

AJR INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

DEVELOPMENTS IN GERMANY

No Danger to Compensation Payments

Many victims of Nazi persecution were afraid of possible repercussions arising from the relative successes of the N.P.D. in the recent Lander elections. There was certainly no reason to assume that the party might gain a decisive influence in the foreseeable future—in fact the leaders of the N.P.D. themselves only expect to gain 50 to 60 seats in the next Federal Parliamentary elections due in three years' time. However, there was some justified apprehension lest the attitude of the Federal German Government in matters of restitution and indemnification might be influenced by the resurgence of trends expressed in the rise of this extreme Right-wing party.

It can now be revealed that such fears were not entirely unfounded. There were indeed certain measures under consideration which would have affected the position of the claimants. Whilst it was never envisaged by responsible representatives of the Government to curtail or in any way modify the payment of current pensions, a draft budget for 1967, prepared by the outgoing Government and presented by the acting Minister of Finance, Dr. Schmuecker, proposed a reduction from 300 million to 200 million DMark of the amount to be reserved for restitution payments under the Federal Restitution Law ("Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz").

Difficulties also arose within the Ministry of Finance regarding capital indemnification payments affected by the deferments of the "Haushaltssicherungsgesetz" (cf. January and February, 1966, issues of *AJR Information*). Although the total sum to be allocated for indemnification payments in 1967 (i.e., 1,900 million DMark as in 1966) was not in jeopardy, objections were raised against the enactment of a new regulation decreasing the age limit of claimants entitled to full immediate payments from 65 to 60 years, and authorising immediate payments of 60 per cent (instead of 40 per cent) for other claims exceeding 5,000 DMark (claims up to 5,000 DMark are anyhow paid in full).

When the proposed reduction of the restitution payments became known, both the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany ("Claims Conference") and the Council of Jews from Germany, of which the AJR is the British constituent, immediately lodged vigorous protests. The letter of the Council to the Minister of Finance, dated November 23, 1966, read as follows:

"Wir haben zu unserem Erstaunen und Befremden erfahren, dass in dem Entwurf des Bundes-Etats fuer 1967 der Ansatz fuer die Erledigung der Rueckerstattungsverpflichtungen des Bundes von 300 auf 200

Millionen DMark gekuerzt worden ist. Wir moechten nicht verfehlen, sogleich gegen diese Kuerzung entschieden Widerspruch zu erheben.

"Wir duerfen darauf hinweisen, dass in der fruerehen Korrespondenz stets hervorgehoben war, dass fuer diese Verbindlichkeiten, die einen Ersatz des den Verfolgten entzogenen Vermoegens darstellen, eine besondere moralische und rechtliche Verpflichtung besteht. Es ist dann auch schliesslich vor Verabschiedung des dritten Aenderungsgesetzes zum Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz eine Einigung aller Beteiligten ueber das Ausmass und die Fristen fuer die Erfuellung dieser Verpflichtungen erzielt worden. Selbst bei dem im Jahre 1965 verabschiedeten, von uns bedauerten Haushaltssicherungsgesetz ist die besondere moralische und rechtliche Situation hinsichtlich dieser Art von Verpflichtungen offenbar anerkannt worden, denn die Rueckerstattung ist damals nicht einbezogen worden. Umsomehr waren wir ueberrascht, dass dies jetzt wider Erwarten geschehen soll.

"Wir bitten, den Haushaltsausschuessen des Bundestags und Bundesrats von unserem Widerspruch Kenntnis zu geben und von dem Vorschlag der Kuerzung des Ansatzes fuer die Erledigung der Rueckerstattungsverpflichtungen des Bundes Abstand zu nehmen."

After the new German Government was formed in December, 1966, it soon transpired that the objections against the relaxation of the indemnification payments, as indicated above, had been overcome; the implementary order has been adopted by the Cabinet and will be approved by the Bundesrat probably in the course of this month. However, the proposed budget curtailment of restitution payments remained at first unaltered. Therefore, on December 9, 1966, the Council of Jews from Germany made a further representation, sending the following telegram to the Ministry of Finance:

"Zur Verhinderung weiterer Beunruhigung der vom Naziregime Verfolgten und schwerer Beeintraehtigung des Ansehens der Bundesrepublik im Ausland bittet der Council of Jews from Germany dringend, von Kuerzungen der fuer Rueckerstattungsleistungen bestimmten Betraege im Bundeshaushalt fuer 1967 abzusehen."

Shortly afterwards, on December 15 and 16, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the Claims Conference, to which all the organisations of persecutees, including the Council, are affiliated, took the opportunity of discussing matters personally with Chancellor Kiesinger and the Ministers in charge. The result of these discussions is summed up in the following report published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on December 19:

"Dr. Nahum Goldmann, who paid a two-day visit to Bonn, met last Thursday night

with Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger, Finance Minister Strauss, Bundestag President Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier and other Ministers.

"Dr. Goldmann told the J.T.A. that he discussed the political situation with Kiesinger and expressed to the Chancellor the anxieties regarding successes of the National Democratic Party. The Chancellor, stated Dr. Goldmann, showed understanding of this concern and assured the Jewish leader that the German Government would try to counter the Right-wing party by stabilising the economic situation.

"Dr. Goldmann expressed satisfaction of his talk with Finance Minister Strauss. 'After my talk with Minister Strauss I had the impression that nothing of the scheduled indemnification payments would be curtailed in 1967 despite the financial situation in the Federal Republic. If this is implemented,' said Dr. Goldmann, 'the full sum of 1,900,000,000 Marks for indemnification payments and 300,000,000 Marks for restitution cases will be available and paid in the next year.' Dr. Goldmann hinted at the possibility also of some improvement in the procedure of priority payments.

"On Friday, Dr. Goldmann met with Foreign Minister Willy Brandt and the Parliamentary State Secretary at the Foreign Office, Gerhard Jahn, as well as with former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Ludwig Erhard.

"Dr. Goldmann is returning to Bonn at the end of January to continue talks on indemnification matters with Finance Minister Strauss."

This report shows that the new German Government has undertaken to carry out in full its obligations towards the persecutees. In view of the result of Dr. Goldmann's conversations, the Council did not consider it expedient to make further personal representations, as originally intended.

We are glad to give our readers this information about the present state of affairs, which, we are sure, will help to allay their understandable apprehensions.

WICHTIG FUER NAZI-OPFER AUS OESTERREICH

Der parlamentarische Sozialausschuss hat vor wenigen Tagen eine Novelle zum ASVG verabschiedet, die weitgehend den Anregungen des Committee for Jewish Claims against Austria Rechnung traegt und bedeutsame Verbesserungen der Pensionsrechte vieler Emigranten mit sich bringen wird.

Ein Artikel von wohl unterrichteter Seite wird in der Maerz-Nummer von "AJR Information" erscheinen und wir bitten unsere Leser, die Aufmerksamkeit ihrer Freunde aus Oesterreich auf diesen kommenden, fuer sie wichtigen, Aufsatz zu lenken.

GERMANY TODAY

N.P.D.

Dr. Kiesinger, the new West German Chancellor, speaking to the Bundestag about the N.P.D. gains in Hesse and Bavaria, said: "This hour does not herald the birth of a new nationalism in Germany, not in this Government, not in this high House, not in our people". The Federal Republic, he said, was a democratic State.

The Ministry of the Interior has disclosed that the National Democrats had absorbed about 30 extremist youth groups which had either dissolved themselves or been dissolved by the authorities for neo-Nazi activities. The Bavarian branch of the N.P.D. has elected a new chairman, Benno Hermannsdoerfer, succeeding F. F. Winter who resigned in protest against the extremist elements which he said were taking over the party. Hermannsdoerfer is one of the 15 N.P.D. deputies in the Bavarian State legislature.

Various organisations in Germany have expressed alarm about "the dangerous neo-Nazi revival" in Germany. One statement expresses particular concern that the rise in the N.P.D.'s fortunes should come not at a time of grave political and economic crisis and without much publicity. At the same time, the spontaneous student protests against any resurgence of Nazism are commended.

"WHITE ROSE" REVIVED

Munich students have revived the anti-Nazi "White Rose" society to fight the Right-wing N.P.D. and its supporters. A manifesto issued by the new group says that the National Democrats' election victories in Hesse and Bavaria showed that "there are men in Germany who have forgotten everything and learned nothing".

The original society, a group of Munich University students, carried out anti-Nazi propaganda in 1943. Its leaders, Sophie Scholl, her brother, Hans, and Herr Kurt Huber, professor of philosophy, were captured, tortured and executed.

NAZIS WARNED

Dr. Josef Neuberger, the newly appointed Minister of Justice, stated that the judiciary in the West German State of North Rhine-Westphalia would not be inactive if material which incited hatred against the Jews was published.

In the Minister's view, extremist publications have over-stepped the limits of legality in some instances and there will be closer supervision in future. Dr. Neuberger also said that the State judiciary would settle proceedings against Nazi criminals as quickly as possible. About 10,000 suspects were under investigation.

GERMAN EX-MINISTER'S FEARS

Herr Ernst Lemmer, a pre-Hitler Democratic member of the Reichstag and a post-war Minister in a number of Bonn Cabinets, is reported to have warned that the National Democratic Party might have between 70 and 80 representatives in the next Bonn Parliament, replacing the Free Democrats as Germany's third largest political party.

Newspapers have reported Herr Lemmer as saying that this would be the result if the authorities failed to initiate prompt and effective counter-action against the new German nationalists.

However, the Federal Minister of the Interior, Dr. Paul Luecke, is not of the same opinion. He told a leading Christian weekly, "Echo der Zeit", that it was a disservice to over-dramatise the recent election successes of the N.P.D. and to brand those who voted for it as former Nazis or neo-Nazis.

WAR CRIMINALS

Herbert Haertel, one of eight former members of the S.S. or of the Nazi police charged in Darmstadt with complicity in the murder of about 40,000 Jews in Polish Galicia between 1941 and 1943, has been freed. Two doctors told the court that Haertel was no longer fit to stand trial. He had been in custody for three-and-a-half years. Haertel faced the main charges in the trial for complicity in the murder of 17,700 Jews.

In Essen, three former members of a special S.S. unit received sentences of two-and-a-half years' and two years' hard labour for taking part in the execution of about 300 Jewish men in Vitebsk, in White Russia, in July, 1941. A fourth accused was freed because of the time he had already spent in custody.

Leopold Lanz, a former head of Treblinka concentration camp near Warsaw during the Second World War, has been sentenced in Vienna to ten years' imprisonment for the murder of a Polish Jew and for complicity in the murder of other Polish Jews in the camp.

