

## AJR

## INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Robert Weltsch

## DATES TO REMEMBER

When the first great blow fell on German Jewry just 35 years ago, only very few people realised that this was an event of universal importance which opened the floodgate to destruction and chaos in the whole of Europe, and indeed in the whole world.

The 1st of April, 1933, remains inscribed as a black day in the Jewish Calendar. Those who remember it know well that on that day a whole world collapsed for the German Jews who had been brought up for more than a hundred years in the trust of a progressing civilisation whose legal and constitutional foundations were unshakeable. Moreover, the patriotism of the German Jews and their belief of having been integrated into full citizenship and inalienable participation in cultural and economic life received a bitter shock in many cases tantamount to utter despair. Psychologically, the sudden destruction of the whole fabric of one's concepts is an almost unbearable blow, though we know today that much worse things were to come.

## Turning Point in Jewish History

The 1st of April was a turning point in Jewish history, as well as the beginning of a new barbaric age for mankind. But at the time this was by no means clear to everybody. Even we Jews ourselves, though, of course, faced more directly than others with an unbelievable affront, were not aware of the full implications.

The majority of the German Jews lived up to the disastrous situation with courage and dignity; they were convinced—as later so many other erroneously were—that “the world” would not for long tolerate such things going on in the heart of Europe. In any case, nobody at that time thought of wholesale annihilation. The prevailing feeling was one of the imminence of a—possibly extended—period of discrimination and even persecution which would eventually lead to some kind of new relationship and status. It was assumed that a temporary form of existence could be attained for the Jews while they would find comfort in a strengthened loyalty to Jewishness. With this aim in mind, and relying on the prospect of restoring Jewish peoplehood in Palestine, some of us then tried to boost Jewish morale. It was comparatively easy, even in this state of collective and individual misery, to evoke a feeling of moral superiority over the vulgarity of the cruel and almost ridiculous oppressors. This was important because it helped many people maintain their pride and strengthen their will to survive. Today we understand that it was a short-lived illusion. Nevertheless, the five years which were allowed to the German Jews before the régime with all its organisational efficiency and omnipotence was consolidated, were not in vain. Not only did they give the German

Jews a strong sense of destiny and of solidarity, but they also made possible an orderly emigration of a large part of the Jewish population.

This was by no means an easy job. It is unnecessary to point out that emigration from a country where one had thought to be secure is a shattering event, not only economically and socially but also psychologically. Our own experience of the sufferings connected with emigration and of being a refugee makes us all particularly sympathetic to similar cases which, alas, have become frequent in this disturbed world. In 1933 emigration was a very difficult decision for most German Jews. Elderly people who had no relations abroad were scared of stepping into darkness. Wherever they went they would be dependent on charity and forced to adapt themselves to completely unknown conditions. But it was not only on this side of the fence that the process seemed by no means simple. The question was also where to go. Since those anxious days 35 years ago we have had sufficient opportunity to learn and to understand that nations are not, as a rule, prepared to accept masses of immigrants or refugees. Times have changed since nineteenth-century America welcomed the persecuted to its shores, as inscribed on the Statue of Liberty; the new continent was then desperately in need of workers for its expanding industries. In the 'thirties of the twentieth century, when all countries were hit by a grave economic crisis and by large-scale unemployment, they were reluctant to open their gates, even to human beings fleeing from hell. Above all, they did not realise what was really going on in Germany and what was still in store.

## Germany 1933

For those who lived through these three formidable decades it is sometimes in hindsight difficult to understand how little the real extent of the catastrophe was diagnosed at the time. We are reminded of it by a new book by Elizabeth Wiskemann,\* one of the few British journalists who made an effort to gather information on the spot in Germany and to open the eyes of her countrymen. She was in Berlin in March, 1933, when the famous last general election took place on March 5, and she describes a visit at the office of an unnamed “Jewish Anwalt” who took the risk of submitting evidence to a group of British journalists about the beating and torturing that was going on in Columbia House. The lawyer, she says, was never heard of again. In the same week she had a ghostly dinner with the “Austrian Jew”, Gustav Stolper, where among others, the Jewish musician, Ernst Toch, and his wife and Theodor and

\* Elizabeth Wiskemann: *The Europe I Saw*. Collins, London, 1968. 255 pp. 30s.

Elly Heuss were present. They were waiting for an attack on Stolper's house that evening which, however, did not occur then (it took place three nights later). All were very pessimistic but did not know what to do.

Miss Wiskemann was not in Berlin on the 1st of April and she does not mention that spectacular date at all. She went back to London on March 26 and was deeply disappointed when she noticed the apathy and incredulity of the public. Even such men as Sir Herbert Samuel and Colonel Wedgwood are said to have been unresponsive to her warnings. In London, she felt, “it was quite extraordinary to be living a normal life again and equally impossible to persuade this normal society to believe in the abnormalities of Nazi Germany”. Some of us know how intensely the brilliant correspondent of *The Times*, Norman Ebbut, tried at that time to convey to English readers an idea of what was going on. But his articles were censored by his own editor, his messages were not taken at face value, and ultimately he was sacked. That was in line with the appeasement policy of the 'thirties, in which the editor of *The Times* played such a prominent role.

## British Jewry's Efforts

According to the British Cabinet papers, now made accessible following the new thirty years' rule, the question of Jewish refugees from Germany was raised at a meeting of the Cabinet on April 5, 1933, i.e., only a few days after Boycott Day, but the special occurrences of that day are not mentioned in the minutes. Sir John Gilmour, the Home Secretary, informed the Government that because of the persecution in Germany “there was an increase in the number of Jews entering this country under the Aliens' Act”. In two days, he said, there were about 100 admittances, most of them professional people on a temporary visit, but also some entries of Jews who were completely destitute. The Jewish community had submitted a scheme for providing money and work for these people. These representatives (of British Jews) assumed that the number of arrivals might be as high as 3,000-4,000.

The Cabinet appointed a committee which reported on April 12. They pointed to the danger implied either in adopting a policy of new restrictions or in relieving the existing restrictions (as the Jewish community demanded). It was decided to leave the regulations unchanged but to order the refugees to register with the police. On this occasion the Home Secretary told the Cabinet that

“proposals were made to the Cabinet that it would be in the public interest to try to secure for this country prominent Jews who were expelled from Germany and who had achieved distinction in pure science, or applied science such as medicine or technical industries, music and art. This would not only obtain for this country the advantage of their knowledge and experience, but it would also create a very

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Continued from page 1

favourable impression in the world, especially if our hospitality would be offered with some warmth. While fully realising the importance of not permitting this country to be swamped with foreign refugees who before long would either become a burden on the community or replace other workers who then would become a burden, the Cabinet was anxious to avoid the other danger of creating an atmosphere in Europe critical to this country".

The Cabinet also considered the answer to be given in the House of Commons on the same day to a question put by the Liberal M.P., Mr. Mander. The agreed formula was "that though the interests of this country must remain the paramount consideration, every case should be examined on its own merits, and that in accordance with the time-honoured tradition of this country no unnecessary obstructions would be placed in the way of foreigners seeking admission".

We can see that the dimensions of the problem were grossly under-estimated at that time. Actually, in the years following that ominous April 1, 1933, Britain admitted many more refugees than had been envisaged. Some time ago, those who found refuge here expressed their gratitude in a gesture called "Thank You Britain". Looking back, we can say with some satisfaction that, in spite of many difficulties both for the authorities in this country and for the refugees themselves the overwhelming bulk of those immigrants were not only successfully absorbed, but also that the expectation expressed by the Home Secretary at that historical Cabinet meeting concerning the advantage to be derived from the distinction and experience of some of the new immigrants, has been completely vindicated.

### March, 1938

It may perhaps be argued that the true nature of Nazism was revealed to a wider public only five years later when, after the occupation of Austria, the régime released its uninhibited barbarism. This event also had an anniversary—the thirtieth—these days. To the astonishment and shock of all those still hoping for resolute action by the world powers to stop Hitler's advance, no serious attempt was made to restrain him. Actually, the behaviour of the Nazi mob in Vienna was incomparably more atrocious, especially *vis-à-vis* the Jews, than it had been in Germany up to that day. From that moment the situation also steadily deteriorated in the old Reich until the final explosion in the *Kristallnacht*

of November 9. It is difficult today to recall the gloom which fell over the whole of Europe after the *Anschluss*, when all small nations east of Austria began to realise that they were potential victims of Hitler's onslaught and practically helpless. No wonder they sought salvation by jumping on to the band-wagon. Anybody who had the opportunity of visiting those countries after March, 1938, found the Jews there in a state of utter perplexity and despair. Vienna was a nightmare. When in June, 1938, I returned from there to Berlin, the German capital appeared almost a citadel of freedom.

Elizabeth Wiskemann toured the whole of Central and Eastern Europe at that time and she gives us a lively, though necessarily condensed, account of her impressions. Her story is sprinkled with innumerable names, well-known and unknown, of persons to whom she spoke. In 1938, she was mainly concerned with the Czech problem and the Sudeten-Germans who, according to a competent view expressed to her, "were to blame for everything". She was not an eye-witness of the *Anschluss*, but she had foreseen its inevitability. Austria became an easy prey to the Nazis because in this "State that nobody wanted" misguiding Pangermanism was widely spread, even in the Socialist camp. Otto Bauer, whom Wiskemann calls a "Jewish Marxist", had been one of the most obstinate advocates of the *Anschluss*. His opposite number, the man who endeavoured to bolster genuine independence, Praelat Ignaz Seipel (1876-1932), is labelled as Austria's greatest conservative statesman since Metternich (1773-1859) in a book published on the thirtieth anniversary of the *Anschluss*.† It is an apt comparison between the two leading Austrians of the period, exemplifying in this microcosm the clash of the two principal political trends of Europe in the inter-war age. Incidentally, analysing Austria's pre-Hitler antisemitism, the author makes the astounding statement that "the economic and cultural penetration of Vienna by the Jews who were about 9 per cent of the population, was the greatest Jewish achievement of modern times until the establishment and preservation of the State of Israel". That sounds somewhat melancholy today.

