back from Sinai. "The Sinai desert—one of the Italian journalists told me—was transformed into a huge crematorium" said Kolosov, and: "I cannot fail to compare the Jewish girl tortured by the Hitlerites, Anne Frank, whose dramatic diary moved the entire world, with General Dayan, who has surpassed the inhuman Nazi generals. What a gulf!" Thus, my colleague, the Italian journalist, concluded his account.

Stories on the same lines appeared in most Soviet newspapers and were repeated on the radio, as well as reports about Arab refugees and political commentaries on "Israeli aggression."

Anti-Israel meetings are reported to be taking place all over the country, including meetings in synagogues. The campaign has also been taken up in East Germany and Czechoslovakia and, to some extent, in Hungary.

In Poland Mr. Wladyslaw Gomulka, the first secretary of the Communist Party, at the opening of the sixth congress of Polish trade unions, criticised Polish Jews for their jubilation over Israel's victory. Poland, he said, did not want a fifth column to be created inside the country. The Polish authorities put no obstacles in the way of Polish Jews wishing to emigrate to Israel. In his opinion, Polish citizens should have only one homeland—Poland.

U.S.S.R. HALTS EMIGRATION

An Associated Press despatch from Moscow said that the Soviet Union had halted the emigration of Jews seeking to join their families in Israel. According to the news agency, 40 Jews with exit visas were told they could not leave. Departing Israeli diplomats were told that the matter was being reviewed by "higher authorities."

ADEN COMMUNITY LEAVES

Twenty years ago there were 7,000 Jews in Aden. Now the remnants of the community of 132 have left, 52 for Tel Aviv and the remaining 80 coming to London. A flare-up of violence against Adeni Jews started when President Nasser occupied the Straits of Tiran, precipitating the final exodus.

STANDS TAKEN BY OTHER COUNTRIES

All East European countries, with the exception of Rumania, severed diplomatic relations with Israel.

The Spanish Government, television and radio services, took a pro-Arab attitude to the war but the Spanish press was in open support of Israel. The public, it is estimated, was 90 per cent pro-Israel.

Also in contrast to the Indian Government's support for the Arabs, many Indian newspapers came out for Israel. The Indian Government's attitude was strongly criticised by the Indian Federation of Independent Trade Unions, whose president pointed out that Israel is the ancient homeland of the Jews and that Israelis have as much right as the Arabs to live in peace and freedom. Israel had never been known to have desired the destruction of the Arabs, as was the avowed Arab intention.

Support for Israel was expressed by the African State of Malawi.

MIXED ARAB-JEWISH CRECHE

The Federation of Women Zionists in Britain has made itself responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of a day crèche and youth centre for Jewish and Arab children, to be opened shortly in the Old City of Jerusalem.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

GREEK INTERFERENCE

Under a compulsory law which ended the office of all executives of legal entities in public law, the elected boards of the Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece and the Organisation for the Administration of Jewish Heirless Property (O.P.A.I.E.) have been summarily dismissed. Two fresh decrees specified that the executive committees of these bodies will be appointed by the Minister of Education and Religion and hold office for two years. It is believed that similar legislation concerning the elected leaders of individual Jewish communities in Greece is now under consideration.

For the first time in the history of Greek Jewry, the decrees allow for non-Jews to administer Jewish religious, educational and other bodies concerned with communal life. Jewish leaders are making representation that all five members of the newly appointed executives should be Jews of Greek nationality.

These changes came about just as Greek Jewish leaders ended preliminary negotiations with the West German Government for war compensation. Agreement was reached in principle in respect of claims estimated at 4½ million marks for communal property removed by the Nazis from Salonika. A lump sum offer of about £1 million was announced for gold sovereigns and jewellery seized from individual Greek Jews by the Nazis. Compensation for furniture and other valuables confiscated from Jewish homes was rejected because of the absence of evidence that these had been taken to Germany.

MEMORIAL IN BRUSSELS

A monument is to be built in the Anderlecht suburb of Brussels in memory of the more than 25,000 Jews who were deported from Belgium during the Nazi occupation and who died in concentration camps. Former Belgian residents living in other countries are asked to communicate the names of deported relatives to the National Committee of the Memorial to the Jewish Martyr, at 107 Rue du Brabant, Brussels, or c/o Centrale, Marialei 2, Antwerp.

NAZIS IN EGYPT

Mr. Gideon Hausner, Israel's Attorney-General at the time of the Eichmann trial, was a member of Israel's delegation at the U.N. General Assembly's special emergency session. He told delegates that the Arab press and Arab information office had been disseminating scurrilous anti-Jewish material for years, and that many former Nazi officers and officials had good jobs with the Nasser régime. They included Joachim Gleim, formerly a Gestapo chief in Poland and now a high-ranking member of the Egyptian secret police; the late Hans Eisele, a Buchenwald concentration camp doctor, who was a physician in Cairo; and Oscar Dirlwanger, a former Nazi general now responsible for Nasser's safety.

FREISLER'S AIDE SENTENCED

Hans-Joachim Rehse, a former member of the Freisler's First Senate of the "Volksgerichtshof", was sentenced to five years' penal servitude by the West Berlin Law Court. Whilst membership with the Volksgericht as such was not a punishable offence, the presiding judge stated, Rehse had been found guilty of miscarriage of justice in at least seven cases, in which his senate had pronounced death sentences though, even under the laws then in force, only prison sentences should have been passed in view of the minor character of the defendants' "crimes".

PENAL SERVITUDE FOR FORMER S.S. OFFICER

Helmuth Reinhard, who served as an S.S.-Sturmbannfuhrer in Norway during the war, was found guilty of having been an accessory to murder in four cases where Norwegians were shot. He was sentenced to five years' penal servitude. It was also established that he had been instrumental in the deportation of 532 Jews. However, due to the statute of limitation, an indictment on this account was no longer possible. The presiding judge of the Baden-Baden law court described Reinhard as a man who had not shown any feelings of contrition.

TREBLINKA COMMANDANT

Franz Paul Stangl, a commandant of the Treblinka and Sobibor concentration camps in Poland, is to stand trial in West Germany on charges of complicity in the wartime murder of 700,000 camp inmates.

JEWISH POLICE OFFICER

West Germany's only Jewish police officer, Ernst Rosenberg, has been promoted "Kriminalrat", equivalent to the military rank of major, of the Duesseldorf criminal investigation department.

Born in Berlin, Mr. Rosenberg was a police officer with the Israeli police and with the Mandatory force before the establishment of the State in 1948. He settled in Duesseldorf in 1953, with his Jerusalem-born wife, and joined the police force there, becoming an active member of the Duesseldorf Jewish community.

PROTESTANT CHURCH CONFERENCE

Jewish-Christian Working Group

As in previous years, the 1967 Evangelische Kirchentag held in Hanover from June 21-25, arranged for a special working group to deal with the relationship between Jews and Christians. Of the 30,000 persons who attended the Conference, between 2,500 and 6,000 took part in the various gatherings of the group. The speakers included Rabbi Dr. Robert Raphael Geis, Professor Dr. Hans-Joachim Kraus, Dr. Eva Reichmann and Professor Dr. Dietrich Goldschmidt.

REACTIONS IN GERMANY

Israel's military victory was widely acclaimed in the German press. "Die Welt" writes: "The accusations levelled against the survivors of Hitlerism are monstrous and a distortion of the truth. Never has a voice been raised in Israel demanding the annihilation of the Arab people, but Nasser has never ceased to propagate the destruction of Israel. Are we entitled to be proud of Germany's reaction? Certainly not. All we may perhaps claim is that we adopted an attitude of which we need not be ashamed".