Karl Franzel, a former S.S. officer, was in Hagen sentenced to life imprisonment for complicity in the killing of at least 150,000 Jewish prisoners at Sobibor concentration camp, near Lublin, Poland, during the Second World War. Five former Nazi associates were also gaoled and five were acquitted. Kurt Bolender, who faced the main charges, hanged himself in his prison cell last October.

JUDGE VISITS LONDON

Landgerichtsrat Kurt Schwedersky, an investigating judge in the Duesseldorf district, on a private visit to London told a "Jewish Chronicle" reporter that there is a widespread desire in West Germany for the end of war crimes trials. This was one reason why the authorities wanted to speed up the cases still pending, but it took a long time to prepare a case.

A number of Jewish organisations, and especially the Wiener Library, Yad Vashem and the World Jewish Congress, had been most helpful in the investigations against war criminals, said Herr Schwedersky. The Soviet, Polish and Czech Governments had also been co-operative, although the East Germans had been less so.

A reception for Herr Schwedersky was given by Mr. and Mrs. H. Sulzbach at the German Embassy.

MINISTER IN NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

Dr. Josef Neuberger became Minister of Justice in the newly formed Cabinet of the Land North Rhine-Westphalia. Born in 1902, he graduated both as Dr.Phil. and Dr.Jur. and practised as a lawyer in Duesseldorf until 1933. He emigrated to Israel. After the war, he returned to Duesseldorf and resumed his legal work as well as his political activities as a Social Democrat. Dr. Neuberger is also a Board Member of the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany. He has represented Jews as co-plaintiff at a number of Nazi war crime trials.

FRISTABLAUF IN OESTERREICH

Im Juli 1947 erschien in Oesterreich ein Gesetz (Nr. 139/47), das die gerichtliche Geltendmachung verjaehrter Rechte ermoeeglichte. Einer der Hauptzwecke dieses Gesetzes war es, Verfolgten, die an der rechtzeitigen Geltendmachung von Anspruechen verhindert waren, zu helfen.

Dieses Gesetz wurde wiederholt novelliert und die Frist zur Geltendmachung erstreckt. Am 8. Juli 1966 hat das Parlament mit Bundesgesetz Nr. 105/66 die Frist endgueltig bis zum 31. Dezember 1967 erstreckt. Eine weitere Fristerstreckung ist nicht zu erwarten.

Diese endgueltige Fristerstreckung ist wohl nur fuer diejenigen Verfolgten von Bedeutung, die entweder Hypothekarglaeubiger sind, ohne sich um die Eintreibung der Hypotheken gekuemmert zu haben, oder deren rueckerstattete Liegenschaften mit Hypotheken belastet sind, die sie nicht loeschen konnten, weil die Glaeubiger unauffindbar waren. Jedenfalls bringen wir dies unseren Lesern zur Kenntnis und empfehlen ihnen, in Zweifelsfaellen anwaeltlichen Rat einzuholen.

C.K.

PRELUDE TO ANSCHLUSS

Papen's Letter to Hitler

The latest volume of Documents on German Foreign Policy, 1918-1945, has been published. It includes a secret letter to Hitler dated Vienna, March 20, 1936, from Franz von Papen, the German Minister to Austria.

Von Papen wrote that antisemitism represented the most effective slogan for attracting the masses of the Austrian people, "for indeed the Austrian people have, in general, always been particularly sensitive to the Jewish question". He reported to Hitler that it had proved possible to enlist this latent antisemitism in order to instigate a number of anti-Jewish acts.

The volume is published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

PRE-1933 CLAIMS

The West German Supreme Court in Karlsruhe has ruled that Jewish citizens who suffered from antisemitic discrimination by German communal or State authorities before January, 1933, are also entitled to compensation under the German Federal Indemnification Law.

The ruling was in respect of claims of a Jew whose business at Wilkau in Saxony had been boycotted by municipal officials there in 1932, before Hitler came to power. The court decided that the boycott had been an act of terror and injustice sanctioned by the State.

MEMORIAL MEETING IN GOCH

On the anniversary of the November pogroms members of the Catholic and Socialist youth organisations held a joint meeting in memory of the victims of Nazism. They also visited Duesseldorf to attend the Sabbath service at the synagogue.

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

RACE ACT CONVICTIONS

Christopher Britton, the first person to be prosecuted under the 1965 Race Relations Act, was found guilty at Middlesex Sessions last October of "distributing written matter with intent to stir up hatred against coloured people". He was sent to Borstal for sticking a "Blacks not wanted here" leaflet on the front door of Mr. Sidney Bidwell, Labour M.P. for Southall, and leaving other pamphlets in his porch. In the Court of Appeal Lord Parker, the Lord Chief Justice, quashed the conviction on the ground that, even if there was technically a distribution of a publication to Mr. Bidwell, in the circumstances it could not be said to be a distribution intended to stir up hatred. It was the actual distribution which must be intended to stir up hatred, said Lord Parker.

A 20-year-old insurance agent, Philip Nokes, admitted at Coventry magistrates' court to sending National Socialist Movement leaflets with offensive messages written on the back to five local people. He was conditionally bound over for two years in the sum of £50 with a similar surety after pleading guilty to conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace. Mr. Peter Palmes, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said that the messages were libellous and offensive and were written on the back of leaflets headed "Hitler was right". Nokes denied being a member of a Colin Jordan's N.S.M. but police found a membership card at his home.

IMPORTED HATE

A copy of a circular, sent to the Attorney-General, Sir Elwyn Jones, Q.C., believed to have come from America, contains antisemitic and anti-Negro propaganda. Sent to this country from an organisation called the Christian Nationalist Crusade, the circular has a post office box number in Los Angeles.

A spokesman for the Board of Deputies which passed it on to Sir Elwyn, said that the contents were in the style of the antisemitic "Protocols of the Elders of Zion". He stated that, since the material came from outside Britain, the Attorney General would probably have no power to deal with it.

PASSION PLAY

Mr. John Mulvey, a Catholic headmaster from Leicester, is now in charge of the presentation in Britain of the Bavarian passion play. The first performance will be in Manchester on February 28 and the production will then go to Glasgow and Dublin and possibly later to America. An assurance has been given by Mr. Mulvey that there will be no antisemitic references in the production. Nor will there be any actors or technicians with any Nazi connections.

Before coming to Britain the play will go to Paris. Plans to stage it in London have been dropped because there is no sufficiently large stage available.

Oberammergau town council has given permission for the play to be performed in South Africa this year. A spokesman said that no local actors would take part and the presentation would be based on a text which Jewish and other democratic circles have described as not being antisemitic.

YOUTH IN HUNGER VIGIL

A four-day vigil in Piccadilly Circus, London, was organised by the Youth Against Hunger Campaign, to focus attention on the plight of the world's starving millions. Members of the Jewish Youth Voluntary Services participated as well as Task Force, Oxfam, Community Service Volunteers, Christian Action and the youth section of United Nations.

LORDS DEBATE N.P.D.

In the House of Lords Lord Chalfont warned about exaggerating the neo-Nazi menace in Germany. The main feature of the elections in Hesse and Bavaria, he said, was the consistency with which the overwhelming majority of the electors continued to support the main democratic parties. The real increase in the extremist vote was only about 1 per cent. On the basis of these results it was quite misleading to talk of a neo-Nazi revival or to draw any comparison between the situation in Germany now and in the 1930s.

Taking exception to these remarks, the Earl of Arran exclaimed: "These are almost exactly the same remarks that were made in 1937." He could not go along with the idea that the Germany of today was very different from the Germany of the two world wars. He was not surprised that the spectre had raised its head in Bavaria. Munich was the capital of the Nazi movement.

STATEMENT BY GERMAN AMBASSADOR

The West German Ambassador in London, Herr Herbert Blankenhorn, replied to a protest letter sent to him by the South-West Essex Reform Synagogue. He stated that while he would not want to minimise the dangers arising from the recent neo-Nazi election successes, he was encouraged by the fact that the majority of the electorate had rejected the N.P.D. He agreed that all progressive forces in West Germany would have to "make a common effort to prevent a resurgence of all extreme political forces that could threaten democratic stability."

CAMDEN PROJECTS

Jewish youth have started regular social work among Coloured and White immigrants in the Borough of Camden.

A 40-strong group, with the support of the Camden Committee for Community Relations, plans to establish a youth centre in the borough. The first stage of their project will be to teach English to children in their own homes, in co-operation with three schools in the Kentish Town area. The group has had a crash course in teaching methods.

As already announced in our previous issue, a charity performance of "Love from Judy" will be given in aid of Camden nurseries for children of immigrants on February 22 at the Scala Theatre. Tickets may be ordered from: Camden Committee for Community Relations, 25 Euston Road, N.W.1, Tel.: TERminus 2793, Ext. 45.

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Marriage Decline

A survey just completed by a research unit set up under the auspices of the Board of Deputies, finds that there has been an alarming fall in marriage registrations at the Office of the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations. This has led to a "drastic decline" both in the absolute numbers and in the rate of synagogue marriages in Britain over the past two decades. The number of marriages registered with the Chief Rabbinate has been almost halved during the past 20 years whilst that of all the other sections of Anglo-Jewry—Sephardim, Liberal, Reform and ultra-Orthodox—has risen, but not sufficiently to make up for the losses.

Jews' College Anniversary

At the 110th anniversary dinner of Jews' College, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor A. L. Burton, who is a member of the West London Reform Synagogue, appealed to all sections of the community for greater tolerance. In a year of the Ecumenical Council, Archbishop Ramsey's visit to the Pope and the resurgence of Nazism in West Germany, he asked whether it would be wrong for the Jewish community to draw closer together in better understanding, greater tolerance and mutual respect.

Mr. Quintin Hogg, M.P., praised the views of the late Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck, describing as a "profound and true observation" Rabbi Baeck's statement that by being a Jew one must not become less English. He also commended the Jewish contribution to English life.

Other speakers included Mr. Neville Laski, Q.C., Lord Kahn, Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., Rabbi M. Berman, Rabbi Dr. H. J. Zimmels, Mr. S. Teff, Mr. J. E. C. Hill (master of Balliol College, Oxford) and Mr. H. Gaventa.

New Youth Centre

The Western Synagogue is to establish a £100,000 scheme for a Jewish youth centre in the West End of London. The centre, to be established on the synagogue premises, will be open to all Jewish teenagers, including members of Progressive congregations. The inadequacy of proper youth facilities in the West End has prompted the synagogue to proceed with the scheme. A project to establish a new cemetery at Cheshunt will probably delay the building of the youth centre until 1968.