On the other hand, these books again show that Austria succumbed because the two great parties, almost equal in size, fought each other to the death instead of combining forces against *Hannibal ante Portas*. Consequently, Hitler had an easy victory and in March, 1938, acquired the reputation of invincibility. This was to bring about *Finis Europae*. April 1, 1933, 35 years ago, and March 11, 1938, 30 years ago, were the decisive warning signals. But "the world" did not heed them, the democracies remained paralysed, and all mankind had to pay the cost.

\*\* *Der Staat den keiner wollte* is the title of a very instructive book on the first Austrian Republic by the Austrian journalist Hellmut Andics, Verlag Herder, Wien.

† Viktor Reimann: *Zu gross fuer Oesterreich. Seipel und Bauer im Kampf um die erste Republik*. Molden Verlag, Wien, 1968. The author, we are told, was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude in 1940 because of his membership in the Austrian Liberation movement.

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### REMEMBRANCE MEETING ON APRIL 21

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## SOZIALVERSICHERUNGS- RENTE

### Anrechnung auf beamtenrechtliche Versorgungsbezüge

Wie bereits frueher bemerkt, rechnet das Bundesverwaltungsamt in Koeln auf die Versorgungsbezüge juedischer Gemeindebediensteter auch den Anteil von deutschen Sozialversicherungsrenten an, der auf die Ersatzzeiten nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung entfaellt, ein Standpunkt, den ich nach wie vor fuer falsch halte. In seinem Bescheid vom 21.12.1967—II 10—1488—hat es nunmehr wenigstens anerkannt, dass eine Anrechnung nicht erfolgen darf, wenn der juedische Bedienstete bei seinem Ausscheiden bereits versorgungsberechtigt war und aus diesem Grunde fuer ihn seitens der juedischen Stelle keine Beitrage zur deutschen Sozialversicherung entrichtet worden sind.

Einzelne Laender der Bundesrepublik haben aehnliche Anrechnungsvorschriften, die sich aber stets auch nur auf geleistete Pflichtbeitraege beziehen. Es sei deshalb darauf hingewiesen, dass eine Anrechnung in solchen Faellen nicht zulaessig ist, in denen Ehefrauen waehrend der Verfolgungszeit sich ihre Beitragsanteile haben auszahlen lassen und ihre Versicherung auf Grund des Artikel X des Bundesentschaedigungsschlussgesetzes wiederhergestellt haben. In solchen Faellen handelt es sich ausschliesslich um freiwillige Beitragszahlungen, die nicht fuer die Anrechnung irgendeines Teiles der Sozialversicherungsrente auf die beamtenrechtliche Versorgungsbezüge in Betracht kommen.

DR. L. G. T. KING

### TRIALS AND SENTENCES

The Austrian Supreme Court has ruled that Franz Novak, a close associate of Adolf Eichmann, is to be retried. Novak was acquitted in Vienna in 1966 of the charge of being a leading member of the Budapest S.S. command, which organised the transport of 437,402 Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz concentration camp. He was also charged with responsibility for the transport of thousands of Jews from France, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia to death camps.

Three former members of a Nazi special operations unit, "Sonderkommando 1,005," have been sentenced in Hamburg to hard labour for life on charges of complicity in the wartime murder of Polish and Russian civilians. Max Krahnert, Otto Goldapp and Otto Drews were found by the jury to have taken part in the murders, and received the maximum sentence.

Franz Rademacher, a former Nazi diplomat, is being re-tried at Bamberg. Sentenced in Nuremberg in 1952 to 41 months' imprisonment on the charge of complicity in the murder of 1,300 Serbian Jews, he fled to the Middle East before the Supreme Court could order a re-trial, returning to Germany in 1966. He is accused of the deportation of about 108,000 Jews.

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# HOME NEWS

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### IMMIGRATION ACT

#### Statement by Board of Deputies

The executive of the Board of Deputies issued the following statement: "While respecting the motives animating both those who supported as well as those who opposed the recent Immigration Bill in Parliament, the Board of Deputies of British Jews is concerned with the humanitarian aspects generally, as well as the possible effect of the Act on Jews in Kenya, by virtue of the fact that for the first time in the history of this great freedom-loving democracy distinction has been created between persons holding United Kingdom passports. It is hoped that the restrictions will be operated with the maximum of humanity possible in all the special circumstances."

#### Resolution by Liberal Rabbis

A resolution passed by the rabbinic conference of the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues states that entry to Britain of Kenyans holding British passports should remain unrestricted. It "views with dismay" the Government Bill restricting entry, and goes on to say that even if restrictions are applied these should be applied to all British citizens irrespective of race, creed or colour. The highest priority should be given to those citizens abroad suffering discrimination and hardship.

### RACE RELATIONS ACT

The Home Secretary, receiving a delegation from the Board of Deputies, promised that he would give careful consideration to its representations when amending the Race Relations Act.

The suggestions submitted to the Home Office included a request for strengthening Section 6 of the Act which deals with incitement to hatred. The Board recommended that prosecutions under that section should not be based on "intention" to promote such hatred but on "likelihood" of hatred being caused by racialist propaganda. It also suggested that any promotion of contempt for a racial or ethnic group should be considered an alternative and punishable offence to stirring up racial hatred and that the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions should be sufficient for a case to be brought to court.

Welcoming the proposed extension of the Act to cover discrimination in housing and insurance, the Board asked Mr. Callaghan to consider whether religion should be specifically mentioned.

The Minister of State to the Department of Education and Science, Mrs. Shirley Williams, has appealed to B'nai B'rith to lend all possible support to the forthcoming changes. Addressing the First Lodge of Engand cuturel meeting on the theme of "Education and the Underprivileged", Mrs. Williams started her talk by referring to the new Commonwealth Immigration Act, saying she was "thoroughly ashamed" of it. She had not resigned from the Government, said Mrs. Williams, because she felt she could be more usefully employed in trying to modify its original concept.

### "HATE PLAYS" BILL

The Theatres Bill, submitted by Mr. George Strauss, Labour M.P., with all-Party support, will abolish the Lord Chamberlain's theatre censorship functions. At the same time, the Bill seeks to prevent the indiscriminate performance of racialist plays which might give offence to minorities in Britain. An offence would be committed if a play involves the use of threatening, abusive or insulting words to stir up hatred against sections of the public distinguished by colour, race or ethnic or national origins. It has been made clear that this formulation, taken from the Race Relations Act, is intended to give protection to the Jewish community as well as other minorities in the country.

### WELFARE BOARD DINNER AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, addressed a dinner of the Jewish Welfare Board held at St. James's Palace, by the Queen's permission, on February 27. The distinguished gathering of 114 guests included Lord Cohen of Walmer, Lord Nathan, Major-General P. N. White and Sir Harold Samuel. In his introductory address, Mr. Ronald Franklin, Chairman of the J.W.B., said that they were profoundly grateful to the Duke of Edinburgh for making this occasion so memorable by his own presence and by allowing it to be held in the Palace. It was for the first time in 2,000 years, he said, that a kosher dinner was served in a Royal Palace. In his reply, the Duke said: "Please accept the facilities offered you in this Palace as a tribute for the contribution of the Jewish community to the country in peace and war." He also referred to the outstanding work of the J.W.B. and other Jewish organisations. The function was held to launch the Jewish Welfare Board's £2 million project for the care of the aged and infirm of the community. Although no formal appeal was made at the dinner, £400,000 has already been pledged.

### DEPUTIES' CALL ON GERMAN EMBASSY

A Board of Deputies' deputation visited the West German Ambassador in this country to express to him the growing concern of the Jewish community about the development of Right-wing extremism in West Germany. They stressed that the propaganda and methods of the N.P.D. and of several publications were ominously reminiscent of those of the Nazis.

The deputation referred to the reports about extremist Right-wing influences in the German Army and to the need for greater democratic education at all levels. They also stressed the necessity for no limitation to the period for the prosecution of crimes perpetuated by the Nazis.

The Ambassador agreed with the points made and said that the problems raised were under serious consideration by the Federal German Coalition Government. He undertook to convey the views of the deputation to his Government and asked the delegates to meet him again soon.

### "INSIDIOUS ANTISEMITIC PROPAGANDA"

Mr. Victor Mishcon, chairman of the Board of Deputies' defence committee, presenting the report of the committee at a board meeting, drew attention to what he called "insidious antisemitic propaganda" being disseminated by John Tyndall's National Front under a cloak of pseudo-respectability and within the limitations of existing law.

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### Lord Cohen of Walmer Honoured

The 80th birthday of Lord Cohen of Walmer was celebrated by a dinner organised by the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues, of which Lord Cohen is president. Princess Margaret sent a message of good wishes and Chief Rabbi Jakobovits, prevented by illness from attending, also sent a message.

Mr. Malcolm Slowe, chairman of the U.L.P.S., who presided, announced that a Lionel Cohen Lectureship in Human Rights had been established by the Union at the Hebrew University to mark Lord Cohen's birthday, and that a Lionel Cohen Wood was to be planted in the Union's Forest in Israel.

### Education Deterioration

According to the two representatives of the Brixton Synagogue on the United Synagogue Council, the standard of Jewish education in London, especially in South London, is deteriorating. The representatives launched an attack on the London Board for Jewish Religious Education at the last U.S. council meeting. The Chief Rabbi is seeking the help of two American experts.

At a meeting at the Yavneh Grammar School, Willesden, parents were told that the school did not have enough money to pay staff wages. The parents contributed to ensure that salaries will be paid for a further period. Although an assurance has been given that the school will be kept open until the end of the academic year in July, there is some anxiety on the part of both parents and teachers.

### Population Discrepancy

The research unit of the Board of Deputies has published a report which puts the Jewish population of Britain at 410,000—280,000 in the London area and 130,000 in the provinces. This figure is 40,000 below the former estimate of 450,000. The discrepancy is accounted for mainly by the unknown quantity of Jews who do not identify themselves at all with the community and who have been left out altogether from the latest survey.

### Students' Union President

Julian D. M. Lew has been elected president of the Holborn College Students' Union, London, W.C. The son of Rabbi M. A. Lew, of the West End Great Synagogue, Julian was educated at Carmel College and the City of Westminster College.