The "Mittag" states that the whole of Jerusalem must remain Israeli; "this is the most sensible solution in our view". "Der Spiegel" writes: "Everybody who looks at the Jewish State and its inhabitants must realise that Jews are not as they are supposed to be according to antisemitic propaganda. On the contrary, it appears that in the face of danger they have developed not the worst but the best qualities. In the course of the past 19 years Israel has shown how the resources of mankind can be used for the benefit of all of us. Countries which deny Israel's right to exist should receive no development aid, at least not from the Federal Republic. . . . Long Live Israel, the David amongst the nations".

A "deep-felt tribute" to Germany's attitude was paid by the Israeli Prime Minister, Levi Eshkol, in an exclusive interview with "Die Welt" of July 5, where he said that the relations between Israel and Germany had noticeably improved recently and would take an even more positive turn in the future. Conversely, the Jerusalem Correspondent of "Die Welt" (June 21) reports that Mr. Menahem Beigin, the Israeli Right-wing leader, now Minister without Portfolio, who had always been strongly opposed to any rapprochement between Israel and Germany, was now "obviously prepared to change his attitude."

AUSTRIA'S SOLIDARITY

In Austria, too, the strong feelings of sympathy with Israel became evident during the crisis. Whilst, as in Germany, the Government considered it necessary to remain neutral, most leading newspapers enthusiastically welcomed the military successes of Israel. "Israel has shown" ("Die Presse" writes) that a tiny country with less than half of Austria's inhabitants is capable of withstanding and even beating its enemies in spite of their tremendous numerical superiority and their simultaneous activities on several fronts. Does the Austrian realise the meaning of such happenings? The country between Bregenz and Neusiedl is certainly not surrounded by states which aim at her annihilation. Yet we may learn from Israel what can be achieved by military competence and civilian efficiency—even in a seemingly hopeless situation." The current press reports during the war were full of admiration for Israel, and radio and television broadcasts during and after the fighting also reflected a decidedly pro-Israel attitude. Many Austrians contributed money and acted as blood donors. Painters and sculptors sold their works for the benefit of the Israel Fund, and prominent singers and actors renounced their fees in favour of the fund. A mass rally held in Vienna's Town Hall on June 8, was attended by more than 4,000 people. The audience included leading politicians and prominent members of the opera and stage ensembles. Leonard Bernstein, who was in Vienna as a guest conductor, was also present and, after the meeting, sold autographs for the benefit of the fund. The Mayor of Vienna, Bruno Marek, spoke in the name of the Social Democratic Party. Israel's programme, he said, is a programme of humanity, which Socialists fully endorse and further. The President of the Vienna Kultusgemeinde, Dr. Ernst Feldsberg, who presided, announced that the Kultusgemeinde had mortgaged its real estates, in order to be able to make a contribution of 10 million Oest.Sh. to the Israel Solidarity Fund.

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HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

DEPUTIES' CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

At its plenary meeting on July 2, the Board of Deputies passed the following resolution: "The Board affirms that the responsibility for the outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East on June 5 rests fully on Egypt as a result of her decision to insist on the withdrawal of the U.N. Forces, to move her army to the Israeli frontier, to blockade the international waterways of the Straits of Tiran and to join with Syria, Jordan and other Arab States in a military alliance for a war of annihilation against Israel.

"The Board calls on the whole of the Anglo-Jewish community and all concerned for peace and goodwill to intensify their moral and material support for Israel in her great and constructive tasks; in the work of absorbing Jewish refugees from Arab countries and of ensuring the welfare of her Jewish and non-Jewish population."

At the same meeting Dr. S. Levenberg, Chairman of the Erets Israel Committee, dealt with the "atrocities tales" emanating from Cairo, Damascus, Amman and Beirut. "Unfortunately, these stories about the maltreatment of refugees are being reproduced by the British press, radio and television without taking any serious trouble to check their veracity."

SIR BARNETT JANNER ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

During the Commons debate on the Middle East, Sir Barnett Janner said that the battle of Israel in some respects resembled the Battle of Britain. . . They were alone. He went on to say: "We are falling over backwards to explain to the rest of the world that we did not go anywhere near them. We have no right, not having gone near them in their time of trouble, to warn them what they should do in the future."

M.P.s VISIT ISRAEL

A group of Labour M.P.'s, including Eric Heffer, Ben Whitaker, David Marquand and Ted Rowlands, visited Israel and toured the country for a week. On their return here they issued the following statement:

"... We have been struck by the desire for peaceful and permanent solutions by all concerned. The key to the whole problem lies with the future of the refugees who must be suitably settled and integrated with society as a whole. We particularly welcome the statement by the Israeli Government that Palestinians who have fled to the East Bank of the River Jordan can return to the West Bank, and believe that this is a positive and practical step to the successful solution of the future of the West Bank. It is our firm conviction that the people and State of Israel have a right to live in peace and have their future peace secured. To this end we urge the Arab leaders of the surrounding countries to come to this negotiating table so that Arab-Israeli co-operation and solidarity can enable all the nations of the Middle East to tackle their real problem of poverty."

The House heard a first-hand report from Lord Boothby, who had just returned from Israel. What struck him most on his return, he said, were the extraordinary distortions of fact and of the truth which are now appearing everywhere. In Jerusalem he had found an atmosphere of great tranquillity. The military presence was practically invisible except at the gates. Christians, Jews and Moslems were worshipping freely at their respective shrines for the first time in 19 years. He thought the Israeli Government had made a mistake in encouraging the Arabs on the west bank of the Jordan to cross to the east bank. But, as far as he could see, there had been very few deliberate evictions.

GENERAL HERZOG IN LONDON

Under the auspices of the Anglo-Jewish Association, General Chaim Herzog addressed a crowded meeting at Friends House on July 13. Describing the antecedents of the war, he stated that the Arabs had wrongly been made to believe by the Russians that Israel had concentrated troops on the Syrian border. He paid tribute to the active solidarity of the Jews all over the world. The spirit of the Israeli Army, he said, was reflected in the fact that 23 per cent of those killed were officers. As first governor of the West Bank of Jordan, he emphatically stated that no Arab had been forced to leave and that the attachment of other religions to the holy places would be fully respected. However, the request that Israel should withdraw from the occupied territories prior to a settlement was tantamount to a demand for Israel's destruction. In the same vein, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Fraser, M.P. (Conservative) stressed that not a single dunam could be given up until a settlement had been achieved. Mr. Ivor Richard, M.P. (Labour) stated that the British people were overwhelmingly on Israel's side. The Hon. Mrs. Jo Grimond regretted that, unlike the U.S.A., Britain had not abstained on the Jerusalem resolution of the U.N. Mr. Kenneth Lindsay paid special tribute to the performance at the U.N. of Israel's Foreign Minister, Mr. Eban. Mr. Harold Sebag-Montefiore, G.L.C., president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, was in the chair.

STUDENTS APPROACH KOSYGIN

A telegram to Mr. Kosygin was sent by the Inter-University Jewish Federation, on behalf of its 3,000 student members, expressing shock at Russia's biased Middle East policy. The telegram read: "Deeply shocked at your Government's incitement of the Arab countries, particularly in equating the victims of Nazi persecution with their tormentors. We appeal to you to promote Arab-Israeli negotiations for peace and refrain from any further arms delivery to the Middle East."

IMPORTS FROM ISRAEL

In the first three months of 1967 British imports from Israel showed an increase of over £1 million over the same period last year. Exports were down slightly.

BRITISH CHILD NAMED "DAYAN"

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Thomas, of Reading, Berks, have informed the Israel Defence Ministry that they are naming their baby "Dayan" in tribute to Israel's armed forces.

SPORTS CLUBS DISCRIMINATION

Mr. Frank Davis, a member of the London borough of Barnet council, complained that the Templars tennis club at Golders Green was discriminating against Jews. The club chairman has said, however, that the club has quite a strong Jewish membership. The Department of Education and Science, which administers grants to clubs, in a letter to Mr. Davis stated that it can find no evidence of discrimination and is awarding a grant of £525 to the Templars, on conditions that membership is open to all.