Women Rabbis

The Leo Baeck College, London, under the joint auspices of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain and the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues, has decided that women can be accepted for rabbinic training. Rabbi John D. Rayner, senior minister of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue and hon. director of studies of the college, stated that while, initially, it might be difficult for women rabbis to find employment in congregations, "they might certainly fill other positions, such as directors of education, or possibly as associate ministers in congregations where there is more than one."

New W.J.C. General Secretary

Mr. Jack Barnett has been appointed general secretary of the World Jewish Congress, British Section, to succeed Dr. S. J. Roth, now director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs.

Jack Barnett was born in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. He is 40 years old and has been in the service of the World Jewish Congress for the past 15 years. He was a Liberal Parliamentary candidate in the 1964 and 1966 General Elections and is a member of the Liberal Party's Advisory Committee on Immigration.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

U.N. BILL OF RIGHTS

The United Nations, after 18 years of work, has at last prepared an international Bill of Rights. The original idea was that the U.N., by preparing such a Bill, must acquit itself of responsibility after a world war in which human rights were extinguished in the Nazi death camps.

Beginning with the International Declaration of Human Rights, the U.N. has now completed two covenants making the Bill a fact, one on civil and political rights and the other on economic, social and cultural rights. Three important principles emerge: that the individual is a subject of international right and not merely of international compassion; that nations can be held accountable to the international community in matters of human rights; that the individual has a right to the protection of an international body for redress.

The Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights states that all peoples have the right of self-determination and that they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. The Covenant on Civil and Political Rights recognises that the idea of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everybody may enjoy his civil and political rights as well as his economic, social and cultural rights.

Under the protocol adopted, the Human Rights Committee is given the right to receive and consider communications from individuals on violations. However, the implementation clauses are optional and a government can accept them or not.

DIFFERING AMERICAN VIEWS ON N.P.D.

Four prominent Americans refused to sign a statement by the American Council on Germany that recent elections in West Germany did not show a rebirth of Nazism. The statement was signed by 20 American experts on German affairs. It also warned against the danger of condemning an entire people for the views of a small minority.

The dissenters are William Vanden Heuvel, president of the International Rescue Committee, who said he balked at becoming "an apologist for the new party in Germany"; Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the American Oil Company and former member of the presidium of the Claims Conference; Irving Engel, New York attorney and honorary president of the American Jewish Committee; and General Lucius Clay, former Military Commander of the U.S.A. Zone in Germany and honorary president of the American Council on Germany. General Clay declared that he did not refuse because of a disagreement with the statement, but "because I simply do not know enough about the situation."

NEGRO'S PLEA TO JEWS

In New York, Mr. Bayard Rustin, the Negro leader, appealed to Jews not to abandon the civil rights struggle in spite of the "deplorable" anti-Jewish sentiments being voiced by some Negroes.

Speaking to the Jewish Labour Committee's national executive committee, Mr. Rustin, who is executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, said that "Jews should not get out of a movement they believe in because of the frustration expressed by some Negroes." Because the Jews were the only white people who had not yet deserted the Negro ghettos, the Negroes turned on them in their search for a scapegoat, said Mr. Rustin, adding that he was "deeply ashamed" of the anti-Jewish feelings among Negroes.

HOLLAND

War Criminals

The Dutch Prime Minister, Professor J. Zijlstra, was questioned in Parliament about the three German war criminals still detained in Holland. He replied that should there be a question of releasing one or more of them, the Dutch Cabinet and Minister of Justice would decide the issue on individual grounds.

Dr. A. Struycken, the Minister of Justice, stated in a newspaper interview that it was inhuman to continue to detain the three men 20 years after the end of the German occupation.

Holland's three Jewish congregations and the Auschwitz Committee have protested to the Prime Minister and the presidents of the two Parliamentary chambers against any question of release.

A fourth war criminal, Willy Lages, was transferred to a German hospital because it was believed he had only a short time to live. After an operation, he left hospital in his native town of Braunlage in West Germany.

Governor of Antwerp

The newly appointed Governor of Antwerp province is Professor Andries Kinsbergen, of Antwerp University, who is of Jewish origin. Born in Amsterdam in 1926, Professor Kinsbergen succeeds Governor R. Declerck, well known for his sympathetic attitude to the Jews.

NORWAY

Hitler Picture Strike

Dock workers in the Norwegian port of Stavanger refused to unload a German cargo ship until a picture of Hitler hanging in the mess-room was removed. The captain, pleading ignorance about its existence, undertook to throw the picture overboard in international waters. Letters in the newspapers supported the dockers and criticised the captain for not throwing the picture into the harbour.

ARGENTINA

Chief Rabbi Honoured

The Argentine Foreign Minister received with diplomatic protocol a delegation from Amia, the representative organisation of the Buenos Aires Ashkenazi community. The occasion was the introduction of the community's new Chief Rabbi. The minister listened to the community's religious problems with interest, and emphasised Argentina's traditional religious freedom.

TUNISIA

Cairo Attack

Cairo has made a racialistic attack on Tunisian Jewry in an effort to undermine President Bourguiba's régime. The Cairo newspaper, *Akhir Sa'ah*, published scurrilous remarks about the Jews in Tunisia who, it was stated, "control most of the Tunisian economy" and now number "tens of thousands".

The allegations were repeated in Cairo's radio service for North Africa, and both comments ended with the prediction that President Bourguiba would be overthrown and the country "liberated from the Jews".

In Tunisia there are today 20,000 Jews, compared with 105,000 ten years ago.

ISRAEL

Visitors From Germany and Italy

The first delegation of German students invited to Israel by an Israeli student organisation, spent two weeks there. The eight Germans were the guests of the Hebrew University student's organisation.

About 150 schoolchildren from the flood-damaged cities of Florence and Venice arrived in Israel for a fortnight's stay. The visitors, who included a score of Jews, stayed at five youth villages as guests of the Rotary Club and Youth Aliyah.

JEWS IN EAST GERMANY

The December bulletin of the Jewish Community in East Berlin and the Federation of East German Communities carries the photo of a memorial plaque affixed to the ruins of the Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue on the 100th anniversary of its consecration (September 5, 1966). "The front of this house of prayers", the inscription reads, "is to be preserved for all time as a symbol of remembrance and warning". The bulletin also carries reports on the consecration of a memorial in Troebitz (near Finsterwalde), where Jewish prisoners in transit from Bergen-Belsen to Theresienstadt who died of paratyphus are buried. The main address was delivered by Mr. Hans Seigewasser, Secretary of State for Religious Affairs. Dealing with the problem of compensation to the Jewish victims of Nazism, the speaker said that with the help of the reparation payments from West Germany the State of Israel had been developed into an armed bulwark of Imperialism in the Middle East. As far as individual compensation was concerned, East Germany had provided living conditions for her Jewish fellow-citizens which could be described as exemplary both in the economic and in the political and cultural spheres.

EMIGRATION HOPE FOR RUSSIAN JEWS

At a press conference during Mr. Alexei Kosygin's visit to France, the Soviet Prime Minister denied the existence of antisemitism in the Soviet Union and claimed that the Jews enjoyed equality with all other nationalities. He declared: "We shall do all that is possible for us if some families wish to reunite—and even if some among them would like to leave us—to open the road for them. . . ."

This statement was printed verbatim in all the major Moscow newspapers. Informed French circles regard it as being generally sincere but have warned of the possible opposition of Soviet Communist quarters and the official apparatus to implement Mr. Kosygin's declaration.

For some time past there has been a trickle of emigration, including Jews, from the Soviet Union. It is now hoped that not only will the difficult procedures before a visa is forthcoming be liberalised, but that all those who wish to be reunited with family members living abroad will be allowed to do so.

RUMANIAN POLICY

Dr. Moses Rosen, the Chief Rabbi of Rumania, visited Montreal for a religious congress. He is the first official representative of Rumanian Jewry to visit Canada since 1947 when Rumania became Communist.

Regarding the policy of his Government towards Jews, Dr. Rosen stated that it was not to hinder the reunification of families and the right of people to emigrate, while granting equal rights for Jews who prefer to remain together with the Rumanian majority. Jews who left the country were discouraged from returning. There are now 100,000 Jews in Rumania, and Dr. Rosen's opinion was that Rumanian Jewry would shrink by one-third after all those intending to leave the country do so.

YUGOSLAVIA

Amnesty for Writer

The Jewish intellectual, Dr. Daniel Ivin, who was recently arrested after being appointed deputy editor of an independent Socialist periodical planned for publication in Yugoslavia, has been freed. Others released under President Tito's amnesty included Milovan Djilas, President Tito's former deputy, and Mihailo Mihailov, the literary critic and university lecturer, who was to edit the periodical.

At a political meeting in Zadar just before his arrest Dr. Ivin pointed out that his father was murdered by the Croatian fascists for being a Jew, that he himself had been the youngest of Tito's partisans.

Lucie Schachne

TWO WOMEN AUTHORS

Lore Salzberger

"Himmel und Erde"* is a slim volume of lyrical German prose. Gracefully illustrated by Lotte Salzberger it contains nine beautifully told stories which some of us might perhaps regard as fairy tales for adults. Each one of them bears the mark of a writer who has poetical vision. The author is Lore Salzberger-Wittenberg, whose untimely death a few years ago cut short the life of an outstanding woman.

Born in Frankfurt a/M. as the daughter of Rabbi Dr. Georg Salzberger, she early became a personality in her own right. "She entered my life like a star that has fallen from the sky without losing anything of its radiance," writes Margarete Susman in a foreword to the book. After her first meeting with the young student of literature in Zürich, the two women became life-long friends in spite of their great difference in age.

After Lore Salzberger had settled in this country together with her parents, she started a career in which she achieved academic distinction. A First Honours M.A. degree followed by a thesis on Friedrich Hoelderlin led to lectureships in Glasgow and Cambridge, finally to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. However, Lore was not only devoted to her career; when, back in Glasgow, she died in 1962 she had for ten years enjoyed the happiness of her own family life.

Lore Salzberger's art of story-telling lies in the charm of simplicity as well as in an appealing tenderness in her descriptions of the birds, the fish, the clouds and the flowers which animate her tales. We are carried into the world of children or young people who, caught between their daydreams and the real world, have many questions to ask. The author has her very own way of guiding them and letting them find the answers themselves. She does it gently and sensitively throughout inspired by the strength of a deep faith.

* Lore Salzberger-Wittenberg: *Himmel und Erde*. W. Kramer & Co., Frankfurt a/M., 1966. Obtainable in Britain from Dillon's University Bookshop, 1 Malet Street, London, W.C.1. 9/6.