### Church to Synagogue

The Bromley Reform Synagogue, a former Anglican Church, has been consecrated. The building was for a long time used as a block of flats. Apart from the synagogue, which accommodates 240, there are committee rooms and classrooms.

### Tefilin Week

A "tefilin week" was held in Britain, in response to a call from the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson. The campaign was held with the co-operation of the Chief Rabbi and the Rav Rashi of the Federation of Synagogues. Dr. Jakobovits wrote to all ministers under his jurisdiction asking them to encourage their members to put on the tefilin every week-day and to attend special Sunday services with demonstration courses. The Lubavitch Foundation sent out 60,000 booklets on the subject.

### Prison Kiddush

The Chief Rabbi, Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, visited Wormwood Scrubs, where he addressed a service in the prison synagogue attended by 14 Jewish prisoners, two serving life imprisonment for murder. During the kiddush that followed he was welcomed by the Governor.

## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### VATICAN CHANGES

At a Vatican press conference Monsignor Marafini, who is in charge of the ecumenical activities of the Italian Conference of Bishops, announced that all expressions which might sound antisemitic are to be removed from Italian Roman Catholic Church texts and educational material.

Mgr. Marafini recalled that the cult of Saint Simon of Trent had been abolished, with the encouragement and endorsement of the Vatican. As a result, the Italian Council of Rabbis had withdrawn the rabbinical ban placed on Trent several hundred years ago.

### MILAN YESHIVA

The generosity of two leading families in Milan has made possible the establishment of a small yeshiva in the city. It has also been endowed by the Jarach and Shapira families for the first two years of its administration. The last and famous yeshiva which existed in northern Italy was in the town of Brescia, destroyed at the beginning of the sixteenth century.

### FLORENTINE SCROLLS

The return of 64 sifrei Torah to the Florence synagogue has been celebrated by the community with a solemn ceremony. The scrolls were damaged in the floods of December, 1966, and were sent to Rome, where they were cleaned and restored.

### SWEDISH FUNDS FOR NAZI VICTIMS

An amount of £99,000 is to be handed over to Jewish organisations for assistance to victims of Nazism. The money is from current unclaimed accounts opened in Sweden during the war by Jewish persons. Jewish organisations are also eager for the banks to release deposit accounts still held by them, but this requires new legislation.

### FRENCH INVESTIGATIONS

It has been disclosed that a thorough although discreet investigation of high-ranking Jewish Army officers and civil servants has been going on in France since last June. It is understood that every responsible Jewish officer and official in the Army and war-production sectors was investigated as to his affiliations and his past, and especially any Zionist or pro-Israeli leanings. From there, the investigators went on to education, the press, foreign affairs, finance, and so on.

### JEW HOLDS INDIAN OFFICE

The Indian National Congress, the ruling party in the State of Kerala, has appointed Mr. E. Elias, a journalist, as a member of the party's Kerala district committee. Mr. Elias is the first Jew to hold office in the party. About 300 Jews live in Kerala.

### "TRUCKS FOR JEWS"

The discovery in the United States of some of the files of the late Mr. Sally Mayer may bring further facts to light about negotiations between the representative body of Hungarian Jewry in wartime Budapest and the Gestapo. The files are believed to contain valuable information about the "trucks for Jews" deal with Eichmann.

They were discovered by Dr. Yehuda Bauer, a well-known Israeli historian, who is conducting research into Jewish and Zionist diplomatic efforts during the Second World War. Mr. Mayer represented the American Joint Distribution Committee in Switzerland, maintaining contact with Hungarian Jewry on behalf of the organisation.

### PRESIDENT OF BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

The forthcoming president of Brandeis University is Mr. Morris Abram, president of the American Jewish Committee and the American representative on the Human Rights Commission. He is expected to take up his new post in the late summer. His reason for not accepting the post earlier was his wanting to stand for the Senate against Jacob K. Javits, the Republican Senator for New York. Because of White House discouragement, however, he decided to stand down.

Mr. Abram will replace Dr. Abram L. Sachar, who is retiring as president of Brandeis University. A lawyer by profession, this will be Mr. Abrams's first academic post.

### BUENOS AIRES SCHOOL BAN

St. Catherine's School in Buenos Aires has ruled that no new Jewish pupils will be accepted for the new school year. The reason given was that 80 per cent of the pupils were Catholics and, as the Jews did not attend Mass, it caused "religious difficulties".

Daia, the representative organisation of Argentine Jewry, has protested to the school, expressing "amazement" that it cannot adapt itself to the new spirit of the Vatican Council. The move, it said, showed an inability to eliminate prejudice, and it represented a confession of failure for the entire educational system.

### PORTUGUESE SETTLEMENT

Dr. Tavares Ferreira, the Mayor of Gourveia, the Portuguese town 150 miles from Lisbon and 50 miles from the Spanish border, and a noted archaeologist, has found evidence of Jewish settlement in Gourveia. A stone synagogue tablet, it is believed, sets the date at 5252 or C.E. 1492. This was the year of the expulsion from Spain when hundreds of Jews crossed the border into Portugal. In 1497 King Manoel I ordered the forcible conversion of the Jews in Portugal. The Church of the Holy Cross, built at the time of the conversion, marks the site of the town's old Jewish quarter.

## JEWRY IN THE EAST

### CAMPAIGN AGAINST JEWS IN POLAND

#### Statement by Nahum Goldmann

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the World Jewish Congress, issued the following statement: "It is my duty to protest against and to repudiate most strongly the baseless propaganda by Polish politicians and press alleging that Jews or Zionists are the instigators of the current unrest in Poland. This campaign is an outrageous calumny against the small Jewish community of 20,000 souls, the tiny remnant of the three million Jewish citizens of pre-war Poland who were the victims of mass murder by the Nazi antisemites.

"It is unthinkable that the Polish Government should permit Jews to be exploited as a scapegoat for its present internal difficulties and fail to denounce this attempt to revive the traditional antisemitism of the former reactionary forces of Poland. Jews throughout the world are deeply disturbed by this campaign because of its possible effects on the situation of the Jews now in Poland, and the encouragement which it must give antisemitic elements in other countries."

### MOSCOW TRIAL WARNING

Soviet Jews, including leading writers, are among the signatories of a letter demanding the retrial of Alexander Ginsburg and the three others sentenced in Moscow in January for anti-Soviet activities.

Several Jewish intellectuals are among those warned by the security police for protesting against the trial. Alexander Ginsburg's mother was also warned.

"Komsomolskaya Pravda", the daily of the Soviet Young Communist League, was the only paper to publish verbatim extracts of the trial proceedings. The paper said that Ginsburg was charged with being a "paid agent" of a Russian émigré organisation in Munich, omitting to state that the State Attorney confessed it had been a mistake to charge Ginsburg with this crime. Mrs. Ludmilla Ginsburg wrote to the paper threatening to sue it for libelling her son. Copies of her letter were distributed among foreign correspondents in Moscow.

### STEINER'S "TREBLINKA" IN RUSSIAN

Two long extracts in Russian from Jean-Francois Steiner's book, "Treblinka", have been published by the Soviet weekly, *Za Rubezhom* ("Abroad"). The weekly usually only reprints and comments on Western articles on foreign affairs, and has serialised only one other book in the past two years, William Manchester's "Death of a President".

No books on the Holocaust are now published in Russia. The only one on a concentration camp was on Auschwitz. Only a limited edition of Anne Frank's Diary was printed and no Russian survey of the Nazi extermination of Soviet Jews has appeared.

However, the two extracts deal mostly with Jewish collaboration with the Nazis and acquiescence in their fate. Mention is made of preparations for an uprising at Treblinka and of one that failed, and the final pages detail the uprising in August, 1943.

### "BLACK POWER" JEWS

At a meeting in Toronto sponsored by Toronto's Hillel Foundation, Professor Allen Pollack, of Pittsburgh University, told 400 young Jews that in the Soviet Union there was a Jewish equivalent to the Black Power movement. Dr. Pollack, who has visited Russia ten times, said that there was a strong identification with Israel and Soviet Jews wanted to assert their nationality. The Soviet Government, said Dr. Pollack, was dedicated to a policy of letting Jews exist but denying them their Jewishness. The Soviet Union was sensitive to world opinion and there should be pressure on the country to stand by its laws respecting its minorities.

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## "AN AUSTRIAN FROM VIENNA"

### A One-sided Reinhardt Documentary

A film about the life and work of Max Reinhardt is now being shown under the auspices of the German Embassy in a number of Israeli cities. It is a source of pleasure to those who recall the special atmosphere of his productions, and it stimulates and encourages the younger generation, which never had the opportunity to experience a Reinhardt performance. A good documentary has been compiled by reproducing many portraits of the brilliant producer and his most famous actors, to which have been added pictures of the most important scenes of his activity, sketches of his stage sets and interviews with contemporary artists who were associated with him in his work. The film is bound to be a source of general interest wherever the living theatre is cherished.

This Reinhardt documentary, produced by the Bertelsmann Combine, has also been shown on German television and is now being distributed throughout the world by the official Bonn "Internationales," in belated recognition of the producer who was hounded into exile by the Nazis in 1933 and died in New York ten years later. Although we are grateful to the initiators and producers of the project for this posthumous acknowledgment, we cannot conceal our astonishment that nowhere in it is there any mention of the fact that Max Reinhardt was a Jew, and that as a Jew he was attacked by the Nazis and robbed of his theatres. In the film he is represented as an "Austrian from Vienna," and that is all. The uninformed spectator could thus assume that he was an "Aryan" emigré, like Thomas or Heinrich Mann, an anti-Nazi Marxist like the "Aryan" Bert Brecht, or a half-Jew like Carl Zuckmayer, who was not only attacked for his anti-nationalist attitude but also because of his Jewish mother. . . .

We are certain that there were no ulterior motives, good or bad, that caused the producers of the film to keep silent about Reinhardt's Jewishness. Nevertheless, the omission causes an obscurity. Max Reinhardt was always described by the Nazi "cultural authorities" as "the Jew Max Goldmann," since in their view the possession of such a "Jewish" name was a stigma in itself. Dr. Johann von Leers, author of the pamphlet "Juden sehen dich an," described him as the disseminator of "inferior and soulless art" that was "enthusiastically foisted on the masses by the Jewish press."