Nevertheless, as a result of Mr. Davis's complaint, a declaration has been drawn up by the Department to the effect that sports clubs which discriminate against prospective members on grounds of race, occupation, religion or politics, will no longer be entitled to Government assistance. All clubs which qualify for State aid will in future have to sign a declaration that membership is open to all and that no application will be refused on other than reasonable grounds.

M. & S. CHIEF

Mr. J. Edward Sieff has become chairman and joint managing director of Marks & Spencer. He succeeds his brother, Lord Sieff, who is to be president of the firm.

New President of Board of Deputies

Alderman Michael Fidler was elected president of the Board of Deputies as successor to Mr. Solomon Teff who did not seek re-election. He beat the alternative candidate, Mr. Victor Mishcon, by 17 votes—129 to 112.

Alderman Fidler was born in Salford 51 years ago, and all his life served the community of Manchester. In 1951 he was elected the only Jewish member of the Prestwich Borough Council and six years later became Mayor of the Borough. A rainwear manufacturer, he was a director of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce for four years. He is president of the Council of Manchester and Salford Jews. Mr. Fidler has been a member of the Board of Deputies since 1942.

Honour for Solomon Teff

Mr. Solomon Teff, past president of the Board of Deputies, has had a 1,000-acre grove in Galilee named after him. The grove is in recognition of Mr. Teff's services to the Jewish community. The money was collected by members of the Brighton and Hove Younger Jewish National Fund.

Rabbi Kirzner Arrives

Dr. Eliezer W. Kirzner, appointed Rav Rashi to the Federation of Synagogues last November, arrived in London from New York. Although Dr. Kirzner's formal induction may be delayed till September, he has already taken up his duties.

Liberal Rabbi Appointed

Mr. Roger Pavey has been appointed rabbi of the West Central Liberal Synagogue. Aged 28, he will take up his duties shortly when he completes his studies at the Leo Baeck College, London.

Teacher Shortage

The shortage of Hebrew teachers in London has become critical due to the crisis in Israel. Forty teachers, nearly ten per cent of the total teaching force of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education, have volunteered for service in Israel.

Home for Handicapped Children

The Jewish Home for Mentally Handicapped Children at St. Leonards-on-Sea, near Hastings, has been formally dedicated. The home was purchased by the Buckets and Spades Committee and is equipped and maintained by the committee at a cost of £12,000 a year. It is one of the finest of its kind in the country.

The main address at the opening ceremony was given by Sir Seymour Karminski, one of the patrons, and the Rev. Dr. Isaac Levy also spoke.

The home, which cost £20,000 to buy, convert and equip, although a Jewish one, is not restricted to Jewish children. At present 30 per cent of the children are non-Jews.

Haven for the Old

The Maurice and Samuel Lyon Home for elderly people near Hendon Lane, London, completed a year ago and now officially opened, is named after two brothers who left a legacy for a specific purpose. It is a home for old folk where Jewish patients discharged from the London Jewish Hospital can rest and reside until suitable accommodation can be found for them.

The building is administered by the Friends of the London Jewish Hospital. The official opening by Mr. Harold Lever, M.P., was made the occasion to launch an appeal for £35,000, since it is expected that there is likely to be an annual deficit of some £2,000.

Liverpool Flatlet Home

A Home with 60 flats, built under the auspices of the Liverpool Jewish Housing Association, was formally opened by Sir Rex Cohen. The project, which was carried out in collaboration with the Housing Department of the City of Liverpool, cost nearly £200,000, of which one-third was donated by the Liverpool Jewish community. The remainder of the capital was borrowed from the Ministry of Housing.

THE DRAMA OF MASADA

Masada, the massive rock in the wilderness of Judea, was originally built as a royal citadel by King Herod and after his death garrisoned by the Romans. With the outbreak of the revolt against Rome in the year 66 C.E., Menahem ben Yehuda, one of the famous leaders of the revolt, captured the fortress and wiped out its garrison. After the fall of Jerusalem (70 C.E.) the spark of national resistance was kept alive on Masada, where the heroic remnant of Zealots under their leader Eleazar ben Yair held out against overwhelming odds for another three years until the very bitter end. On April 15, 73 C.E., the Romans launched their final assault on the fortress, but when they arrived at the summit they found utter desolation and death. The defenders and their families died at their own hands. All that remained were smoking ruins and deadly silence. The Jewish fighters had chosen death rather than surrender to servitude and slavery.

For the archaeologist the excavation of Masada was a challenge of immense historical significance, for anything that could be found under the ruins of the fortress could be dated not later than the year 73 C.E. And now Yigael Yadin, Professor of Archaeology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and leader of the excavating team, presents us with an exciting story* of the great archaeological dig of the century. In his impressive account of excavating Masada, Yadin refers at first to the formidable task which confronted the archaeologists and the devoted band of volunteers from all over the world, the vast preparations and organisation before the summit could be reached, and the trying days of digging with the vagaries of weather and some other difficult experiences encountered. Depicting as he does in a glowing and most moving manner the dramatic events of Masada—an impressive testimony to the courage of the defenders—Yadin goes on to unfurl before our eyes the grandeur of Masada, the unearthed palaces of Herod with their great beauty and material glory and the modest and at the same time moving relics of the Zealots. Together with him we relive in awe the final and most tragic moments of the drama of Masada.

Lucid and clear is Yadin's presentation of the unearthed palaces of Herod, their ancient grandeur and splendour which the Zealots laid waste before surrendering the fortress. Under the ashes and ruins Yadin excavated magnificent frescoes and wall paintings in the Greco-Roman style, beautiful mosaic floors which, according to Yadin, are among the earliest ever found in the Holy Land. The historian of that time, Josephus, described in glowing terms the "wondrous palace villa" of Herod, which Yadin could locate at the northern point of the great rock. In addition to the magnificent palaces, Yadin uncovered a swimming-pool and sumptuous baths with heating installations, as well as remnants of grand architecture with Greek pillars and Corinthian columns.

It is with intense emotion that we read Yadin's description of the last dramatic events in the struggle of Masada and of the unearthing of some very personal articles belonging to the defenders and their families. Articles of daily use, textile fragments and remnants of food were found under the ashes of the burnt-out buildings. The great aridity of Masada helped to preserve even vessels made

of delicate material, cosmetic utensils, jars to store food, oil and wine, scores of clay oil-lamps, a wooden comb, part of a mirror and a box of eye-paint. Particularly exciting to the archaeologists were the rich finds of coins, silver shekels and other mint struck during the revolt with the inscription "The Freedom of Zion". The pieces of cloth and sacking which Yadin found he considers to be "the earliest and most complete collection of textile material from the Roman period so far discovered".

Of outstanding interest to Yadin and his helpers was also the ritual bath (Mikve) found among the ruins of Masada, which was constructed in scrupulous conformity with the ritual law. The unearthing of a synagogue from the period of the Second Temple is also of historical importance. For, as Yadin rightly stresses, till then the very earliest synagogue discovered in Israel belonged to the end of the second or the beginning of the third century C.E. On account of these and similar finds Yadin concludes (page 96) that the defenders of Masada "were not only Zealots from the national-political point of view but also lived rigidly according to the religious code" and adhering to the traditional law.

Of considerable importance to the study of the literature of the period of the Second Temple are the literary discoveries. On the whole fourteen scrolls, biblical, sectarian and apocryphal, were discovered in Masada. Great significance is attached to part of a scroll of the Book of Wisdom by Ben Sirah, who lived several decades before the Hasmonean period. The original Hebrew version was not included in the biblical Canon and was thus lost to posterity. It was only preserved in its Greek translation. Parts of the Hebrew version were later found in the Geniza of Cairo, and now comes this unique Masada discovery of the original Hebrew text which may go back to the first half of the first century C.E. Of extraordinary importance for scroll research was also a fragment of the Book of Psalms consisting of the section Psalms 81 to 85, as well as parts of the book of Leviticus, fragments of Ezekiel and a sectarian scroll. In addition important inscriptions were found, ostraca, pieces of inscribed pottery serving as the common writing of the day as papyrus or parchment were too costly for purposes of day-to-day life. The writing on the ostraca, Yadin stresses, with a lettering done in a very beautiful script, fill the gap in our knowledge of the writing during the period of the Second Temple. These inscriptions are indeed "of great palaeographic value and shed much light on the history of Hebrew script" (page 191). From the point of view of scroll research, Yadin concludes, those found in Masada are "the most important discoveries of our Masada excavations" (page 189).