Karen Gershon

Karen Gershon's theme in her poems† bears witness to our times: like Nelly Sachs (some of whose poems she has translated into English) she is passionately obsessed with the events of the Holocaust.

The daughter of German-Jewish parents who perished in Auschwitz, she seems to follow an inner compulsion to record the happenings—external and internal facts—through the eyes of one who survived as a refugee. While her mind works almost feverishly to evoke the images, her vision carries her back into the past bringing her near to the victims in their darkest hours. Karen Gershon does not spare herself and thus her intuition penetrates into the very depths of suffering—a suffering that also embraces the guilt feelings of those who "were not there to comfort them."

There is a strange, almost puritanical, economy of expression in her verse. Was it devised to avoid an overflow of personal feelings so that a more truthful record would result? Whatever the motive, the austere simplicity of her poetry is an artistic achievement.

While Karen Gershon is haunted by the past she is also able to see her own generation as the link to the future, as she says in the last stanza of "To My Children":

Be proud of the beginning you have in me,
Be proud of how far I have wandered
with this burden;
I would value you less if I were not a
refugee,
Your presence changes my wilderness to
a garden.

† Selected Poems by Karen Gershon. Victor Gollancz Ltd. 18/-.

HOLOCAUST TEXTBOOK

Dr. Judah Pilch, director of the National Curriculum Research Institute (a constituent of the American Association for Jewish Education), in New York announced the first experimental school textbook for Jewish pupils on the Holocaust. The project has been made possible by a grant from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, which subsidised one-third of the cost of research and publication.

In the coming year the book will be made available to ten schools in various parts of America, together with a special "Guide to Teachers" in preparation.

The general economic and political conditions in Europe before the First World War, during the years preceding the rise of the Nazis and during the Nazi period, are dealt with in the first part of the textbook. Dr. Alexander S. Kohanski and Professor Meier Ben-Horin deal with the second part—the Nazi attitude to the Jewish people. Then follows the story of the Holocaust by Dr. Pilch.

KASSEL REMEMBERS FRANZ ROSENZWEIG

The 80th anniversary of Franz Rosenzweig's birth was marked by a meeting held in his home town of Kassel under the auspices of the Volkshochschule and the Society for Christian-Jewish Co-operation. The main speaker was Dr. Hermann Levin Goldschmidt (Zürich), who gave a lecture about "Franz Rosenzweig's Message". Stadtschulrat Redl, deputising for the Mayor, conveyed the greetings of the Kassel Borough Council and recalled the long-standing connections between the Rosenzweig family and the city.

Old Acquaintances

Obituary: Dr. Siegfried Kracauer, author of "From Caligari to Hitler", died in New York at the age of 77. Before 1933 he worked for the *Frankfurter Zeitung*.—Grete Busch, 80-year-old widow of conductor Fritz Busch, has died in Bloomington.—Ehm Welk, the former courageous editor of Ullstein's *Gruene Post*, who was banned by Goebbels, died in East Germany at the age of 82.—Hans Leonard, editor of Maud von Ossietzky's East-German *Weltbuehne*, has died in East Berlin.

News from Everywhere: Victor Sass, of Jerusalem's King David Gallery, will exhibit Dresden-born Miron Sima's paintings in Zurich and thereafter in Wiesbaden.—Megerle von Muehlfeld, a regular of Berlin's Kuenstler-Café, who survived the Nazis in Manila, is returning to Germany.—Trude Kolman produced "Trauschein", by the Israeli dramatist Kishon, at Munich's Kleine Freiheit.—Ellen Schwannecke appeared in Liebeneiner's production of "The Merry Widow" at Zurich's Opernhaus.—Carl Zuckmayer celebrated his 70th birthday in Lucerne in the company of 250 invited guests.—Berlin's evening paper, *Der Kurier*, has ceased publication.—Gustav von Wangenheim, son of the late Eduard von Winterstein, was awarded a Dr. h.c. in East Berlin.

U.S.A.: Lotte Lenya has been acclaimed for her performance in the new musical, "Cabaret", based on van Druten's film version of Christopher Isherwood's "I Am a Camera".—Lilia Skala is to appear in Universal's production of "Ironside".—Fritz Kortner's son, Peter, produced "The Protectors" on TV.—Gerd Oswald directed "The Young Ones" for the TV "Boone" series.

Austria: Ernest Haeussermann, who got his doctorate with a thesis "Reinhardt in America" has resigned as director of Vienna's Burg to produce plays.—Rolf Thiele is to direct the film of Schnitzler's "Das weite Land", starring O. W. Fischer and Nadja Tiller.—Hilde Spiel, secretary of the Austrian P.E.N. Club, obtained an annual Government grant of 50,000 schilling for the Club.—"Othello", starring Heinrich Schweiger and Paula Wessely, was produced by Fritz Kortner at the Burg.—Wieland Wagner's widow, Gertrud, will direct the "Fliegender Hollaender" for Vienna's State Opera.

Milestones: Fritz Schrecker, who recently celebrated his 75th birthday in London, is probably best remembered as the partner and producer of the unforgettable Gisela Werbezirk. During the war in England he was the star of the Austrian cabaret, "Laterndl". He also created the B.B.C. character of "Hirnschal", a kind of Second World War "Schweik". He now often appears on TV.—Conrad von Molo, son of author Walter von Molo and husband of Alexander Moissi's daughter, Beate, became 60 years of age in Munich. He started his career as a journalist on the *Berliner Tageblatt*, later becoming a film cutter for Fritz Lang. He joined Curt Bernhardt in London, but returned to Germany where he now dubs foreign films.

Home News: Martin Miller went to St. Moritz on location for Warner's film "The Assignment", which stars Oscar Homolka. On his return he and his wife, Hanne Norbert, gave readings from the works of Nelly Sachs at Club 43.—Willi Frischauer has resigned from his position on the *Evening Standard*, where he was an expert on German affairs. He has just completed a book about the London Clinic.—Bernard Grun's TV series, "Masters of Melody", starts on February 12, the centenary of the "Blue Danube" waltz.

PEM

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Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

EQUALITY FOR ISRAEL'S ARABS

With the recent abolishment of military government in the Arab-populated border areas of Israel, a further step has been taken towards full integration of the non-Jewish minorities.

At the outset, in certain areas of predominantly Arab population, measures of military protection had to be taken along Israel's extended and sensitive land frontiers. By 1965, the number of restricted areas had already been cut down from nineteen to nine, and a few weeks ago, the last few regions still under military control were handed over to civil administration, and their residents will not further require permits to move in and out.

Although the situation along the country's borders is anything but quiet, the last discrimination against some of Israel's Arab citizens has thus been lifted. Now, Prime Minister Eshkol said on this occasion, it is the turn of the Arab population, especially its intelligentsia, to take a greater share in the responsibility for the progress of Arab society and its integration in the State of Israel.

Mr. Eshkol also promised the Arab Knesset members that by the end of the present financial year, all Arab villages will have a regular supply of drinking water; the irrigated area, which has quadrupled since the establishment of the Jewish State, will be doubled again in the next few years; 95 per cent of the Arab villages will be joined by approach roads to the national road network; and about half of the Arab population will have electricity.

The standard of living of the Arab citizens in Israel has been constantly rising and is approaching that of the Jewish population. The average Arab family in Nazareth has an annual income of £7,000, almost the same as that of the average urban Jewish family—£7,360, and higher than the average of the Jewish new-immigrant family from Asia or Africa—£6,600. More and more Arabs find jobs in Israel's expanding industry. Under the British mandate, there was a considerable difference between Jewish and Arab wages. Now there is equal pay for equal work, and legislation governing hours of work, days of rest, annual holidays, accident insurance, etc., has radically altered the lot of the Arab worker. In no Arab country can peasants and labourers claim as satisfactory a level of living.

About one-half of all Arabs earn their livelihood in agriculture, and Government aid has transformed the Arab farm from static self-supply to a progressive cash economy characterised by rising production. This is due to extension of irrigated areas, more mechanisation, new crops, better transport and liberal loans. The number of tractors, e.g., has grown from five in 1948 to a thousand today, the number of cattle and sheep from 90,000 to 350,000 and that of laying hens from 60,000 to over a million.

About 90 per cent of the Arab population receive health services and some 80 per cent of Arab women give birth in hospital (compared with 4 per cent in 1950). As a result, the death rate among the Arab minority has gone down to one-third of what it was at the end of the Mandatory period and equals the mortality rate in the

Jewish sector—6.4 per thousand—which is one of the lowest in the world.

The most spectacular change has taken place in the educational field. The number of educational institutions—from kindergarten to secondary and professional schools—has risen from 56 in 1948 to 347 today, and the number of pupils has grown from 11,000 to 68,000. 75 per cent of the girls and 95 per cent of the boys of primary school age are at school—noticeable statistics as compared with those in the surrounding Arab countries. 272 Arabs are studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the Faculties of Humanities and Natural Sciences, of Medicine and Agriculture, and at the Technion in Haifa in all engineering subjects. There are 135 students in a teachers' training college in Haifa; the number of Arab teachers in Israel's schools amounts to 1,930.

All this calls for the creation of openings where a new Arab intelligentsia can exercise its talents. Over 2,500 Arab citizens are employed in the Civil Service. But it is urgent to qualify young Arabs in vocational skills, and it is on that down-to-earth branch of Arab education that emphasis is increasingly placed.

The total Arab population in Israel increased from 108,000 in 1948 to over 300,000 by the middle of 1966—their natural increase by far outnumbers that of the Jewish sector, and by 1980 their number will have reached one million.

In the nature of things, grievances are still to be heard. And even the most striking progress is not the whole answer to the relations between the State of Israel and its Arab citizens. They are given the full benefits of the recognised rights and advantages of citizenship, but the psychological change can only come with a change for the better in the attitudes of the neighbouring Arab States towards Israel.

Egon Larsen

JEW AND ARAB: A NEW NOVEL

It is difficult for our generation to view the foundation of the State of Israel dispassionately; how can one arrive at a balanced historical judgement in the country itself and among Jews in the outside world when the embers that have been smouldering in the Middle East may flare up again at any moment as a violent, dangerous fire? Some of us will accept everything that was done there, and is still being done, on the basis of "Right or wrong, my country"; in some others, the birth pangs of Israel triggered off an almost neurotic feeling of guilt towards the dispossessed Arabs.

For this reason alone—because the controversy is charged with emotion—Peter Munk's new novel, "That Wilderness is a Cry" (Peter Dawney, London, 288 pp., 28s.), will create a great deal of discussion. One might call it a documentary novel, based on personal experience, and written not only with great skill but in the sincere desire to be fair to all three parties involved: the Jews, the Arabs and the British.