It is true that the film does express the bitterness with which Reinhardt left the country of his activities in the spring of 1933. The film compère, that excellent journalist and lover of Berlin, Walter Kiaulehn, quotes an extract from a letter that Reinhardt wrote to the German Government on June 6, 1933, from Oxford, the first place where he found asylum. It runs: "The decision to make a final break with the German theatre is naturally not easy for me. By so doing I not only lose the fruits of thirty-seven years' activity, but, even more, I lose the foundations on which I have built up my life and with which I am intimately bound up. I lose my homeland. I need not spell out the meaning of this to those who have elevated this concept above all others." But the film does not quote the previous sentence in the same letter of Reinhardt to the Hitler government, in which he says: ". . . Everything leads me to assume that even in difficult times my work in the

theatre could be of tremendous importance. But the new Germany does not want members of the Jewish race, to which, of course, I unreservedly admit my allegiance, to occupy positions of influence. . . ."

Opinions can differ about whether Reinhardt adopted the right tone in his letter to the barbarians with whom he was corresponding, whether, indeed, it was not beneath his dignity at such a juncture even to hint at the theoretical possibility of any further association with the German theatre, and whether he had not paid far too much respect to these abnegators of all moral standards by discussing with them the concept of a homeland, as if with normal individuals. One can, however, not approve of the one-sided treatment of Reinhardt's letter which is quoted as for acknowledging his debt to his German cultural heritage, but does not mention his reference to his Jewish origin. The men who cut this letter mutilated themselves if by so doing they imagined that this would not be noticed.

And there is another thing: like many German and Austrian Jews, Reinhardt believed for a long while in the blessings of assimilation. He neither practised any traditional religious observances nor had he any national Jewish feelings, despite his somewhat naïve use of the expression "Jewish race." Yet the great artistic success of his production of Werfel's "Weg der Verheissung" (performed in America in the 'thirties under the title "The Eternal Road") showed that the collapse of humanism had revealed to him the drama of the Jewish people.

It is to be assumed that the still-lacking biography of Max Reinhardt will be produced to celebrate the centenary of his birth on September 9, 1973; a great deal of source material for such a biography, including his original production notes, is preserved in the Theaterwissenschaftliche Institut in Cologne. Until now published material has merely consisted of the work analysis, excellent of its kind, from the pen of Siegfried Jacobsohn, somewhat limited articles by Heinz Herald and the scenic designer, Ernst Stern, and the perceptive essay by Arnold Zweig in his book "Juden auf der deutschen Bühne."

Most publications about Reinhardt say nothing more about his origins than that he was born in Baden bei Wien. Zweig was of the opinion that the family originally came from Galicia. This would explain a great deal. Galicia was a narrow and poverty-stricken world for Jews, and not everybody could find happiness in prayer and the fulfilment of religious duties. It was a world in which many young people, like Chagall's "Fiddler on the Roof," dreamed of light and colour, of pleasure and a positive approach to this world, of art and poetry. Karl Emil Franzos described this urge in his novel, "Der Pojaz," when he depicted the desperate and sometimes serio-comic attachment of a young Jew towards the theatre. Emanuel Reicher, Alexander Granach and other leading actors on the German stage passed through the "Pojaz" experience themselves, before their rise in the profession took them further west. And it seems that Max Reinhardt, too, had acquired this yearning from his ancestors, a yearning which, like the ecstasy of a Chasid, could surmount reality, when he wove his visions into his productions and used his fantasy to bewitch us again and again.

## Old Acquaintances

**Milestones:** Ludwig Stoessel, who still appears in TV commercials, celebrated his 85th birthday in California.—The widow of comedian Max Ehrlich, who was murdered in Auschwitz, became 75 in Los Angeles, where she now lives.—Dajos Bela, the violinist and dance band leader, turned 70 in Buenos Aires, where he lives in retirement.—Therese Giehse, a former member of Erika Mann's cabaret "Pfeffermühle", who survived the war in Zürich, is 70 years old.—Erna Sack, the once famous singer, celebrated her 70th birthday.

**Germany:** In East Berlin Schinkel's Schauspielhaus at Gendarmenmarkt is being rebuilt as a concert hall.—Curt Bois appeared in Molière's "Buerger als Edelmann" at Berlin's Schiller-Theater.—Valerie von Martens will produce on TV 16 one-act plays by her late husband, Curt Goetz.—Hans Deppe is to direct "Liliom" in Hamburg.—Fritz Kortner was awarded the Ernst Reuter Medal of the City of Berlin.—Albert Lieven stars in F. Durbridge's "Lueckenloses Alibi" at Berlin's Hebbel-Theater.—Friedel Schuster will appear in Viktor de Kova's production of Ustinov's "Halb auf dem Baum" in Hamburg.

**This and That:** Austrian-born Erich Fried, poet, translator of Dylan Thomas and Shakespeare, for 17 years commentator of the BBC German Soviet Zone Programme in London's Bush House, has resigned his post because he changed his views about the situation in East Germany.—In his biography of Ernst Rowohlt, W. Kiaulehn quotes the publisher's reason for his return from South America during the war: "I wanted to be with the losers and live with them. Only when I am with them will they have confidence in me, the confidence I need to start again as a publisher after the war".

**Home News:** Lea Seidl sang in "Eric Robinson Presents" on BBC-TV.—German-born Frank Marcus, of "The Killing of Sister George" fame, succeeded Alan Brien as drama critic of the *Sunday Telegraph*.—This columnist was interviewed on BBC radio before the first night of the new musical "Cabaret" and asked to compare the "golden twenties" in Berlin with "swinging London" today.—Anton Diffring, who starred in the six episode series "Scobie in September" for BBC-TV, is to play in M.G.M.'s "Where Eagles Dare" starring Richard Burton.

**Obituary:** The doyen of the actors, Robert Mueller, has died in Berlin at the age of 88. Born in Vienna, he joined Berlin's Volksbühne in 1911.—Dr. Fritz Kahn, author of popular medical books, died in Ascona aged 79; he returned from the States in 1956. His works also include a widely recognised book on "Die Juden als Rasse und Kulturvolk" (1920).—C. F. W. Behl, a life-long friend of Gerhart Hauptmann and former director of the theatre and cultural division of Berlin's police, has died in Munich at the age of 78.—The 85-year-old poet and president of the German P.E.N. East and West, Johannes Tralow, died in East Berlin.—The poet, novelist and painter, Georg von der Vring, died in Munich at the age of 78.

**Austria:** Ernst Deutsch, Josef Meinrad, Kurt Meisel, Paul Hoffmann, Susi Nicoletti and Hilde Krahl, toured Israel and the States with the Burgtheater productions of "Professor Bernhardt", "Maria Stuart" and Bahr's "Konzert", sponsored and financed by Gert von Gontard.—Hollywood's Leon Askin will take the part of the Marquis de Sade in Peter Weiss's "Marat/Sade" at the Burg.

PEM

Gabriele Tergit

## EGON LARSEN'S MUNICH

Egon Larsen has written a book about Munich in a series "Cities of the World", published by Phoenix House, London (18s.).

It is a very touching book especially for this reviewer whose mother hails from a Munich family which founded a linen shop in Dinerstrasse in 1813.

Let me tell a story: A Russian friend of mine visited Russia after thirty or more years. At a party in Leningrad, the conversation turned out to be the eternal one before 1914: "St. Petersburg or Moscow", "Petrograd or Moscow", now "Leningrad or Moscow", and as always, in Leningrad the scales tipped heavily in favour of Leningrad. In our family the question was "Munich or Berlin?" I now find Larsen repeating the whole argument: the sneers against the Prussians, Munich "the Sweetheart of Europe", "Athens of the Isar" amplified by some newer superlatives: "the Nationaltheater . . . technically the most advanced in Central Europe", "Germany's busiest traffic hub", "Bavarian radio and television is, without doubt, a cut above the average in Federal Germany", "three-and-a-half million times a year Munich's hotel and boarding-house beds are slept in by tourists. This figure exceeds by far that of Hamburg. Some five hundred organisations have their national and international meetings in Munich every year (three hundred in Cologne)". "The old Pinakothek ranks among the seven greatest art museums of the world". Such statements tempt me to look for an asterisk: "Which seven?" (For answer see page 25 of the quiz.) Larsen does not tell the 100-year-old joke about the old man of Munich who on his death-bed says: "If I recover this time I promise to visit the old Pinakothek". Anyhow, this enthusiasm culminates in the phrase: "Munich, a city of nearly the same rank as Paris, Rome and Vienna, and of a more genuine importance than Berlin". He admits that Berlin was a cultural centre during the fifteen years of the Weimar Republic, but only during that period. As to the Nazis in Munich from 1923, Larsen expresses the view that "the only major source of disturbances was the students; most of them came from Prussia and western Germany, the sons of big landowners, ex-officers, industrialists and senior bureaucrats. They worried us with their chauvinistic and antisemitic rowdiness: a foreign element in the calm temper of the town".

It is not true that, as Larsen writes, "most of the contributors to the *Simplicissimus* fled or were put behind barbed wire" when the Nazis came. I met Thomas Theodor Heine in Prague in 1933. He had been denounced by Gulbransson and told us: "They have all behaved like swines".

As I said, a touching book. "Der ist in tiefster Seele treu, der die Heimat liebt wie du". Petersburg or Moscow, Berlin or Munich, Munich or Vienna, everybody prefers his birthplace, for objective reasons only, of course.