Yadin's exhilarating narrative of his excavation of Masada adds a new, exciting chapter to the history of the Jewish past. Written with much subtlety and a broad and sweeping imagination, his book reminds us more of the poet than of the scientist and scholar. His and his colleagues' rich archaeological exploits will continue to serve as an important source of study and research into the Jewish past. Yadin's "Masada" is a well written, richly photographed and superbly produced record of an outstanding archaeological achievement.

It is worth while noting that, were it not for the recorded history of "The Jewish War", by Josephus Flavius, we would have had hardly any record of this heroic defence and

the dramatic end of Masada. The Talmud and the rabbinic literature are rather silent on Masada and its last stand. Have we to assume that the reason for this was that the rabbis later developed a different approach to the whole conception of Jewish history and became unmindful if not entirely opposed to the political struggle for independence?

The physical Masada with all its heroic glory was now turned into a new, stronger and everlasting fortress of the Jewish spirit which has well served the Jewish people in all their tribulations and vicissitudes. J.Ms.

JUEDISCHE GEMEINDEBEDIENTSTETE UND SOZIALVERSICHERUNGSRENTE

Dr. L. G. T. King schreibt:

Nach der gesetzlichen Regelung sind auf die Versorgungsbezüge, die an frühere Bedienstete juedischer oeffentlicher Einrichtungen gezahlt werden, Renten aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung anzurechnen, soweit sie fuer den gleichen Zeitraum und fuer das gleiche Arbeitsverhaeltnis gewaehrt werden, in dem der Versorgungsberechtigte bei der juedischen Stelle beschaeftigt war. Das Bundesverwaltungsamt in Koeln nimmt fuer sich fuer Anrechnungszwecke auch den Teil der Sozialversicherungsrente in Anspruch, der auf die Ersatzzeiten entfaellt, die dem Versorgungsberechtigten fuer die Zeiten nach dem Ausscheiden aus juedischem Gemeindedienst gewaehrt werden, also insbesondere die Ersatzzeit fuer verfolgungsbedingten Auslandsaufenthalt bis 31.12.1949. Es glaubt hierzu berechtigt zu sein, weil bei Gewaehrung der Versorgungsbezüge durch das Bundesverwaltungsamt unterstellt wird, dass der Berechtigte bis zum 31.3.1951 ohne die Verfolgung in juedischen Diensten geblieben waere.

Dieser Ansicht kann nicht gefolgt werden. Denn die Ersatzzeiten nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung werden in der Sozialversicherung auf Grund der einzeln im Gesetz aufgefuehrten Tatbestaende gewaehrt und nicht auf Grund des fruheren Dienstverhaeltnisses. Es ist im Gesetz ausdruücklich vorgesehen und auch vom Bundessozialgericht bestaetigt, dass ein Versicherungsverhaeltnis in der deutschen Sozialversicherung selbst mit einer Ersatzzeit nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung beginnen kann.

Auch die Art der Berechnung der Sozialversicherungsrenten durch die Bundesversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte unterliegt in solchen Faellen Bedenken. Die BfA gewaehrt im allgemeinen fuer die Ersatzzeiten nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung sogenannte Werteinheiten. Das Gesetz sieht vor, dass diese Werteinheiten nicht gewaehrt werden sollen, wenn die Zeiten, fuer die Ersatzzeiten gewaehrt werden, bei Berechnung der beamtenrechtlichen Versorgungsbezüge angemessen beruecksichtigt worden sind.

Dies ist aber gerade bei den fruheren Bediensteten juedischer Gemeinden nicht der Fall. Denn ihre Versorgungsbezüge richten sich nach dem letzten Dienstehloegen. Das sie vor ihrem Ausscheiden aus dem Dienst erhalten haben. Etwaige Erhoehungen dieses Einkommens, die in nachfolgender Zeit eingetreten waeren, bleiben unberuecksichtigt. Ich bin deshalb der Ansicht, dass in diesen Faellen von der BfA Werteinheiten zu gewaehren sind.

In allen Faellen, in denen Bescheide des Bundesverwaltungsamts in Koeln und Rentenbescheide der BfA unter Verletzung der vorstehenden Gesichtspunkte ergehen, empfiehlt es sich daher, diese Bescheide nicht rechtskraeftig werden zu lassen und dagegen Klage zu erheben.

* Yigael Yadin: Masada. Herod's Fortress and the Zealots' Last Stand. Weidenfeld & Nicolson. 271 pp. 63s.

W. Rosenstock

FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY'S ANCESTORS

The March, 1967, issue of the German periodical *Genealogie* (Degener & Co., Neustadt/Aisch) carries a comprehensive pedigree of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, compiled and introduced by Gerhard Ballin (Seesen). Many lineages are traced back to the ninth generation (fifteenth and sixteenth century) and some even to the eleventh and twelfth generation. One branch, that of the Lurias, appears as far back as in the fifteenth generation and through them the Mendelssohns are also descended from Raschi (1040-1105).

The pedigree reaffirms that up to the eighteenth century Jews not only migrated from East to West, but also in the opposite direction. Thus, in about 1480 the Luria family (originally from Loria in Italy) went from West Germany to Brest Litowsk, and, at the beginning of the sixteenth century the daughter of a Court Jew of Regensburg, Moses Auerbach, married into the Isserlis family in Cracow. Of course, migrations were particularly frequent in rabbinical families, yet the links between the centres of Jewish life in Western Germany, Vienna, Prague and Poland were also very close among the other sections of the Jewish population, notwithstanding the travel difficulties. Jewish communities all over Central and Eastern Europe were an organic entity in those pre-assimilation days.

Another feature in the history of Jewish families which is reflected in the Mendelssohn genealogy is the trend among males to marry into families above their own social status. Thus Felix Mendelssohn's father, Abraham, married a granddaughter of the Berlin financier Daniel Itzig, Lea Salomon. Similarly, Moses Mendelssohn, who was of humble origin, married into the Gugenheim family which, in turn, was related to the Oppenheimers of Vienna.

We shall now deal with the lineages of each of the composer's four grandparents: Moses Mendelssohn (Dessau 1729 - Berlin 1786), Fromet Gugenheim (Hamburg 1737 - Hamburg 1812), Levin Jacob Salomon (1738 - Berlin 1783), and Bella Itzig (Berlin 1749 - Berlin 1824).

While nothing is known about the family of Moses Mendelssohn's father, the Torah scribe Mendel in Dessau, the ancestors of his mother, Rahel Sara Wahl, can be traced back through many generations. The Wahls came originally from Katzenellenbogen in Hesse and went from there to Italy. One of the descendants, Saul Wahl (Italy c. 1540-Brest Litowsk c. 1610), Wahl (Italy c. 1540-Brest Litowsk c. 1610), was the legendary One Day King of Poland. Many ancestors of Moses Mendelssohn were rabbis and teachers, the most famous of them Moses Isserlis (Cracow c. 1525-1572). Another progenitor was Jesajas Horowitz (died in Prague c. 1514), a pioneer of Hebrew printing, whose father, Moses, came from Horowitz in Bohemia.