Peter Munk was born and brought up in Hamburg. He emigrated to Palestine before the war to complete his studies, and he worked as a journalist for the Government Press Department. Probably disappointed (and his book yields more than one clue for his personal attitude) he remigrated to Europe

and settled in London, where he is a correspondent for German newspapers.

His hero, too, comes from Hamburg, the son of an assimilated Jewish doctor, and dreams of a new life in Palestine, with "soil under his feet". Himself dispossessed by Hitler, he ignores at first the problem of the dispossessed Arabs, but is soon caught up in the horror of the struggle for a Jewish homeland that cannot be created without bloodshed. His pregnant wife is murdered by Arabs, he is himself seriously injured. The drama of illegal immigration, fear and brutality on all sides, the disruption of personal relationships and individual ethics, the hardening of the hearts in the face of fanaticism and suffering change him completely. He turns into an extreme Jewish nationalist, and becomes the leader of his settlement. But the experiences of his second wife, who escaped the gas chamber because her German lover was prepared to sacrifice his own life for her, influence his feelings deeply, and he begins to seek a solution of the agonising problems that poison the relationships between the new and the former inhabitants of Palestine: perhaps only a local solution, but might it not lead to a national one? He strikes up a friendship with a humane and civilised Arab, who demands: "Give us back your settlement!" Munk's hero must, of course, refuse. Fear and hatred surge up again. In another outbreak of violence, the Arab is killed and the hero wounded, with a 50-50 chance of living. But Israel is a reality now. The year is 1948.

It is a deeply disturbing book, written in a passionate, almost expressionist style, full of flashbacks, quotations and news items, reminiscent of John Dos Passos. The desperate desire to show both sides of the coin shines through, almost burning up the pages. It may not be easy to read—important books never are—and, for many Jews who watched it all from a safe distance, probably not easy to digest. Some readers will hate it; for others it may be a revelation.

If one is looking for the author's pessimistic credo, one may find it in these sentences: "Marx was wrong. Not religion is the opium of the masses; patriotism, making killer herds of the masses. . . . God made the world, created life; man will unmake the world, destroy its life. Not at once, but gradually, slowly. . . . It is a stupendous task. We need all our strength and thousands of years to do it. But we will achieve it."

ISRAELI MUSICAL

Performance in London

Israel's contribution to the annual World Theatre Season in London will be the Cameri production of "King Solomon and the Cobbler."

Illya Gurlitsky will take the dual title roles in the festival production, to be seen at the Aldwych for a week beginning May 1. The female lead will be played by Rivka Raz, who took the part of Eliza Doolittle in the Hebrew version of "My Fair Lady" and who was also Nancy and Anna in the Israeli productions of "Oliver" and "The King and I."

This will be the Cameri Theatre Company's first visit to London. Its contribution is also Israel's first modern musical, written by German-born Sammy Gronemann. Directed by Samuel Bunim, "King Solomon and the Cobbler" is already a hit in Israel.

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RENTE AUS DER DEUTSCHEN SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Wir veröffentlichen den folgenden Aufsatz, da uns bekannt ist, dass in manchen Fällen, in denen nach der neuesten Rechtsentwicklung früher im Deutschen Reich der Versicherungspflicht unterliegenden Personen Renten zustehen, aus Rechtskenntnis keine Ansprüche geltend gemacht worden sind. Wie der Verfasser mit Recht betont, sind die Bestimmungen so kompliziert, dass sich allgemeingültige Regeln nicht aufstellen lassen und jeder Fall besonders ueberprueft werden muss. Dies kann nur durch sachkundige Rechtsberater geschehen. Hingegen ist die AJR nicht in der Lage, Einzelanfragen zu beantworten.—Red.

I

Immer wieder muss man feststellen, dass das Augenmerk der Verfolgten zwar auf Rueckerstattungen — und EntschaeDIGungsansprueche gelenkt worden ist, dass aber die so auesserst wichtigen Ansprueche aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung haeufig uebersehen werden. Der Grund hierfuer ist darin zu suchen, dass Gesetzgebung und Gerichtspraxis sich in stetigem Wandel befinden, eine Entwicklung, die noch keineswegs abgeschlossen ist. Seit es infolge einer Aenderung der Gesetzgebung ausreichend ist, wenn Beitrage zur deutschen Sozialversicherung auch nur vor dem 1.1.1924 entrichtet worden sind, also beispielsweise nur in der Inflationszeit, um Rentenansprueche durchzusetzen, vorausgesetzt, dass auch die sonstigen Bedingungen hierfuer erfuellt sind, sind beinahe fuer alle Verfolgten, die auch nur jemals einen einzigen Beitrag zur deutschen Sozialversicherung entrichtet haben, und ihre Witwen jetzt oder in Zukunft Rentenansprueche irgendwelcher Art gegen die Traeger der deutschen Sozialversicherung gegeben, moegen dies selbstaendige Renten oder kombinierte deutsch-britische Renten sein.

II

Wenn im EntschaeDIGungsverfahren Ansprueche wegen Berufsschadens geltend gemacht wurden, kam es haeufig nur auf die zuletzt vor der Verfolgung ausgeuebte berufliche Taetigkeit an. Die Verfolgten, die zuletzt selbstaendige Unternehmen hatten, haben aber in der Regel nicht als selbstaendige Berufstaetige angefangen. Sie waren meist zunaechst Lehrlinge und dann Angestellte

oder Gesellen, bevor sie sich selbstaendig machten. Waehrend dieser Zeit waren sie in der Regel in der deutschen Sozialversicherung versichert. Sie haben dies haeufig vergessen, weil diese Zeit so lange zurueck liegt, und die Witwen solcher Maenner wissen hiervon haeufig ueberhaupt nichts. Auch Studenten an technischen Hochschulen und Handelshochschulen waren haeufig in der Zeit ihrer praktischen Ausbildung versichert.

Auch fruere Angehoerige des oeffentlichen Dienstes, die Versorgungsbezuge nach dem BWGoeD erhalten, sind haeufig zusaetzlich zum Bezug von Rente aus der deutschen Sozialversicherung berechtigt. Diese Renten werden, abgesehen von den Faellen fruere Bediensteter juedischer Gemeinden, auf Versorgungsbezuge des Bundes ueberhaupt nicht, und in anderen Faellen meist nur teilweise auf Versorgungsbezuge, die von den Laendern gezahlt werden, angerechnet.

Meist sind Versicherungsunterlagen in den Haenden der Verfolgten nicht mehr vorhanden. Sie koennen aber in vielen Faellen wiederbeschafft oder ersetzt werden. Das ist haeufig muhsam und kompliziert. Aber dieser Muehe muss man sich eben unterziehen.

III

Fuer den Bezug von selbstaendigem deutschen Altersruhegeld muss eine Versicherungszeit von 180 Monaten nachgewiesen werden, fuer andere Rentenarten wie Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit oder Hinterbliebenenrente in der Regel nur eine Versicherungszeit von 60 Monaten.

Zu den mit Beitrage belegten Versicherungszeiten treten hinzu:

Militaerdienst im deutschen Heere oder Marine vor dem und im 1. Weltkriege (oder bei Truppen verbuendeter Staaten);

Zeiten der Kriegsgefangenschaft oder Internierung als feindliche Auslaender;

Zeiten der Freiheitsentziehung durch die Nazis;

Zeiten verfolgungsbedingter Arbeitslosigkeit;

Zeiten des verfolgungsbedingten Auslandsaufenthaltes vom Tage der Auswanderung an bis zum 31.12.1949.

Allein die Zeiten des unfreiwilligen Auslandsaufenthaltes betragen bei den meisten Verfolgten, die in Grossbritannien ansaessig sind, mehr als 10 Jahre. Wenn also bei diesen kein selbstaendiges deutsches Altersruhegeld zahlbar ist oder kuenftig faellig werden sollte, sind meistens jetzt oder spaeter Renten wegen Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit gegen die deutschen Versicherungstraeger gegeben, denn es kommt nicht darauf an, in welchem Alter die Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit eintritt. Ist bei Eintritt der Erwerbsunfaehigkeit der Versicherte schon 70 Jahre alt, dann hat er eben erst von diesem Zeitpunkt an Anspruch auf Rente. Im uebrigen ist von Fall zu Fall zu pruefen, ob eine kombinierte deutsch-britische Rente verlangt werden soll.

Rentenansprueche, gegenwaertige und kuenftige, stehen in der Regel in gleicher Weise wie den in Deutschland versichert Gewesenen solchen Verfolgten zu, die ihren letzten Wohnsitz vor der Auswanderung in Danzig, Memel, Boehmen oder Maehren hatten, und in diesem Lande sozialversichert gewesen sind.

IV

Die gesetzlichen Bestimmungen sind leider so kompliziert, dass sich allgemeingeltige

Regeln nicht aufstellen lassen und jeder einzelne Fall besonders ueberprueft werden muss. Wie aber oben bereits gesagt, sind praktisch in nahezu allen Faellen, jetzt oder kuenftig zumindest selbstaendige Renten wegen Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfaehigkeit begruendet, die nach der jetzigen gesetzlichen Neuregelung auch auf Grund des deutsch-britischen Gegenseitigkeitsabkommens nicht gegen den Willen des Berechtigten in kombiniertes deutsch-britisches Altersruhegeld umgewandelt werden duerfen. In zahlreichen Faellen sind Ansprueche auf Altersruhegeld und auf Witwenrenten begruendet, die fruher nicht gegeben waren. Daneben in vielen Faellen Waisenrenten fuer Kinder in der Ausbildung und erwerbsunfaehige Kinder bis zur Vollendung des 25. Lebensjahres.

Ein fruher ergangener ablehnender Bescheid des deutschen Versicherungstraegers steht einem neuen Rentenansprueche nicht entgegen.

Dass es sich um wirklich erhebliche Ansprueche handelt, die nicht vernachlaessigt werden sollten, sei durch die folgenden Beispiele erlaeutert, in denen Bescheide der deutschen Versicherungstraeger ergangen sind:

LVA Hamburg.

Letzte Beitragszahlung 1903.	
Selbstaendiges deutsches Altersruhegeld	DM 232,10 p. Monat.

BFA Berlin.

Letzte Beitragszahlung 1917.	
Selbstaendiges deutsches Altersruhegeld	DM 329,30 p. Monat.

LVA Rheinprovinz.

Letzte Beitragszahlung 1894.	
Selbstaendige deutsche Witwenrente	DM 114,50 p. Monat.