However, apart from these reservations, Larsen's "Munich" is a delightful book. His description of the Munich traffic problem, including the diluvian tramway, is a gem of humour, especially for those who remember its solution by the Munich comedian Karl Valentin: "From 9-10 bikes only, from 10-11 tramways only, from 11-12 pedestrians only; or Monday bikes only, Tuesday tramways only, Wednesday pedestrians only; or first week in January bikes only . . . or 1968 bikes only, 1969

tramways only. . . ." With equal charm Larsen describes the calendar year of the people of Munich from Fasching to Fasching, Catholic feastdays interspersed with those of Bacchus (or better of Gambrinus) both often originating from the same antique past and reflecting the Roman influence south of the Danube; the daily life of Munich's residents from morning till midnight or even till 5 in the morning with "Weisswuerschtl beim Donisl"; at ten, with radish in one hand and bread in the other, the workers have bread time ("Brotzeit"). After lunch the gentlemen, all of them, go to their Café, and the ladies to what one calls a "Conditorei". The winter evenings are spent at a "Stammtisch" in the big beer restaurants. "In the warm season great masses of citizens have their evening meal in the beer gardens", writes Larsen. Here, as so often in this book, one would like to translate, "man geht aufn Keller". These are the cellars of the great breweries where you sit under large trees, bring your own food along and enjoy an evening picnic glorified by drinking beer from the barrel. Larsen is right, in Munich one works to live and not the other way round. In his description of Munich's eating and drinking habits I disagree that sweets are one of the weaknesses of the Bavarian diet. Kirsch and Apfelkrapferln, Schmarrn and Palatschinken, ausgezogene Kuecheln and Zwetschgendatschi and all the sweets of Austria, boehmische Dalken and Salzburger Nockerln . . . "a Moehlspeis" is the most important part of lunch and dinner. The actual weakness is vegetables.

As amusing as his traffic research is his history of beer linked with the annual cycle of feasts from Salvator to Maibock and to the Oktoberfest. It began in 1158 when monks started brewing beer. The Maibock, symbolised in advertisements all over Munich by a goat, has nothing to do with a goat or "Bock", but derives its name from Einbeck in Hanover, mentioned by Glueckel von Hameln. Of the Oktoberfest, which one would suppose originated from a Wotan cult, Larsen reveals that it began in 1810 with a horse race run in honour of Crown Prince Ludwig's spouse Theres, after which the race course and surroundings were called Theresienwiese or "die Wiesn". The ring road around it, the Bavariaring, was like the Hansaviertel of

Berlin or the Friedberger Landstrasse in Frankfurt, mainly a Jewish quarter. The Oktoberfest is a gigantic fun fair with gigantic tents for feasting beer and sausages. Larsen gives the figures with gusto: 3½ million litres of beer are drunk by the five million visitors who arrive in 70 special trains, 3,000 coaches and 30,000 extra tram-trains.

Processions are always a highlight in Munich, the Fasching procession, the great Church processions with colourful dignitaries and human life symbolised by little children, adolescents, men and women in their prime and the tottering old, the procession of the Oktoberfest with people in Bavarian costumes, lavishly decorated beer wagons and horses. Cannons are fired and the Lord Mayor draws the first litre of beer, exactly as the poor Prime Minister of Bavaria has to drink a four-pint stein at the Maibock broaching.

The Oktoberfest is a strange harvest festival. At all other harvest festivals, for instance the American Thanks Giving, thanks are given for the harvest, some of which is sacrificed to God, but at the Oktoberfest the peasants come to town to spend the money they have received for their harvest. They are awarded medals for their beasts, which are nicely decorated. When we over-dressed our mother would say: "Schaust aus wie a Preiskuh vom Oktoberfest".

Larsen writes about many more things: how the young people go skiing in the Alps, directly from a Fasching ball, about the weather, even about Valentin's absurd and tragic wit epitomising Munich at its best. He rightly stresses the democratising influence of the Munich dialect spoken both at the "Victualienmarket" and by Wittelsbach princes. Another strange fact making for democracy is that Munich has no elegant western and poor eastern districts, or the other way round, like other European or American cities. Address means very little. There are rich and poor residences in every part of the city.

Larsen has succeeded in capturing the quite special flavour of his home town. He definitely provides some sort of key to the city of Munich for his English readers.

### LOTTIE REIZENSTEIN STUDIO EXHIBITION

"Life is serious but art is cheerful." Nowhere have I seen a more convincing demonstration of this proverb's truth than at Lottie Reizenstein's studio exhibition held last month. She is an optimistic painter. So many of her contemporary colleagues in art are steeped in the tragedy of our human existence, others have lost all faith in the beauty, indeed, in the reality of the object world around us. Thus some modern painting is gloomier than the eyes can bear. Miss Reizenstein has serenely triumphed over all the humiliating and depressing experiences most German Jews had to go through. Her works affirm the victory of light, form, order and colour over darkness, destruction, anarchy and grey despair.

Therefore it is only to be expected that flowers and trees are prominent on her canvasses and papers. A glowing and graceful flower still-life or a sun-drenched and jubilant landscape of hers are destined to give joy and hope to any room. Yet there is nothing cheap, sentimental or sloppy about her pictures. Her art is disciplined and her technique is of a high standard. As a good draughtsman, she emphasises shape and harmonious composition.

These Reizensteins from Nuremberg must be a specially gifted family. Her brother is the famous musician Franz. Can we make so bold as to say that Miss Lottie is a kind of Mozart of painting? A. ROSENBERG.

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## THE PHILO LEXIKON RENEWED

Many readers will still be familiar with the "Philo Lexikon" which, originally published in Berlin in 1934, went to four editions till 1938. Two of its former editors, Hans (John F.) Oppenheimer and Emanuel bin Gorion, and two of its original contributors, E. G. Lowenthal and Hanns Reissner, have now, after 30 years, undertaken the enormous task of bringing it up to date.\* The Philo-Verlag, alas, no longer exists; it was closed down by the Nazis and its managing director, Lucia Jacoby, to whom tribute is paid in the Preface, perished in a concentration camp. It is remarkable that the new encyclopedia could be published in Germany, though there is now no Jewish publisher there who could have undertaken it.

The "Philo-Lexikon" itself had its place within the upsurge of spiritual resistance which, in defiance of the denigration of everything Jewish by the Nazis, aimed at strengthening the self-confidence, the will to survive and the feeling of inner freedom in Jews. The factual presentation of Jewish history and religion and the accurate data of the achievements of Jews and their position within ever-changing environments thus served a higher purpose.

The aims of the new encyclopedia have, however, subtly changed with the different circumstances. The "Lexikon des Judentums" envisages "a new generation of readers, most of them probably non-Jewish", and promises them objective information on Jewish reality, as well as documenting the history of German Jewry for the sake of the survivors and their children.

The new publication has about three times the volume of the old. The largest additions are due to two factors: the State of Israel and the Nazi era. Both are fully covered, Israel with its towns, parties and institutions and also Zionism, refugee ships, shipping, etc., the Nazi period with Reichsvertretung, Kulturbund, destruction of Jewish libraries, Quislings, resistance against the Nazis, post-war restitution and much more.

Some idea of the huge amount of work involved in such an undertaking may be conveyed by merely listing the newly added, comprehensive group headings, mostly of professional groups: actors, aeronautics, agronomers, archaeologists, atomic science, biochemists, biologists, botanists, dance, encyclopedias, explorers, geographers, geologists, libraries, newspapers and periodicals, organisations, physicists, singers, social workers, sociologists, translators, travel writers and world literature. These, as well as the group headings taken over from the "Philo Lexikon" and extended, are admirably complete; only under Germanists I missed one, Eduard Berend, the editor of Jean Paul's works.

Moreover, the range is widened by excellent articles on Judaism, Jewish cooking,

\* Lexikon des Judentums. Edited by John F. Oppenheimer (New York) together with Emanuel bin Gorion (Tel Aviv), E. G. Lowenthal (London/Frankfurt-a-M.) and Hanns G. Reissner (New York). Guetersloh (C. Bertelsmann), 1967. Royal 8vo, 920 col. DM.65.

Jewish music on records, philately, youth movements, etc. Entries, such as "anthologies", listing the existing ones, say of Chasidism, folk-lore and legends, letters, quotations, jokes, etc., and their authors, are as imaginative as they are helpful.

Apart from 35 text illustrations and tables (mostly statistical, some quite extensive), the volume contains 32 plates. Many of the latter are also new: portraits of the members of the Reichsvertretung; memorial monuments; documents of the Kulturbund; two of Nazi outrages; three of leading Jews of modern times, one reproducing the title pages of Jewish periodicals, another showing Jewish motifs on stamps.

Life in Israel is illustrated by plates depicting famous places; cultural features; economic development (2) and universities. The more historical illustrations represent Jewish ceremonial apertures, holy days, illuminated books (2), ghetto (2), inventions by Jews (2), while those on art show architecture (2), synagogues (2), examples of graphic art, painting, sculpture, as well as portraits of actors and musicians. Facsimiles of Zola's "J'accuse" and of the title page of the Prague Haggada in the text complement the plates. The small text illustrations of the "Philo Lexikon" are to some extent replaced by insertions: of a newspaper excerpt on the meaning of the Eichmann trial, of a selection of biblical phrases in common parlance, etc. As the editors are no doubt well aware, despite all these achievements, there is still ample room for improvement in a second edition which, it is hoped, will soon become necessary.

Beyond any details of content, the layout of the closely printed text would greatly benefit from modern standards of presentation. One would wish the entries to stand out more clearly, and likewise the sub-entries under the same surname which now have to be searched for. One wonders about the choice of the greyish paper, which does not give enough contrast to the print and thus makes reading for any long period difficult—a real pity in a book so full of valuable information.

### Suggestions

In the text itself, a question to consider would be the placing of items in the alphabetical sequence where the average German-speaking reader would look for them rather than under the linguistically correct form, e.g., the evil spirit Ashmedai under Asmodeus. A striking example is Youth Aliyah, entered under Alijat Noar. Bat Mitsva will only be found under Bar Mitsva, without even a cross-reference. A reader who tries to look up Reconstructionism will not find it unless his glance happens to fall on Society for the Study of Judaism. The strangest displacement is the Old High German lullaby under Old High German.

Among basic problems, the complex question of who is a Jew has been wisely answered in an "existential" sense exceeding formal adherence to the Jewish faith; Hugo v. Hofmannsthal, with a Jewish grandfather, is properly given the asterisk denoting non-Jews. It is thus surprising to see Anatole France (Jewish grandmother) without an asterisk; this may be merely an oversight, but it would certainly be undesirable to follow the Nazi rule of a Jewish grandmother determining the Jewishness of a grown-up person. Incidentally, it may be interesting for

many readers to learn of the Jewish parentage of distinguished people such as the Nobel laureate Wolfgang Pauli, the famous waltz composer Johann Strauss, sen. (Jewish father), the dancers Anna Pavlova and Marie Rambert, the novelist and wit Roda Roda and many others.