The father of Moses Mendelssohn's wife, Abraham Gugenheim, lived in Hamburg, but came from a Frankfurt family. On his maternal side he was descended from the Vienna court financier, Samuel Oppenheimer (Heidelberg 1630-Vienna 1703). Their first known ancestor was Jehuda Loeb Oppenheim, of Heidelberg (died in Worms c. 1572). By marriage the Oppenheimers were related to the Ballins whom the author traces back to Elias Ballin in Worms (twelfth generation of

Felix Mendelssohn's ancestors). Fromet Gugenheim's mother was descended from the founder of the Altona Jewish community, Samuel Jehuda (died Altona 1621).

Felix Mendelssohn's maternal grandfather, Levin Jacob Salomon, was the son of a Berlin banker. On his mother's side he was descended from the Jeiteles who originally came from Prague, but who had been settled in Berlin for several generations. The grandmother of L. J. Salomon was the sister of the Berlin banker, Veitel Heine Ephraim, whose family originated from Hamburg.

The greatest number of well-known families may be found among the ancestors of Felix Mendelssohn's maternal grandmother, Bella Itzig, the daughter of the famous financier, Daniel Itzig (Berlin 1722-Berlin 1791). Daniel Itzig's father, Isaak Daniel (Graetz 1679-Berlin 1741), a horsedealer, was married to a member of the old-established Eschwe family in Berlin, which originated from Eschwege. Yet of greater importance from the genealogical point of view are the ancestors of Daniel Itzig's wife, Miriam Bonem Wulff. Her father, Benjamin Wulff (Dessau 1700-Berlin 1756) was a well-known and successful manufacturer and banker. The Wulffs originated from Wilna but in later generations held important positions in Dessau, Halberstadt and Berlin. By marriage they were related to many leading families of Western and Central Germany, e.g., the Gans, Hameln and Spanier. Benjamin Wulff's wife was the daughter of Dr. med. Isaak Simon Wallich, physician and chairman of the Dessau community, whose ancestors, beginning with Moses Josua Rofe Wallich (died Worms 1618) had been physicians for several generations in Worms, Metz, Koblenz, Trier and Dessau.

Through his mother, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy was a second cousin of the poet Paul Heyse (son of Marianne Heyse née Saaling-Salomon), and he also had ancestors in common with Giacomo Meyerbeer, Heine, Eduard Gans and many other personalities of German-Jewish origin.

A GREAT MENDELSSOHN EXPERT

Death of Max F. Schneider

It is not widely known that the most complete collection of material referring to Moses Mendelssohn and his descendants has been accommodated in Berlin since 1964. The Mendelssohn-Archiv of Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz contains the great Mendelssohn library, probably the most complete one in existence. Its custodian was Max F. Schneider, the musicologist and scholar of Basle, whose death on June 16 is sincerely regretted by a wide circle of people in Berlin and Basle.

Schneider was born in Basle on May 7, 1905. After the completion of his studies in musicology he published a number of books about musical problems which were widely appreciated. However, during the past 20 years he devoted his activities to the history of the Mendelssohns, a family remarkable for the great number of scholars, musicians and artists it produced. He carried out his work under the auspices of the International Felix Mendelssohn Society, which he founded together with Hugo von Mendelssohn Bartholdy, the last great-grandson of the composer. In 1957 the Society, then still in Basle, acquired the Mendelssohn library compiled by Hermann M. Z. Meyer. In 1964, this library, together with the other contents of the Basle research centre, was donated to the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz. It is now housed in Dahlem, Archivstrasse 11. Max F. Schneider was in charge of this unique institute, a combination of archives, library and museum. In 1966 he succeeded in acquiring the Mendelssohn collection in Wildeswil (Switzerland) one of the most comprehensive collections of its kind. The "Familie Mendelssohn" has returned to Berlin.

Max F. Schneider sponsored a number of publications about the Mendelssohn family (including the Moses Mendelssohn bibliography by Hermann M. Z. Meyer, published by the Berlin Historical Commission). He also wrote, amongst others, a biography of Moses Mendelssohn, which was intended to be the first part of a several volume Mendelssohn biography but which will now have to be published as a single book.

Retrospectively, it appears a fitting coincidence that Schneider delivered his last public lecture at the Jewish Volkshochschule in Berlin. Its subject was "Die Familie Mendelssohn in Berlin". Not only those present at that function, but also many other members of the Berlin Jewish community and the general public expressed their gratitude to Max F. Schneider for having achieved a reunion between Mendelssohn and Berlin. Paying tribute to his memory, the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz states: "We shall consider it our duty to continue his work." This promise is the most appropriate award which Max F. Schneider could have wished for.

DR. CECILE HENSEL (Berlin).

(Dr. Hensel is a descendant of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy's sister, Fanny Hensel.)

DEATH OF PROFESSOR EDUARD HEIMANN

The economist and sociologist, Eduard Heimann, died at the age of 77. A pupil of Franz Oppenheimer's, he was professor at Hamburg University from 1925-1933. He emigrated to the United States, where he taught at the New School for Social Research in New York. After the war, he returned to Hamburg. Professor Heimann was the son of the Social Democratic Reichstag member and Berlin Stadtverordnetenvorsteher Hugo Heimann (Konitz 1859—New York 1951).—(EGL.)

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

JEWRY'S HOLY PLACES—AGAIN ACCESSIBLE

Jordanian postal stamps, matchboxes with Arab lettering, carved wooden camels, pearl strings in the form of the Star of David, toilet powder from Shanghai — all this was offered to us by children, youngsters and men when we stopped at Hebron. The souvenir shops are open, in the fields Arab peasants are working, the town notables sit in the café—till curfew at 6 p.m. The portraits of Nasser and Hussein have disappeared from public places. Here and there one sees an Israeli tank, a burnt-out car, an Arab policeman—on duty, though unarmed.

Hebron with its olive groves, cherry trees, vine-yards and picturesque lanes, does not look as if it had been engulfed by war only a short while ago. This town with its 32,000 inhabitants, till June 6 under Jordanian administration, was infamous for its militant chauvinism at the time of the British mandate. Today, for the first time in centuries, Jews are being politely received there—only because behind them are the guns of the Israeli army.

In the town centre there is the Cave of Mahpela, the site of the tombs of the patriarchs Abraham, Yitzhak and Jacob and their wives Sarah, Rebecca and Lea, a place holy to Judaism as well as to the Islam. Above the cave Moslems have built a mosque, banning Jews from going beyond the seventh step of the staircase. As Sir Moses Montefiore once showed the Cadi of Hebron a permission from the Sultan, he was told: "True, you are allowed to enter the holy cave, but nothing is written about your leaving it again". Now the site is open to visitors of all creeds. The floor is still covered with soft carpets of rich oriental colours, and at the giant tombs people are crowded in prayer. Hassidim are dancing in the court yard and the chanting of pious Jews ascends into the byzantine arches of the dome. . . .

Only Rahel, Jacob's favourite wife, has her own burying place, half-an-hour's car-ride away, near Bethlehem. Here Jewish mothers used

to pray for their children, Jewish women for their fertility. The little temple stands unchanged as it was 19 years ago, when this part of the Holy Land became Jordanian territory. Unscathed is the Hebrew tablet with the words of Prophet Jeremiah: "Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. . . . Thus saith the Lord: Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears; for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy".

Weeping is being heard when we enter the place. Mothers have thrown themselves against the tomb and lament for their sons. Women are praying for their husbands who are wounded. Israel bleeds from the losses of the war. . . .

All over the world, when Jews pray, they turn into the direction of the Western Wall, the only remnant of the Temple. When Herod built the Temple he, like King Solomon before him, assigned different sections to different sectors of the population. The Western Wall both of the First and the Second Temple is supposed to have been the responsibility of the lower classes. Legend has it that when the Temple was destroyed by the Romans, angels spread their wings protectively over this part of the Wall "because it was built by the toil of the poor".