Beispiele von Renten, die neben den beamtenrechtlichen Versorgungsbezuegen von der Bundesversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte gezahlt werden, sind die folgenden:

in einem Falle Rente von	DM 205, 90 p. Monat
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in einem anderen Falle Witwenrente von	DM 105, 40 p. Monat
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Die beiden vorerwaehnten Renten werden auf die beamtenrechtlichen Versorgungsbezuge nicht angerechnet.

Da es immer schwieriger wird, die erforderlichen Unterlagen zu beschaffen, je laenger gewartet wird, sollten auch juengere Verfolgte nicht warten, um das Erforderliche einzuleiten.

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Robert Weltsch

VOICES FROM THE PAST

Many of us were puzzled, some were shocked, when we heard Professor Gershom Scholem, in his speech on Jewish-German relations at the World Jewish Congress in Brussels on August 4 (meanwhile the speech has been printed in several places both in German and in an English translation) describing Kurt Tucholsky as "one of the most repulsive of Jewish antisemites". It seemed a little harsh on a man who had himself paid the highest price by taking his life, abroad, in despair over Hitler. In the 'twenties Tucholsky was liked, even admired, not only by all leftists, but probably also, though with reservations, by most Jews, because of his fight for human causes and his courageous opposition to the many signs of dangerous reactionary trends in the Weimar Republic which the government was unable to check.

In Germany of the 'twenties the wider public did not regard Tucholsky as an "antisemite". On the contrary, it mistook him for a representative Jew, and that is what those responsible for the Jewish community were fully entitled to repudiate. In the second volume of the Nazi "Forschungen zur Judenfrage" (Hamburg 1937) Wilhelm Stapel devoted a lengthy tirade to him. He did not conceal that Tucholsky left the Jewish community in 1911 and joined the Christian Church in July, 1918, in Rumania of all places. Nevertheless, Stapel says of him: "There is no doubt that he belongs to the Jewish people with body and spirit. But in his writings one would look in vain for an identification with the Jewish people." Stapel compares the satirical pieces where Jews are ridiculed (especially the famous series of Herr Wendriner) with Tucholsky's mockery of Germans: "While his sneers at Jews are always tinged with a certain degree of good humour, his malicious relationship to Deutschtum is nothing but hatred and rejection".

We often wondered that Tucholsky did not feel the responsibility which his Jewishness imposed on him in the conditions prevailing at that time in Germany. It is well known that Dr. Hans Reichmann once approached him but met with a rebuff. Tucholsky considered the "Jewish" implications as completely irrelevant. Many of us did not mind so much his derision of the Jewish philistine parvenu (whose weaknesses were hardly in dispute) as the unrestrained and occasionally excessive—and at the same time not sufficiently profound—form of his detraction of the German character. It was obvious that the offence he caused in German circles would be ascribed to "the Jews" as a whole by malevolent observers. We certainly did not expect from Tucholsky any guidance in Jewish affairs.

Sometimes we are asking ourselves whether there is not something artificial in the Tucholsky revival attempted in post-Hitler Germany. It is apparently bound up with the wish to rehabilitate in a demonstrative way those proscribed by the Nazis.

The issue of some records* containing extracts from Tucholsky's work—including some of the famous Wendriner monologues—and the publication of an anthology from "Weltbühne" and "Tagebuch"† may lead

* Der politische Tucholsky. Kompositionen Hanns Eisler. Gesang Ernst Busch. Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft, Literarisches Archiv 44025.—Kurt Tucholsky: Das Lottechen—Wendriner Geschichten. Gesprochen von Grete Weiser und Ernst Ginsberg. DGG 44021.

† Ausnahmezustand. Eine Anthologie aus "Weltbühne" und "Tagebuch". Herausgegeben von Wolfgang Weyrauch. Verlag Kurt Desch München 1966. 428 pp. (Paperback).

us to reassess this kind of literature. Although for many this will be a nostalgic renewal of contact with half-forgotten publications once enjoyed, it strikes the listener or reader that most of the stuff is oddly dated. The songs are briskly rendered here by Ernst Busch and the music is a good example of the pungent alacrity of political cabaret. It seems, however, that the texts have lost some of their vigour and freshness when isolated from the atmosphere prevailing at their time.

It is to be regretted that an opportunity has been lost in editing the selected pieces from the two weeklies. They valiantly fought for democracy. Both were significant for the atmosphere of Weimar Germany, especially of the big cities, and they could serve as an object of study for an understanding of the political and intellectual climate of the unlucky Republic. For this purpose they would have had to be explained and put into context. As they stand here, many make the impression of period pieces, not always convincing. The authors present their views with irritating self-righteousness, often with a tone of condescension and intellectual hubris; one also feels that their judgement was not always right. Nevertheless, here or there one may find one of those little masterpieces of political pamphletism or pure feuilleton, which endeared those writers to their readers. In most matters of principle one may assume that they were preaching only to the converted.

Finally, Herr Wendriner. A few of these famous monologues are selected on the L.P. record. They show the type Tucholsky wanted to hit, a man of humble origin from the "Ghetto", without culture and education, proud of his success in business. He thinks of money and amusements and little else, a pitiable, but on the whole harmless creature. To caricature "Jewish types" was a favourite habit of Jewish cabarettists from the time of Eisenbach and the famous *Klabriaspattie*; many Jews enjoyed it. It was a sneer at precipitated and imperfect assimilation, combined with the Jewish inclination for self-persiflage. Such parodies of Jews as well as of Germans one could regard as inoffensive jokes, or one could regard them as tactless and tasteless. In the early 'thirties in Germany, one feels, Jews should have refrained from them.

If we decide to enjoy the Wendriner speeches then we must say that one could hardly find a better acting interpreter than Ernst Ginsberg. He himself came from an assimilated Berlin Jewish family (his grandparents came from Poland) and in the book edited in his honour after his death in December, 1964‡ we find extracts from his revealing autobiography. His father, a staunch German, had an unshakeable faith in German civilisation and was not even disturbed by Hitler; ultimately he suffered humiliation and exile. Ernst Ginsberg became a famous actor, and in 1935, after his emigration to Zürich, he converted to Catholicism out of religious conviction. This step, he tells us, became easier for him when it was clear that in the eyes of the Nazis baptism did not remove the flaw of Jewish descent. But his autobiography is full of "Jewish" episodes, encounters with antisemites from early youth, and his own deductions and theological speculations, though subjectively honest, are not always convincing.

‡ Ernst Ginsberg: Abschied. Erinnerungen, Theaterraufsätze, Gedichte. Herausgegeben von Elisabeth Brock-Sulzer im Verlag der Arche Zürich 1965.

Grete Fischer

"DER PRAGER KREIS"

Max Brod's Reminiscences

This is a history of local literature written by its best and most devoted expert.* His information about an amazing number of authors demonstrates that they have much more in common than their birthplace. There is a special brand of idealism, an urge for truth and integrity, a capacity for friendship as well as for sharp, almost nagging criticism.

The literature of Prague emerges in the nineteenth century with Fritz Mauthner's research into language. Alfred Meissner is mentioned in the book with a charming quotation from his report on visits to Heinrich Heine in Paris. Interesting personalities, such as the sociologist-philosopher Popper-Lynkeus and the "American" Charles Sealsfield (under his real name Karl Postl) are recalled, the latter with a quotation from his recent biographer Castle, who depicts Postl's adventurous escape from a monastery to fight for freedom. There are brief sidelights on Rilke's early years, his contemporaries Hugo Salus and Friedrich Adler, Paul Leppin, the Czech poets Neruda, Vrchlicky and Jiri Wolker.

The "Prager Kreis" revolves around Max Brod and his friends, Franz Kafka, Felix Weltsch, and the younger set with Franz Werfel, Willi Haas and many more of this gifted, active and successful generation. Brod enlarges on his books about Kafka, his autobiography and other writings by presenting lively accounts about meetings, reminiscences, unpublished letters and 'photos', and, above all, by dissociating himself from the present-day idolisation and falsification of Kafka's image. Brod's resentment against superficial assessments is understandable, the expression of his feelings echoes hurt love.

On one occasion, when he refers to his part in the rescue of Jews from Prague, he remarks: "I may say that I have helped thousands. Which shows that I am by no means as modest as I am said *ad nauseam* to be. . ."

I have to confess that I never regarded Max Brod as modest. He was more, he was selfless to the point of sacrifice. His gift of understanding and genuine admiration led him to promote the talents of others at the peril of his own production. It seems that his critical powers were at times stronger than his self-confidence, or at least, than his belief that he could achieve the extreme high standard of his expectations. This may account for the strangely hasty output of some of his books—spending the better part of his energy in the service of others he did not do full justice to himself.

Now, young at eighty, he has to bear the loss of his friends and contemporaries, the naturally lukewarm appreciation of the second generation "opposing" the fathers, and the errors and experiments of the young. We can only wish that he will persevere long enough to enjoy the final establishment of his status in the world of literature.

His readers will thank him for the inclusion of portraits like those of Hermann Grab and Otto Reich, and the homage paid to his lost brother. It is not to be wondered that even he has missed out some names, as, for instance, H. G. Adler or the younger Franz Steiner, perhaps the last of the poets from Prague.

Remarkable among others is the little chapter about Mozart and Dittersdorf—thrown in from the wealth of Brod's versatile interests.

* Max Brod: Der Prager Kreis. 214 pages. W. Kohlhammer Verlag (Stuttgart). DM.19.80.

IN MEMORY OF KARL MARX

The death of Karl Marx, which was announced in our previous issue, means a great loss for the Jews in Germany and also for former German Jews now dispersed all over the world. Under the most adverse circumstances he started a newspaper for the remnants of the Jewish communities in Germany shortly after the war. It was due to his optimism, tenacity and skill that the *Allgemeine Unabhaengige Juedische Wochenzeitung*, as it is now called, has developed into a widely recognised periodical. The "Allgemeine" not only carries indispensable information on Jewish events and general developments in Germany, but has also become an important political factor, interpreting to the German public and to the world the extraordinary position of the Jews in post-war Germany.

Before 1933 Karl Marx worked as a political journalist for several German and foreign newspapers and also took a leading part in the activities of the German Democratic Youth Movement. When the Nazis came to power, he first emigrated to Italy and thereafter to North Africa and Gibraltar. He arrived in England during the war. In 1946 he returned to Germany. The wide respect he acquired in the course of his work during the post-war years is reflected in a Festschrift published in his honour on the occasion of his 60th birthday in 1957: one of the contributors was the late President Heuss.

Marx had close personal contacts with many former German Jews in England, some of whom are also regular or occasional correspondents of the "Allgemeine". Whenever *AJR Information* required his help he proved a most loyal colleague.