Although the great majority of contributors now live in the U.S.A., there are remarkably few Americanisms. On the other hand, the predominant American and Israeli orientation may account for the occasionally patchy covering of countries behind the Iron Curtain. Yet, on closer inspection, even England seems somehow neglected. For instance, one badly misses mention of the Council of Christians and Jews, which has been instrumental in fostering closer co-operation also on the Continent. As to individuals, Sir Solly Zuckerman, to give one example, appears in the list of physicians with his early medical work, but nowhere is it mentioned that, during the last war, he did pioneering research, e.g., on the effects of bomb blast and its counteraction and that since the end of the war he has been chief scientific adviser to the British Government. A comparison with the "Jewish Year Book" is likely to produce a crop of further additions. Even in the notes on some of those who are "in", such as Sir Isaac Wolfson, significant facts of social standing and power like "President of the United Synagogue" might well be added, as they invariably are in comparable biographies of American Jews.

### New and Old Biographies

Within the biographical notes, it is rather startling to see a marked disproportion between the Continental and the American: the former are succinct and subdued, the latter tend to be longish and flamboyant with many superlatives ("the highest price ever paid for a picture") and abundant "world-famous" people, films or plays. Taking the length assigned to any item and, hence, the amount of detail as one of the editor's chief means of highlighting what he regards as important, leads to some staggering observations. A handful of entries picked at random, with the number of lines they occupy shown in brackets, may illustrate how this works out: the mathematician Georg Cantor (3½) and the comedian and philanthropist Eddie Cantor (10½); Hermann Cohen (9½) and the writer Lester Cohen (9½); the violinist Carl Flesch (4) and Max Fleischer, the inventor of the trick film (8½); the philosopher Edmund Husserl (5½) and the impresario Sol Hurok (13); Moritz Lazarus who, with Hayim Steinthal, founded the psychology of nations (4½) and the poetess Emma Lazarus (15); the chemist and Nobel laureate Richard Willstätter (10) and the film director Billy Wilder (10½); the publisher Kurt Wolff (6½) and the journalist-designer S. J. Woolf (8½). This lack of balance, noticeable throughout the volume, calls for attention in a new edition—quite a task and a challenge to the editor's skill.

The comparison may be complemented by looking at the entries under the same surname, e.g., Bernays. The "Philo Lexikon" listed two, now there are six. The founder

*Continued on page 8, column 1*

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## THE PHILO LEXIKON RENEWED

Continued from page 7

of the family, the Haham Isaac Bernays, 1792-1849, Chief Rabbi of Hamburg since 1821, is given 1½ lines. One misses important facts of his life relevant to the development of Judaism in Germany and far beyond its frontiers. After a thorough talmudic training, he studied at Munich under the philosopher Schelling, whose conception of the mythological roots of religion greatly influenced his views on Judaism. He founded a primary school in Hamburg, the first Jewish school to use maps. The fame of his regular weekly sermons—the first given in Germany—and his influence on his pupil Samson Raphael Hirsch made Haham Bernays the spiritual founder of modern neo-Orthodoxy, his belief being that free thought could only be secured by strict adherence to ceremonial law. All the same, he tried to suppress the new Reform services and prayer book. Three of his sons are mentioned: Berman (1½), the father of Mrs. Sigmund Freud (2); Jacob (2) and Michael (2½). It would be appropriate to add that Jacob Bernays was the co-founder of the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary, the central figure in the fight for admission of Jews to academic posts in Prussia, and a close friend of Mommsen. The remaining member of the family, Emil L. Bernays, a publicity agent in America since 1891, receives four lines; the untutored reader will naturally assume that, apart from Mrs. Freud, he is the only memorable bearer of the name.

### German Jews

Concentrating on aspects concerning German Jews, some other biographical notes also call for addition or modification. Take the entry: "Mendelssohn, German-Jewish family from Dessau. With the exception of Moses M. all were converted to the Christian faith." This is incorrect and should read: "all the children of Moses M. *except his eldest son* were . . ." and it would be both fair and charitable to add "when the French Revolu-

tion held out the hope of a universal brotherhood of mankind". The chief work of Nachman Krochmal, important as a philosophy of history and religion, could not have been printed in Galicia, his home country, but was published in Germany by Leopold Zunz—a fact worth mentioning to show the fellowship of Judaism. Leopold Zunz himself is described as a "mediator between Reform and Orthodoxy" which he never was: throughout his long life he remained firmly on the side of Reform but opposed its extremes (one wonders why the excellent note in the Philo Lexikon has been altered).

Coming to modern times, Martin Buber is well represented, but his book "I and Thou", perhaps the most felicitous secular expression of a basic idea of Judaism, is not only "a treatise on philosophy and Weltanschauung" but is also widely used in the training and practice of social workers and teachers. To state of Franz Rosenzweig that, "alienated from Judaism, he became (under Hermann Cohen's guidance) its interpreter" leaves out the central event of Rosenzweig's sudden conversion, during the service on the Day of Atonement; only then he came to study with Cohen. To call Professor G. Scholem, the founder and chief representative of the academic discipline of Jewish mysticism, just "a student of Kabbala and Sabbatarianism" seems more than odd.

An essential point to be considered in a new edition would certainly have to be a revision of the entry on Leo Baeck. It now ends at his arrival at the concentration camp and does not mention that after his liberation in 1945, he embarked on a new period of his life during his last years in England. He became President of the "Council of Jews from Germany" and, in a spirit of humanity, took a lead in re-establishing contacts with Germany. To include the first edition of the "Essence of Judaism" of 1905, as a Jewish reply to Harnack's "Essence of Christianity", would show him as the protagonist of his time

(2nd edition 1922, not 1923). Generally the description falls short of the entire aspect of what the Dean of St. Paul's called "a hero of modern Judaism" and of Dr. Baeck's worldwide fame as a living symbol of the survival of Judaism, epitomised by the singular honour of opening a sitting of the American Congress with a prayer. The summary of his teaching lacks the feature most characteristic of his approach: the conception of religion as tension between mystery and commandment.

Since the encyclopedia is expected to be read by non-Jews (and, who knows, maybe also for the sake of some Jewish readers), it might be advisable to reconsider some of the entries under this angle. An article on the Chasside Ashkenas of the later Middle Ages seems essential. Under *Baal teshuba*, the penitent of the Middle Ages who had to undergo long exile, it is hardly sufficient to refer to a poem of this title by Chamisso. *Zeena u-reena*, with its many stories and parables the favourite reading of generations of Jewish women, might well be conveyed in a more inspiring way than as "an old Yiddish Bible paraphrase". On *Zion*, only geographical details are to be found—what about the heavenly Zion?

Occasionally, the position of the life dates within the text needs to be checked, otherwise "Sir Massey Lopez (Civil Lord of the British Admiralty under Disraeli, 1818-1908)" looks like an all-time record in the tenure of this office. (By the way, there are quite a number of apparent centenarians whose deaths are not mentioned, most likely because the dates could not be ascertained.) Of the Anglo-Jewish family Solomon on the island of St. Helena, "many were baptised, others nobilitated"—and yet the twain never met?

With all such desirable improvements, the solid fact remains that this encyclopedia was not only planned but written, printed and published. The editors deserve to be congratulated on an exacting job well done, and it is hoped that the "Lexikon des Judentums", handsomely bound in blue covers, will find a useful place in the homes of many people interested in Judaism.

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## ISRAELI NEWS

## LONDON MEETINGS ON MIDDLE EAST

Labour M.P.s, at a meeting arranged by the Labour Friends of Israel at the House of Commons, reported on a recent study mission to Israel. Mr. Arnold Shaw was of the opinion that there could be no more liberal occupying power than Israel. Miss Margaret Herbison attacked the Arabs for their handling of the Arab refugee situation in the Gaza Strip. Other M.P.s also spoke.

A meeting entitled "Britain and the Arab Refugees", organised by the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, was held at the Central Hall, Westminster. Speakers included Princess Dinah Abdel Hamid, former wife of King Hussein and now a lecturer at Cairo University. The other speakers were Mr. Dennis Walters, M.P., Sir Dingle Foot, M.P., Mr. Michael Adam of *The Guardian*, Mr. Clovis Maksoud of *Al Ahram*, the Cairo daily, and Mrs. Margaret Arakie of the United Nations Relief and Work Agency.

## DIRECTOR FOR ISRAEL MUSEUM

Sir Philip Hendy, director of the National Gallery for the past 21 years, has left for Jerusalem to become artistic director of the Israel Museum and chairman of its executive committee. A dinner was given in his honour before his departure by the British Friends of the Art Museums of Israel. Among those who attended were Mr. Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem; Miss Jennie Lee, Minister of Arts; and leading personalities in the British art world.

The purpose of the dinner was to pay tribute to Sir Philip, to draw the attention of the public and of Anglo-Jewry in particular to the growth of Israel's National Museum and to raise £30,000 to buy a work of art to be presented to the Israel Museum as a token of esteem to Sir Philip.

## MENUHIN'S CONCERT

Yehudi Menuhin answered criticism in Tel Aviv of his London concert, held for the benefit of Arab refugees. Although his first allegiance was to his fellow-Jews, said Mr. Menuhin, he felt solidarity with all suffering mankind.

In 1966 the Egyptians asked him to play with a Cairo orchestra and he had agreed on condition that the proceeds would go to a common Arab-Israeli cause. Nothing further had, however, come out of this. He also said that several Israelis, including the Ambassador in London, had encouraged him to give his London concert.

## CAMPAIGN FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteers' Union of Britain at its first national conference, passed a resolution calling on Jewish youth in Britain, on reaching the age of 18, to give twelve months' voluntary service in Israel. A campaign to gain the support of Jewish communal organisations for the scheme will be launched.

It was emphasised that, while the union favoured emigration to Israel, it would like to ensure that all emigrants had a work contract before their departure.