This visible section of the Wall is about 48 metres long and 18 metres high, and consists of 24 rows of stones above ground and 19 rows underground. For 2,000 years, these stones held together without any plaster. Says Nobel-Prize Winner Shay Agnon: "These stones held together like the Jewish People when it had no State and yet preserved its entity".

Although according to the Armistice Agreement of 1949 Jews were permitted free access to this holy place, the Jordanians ignored this clause, and only on June 6, 1967, Israel paratroopers blasted the way open.

The rediscovery of the Western Wall is credited to Sultan Selim in about 1560. He ordered more than 10,000 men to work for 30 days to clear the rubble and rubbish which had covered the wall for centuries, till the last vestige of the Temple emerged as it stands today.

The name "Wailing Wall" has been officially replaced by "Western Wall". Alone in the first three days after the site was opened to the public, over 350,000 visitors came from all parts of the country. I went there in the early morning, only a few people were present, Orthodox Jews with their string-locks, young soldiers with "uzis" (guns) over their shoulders, girls in mini-skirts. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: They shall prosper that love thee" the psalmist sings.

Thousands of small paper slips are inserted into the crannies: "God's letter box" says my neighbour, and I recognise a professor of philosophy of the Hebrew University. Melancholically he adds: "Let's hope the post will be functioning well".

A MAHLER DISCOVERY

Every observer of British musical life must be aware of the tremendous changes in taste and preference during the last twenty years. Composers and styles that were once favoured have had to make way for others that had been ignored or neglected. Apart from the gradual acceptance of the more radical trends in twentieth-century music, we are also witnessing an ever-growing public esteem and enthusiasm for two composers whose works had long ago become firmly established on the Central European repertoire: Bruckner and Mahler. Their symphonies, rarely heard in Britain till after the war, have now acquired a most prominent position, as a glimpse into Royal Festival Hall programmes will confirm.

Moreover, it has fallen to British musicologists to make some of the most remarkable contributions to Mahler scholarship, culminating in Deryck Cooke's completion of the fragmentary Tenth Symphony. Now another British Mahler scholar, Donald Mitchell, author of a book on Mahler's early years, has discovered the score of a whole symphonic movement, entitled *Blummen*, which was intended for the First Symphony but later discarded by the composer. A reference in Max Steinitzer's Mahler study reveals that the theme of this movement comes from Mahler's lost incidental music for Scheffel's "Trompeter von Saeckingen". The movement, which had not been heard since the early 1890s, had its first revival (broadcast by the B.B.C.) at this year's Aldeburgh Festival; it was conducted by Benjamin Britten, whose admiration for Mahler is well known. The impression one gained was of a readily acceptable, uncomplicated piece which nevertheless contains quite a few fingerprints of mature Mahler.

Although it is generally felt that the composer's wish to discard the movement must be respected, the suggestion has been made to place the movement at least occasionally in its original context by including it in the First Symphony.

H. W. FREYHAN.



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Birthday Tributes

DR. MAX AUERBACH 80

"We do not count a man's years until he has nothing else to count" (Emerson). Our friend Dr. Max Auerbach has indeed many achievements to his credit for us to count. He will not enjoy being in the limelight, but whether he likes it or not, we cannot let his eightieth birthday, on August 11, go by without mention.

We do not see this immaculately groomed octogenarian in the light of the 90th Psalm, because he has retained his golden sense of humour, which has helped him and his many friends, over many a fateful and grave hour.

Max Auerbach was a well-known and respected member of the Berlin Bar, a custodian of law and justice. His wise counsel helped his numerous clients and he was very active as legal adviser to several large industrial organisations until he had to emigrate and came to England in 1936. He has been a guide to many, who would otherwise have given in to their fate, in reconstructing their human and economic existence. His gift for organising stood him in good stead during his period as the very successful Chairman of the Anglo-German Lawyers Association. He is a warm-hearted, wise and eloquent man, a reliable friend and, as he has always been, a fighter for right and justice. We admire in him the harmonious synthesis of tradition and legal scientific achievement. He is a believing Jew, who is always available to his clients and friends with ready advice and help.

His interest in the F.W.V., the love of his youth, which was founded, according to his own Weltanschauung, as the first non-sectarian fraternity in response to the anti-

semitism of the Stoecker period in the eighties, has remained unchanged.

We would like to join with his children, friends, clients and all who respect and love him in sending our congratulations and best wishes on this great occasion.

H.B.

ALICE GOLDBERGER 70

Some of our female readers will remember Alice Goldberger from the days of their internment on the Isle of Man. By her energy and helpfulness, she was an inspiration to all her fellow-internees. Soon she had a kindergarten organised, and she also got helpers to make toys for the kids from any scrap they could lay their hands on. Today we have the pleasure of congratulating Alice Goldberger on the occasion of her 70th birthday on August 15.

Before she came to this country she ran a kindergarten and Hort for the Stadt Berlin. Hitler put an end to this career. In England she first worked as a housemaid. After her release from internment she became a superintendent in Anna Freud's Hampstead Nurseries. For four years she lived with the evacuated children in the country.

When, after the end of hostilities, the Hampstead Nurseries were closed, Alice Goldberger, without a day's rest, put herself at the disposal of the reception centre which was then established at Windermere to accommodate temporarily the orphans rescued from the concentration camps. She then took over the hostel which was opened for them in Lingfield, and which was later transferred to Isleworth. She was a real mother to the children and still keeps contact with them. It is mainly due to her deep understanding and her unending patience that these victims of the concentra-

tion camps are now able to lead a normal life as useful members of society.

When the hostel was closed down in 1957, she became a child therapist in the Hampstead Child Therapy Clinic. She is still going on in this important work.

One of the outstanding characteristics of Alice Goldberger is her great kindness—Güte—and her generosity has made her a friend to all who know her. In gratitude we extend our very best birthday wishes to her.

D.

THREE GENERATIONS OF DENTISTS

The Sachs Family

Last year the dental surgeon, Dr. Hans J. Sachs (New York, formerly Berlin), published a series of articles about three generations of dental surgeons, his grandfather, his father and himself. The series, enhanced by several illustrations, was published in the Zahnärztliche Mitteilungen (Cologne) and is now available as a special 16-page reprint. The author's grandfather, Josef Wilhelm Sachs (1816-79), was born as the son of Wolf Sachs, who prior to his naturalisation bore the name of Josef Wolf. He was a Mecklenburg Court dentist in Neustrelitz, but later settled in Breslau. His son, Professor Wilhelm Sachs (1849-1929), practised dentistry in Breslau until he moved to Berlin. In Breslau he was joint director of the Brucksche Privatlehranstalt fuer Zahnmedizin, which had been taken over by the university. He wrote several standard works on dental surgery and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Breslau. His son, Dr. Hans J. Sachs (born 1881), the author of the article, practised in Berlin, and after his emigration to the U.S.A. in 1938 obtained his American qualifications in 1941. He wrote the first text book about paradentosis. Outside his professional work, Dr. Sachs has taken a great interest in graphic art. He compiled one of the most comprehensive collections of posters.—(E.G.L.)



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IN MEMORIAM

DR. LEON ZEITLIN

The death of Dr. Leon Zeitlin at the age of 91 means a sad loss for a wide circle of friends. In Germany, he was well-known both by his professional activities as the adviser to various trades associations, among them the Federation of Retailers, and by his political work as a Democratic member of the Prussian Diet and as a member of the Vorlaeufige Reichswirtschaftsrat, where he represented the Schutzverband deutscher Schriftsteller.

Although, together with his American born wife, he came to this country as early as 1933, he did not succeed in building up a new career for himself and for many years had to live under difficult circumstances. A feeling of frustration never left him. On the other hand, he certainly had more contacts with outstanding British personalities, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, than most other refugees. The wide range of his interests became evident again only last year when people of various backgrounds gathered to pay tribute to him on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Problems of human rights were particularly near to his heart. His approach to them was based on the ethical postulates of Judaism. As long as his health made this possible, he also gave lectures in Germany, and his work for the establishment of a new relationship between Jewry and Germany was recognised by the Federal Government. He was a tireless writer of Letters to the Editor. Many of these letters were published in "The Times", which expressed its appreciation of his personality in a particularly detailed and cordial obituary note. For many years he was a Board Member of the AJR, and he also repeatedly contributed to *AJR Information*.