Together with his wife and helpmate, Lilli, he was host to many visitors from abroad who met him in Duesseldorf or in his house near Baden-Baden, where he spent most of the time during the last years of his life. His vigour, his constant wealth of new ideas, his manifold services to Jewry and, last, but not least, his personal care for his fellow-men will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him.

W.R.

AUF VORGESCHOBENEM POSTEN

In diesen Tagen sind fast genau 20 Jahre vergangen, dass ich Karl Marx zum ersten Male begegnete, im Buero der englischen Jewish Relief Unit in Duesseldorf, dem damaligen Sitz der Britischen Militaerregierung fuer das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen. Der mir bis dahin unbekannt kleine Herr mit den lebhaft suchenden Augen und dem dichten Haar, nicht lange vorher aus der Emigration zurrueckgekehrt, erzaehte und stellte Fragen, berichtete und—forschte, gab Anregungen und machte mit Plaenen bekannt. Aus jenen ersten Gespraechen hat sich eine lange, jahrzehntelange fruchtbare persoenele und arbeitsmaessige Beziehung ergeben.

Karl Marx war kein Draufgaenger. Aber er zeigte Unternehmungslust und Wagemut, der sich bis zum Mut zur Unpopularitaet steigern konnte. Das hiess etwas in bewegten Zeitlaeuften, besonders vor der grossen Zaesur von 1948-49, gekennzeichnet durch Konsolidierungerscheinungen, wie die Waehrungsreform in Deutschland, die Gruendung des Staates Israel (mit ihren Konsequenzen fuer die Absorbierung von Zehntausenden juedischen DP) wie die Schaffung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, mit der nach und nach eine bemerkenswerte, wenn auch zuweilen umstrit-

tene Entschaedigungspolitik zur Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts einsetzte. In der Behandlung solcher praktisch-politischer und zugleich juedisch-politischer Fragen hat Marx als unabhaengiger Publizist unstreitig Anteil gehabt. Dabei war nicht immer entscheidend, was und wieviel er schrieb. Wichtiger war fast, was er an einflussreicher Stelle sprach, oder wozu er seine Mitarbeiter inspirierte.

Die Kunst der Menschenbehandlung, wirkte sich bei Marx in vielen Bereichen aus. Von Anfang an hat er sich, haeufig gegen starken Widerstand, fuer die Existenz, die Anerkennung und die bestmoegliche Organisation einer juedischen Gemeinschaft im Nachkriegsdeutschland eingesetzt, auch im Ausland, in Israel, und in Suedamerika. Er hat sich bleibende Verdienste um die christlich-juedische Zusammenarbeit innerhalb der Bundesrepublik und insbesondere um die Gestaltung solider und vertretbarer deutsch-israelischer Beziehungen erworben. Seine innerjuedische Basis war ausserordentlich breit, nicht durchweg einheitlich; manch einem mag sie nicht immer als konsequent erschienen sein. Aber dieser Mann mit seinem Widerspruch war ein Mensch mit einem Instinkt fuer das im Augenblick politisch Gebotene.

Im vergangenen Fruehjahr durfte er die Freude der Anerkennung ernten, als die "Allgemeine" auf zwanzig Jahre ihres Bestehens zurueckblicken konnte. Das hat ihm, dem lange Leidenden, innerlich viel Auftrieb zu geben vermocht. Bis fast zur letzten Stunde, hielt er, dem das Telefon zum unentbehrlichen Begleiter geworden war, unsichtbar die wesentlichen Faeden in der Hand, ohne die ein periodisches Publikationsorgan nicht geleitet werden kann. Kurzum: er war da, auch wenn er, wie in den letzten Jahren, nicht immer zur Stelle sein konnte—fuer seinen Betrieb und fuer die Menschen dort und, man frage nicht, fuer wie viele andere, die bei ihm Rat, Hilfe und Auskunft suchten.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.



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PERSONALIA

NEW YEAR HONOURS

The New Year Honours List includes awards to four personalities who came to this country from Germany or Austria after 1933.

The C.B.E. was awarded to Dr. Anna Freud, daughter of the late Sigmund Freud, for services to psychoanalysis, and to Professor Heinz Koeppler, Warden of Wilton Park Centre. The O.B.E. was awarded to Mr. Ernest Karl Litthauer, of Birmingham, export sales director, B.K.L. Alloys, for services to export, and to Mr. Wilhelm Cohn, senior legal assistant at the British Embassy in Bonn; both are also members of the AJR.

We extend our sincerest congratulations to them for the recognition of their achievements.

It also gives us particular pleasure to congratulate Councillor Samuel Fisher, the first Mayor of the new Borough of Camden until May, 1966, on the award of a Knighthood. Councillor Fisher has always been a most helpful and interested friend of the AJR. Together with Sir Seymour Karminski, who became a Privy Councillor, he also spoke at the opening ceremony of Hannah Karminski House.

Mrs. Beatrice Serota, Labour Chief Whip on the Greater London Council, was made a baroness for services to the welfare of children; she was a founder of the Hampstead Council of Christians and Jews.

Knighthoods were awarded to: Professor Max Leonard Rosenheim, president of the Royal College of Physicians, and Mr. Nathaniel Bernard Freeman (for long services to public welfare in Sydney, New South Wales).

The C.B.E. was awarded to: Mr. Samuel Philip Cohen Henriques, a leader of the Kingston Jewish community, Jamaica (for community and charitable welfare services); Mr. David Jones, publicity officer and former chief barker of the Variety Club of Great Britain (for services to youth charities); Mr. Isidore Jack Lyons (for services to industry and the arts); Mr. John Mount Montague Meyer (for services to Anglo-Russian trade).

The following received the O.B.E.: Mr. Nakdimon Shabbethay Doniach, of Cheltenham, senior departmental specialist, Govern-

ment Communications Headquarters; Mr. Alec Kravis, of Chelmsford, manager, administrative and technical services research division of the Marconi Company; Mr. Sydney Rose (for services to school sports in Essex); Mr. Louis Sherman, alderman of the London Borough of Hackney; Mr. William John Simons, regional director, British Council, Frankfurt-on-Main.

The Order of the M.B.E. went to: the Rev. Moses Haim Solomon Benzimra, retired senior minister of the Shaar Hashamayim Synagogue, Gibraltar; Mrs. Dorothy Cosgrove, wife of the Rev. Dr. I. K. Cosgrove, of Glasgow (for services to the Jewish community in the West of Scotland); Mr. Michael Goldstein, general secretary of the Association for Jewish Youth; Mrs. Ruby Rich Schalit (for services to women's welfare movements in Australia).

The Air Force Cross was awarded to Squadron-Leader Clive Charles Rustin, of Sharnbrook, Beds.

FREEDOM OF ECCLES FOR DR. F. H. KROCH

The freedom of the Borough of Eccles is to be conferred on Dr. F. H. Kroch, well known to former refugees, especially in the Manchester district, by his activities for the AJR and the Morris Feinmann Homes. Dr. Kroch was born in Berlin in 1904 and, after completion of his studies, joined his family's firm, Chemische Fabrik Siegfried Kroch A.G. When the Nazis came to power he settled in Eccles, where, in 1937, he founded Lankro Chemicals Ltd. During the 29 years of its existence the firm, of which he is the chairman, has considerably expanded, and Lankro are acknowledged leaders in the field of chemicals for the plastics industry. In a detailed appreciation the *Eccles Journal* particularly stresses Dr. Kroch's concern for the well-being of his 700 employees.

Apart from his business activities, Dr. Kroch holds a variety of important offices. He is the current President of the Society of Leather Trades Chemists and also serves on the Court of Governors of Manchester University and College of Science and Technology. His integration into the life of this country is

linked with an outstanding sense of loyalty towards his community of origin. When the AJR was founded he immediately associated himself with its efforts and took a responsible part in organising the work in Manchester. In his activities for the Morris Feinmann Homes he excels not only by his experience in questions of financial, staff and building policy, but also by his constant helpfulness to the individual residents. We extend our sincerest congratulations to Dr. Kroch. The civic recognition bestowed on him has, at the same time, added lustre to the former refugees in this country.

OSSIETZKY MEDAL FOR FRITZ VON UNRUH

The Carl-von-Ossietsky Medal, created after the war by the re-established Liga fuer Menschenrechte, was conferred on Fritz von Unruh. He is the fifth recipient of the medal. At the ceremony in Berlin, under the chairmanship of Ministerialrat a.D. Dr. Curt Radlauer, the "Laudatio" was moved by Probst Dr. Heinrich Grueber. In his response, Fritz von Unruh warned against the increase of neo-Nazi tendencies in Germany and appealed to the young generation to work for the promotion of human rights and brotherhood.

NOBEL LAUREATES

Although Jews make up less than 1 per cent of the world's population, they have received 12 per cent of the Nobel awards in the 66 years since the five annual prizes were established.

Eleven German Jews out of 38 German laureates gained the prize before 1933. The most prominent of the twelve German and Austrian Nobel laureates who fled Nazism was Albert Einstein, one of the great minds of all time.

After leaving their countries of origin for Britain, three German Jews and one Austrian gained the prize. Professor Ernst Boris Chain in 1945 shared the award in medicine with Sir Alexander Fleming and Sir Howard Florey for the discovery of penicillin. Dr. Chain was also the first British Jew to receive this accolade. After him came Professor Sir Hans Krebs (medicine, 1953) and Professor Max Born (physics, 1954), both also of German origin. Dr. Max Perutz, a Vienna-born Christian of Jewish parentage, received the prize in chemistry in 1962.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthdays

Braun.—Mr. Leon Braun, of Otto Schiff House, 14 Netherhall Gardens, London, N.W.3, will celebrate his 76th birthday on February 13.

Neugeboren.—My husband, Mr. Wolf S. Neugeboren, of 117 Allison Street, Glasgow, S.2, celebrated his 70th birthday on January 10. With love from his wife.

Sachs.—Mrs. Emmy Sachs, of 248 Kenmure Street, Glasgow, S.1, will celebrate her 80th birthday on February 12.

Deaths

Biberstein.—Our dear mother and grandmother, Mrs. Helene Biberstein (formerly Breslau), passed away in London on December 29, 1966, in her 74th year.—Dr. Gerhard Boyd and family, 17 Rosecroft Gardens, London, N.W.2.

Cohn.—Leopold Cohn, of 60 St. John's Park Mansions, London, N.19, passed away on January 3, after a long illness, in his 77th year. Sadly missed by his wife Else, daughter Eva, son Henry and their families, relatives and friends.