## SUSSEX LECTURESHIP ON ISRAEL

A lectureship in social science, with special reference to Israeli studies, will be established at Sussex University. An Israeli Government grant will be provided for the lectureship in the School of Asian and African Studies, to be tenable from October of this year. The lecturer, who will have to spend part of his time in Israel on research will, in addition to tutorials, give four lectures a year at the university and will participate in seminars about Israel. A similar lectureship at another British university is also planned.

## TEL AVIV EMBASSY APPOINTMENT

The new counsellor and second-in-command of the West German Embassy in Tel Aviv, in succession to Dr. Alexander Toerock, is Herr Kurt Hensel, a descendant of Moses Mendelssohn.

Herr Hensel was not a victim of direct Nazi persecution, but was subject to certain restrictions. His mother committed suicide in prison after her arrest by the Gestapo in 1942. His father, who was a professor at Koenigsberg in East Prussia, was forced to give up his post because of his Jewish origin. Herr Hensel was, however, accepted as a volunteer in the Nazi Army and was wounded in Italy.

## HANS BEYTH REMEMBERED

Hans Beyth, one of the leading personalities of Youth Aliyah who became the victim of an Arab attack whilst accompanying children from Haifa to Jerusalem, was remembered in Jerusalem on the 10th anniversary of his death. A ceremony was held at the Teachers' Seminary which bears his name, and a memorial stone was consecrated.

Hans Beyth originated from Berlin where he was active in the Jewish Sports Movement. He joined Youth Aliyah when still in Germany and took a prominent part in the efforts at rescuing Jewish children.—(E.G.L.)

## ROTHSCHILD AGAINST PIPELINE

Finance Ministry circles confirm that Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris is creating serious difficulties in the Israeli Government's efforts to lay a large-diameter pipeline from Elath to the Mediterranean. It is reported that the Baron not only refuses to participate in financing the project, but is unfavourably influencing potential participants by his attitude. He also demands full compensation in the small Elath pipeline which is becoming redundant and of which he is the main shareholder.

Opinion has it that the real reason for the Baron's attitude is that he believes the project to be financially unsound.

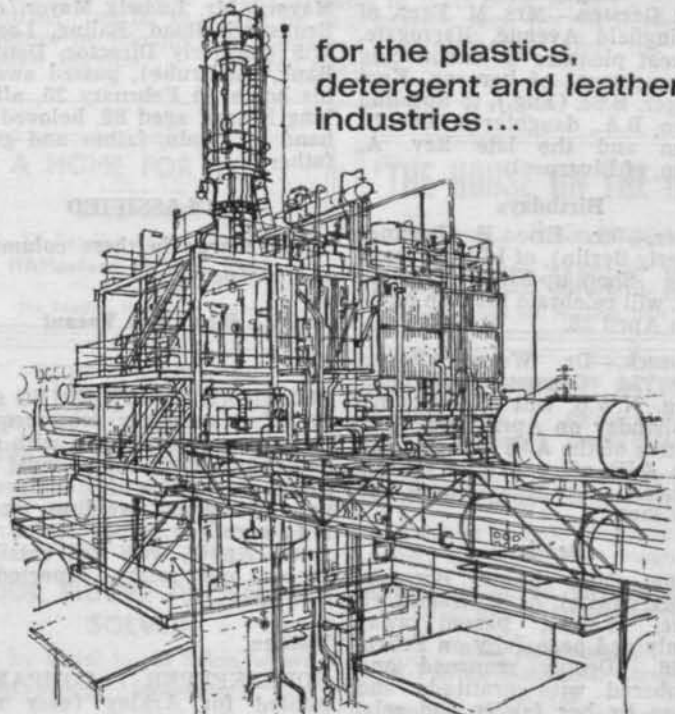


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# GERMANY TODAY

## REPORT ON NAZIS IN ARMY

Three young West German soldiers defected to Sweden, protesting that there were "too many former Nazis, many of them members of the N.P.D., ruling over the officer corps of the army."

The news magazine "Der Spiegel" has mentioned a report prepared by a team of sociologists for the Bonn Government over a year ago, but suppressed because of its findings. According to the paper, the report suggested that every fourth member of the Bundeswehr was a potential voter for the N.P.D., which would thus have between 100,000 and 120,000 supporters in the Bundeswehr. The report is said to claim that senior non-commissioned officers who had served in the Nazi army were the main supporters in the armed forces, together with numerous young officers.

Officials in Bonn stated that an official inquiry revealed that only between 400 and 500 serving officers and men had joined the N.P.D.—less than 0.1 per cent of the army's strength but 2 per cent of the N.P.D.'s official following. They emphasised that members of the armed forces could join any lawful party, and that more teachers and judges than army officers had joined the N.P.D.

## REGRETS AT DESECRATION

The Wuerzburg-Heidingsfeld town council has expressed regret to the Jewish community at the overturning of 20 tombstones in the old Jewish cemetery, and has offered to pay the expenses of restoration.

Drunken adolescents desecrated the cemetery in 1960, and police believe that adolescents are again responsible.

## FAMILY EVENTS

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

### Engagement

**Eger: Gersten.**—Mrs. M. Eger, of 3 Springfield Avenue, Harrogate, has great pleasure in announcing the engagement of her son, Kurt Leo Eger, B.Sc. (Eng.), to Rosalind Gersten, B.A., daughter of Mrs. N. Gersten and the late Rev. A. Gersten, of Liverpool.

### Birthdays

**Brenner.**—Mr. Eric E. Brenner (formerly Berlin), of 18 Mapesbury Court, Shoot-up-Hill, London, N.W.2, will celebrate his 80th birthday on April 28.

**Rosenstock.**—Dr. Werner Rosenstock, 77d Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6, will celebrate his 60th birthday on April 10th. The Executive of the AJR and the staff of the AJR office extend to him their heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

### Deaths

**Boronow.**—Mrs. Kaete Boronow (née Markowitz), of 32 Woodstock Avenue, N.W.11, passed away suddenly and peacefully on February 26. Deeply mourned and remembered with gratitude and affection by her family and relations, her many friends and former pupils.

**Dannhauser.**—Mr. Ludwig Dannhauser, of Otto Hirsch House, 2/4 Priory Road, Kew Gardens, Surrey (formerly of Ulm and Jerusalem), passed away peacefully on March 1, in his 87th year. Deeply mourned by his wife, children and grandchildren.

## AID FROM BONN

At the end of his official visit to Morocco Herr Willy Brandt, the West German Minister, told a press conference in Rabat that Bonn's economic aid to the Middle East would be maintained to both Israel and the Arab States. Since the Six-Day War West German aid to Jordan, Syria and Egypt had, he said, been largely "humanitarian". Aid was planned to provide services for Arab refugees particularly.

To a question from a correspondent of the Soviet news agency as to whether Bonn believed that it could help solve the Middle East crisis by giving 160 million marks aid to Israel, Herr Brandt replied that, after paying reparation to the Jews in the post-war years, West German help was "now moving into a second phase of normal economic aid". Bonn was seeking to re-establish ties with Arab countries which broke relations when West Germany recognised Israel in 1965. A solution to the Middle East crisis would, he hoped, be found along the lines laid down by the Security Council resolution last November.

## EXPULSED FROM COMMUNITY

The Munich Jewish community has expelled Josef Ginzburg (J. G. Burg), because of his anti-Jewish activities. Ginzburg writes articles for the extremist and nationalist "Deutsche National-Zeitung und Soldaten-Zeitung" and has published an anti-Jewish book, "The Scapegoat." At an extraordinary committee meeting held by the 20 members of the Munich Jewish community, they unanimously adopted the resolution to exclude Ginzburg from membership of the community.

## PRESIDENT LUEBKE'S PAST

Dr. Heinrich Luebke, President of the German Federal Republic, went on radio and television to defend himself against charges alleging that he helped to design and construct concentration camps. He said that the architects bureau to which he was attached during the war had to design buildings as well as living quarters for the workers on the site. These living quarters were of the same type as are used today at major construction sites. His firm had no knowledge of or influence on the kind of labourers employed. Referring to the accusation that blueprints for barracks had been signed by him, the President said that after a quarter of a century he could not remember every document he had signed, but that generally it had not been his task to sign blueprints. He also stated that on previous occasions signatures attributed to him had been found to be gross forgeries. Dr. Luebke claimed that the only purpose of those accusing him was to defame the office of the Federal President and with it the entire Federal Republic.

## PROFESSORSHIP REFUSED

A German-born Jewish professor at Ohio State University, who left Germany in 1933, has refused a Bavarian Ministry of Cultural Affairs' offer of a professorship at the Munich University.

Dr. Oskar Seidlin said that the latest "excesses" in West Germany and student demonstrations recalled the "unforgettable events" of 1932 and 1933.

**Lucas.**—Mrs. Lilly Lucas, beloved wife of Dr. Ernst E. Lucas, and devoted mother of Eva, died peacefully at her home, 5 Litchfield Way, London, N.W.11, after a long illness bravely borne, on February 23.

**Mayer.**—Mr. Ludwig Mayer, of 81 Brunswick Road, Ealing, London, W.5 (formerly Director, Deutsche Bank, Karlsruhe), passed away at his home on February 25, after a long illness, aged 82, beloved husband of Trude, father and grandfather.

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## Personal

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**YOUNG MAN** of German-Jewish extraction, pleasant appearance, in comfortable financial circumstances, seeks acquaintance of young lady with similar background; object matrimony. Box 922.

**WIDOW,** independent, seeks companionship of cultured gentleman, middle 60s, for occasional visits to theatre, cinema, etc. Box 926.

**WIDOW,** mid-40s, educated, many interests, would like to meet sincere gentleman; object friendship/marriage. Box 927.

**ATTRACTIVE WIDOW,** mid-40s, interested in music, art, theatre, seeks male companionship, view friendship/marriage. Box 929.

## MISSING PERSONS

### Personal Enquiries

**Hilb.**—Relatives of the late Johanna Hilb (née Jacobi), born 17.9.1861 in Haigerloch/Württ, wife of the late Josef Hilb. Emigrated to England. Particulars required for a book on the fate of Jews in Tübingen. Information to Miss Lilly Zapf, Gertrud-Bäumerhaus, Tübingen, W. Germany.

# IN MEMORIAM

## RUDOLPH OFFENBACH

The sudden death of Rudolph Offenbach, the actor known to the general public by his countless radio and television appearances, has shocked and saddened us all. He had been ill for some years.