Dr. Zeitlin spent the last years of his life at Osmond House, where he won the esteem and love of the staff and his fellow residents. Whenever one visited him, one was impressed by the alertness of his mind and his undiminished capacity of seeing current events in their wider perspective. Yet while his spirit was unbroken up to the very end, he realised that his physical strength gradually gave in. He will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him.

W.R.

DR. ARTHUR BIRAM

Dr. Arthur Biram, one of the earliest German Jewish immigrants to Palestine, died in Haifa on June 6 at the age of 89. He studied in Berlin at the University and at the Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums, and for some years was a secondary school teacher in Neu-Ruppin. When the "Hilfsverein" of German Jews decided to attach a Realschule to its Haifa Technion, Biram was offered the post of headmaster. He went to Haifa at the beginning of 1914. During the First World War he served with the German army and later with the Turkish army in Palestine. After the end of hostilities he resumed his work with the "Realschule", which under his directorship developed into one of the leading educational institutions of the country. Many of his former pupils now hold responsible positions in the State of Israel.

AUGUST ZUNTZ

Mr. August Zuntz, heir to the old-established firm of A. Zuntz sel. Wwe. died in Asolo, Italy, on May 23. He moved there in 1964, having spent the preceding years since his emigration in London. He was a true gentleman of the old type with many-sided artistic gifts. In London he was an active member of the Club 1943.

In his younger years Zuntz had developed his family enterprise into one of the largest and most respected firms of coffee dealers in Germany. In this country he built up an important coffee import and export business and again established the reputation for quality and reliability which had made the "selige Witwe" a household word in Germany. Many members of the older generation will look back with nostalgia to the Zuntz Kaffeestuben with their brown crockery in Berlin, Dresden and Hanover which were also rallying places of literary circles.

All those who had the good fortune of knowing August Zuntz will remember him with affection.

DR. CURT GEYER

On June 24, Dr. Curt Geyer, former Board Member of the S.P.D., died in Lugano, where he was holidaying. He was 75.

The son of the parliamentarian, Friedrich Geyer, he was the youngest member of the Weimar National Assembly and the first post-war Reichstag. Later, he worked as co-editor of the *Leipziger Volkszeitung*, and as chief editor for home affairs of the *Vorwärts*. He emigrated in 1933 and was appointed chief editor of the *Neue Vorwärts*, first in Prague and then in Paris. He came to this country via Spain and Portugal as late as 1941. In 1943, together with some other party members, he left the S.P.D. In 1947 he became a correspondent of the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung*, Munich, and *Freie Presse*, Frankfurt a.m.

Geyer's books include "Die Partei der Freiheit", published in Paris shortly before the outbreak of war. Unfortunately, his memoirs have been left unfinished. The first volume will probably be published in Germany shortly.

Curt Geyer will be remembered as a fine and upright personality and one of the outstanding Social Democratic politicians of the past five decades.

W. STERNFELD.

DR. MANFRED SAALHEIMER

Dr. Manfred Saalheimer died in Montreal in his 61st year. He started his career as a lawyer in Wuerzburg, his birthplace, and was Sydnikus of the Dresden Jewish community and of the Federation of Jewish communities in Saxonia from 1932 to 1939. In Canada, he was Associate Community Relations Director of the Canadian Jewish Congress and Director of the Canadian U.R.O. offices.

EDWIN HALLE

Edwin Halle, who died in Buenos Aires at the age of 72, had a chequered career as an actor, sports teacher and journalist. When the Nazis came to power he became head of the Sports Department of the Reichsbund juedischer Frontsoldaten and, later, of the Jewish Training Centre for sports teachers in Stuttgart. In 1938, he emigrated to the Argentine. During the last years of his life he was a correspondent to several Argentinian, German and Jewish papers.—(EGL.)

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Deaths

Fischer.—Mr. Felix Fischer, of 34 Dollis Hill Avenue, London, N.W.2 (formerly Vienna), died on June 24 after long suffering. Deeply mourned by his wife, Grete.
Weltman.—Dr. Martin Weltman, of 20 Gwynant Place, Manchester, 20, formerly Berlin, passed away peacefully on May 31, aged 83. He followed his wife, Ella, after 100 days. Sadly missed by his sons, Horst and Peter, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

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ISRAELI LADY (54), at present on visit to London, born in Vienna, owner of house in Israel, widowed three years ago, independent, looks for life companion. Prepared to take residence partly in England, partly in Israel. Box 856.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Loewy.—Arthur Loewy, born in Koenigshuette O/S about 1896/7, last known residence, Liegnitz; formerly director of Dresdner Bank, Liegnitz branch; sought by former colleague. Replies to Dr. E. Rosenbaum, 78 Hervey Close, London, N.3.

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ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

AJR RAISES £25,000 FOR ISRAEL

Almost £25,000 was raised by the AJR as the result of the appeal letter sent to all members. This result is most gratifying, especially as many members had already made their contributions through their congregations or through other organisations with which they are associated. We should like to express our sincerest thanks to all donors. Their spontaneous and generous response is greatly appreciated. As the appeal is still going on, any further donations will also be welcome.

The donations were immediately passed on to the J.P.A. Emergency Fund, which, as already stated in the appeal letter, undertook to send out acknowledgements. The J.P.A. office has, however, been so inundated with donations that it can only gradually cope with the administrative work involved and has to ask donors for their indulgence.

C.B.F. SENDS SUPPLIES

Some 80 tons of urgently needed supplies were sent to Israel—as a result of the Central British Fund's "Operation Supplies", manned entirely by volunteers and thus costing absolutely nothing. The consignments include 30,000 blankets, 5,000 sleeping bags, 300 stretchers, 4,500 tins of kosher meat and 13,000 cardigans, sweaters, etc.

At the request of the Board of Deputies, the Central British Fund became on the day war broke out the clearing house for all this merchandise, which has been collected by groups and committees all over the country. A good-size empty warehouse in Central London was immediately offered free of charge. Within 24 hours it was full to capacity. The following day a second warehouse, of 23,000 square feet, was made available. Since then between 40 and 50 young boys and girls have been sorting, packing and baling non-stop, day and night, seven days a week.

Warehouses, lorries, fork-lift trucks, as well as the goods themselves, have all been given—by non-Jewish as well as Jewish organisations and individuals. As soon as people realised what was needed, they rushed to help.

Four of the young volunteers, who had spent the last fortnight working on Operation Supplies, got an unexpected "lift" by Land Rover to Israel. It happened because Mr. Maurice Kanarek, of B.B.C. TV, telephoned the Central British Fund to say that he was leaving for Israel in his Land Rover and offering to take supplies with him. He was asked if he would take four volunteers instead and he agreed.

WELFARE BOARD

The Hon. L. H. L. Cohen, retiring president, stated at a meeting of the Jewish Welfare Board that the Board might have to have a period of retrenchment so far as its own activities are concerned because of the urgent need of financial support for Israel. He could only hope that people would regard their contributions to Israel as something extra.

The executive committee of the Board approved plans for establishing the Ike Morris Home for old people at Hemel Hempstead at a cost of £42,000, all of which is to be paid for by the Sportsmen's Aid Society. Authorisation has also been given to an extension of the Victoria Oppenheim House, Westcliff, but, because of the Middle East situation, there may be a delay in starting the work.

Lord Nathan succeeded Mr. Cohen as president of the Board.

Mr. Russell Howard Frank has been appointed as new executive director of the Board. He succeeds Mr. Tom Phillips who is retiring after 21 years' service. At a farewell dinner in honour of Mr. Phillips, the AJR was represented by its general secretary.