Isaacs.—Mrs. Helen Isaacs (née Rosenthal), of 50 Cotswold Gardens, London, N.W.2, passed away

after a short illness on January 10. Deeply mourned by her husband Eugen, sister and brother-in-law Minni and Erwin Boehm (San Francisco), relatives and numerous friends. All of those who were near to her will sincerely miss her.

Loewenstein.—Dr. Paula Loewenstein (née Suesser), passed away on December 2, 1966. Deeply mourned by her family and friends.

Steer-Tietz.—Our mother, Mrs. Leonie Steer-Tietz (née Hirschfeld), died suddenly at the age of 71, on December 14, 1966.—Thomas and Richard Tait, Richmond, Surrey.

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AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST

Jewish Conference on Mental Health

Under the auspices of the International Council of Jewish Social and Welfare Services, and co-sponsored by the World Federation for Mental Health, a Conference on "Mental Health and Migration" were held in Geneva from November 28 to 30, 1966.

The conference was attended by doctors, psychiatrists and social workers from Israel, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, Norway, Persia and the U.S.A. The delegation from Britain comprised Professor John Yudkin, representing the Central British Fund, Professor G. M. Carstairs, Lady Henriques and Mr. Eugene Heimler. The objects of the deliberations were twofold: to assess the work so far done in various countries and to provide the theoretical background for the planning of future activities. Of particular interest was a report by Dr. A. Sunier on the work of the Sinai Clinic for in-patients at Amersfoort and for out-patients in Amsterdam. Dr. J. Dierkens reviewed the experience gathered at his Centres, Medico-Psychologique in Brussels and Antwerp. The work of the Centre Medico-Social of O.S.E. in Paris was described by Dr. S. Kabaker. A report on the existing services in Israel and on plans still on the drawing-board was given by Dr. L. Tramer, of the Israeli Ministry of Health. The discussions gave the participants ample opportunity of pooling their experience. Thus all those present went away with many new ideas based on the impressions obtained at the Conference. Although, so far, no Jewish Mental Health Centre has been established in Britain, it was interesting to learn of the energetic approach and high professional standard by which the activities in other countries excel. It transpired that the effect of the migrations of Jews during the last decades will continue to create psychological problems for some time to come. The trauma of war and camp life experiences and of the disruptions of families often comes into the open unexpectedly as late as 20 years after the events. Only persons who cannot themselves cope with their problems—and their number is steadily growing—are treated by psychiatrists. The Conference did not discuss the cases of the many survivors of Nazi persecution who have made adjustments and are well settled. It became evident that they consist mainly of people who have found satisfaction in their family life and in their work.

Help is needed by those men and women who have failed to establish good relationships with their surroundings. Whereas in the past such people were given psycho-analytical treatment, their number has outgrown the number of available psychiatrists. Therefore, much of the work is now being done through psychotherapy, group therapy and teamwork with case discussions. These new methods are already well established and have passed the experimental stage; they constitute a complete change of approach to mental health work.

Whilst the Belgian Clinic still applies the principles of psychiatric team treatment, the Dutch and the Israelis would like to enlist the co-operation of the community as a whole, because, as the difficulties are due to the failure of establishing personal relationships, the chances of rehabilitation depend on the patient's opportunities of setting up as many friendly relationships as possible. Therefore, it will be necessary to work out a programme of enlightening and educating the wider public, starting with teachers, welfare workers, rabbis and lawyers.

Lady Henriques spoke about the practical work carried out in Britain by youth clubs, friendship clubs and workshops for the elderly. These centres not only cater for the well-adjusted, but also help the lonely and borderline cases suffering from maladjustment. Valuable practical results have already been achieved, and the existing community service may be extended to preventive work in the sphere of mental health.

There remain the tragic "hard-core" cases on which the outstanding expert, Professor L. Eitinger, of Oslo, reported with compassion and modesty.

It was, perhaps, one of the most impressive features of the Conference that eminent members of the medical profession and social workers showed awareness of the limitations of their devoted efforts of trying to achieve the integration into the community of human beings against whom another "community" has sinned so cruelly.

MIRIAM BRASSLOFF (Geneva).

NELLY SACHS HONOURED

In honour of Miss Nelly Sachs, a secondary school for girls in the town of Neuss, near Duesseldorf, has been named after the German-Jewish poetess.

Obituary

MRS. LEONIE STEER-TIETZ

Mrs. Leonie Steer-Tietz, who died suddenly at the age of 71, was an outstanding example of those in our midst who, having enjoyed all comforts of life prior to their emigration, courageously built up a career for themselves under entirely changed circumstances. She was born into an old-established Berlin family. Her husband, the late Walter Tietz, was managing director in the family business of Gebrueder Tietz. His brother, Ludwig Tietz, was a leading personality in the German-Jewish Youth movement.

Leonie Tietz left Germany, penniless, three days before the outbreak of war and first worked as a domestic. Later she could make use of the training she had undergone during her last years in Germany and practised as a physiotherapist. She soon established a wide reputation for herself by the new methods she developed to help people relax. She appeared on television and radio and was much in demand as a lecturer. She also trained midwives in the teaching of relaxation for childbirth. In her practical work she brought physical and spiritual relief to hundreds of people, including many crippled and wheelchair-bound patients. Sponsored by the *Daily Telegraph*, a record of her relaxation course was made, which sold throughout the country.

As a personality, Leonie Steer-Tietz retained her youthfulness to the end. Her natural and unassuming cordiality endeared her to a wide circle of friends who will always remember her with gratitude and affection.

DR. ANTON EHRENZWEIG

Dr. Anton Ehrenzweig, Lecturer in Art Education at Goldsmiths' College (London), died recently. He was born in Vienna in 1908. The results of his researches into the psychology of artistic imagination and creativity are laid down in his book, "The Psycho-analysis of Artistic Vision and Hearing". "Dr. Ehrenzweig was a scholar and teacher whose influence on the theory and practice of art was considerable", writes Sir Herbert Read in *The Times*.

DR. HUGO ZWILLENBERG

Dr. Hugo Zwillingen, together with his brothers-in-law, the late Georg and Martin Tietz, one of the former owners of the Hermann Tietz department stores, died in Wabern (Switzerland) at the age of 81. He lived in Holland until, in 1958, he took residence in Switzerland.

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ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

VACANCIES IN MANCHESTER HOME

New Wing Opened

At the well-attended Chanucah Party at Morris Feinmann Home, the Manchester Home for elderly refugees, the Rev. F. Carlebach, after the kindling of the Chanucah lights, affixed the mezuzah at the door linking the main building with the newly completed new wing. For the first time, the extension was shown to visitors and its beautiful style and high quality of workmanship were greatly admired. Much thought has gone into the construction, and the result of the painstaking preparatory work gives great happiness to the newly admitted occupants. Among other amenities, the wing provides tea kitchens and refrigerators for the personal use of the residents, shower baths, points for electric razors, etc.

Some of the 28 single rooms are still available, and particulars may be obtained from: The Morris Feinmann Homes Trust, Spath Road, Didsbury Manchester, 20.

"BEWAHRUNG IM UNTERGANG"

Second Edition Available

As announced some time ago, there has been such a great demand for the book published by the Council of Jews from Germany in memory of the rabbis and communal leaders in Germany who perished under the Nazis ("Bewahrung im Untergang", Editor: E. G. Lowenthal) that a second edition had to be prepared. Copies are now available (£1 1s., including postage) and may be ordered from: Council of Jews from Germany, 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. The book is a lasting memorial to those who made the supreme sacrifice for our community and should be in the possession of every Jewish family from Germany.

TRADING STAMPS AND CIGARETTE COUPONS WANTED

Have you any trading stamps that are the wrong colour or surplus to your requirements—or any cigarette coupons you can spare? If so, the Central British Fund and British Ose are appealing for them to get things for sale at their Gift Shop. Anything suitable for sale is also urgently needed, because it takes a great deal of stock to keep the shop open all day every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items in demand are pretty bric-a-brac, white elephants, jewellery and handicrafts; books and records (in good condition only, including paperbacks); children's clothing, toys and linen (new or as good as new only). They may be sent by post direct to: C.B.F. and Ose Gift Shop, 468 Eastern Avenue, Gants Hill, Essex, or delivered to Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1, addressed to Mrs. Howard and marked "For C.B.F. and Ose."

The shop is well worth a visit. It is staffed by members of the League of Jewish Women and of Ladies' Guilds of the synagogues in the Ilford district.

NEW CHARITY ARTS CLUB

To raise money for the Central British Fund and British OSE, the joint women's Division of these organisations has founded an Arts Club. The great advantage of the scheme is that, instead of one charity show which can never hope to appeal to everyone, supporters are offered at normal prices a wide choice of plays, concerts, lectures and films. The benefit for the funds of the two organisations derives from the difference between the reduced price granted to them for block bookings and the normal price of seats paid by the supporters. Particulars about events for which tickets are available may be obtained from: The Women's Division, Central British Fund and British OSE, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Letter to the Editor

S. J. AGNON AND THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT IN GERMANY

Sir,—Fifty years ago, Pesach, 1916, the Juedischer Verlag (Berlin) published an unassuming, but exceedingly delightful little book, "Treue" (Eine juedische Sammel-schrift). Edited by Leo Herrmann on behalf of the Zionist Organisation of Germany, it was, first of all, dedicated to Jewish soldiers serving in the Great War. An interesting galaxy of names of young Jewish poets and writers appears in it, among them Max Brod, Martin Buber, Arnold Zweig, Sholem Aleichem, David Frischmann, Hugo Bergmann and Moses Calvary. The publication also includes two short stories by Agnon, translated from the original Hebrew into German: "Aufstieg" and "Totentanz oder Die Holdseligen und Lieblichen". These two contributions were introduced by Martin Buber (at that time Heppenheim an der Bergstrasse) in an essay "Ueber Agnon" from which I should like to quote the following words: "... Agnon ist berufen, ein Dichter und Chronist des juedischen Lebens zu werden; des einen, das heute stirbt und sich verwandelt, aber auch des anderen, werdenden, unbekanntem. . . ."

Yours, etc.,

J. RAPHAEL.

Ramat Gan (Israel).

APPOINTMENT OF HAZOREA MEMBER

Dr. Uri (Rudi) Baer, of Kibbutz Hazorea, has been appointed Jewish Agency representative in Switzerland. Like the other founder-members of Hazorea, he originates from the "Werkleute" youth movement in Germany. As an art historian, he had played a decisive part in the establishment of "Beth Wilfrid", the Cultural Centre in Hazorea, the nucleus of which consists of the art collection left to the kibbutz by the late Wilfrid Israel.

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