Though born into a merchant's family in Fuerth, Bavaria, his lifelong ambition was the theatre. During the war years his talent for languages, music and international songs took him to the B.B.C. where he covered a wide field. He broadcast in German, sang in French, read the news in Spanish and gave recitals of Portuguese folk songs. His frequent broadcasts made him a popular figure. They led to work in films (especially war pictures, among them the "Colditz Story") and to many television appearances, often in small but characteristic parts.

My own co-operation with "Rudi" began in 1953 in Peter Herz's Blue Danube Club, where I became his successor at the piano. He would take no end of trouble to instruct me in musical arrangements for cabaret shows. We worked together over the years up to his last appearance at Christmas, 1963.

His unfortunate leanings towards bitter melancholy unhappily broke him down time and again. Though spreading gaiety in cabaret and on the stage, he was basically a lonely man, not often happy, not often merry. Yet he had a wonderful love of beautiful things, including ancient monuments and medieval architecture. His travels would take him to places as far apart as California and Morocco, and he liked to spend a free day visiting one of Britain's famous cathedrals, later describing his impressions with glowing enthusiasm. Rudi liked good food; he enjoyed preparing it himself and discussing it at length; he was an Epicurean at heart, but he was rarely capable of showing it.

However, his life was the "show". Whether he went out on TV to several million viewers or gave happiness to a limited circle of friends in a club, whether in English, German or Hebrew, he was driven by the urge of creating an atmosphere, and he realised this ambition in full.

There have been more famous actors, more

internationally-known singers and television performers, yet there are thousands of former Germans and Austrians, including last, but not least, the residents of the Homes and the members of the AJR Club, who will gratefully remember Rudolph Offenbach, his pleasant voice and his pleasant manner. In variation to the well-known Maurice Chevalier song, they will say: "Yes, I remember him well."

STEFAN BUKOWITZ.

## JAKOB STEINHARDT

The painter and graphic artist, Jakob Steinhardt (Jerusalem), died in Naharyah (Israel), at the age of 80. Born in Zerkow (Province of Posen), he studied in Berlin under Lovis Corinth and Hermann Struck. Together with the painters, Meidner and Janthur, he founded the group of the "Pathetiker," whose works were shown by Herwarth Walden in the "Sturm" Exhibition of 1912. He soon established a reputation for himself in Germany. During the First World War his stay as a soldier in Lithuania opened his eyes to the life of Jews in East European countries, which, from then onwards, became the subject of many of his works. He visited Palestine in 1925 and settled there for good immediately after the Nazis came to power. There he continued his creative work and also taught at the Bezalel Arts School. He was the tutor of many younger Israeli painters, among them Jakob Pins and Yehuda Bacon. During the post-war years his works were shown in exhibitions all over the world.

## DERRICK SINGTON

Derrick Sington, journalist, author and broadcaster, died in London at the age of 59. He was the first British officer to enter Belsen on Liberation Day, April 15, 1945, and the historic announcement to the prisoners that they were now free was made by him. He married a Belsen inmate, Traute Kafka, and, based on her experiences, wrote the book "Belsen Uncovered." After the war he was on the staff of "The Guardian", until, in 1954, he joined the B.B.C., where he became assistant head of the European Service.

## PROFESSOR DR. MAX ZONDEK

### Centenary of his Birth

A hundred years ago, on March 30, 1868, Professor Dr. Max Zondek, who was a pioneer of modern renal and bone surgery and the senior of a well-known medical family, was born in the small town of Wronke (Province of Posen). When, before the First World War, he started his career as an assistant to Professor James Israel, the "Kaiser of Renal Surgery", he was called the professor's "Crown Prince". A kidney incision devised by him and named "Der Zondek'sche Nierenschnitt" established his international reputation.

In 1907 he married Henny Veit-Simon, who came from the distinguished old Berlin Jewish families of Veit-Simon and Liebermann and was closely related to the Rathenaus. Their children, a son and a daughter, are also active in medical research.

During the First World War Professor Zondek was head of the surgical and urological departments of the "Barackenlazarette" at Tempelhof. He introduced a highly successful method of applying a closed plaster-cast to casualties in the field, thereby preventing many unnecessary amputations of limbs. This method, although somehow modified, was later used by a famous Spanish surgeon in the Civil War and also during the Second World War. After the war, Professor Zondek became head of the urological department of the Berlin Police Hospital and consultant to a Berlin Municipal Hospital. He also had one of the largest private out-patient clinics in Berlin's East End, and was a chief medical adviser to various organisations (Berufsgenossenschaften). His large clientele included leading figures in the political world and a number of them became his close friends. Shortly before his death in 1933 he was made an Honorary Member of the International Society of Urology.

Max Zondek took a great interest in Jewish affairs. Together with Albert Einstein he was President of Ose. He was also a distinguished member of the Central-Verein.

Professor Zondek not only helped many patients to regain their health, but also assisted them in their personal problems. He will be remembered both for his outstanding professional achievements and his great human qualities.

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## ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

### REMEMBRANCE MEETING ON APRIL 21

#### An Important Event

This year's meeting in commemoration of the six million Jews who perished in Nazi Europe will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. The function will be held on Sunday, April 21, at 3 p.m., at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. The speakers will include the Rt. Hon. Lord Hill and the Haham, the Very Rev. Solomon Gaon.

These annual Memorial Meetings are a joint enterprise of all major Jewish organisations in London, and the AJR is amongst its sponsors. They provide an opportunity of dedicating our thoughts to the victims of the Holocaust who have no individual Yahrzeit date. At the same time, the addresses by the speakers always carry a message related to the questions with which we are faced in our days.

In previous years, many Jews born in this country considered it their duty to remember their dead fellow-Jews by attending the meetings, and Jews from Eastern Europe paid tribute to the memory of their relatives on these occasions. However, though Jews from Germany also lost their next of kin, only comparatively few of them were to be seen at the meetings. It is sincerely hoped that this year the number of those in our midst who associate themselves with the event will be larger.

Admission is free and reserved seats (stamped addressed envelope to be enclosed) may be obtained from the World Jewish Congress, 55 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1.

### STOKE MANDEVILLE STADIUM

#### Donation by Wolfson Foundation

The Wolfson Foundation has donated £100,000 towards the erection of the £350,000 Paraplegic Sports Stadium at Stoke Mandeville for which an appeal by Sir Ludwig Guttman was published in our previous issue. The promoters will thus be able to start the building work this month, and it is hoped that sufficient funds will be raised by donations, big or small, to complete the stadium.

### AJR CLUB'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

The twelfth birthday of the AJR Club was celebrated on February 25 at Hannah Karminski House in a threefold way: a bring-and-buy sale, a concert and a special birthday bulletin. There was a big demand for the articles on sale and the proceeds amounted to £200. They were passed on to the Jewish National Fund, whose director, Dr. I. Levy, in his acknowledgment, paid tribute to the organisers' magnificent efforts which had made this success possible. At the concert during the later part of the afternoon, the members and guests were welcomed by Mrs. M. Jacoby, chairman of the AJR Club, who also conveyed the greetings of Mrs. G. Schachne, who was not able to attend. The artists were Martha Freudman (piano), A. Etan (guitar), Katinka Sainer (soprano), accompanied by Timothy Salter (piano), and Laszlo Ekstein (violin). Their recitals were enthusiastically received by the audience which, on several occasions, also joined in the songs rendered by the artists.

The birthday bulletin, aptly edited by Miss Susan Markus, carries a number of letters which reflect the attachment of the 350 members to "their" club. "In the long afternoon hours", writes one of them, "the club is for me home from home." Or: "As I live on my own, the club serves as a substitute for my lost family." Or: "The club gives me an opportunity of exchanging views with people of my background." Several members also make suggestions for future activities, e.g., more frequent talks, brains trusts, etc. In charming verses, the chairman pays tribute to the helpers, hostesses and members. Dr. Adelheid Levy, head of the AJR Social Services Department, recalls the initial deliberations which led to the creation of the club, and Mrs. Dora Segall writes about Hannah Karminski, after whom the club house has been named. In his message on behalf of the AJR, Mr. W. Rosenstock stresses that, thanks to the devoted services of Mrs. Jacoby and Mrs. Schachne and their helpers, the AJR Club now stands in the forefront of the AJR's manifold achievements. At the same time the AJR is proud of the fact that it could provide the club with its beautiful new rooms at Hannah Karminski House.

### GLASGOW'S "GRANDMA MOSES" An Austrian Jewess

The *Glasgow Evening Times* published an interview with Mrs. Emmy Sachs who is in her late 70's and who took up painting ten years ago when her outdoor activities were curtailed by arthritis. Three of her paintings were recently shown in the exhibition of the Glasgow Southern Art Club.

Mrs. Sachs who is a member of the AJR Glasgow Group and very popular amongst her fellow refugees, came to this country, together with her late husband, from Austria 30 years ago. In Vienna she ran an arts and crafts workshop for knitting and embroidery. In Glasgow she worked as a textile designer.

In her paintings Mrs. Sachs concentrates mainly on flower studies and landscapes. Her native Austria features in many of the latter. "It's never too late to start painting" she said. "I always advise older people to be bold and try their hand with brush and paint, even if it seems impossible at first."

### DUAL LOYALTIES ATTACKED

Mr. Leo Abse, M.P., speaking on "A Jew in the House of Commons" at a B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England meeting, appealed to Anglo-Jewry to play a full and active role as Jews in the wider community. British Jews, he said, cannot look on themselves as vicarious Israelis or a form of "fifth column" for Israel and at the same time claim the privileges, peace and democracy of life under the Union Jack.

He doubted the links between the Board of Deputies and the mass of Jewish intelligentsia and knew a lot of intellectuals who would not want too close an association with an organisation with a synagogal basis. The religious leaders were still preoccupied with medieval disputes and arguments resolved in the Christian world 50 years ago.

Alderman Michael Fidler, president of the Board of Deputies, at a board meeting described Mr. Abse's criticisms as unfounded and ill-informed. Short of some form of universal suffrage, the Board's basis was the best method of securing the representation of the great generality of British Jewry, he said.

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