Minister's Plea

Miss Margaret Herbison, the Minister of Social Security, addressed the annual meeting of the Jewish Welfare Board's subscribers. She made a plea for Anglo-Jewry not to forget the needs of the Board, despite commitments to Israel.

"DUAL LOYALTY"

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, Sir Louis Gluckstein, Q.C., said that he could not believe that Chief Rabbi Jakobovits was speaking for Anglo-Jewry when he said that, if the Israelis want us, we will be there at their command. Jewish citizens rightly felt that the land in which their religion originated had a special significance for them, said Sir Louis. But they were not citizens of Israel and no Israeli Government had ever suggested that the Jews in the diaspora were in some way second-class Jews whose real allegiance was to Israel even though they did not live there. Israel could be helped by British Jews without their laying themselves open to charges of dual loyalty or dual nationality.

AJEX PARADE

The annual remembrance parade of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women will be held on November 19. Princess Alexandra is to take the salute at the march past at the Cenotaph.

WIENER LIBRARY

For an initial period, from October 1, the Institute of Contemporary History and the Wiener Library will be associated with the University of Reading. The agreement which has been reached gives formal recognition to the close collaboration which has developed between the Institute and the Graduate School of Contemporary European Studies at the University of Reading.

The Institute, which incorporates the Wiener Library, has recently extended its research interests and library holdings to the whole field of contemporary European history. It publishes the quarterly "Journal of Contemporary History" appearing in four languages, as well as the Wiener Library Bulletin.

The graduate school and institute will jointly sponsor research projects, seminars, conferences and publications. The library and archive resources of the two institutions will be pooled, to the benefit of the joint programmes. Links will also be promoted with other institutions and individual scholars concerned with contemporary European studies. The Institute will maintain its traditional interests in contemporary Jewish studies.

"IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION"

A Pamphlet on Anglo-Jewry

The Council of Christians and Jews has published "Immigration and Integration—Experiences of the Anglo-Jewish Community", by Myer Domnitz. The publication deals with the experiences of Anglo-Jewry from 1656 to 1956 and gives a picture of a small community, now an integrated part of the English way of life, which has at the same time preserved its individuality. It carries detailed references to the immigrants from Central Europe between 1933 and 1939, based on literature published by the AJR.

Mr. Domnitz is Secretary of the Central Jewish Lecture Committee of the Board of Deputies which, according to its latest report, arranged 790 lectures to Jewish and non-Jewish organisations in 1966.

JEWISH COMMUNISTS

Mr. I. Nathani, the chairman of the British Mapam, addressed a meeting of the Workers' Circle Friendly Society, a Leftist Jewish organisation, on "The Left and Israel's fight for peace". None of the Circle's many Communist members attended the meeting. According to the chairman, Mr. A. Holland, it was an organised boycott. He told the meeting that Communist members opposed the Circle's decision to collect money for Israel. Since the crisis in the Middle East, more than 30 members of the Society have resigned from the Communist Party.

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ROUND AND ABOUT

DISTINCTION FOR PROFESSOR GERSHOM SCHOLEM

Professor Gershom Scholem, Emeritus Professor of Jewish Mysticism at the Hebrew University, was appointed by Queen Juliana an Extraordinary Member of the Royal Dutch Academy.

B.M.A. AWARD FOR EX-REFUGEE

Dr. Werner K. Bernfeld, a consultant in Cardiff, was awarded a prize for a dissertation on "Medical Professional Secrecy with special reference to venereal disease". The award was bestowed on him at a special ceremony at Bristol University by the president of the British Medical Association, Mr. Robert Cooke. Dr. Bernfeld came to this country as a refugee from Germany and has been a member of the AJR for many years.

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

The Rev. Reuben S. Brookes, assistant minister and director of education of the Birmingham Hebrew Congregation, has been awarded the Jewish Memorial Council's 1967 Sir Robert Waley Cohen Travel Scholarship. Mr. Brookes hopes to conduct "an over-all survey of Jewish life, culture and education in the U.S.A."

SLOVAK NOVEL

Jan Bohun, a Slovak writer, has a Jewish intellectual as the hero of his first novel, "The Wounded Scar". Though a non-Jew, Mr. Bohun wished to honour the memory of his Jewish friends. The book has attracted considerable attention in Czechoslovakia. In an interview the author told "Praca", the Prague trade union newspaper: "We must write the truth. We must learn to inspire people to want the truth and tell them openly about anything wrong that is being done."

ISRAELI SAILORS IN PORTSMOUTH

A service of thanksgiving held in the Portsmouth synagogue was attended by Israeli sailors stationed in Portsmouth. Commander Yehoshua Lahav, of the Israeli Navy, presented a plaque of the submarine Leviathan, which returned to Haifa from Portsmouth at the outbreak of hostilities.

DANNY KAYE

Danny Kaye cancelled an appearance at the Chichester Festival in Britain to go to Israel. He came to entertain troops at the front and in hospitals and the people in border villages.

SAMMY DAVIS JNR.

The Negro-Jewish singer and actor, Sammy Davis Jnr., appeared for one week at the "Talk of the Town" restaurant in London. He donated all proceeds arising out of his appearance to aid Israel.

LIBBY MORRIS ON BBC

Libby Morris, the Canadian-Jewish comedienne, stars in her first radio show in Britain, "The Lid's Off Libby", on the BBC Light Programme. Her weekly repertoire includes musical numbers and comedy sketches. Appearing with her are Gordon Cylde, Bill Wallis and the Ronnie Price Quartet.

CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRIZE

For the eleventh year a prize of \$1,000 is being offered by the Jewish Theater for Children in New York for the best full-length play written in English for children on a Jewish theme. Entries for the 1967 "Golden Pen" playwriting competition close on September 20, and manuscripts must reach the theatre by that date.

BEAUTY QUEEN

Batya Kabiri, who is Miss Israel 1967, has been chosen to represent her country at the Miss World competition in the U.S.A. Until recently Miss Kabiri was a soldier in the Israeli Army.

HANS VAHINGER

Information Required

The publishers of "Kants Kritik der reinen Vernunft" by Hans Vaihinger (born 1852 in Nehren/Wuertt., died 1933 in Halle) would be grateful for any biographical details about the author and the names and addresses of his heirs. Replies should be sent to: Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, 7 Stuttgart 1, P.O.B. 209, W. Germany.

Letter to the Editor

PRESIDENT SHAZAR

Sir,—On page 5 of your July issue there is a report regarding President Shazar's visit to Scotland.

While such a visit was planned sometime ago, it did not in fact take place, contrary to what is stated in this "News Item". The intended visit was cancelled in May because of the crisis in the Middle East, and I should be grateful if a correction were to be published since we would not wish your readers to think that the President had been away from his Country during this particular period.

M. H. SHARON,
Counsellor (Press),
Embassy of Israel.

London, W.8

A LETTER FROM GERMANY

A German nurse who lives with a Jewish family in London received a letter from her father, a resident of Landkreis Naila/Oberfranken, which reads as follows: "Tell your hosts that we admire her people who defend their country so courageously. All people here were spontaneously on Israel's side, and in our district not less than 45,000 D.M. were raised on the first day of the war. There were also many volunteers, mainly young workers, and the churches held special services. I was really pleased to notice this genuine sympathy for Israel".

DEATH OF DUESSELDORF COMMUNAL WORKER

Dr. Fritz Spanier, for many years a Board member of the Duesseldorf Jewish community, died at the age of 65. Brought up in Duesseldorf, he worked as a medical doctor in Berlin until he left Germany in 1939 as a passenger of the ill-fated "St. Louis", which was refused landing permission in Cuba. He found refuge in Holland and had to spend the war years in concentration camps. After the war, he became a director of the Belsen Hospital. In 1950 he took up medical practice in Duesseldorf.

OLD ACQUAINTANCES

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

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