

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

F. L. Brassloff

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR

"The year 1968 will mark the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The General Assembly has designated it as Human Rights Year in the expectation that during that time the attention of the world will be specifically focused on the importance of giving effect to human rights and fundamental freedoms and of preserving human dignity".

This pronouncement made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, aptly describes the basic purpose of International Human Rights Year which should inspire "rededication to the cause of human rights nationally, regionally and at the world-wide level". Such a rededication will not be achieved by high-sounding official statements, the output of public relations' agencies or by "preaching to the converted". There is widespread legitimate scepticism about the relevance of the results obtained so far in the sphere of international promotion and protection of human rights, which cannot be ignored and dismissed. At a time when the brutalities of war and violent racial clashes threaten the very existence of large sections of the peoples of the world, reaffirmation of such moral principles as universal justice and human rights will only be meaningful if a sober and critical stocktaking can show that twenty years of work to bring these principles nearer to realisation have produced tangible results and that a continuation of these efforts is worthwhile.

Such an assessment must in fairness start with facing the fact that the United Nations can only fulfil its tasks to the extent that the member States of the organisation are agreed to use it as an instrument for maintaining peace and security and (in the words of the Charter) "to achieve international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language and religion". It was a remarkable fact that the United Nations was able to draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights soon after its formation "as a common standard of achievements for all people". But already at the time of the solemn proclamation of the Universal Declaration in December, 1948, the representatives of the governments belonging to the Soviet bloc, of South Africa and Saudi Arabia abstained from voting, thus indicating that formal unanimity should not be interpreted as genuine and unqualified acceptance.

Since then, the political complexion of the United Nations has changed considerably. Professor John Humphrey, who headed the Human Rights' Division in the U.N. Secretariat was certainly right in stating "that the content of a declaration adopted in 1966 would be radically different from the one adopted in

1948; for the new majority is less interested in the traditional civil and political rights than in questions of self-determination, anti-colonialism, race prejudice, economic equality". (The International Protection of Human Rights, edited by Evan Luard, p. 49 sq.). Even at the time of the proclamation of this statement of elementary human rights and freedoms, legitimate criticism was voiced against some of its provisions, especially against the article which grants "everyone the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution" but does not accord to persecuted persons the essential right of admittance.

Yet, in spite of its shortcomings, the Universal Declaration has become the basic instrument for the further promotion of political, social and cultural human rights. It has been a controversial issue from the beginning whether the Declaration was strictly binding in law. The view prevailed at the time that it did not impose any legal obligation. The opinion has, however, been steadily gaining ground that the Declaration forms part of international customary law. This important development is no doubt mainly due to the "follow up" of the Declaration by a number of conventions which constitute a body of international legislation on human rights. Some of them are of great political value such as the Convention on the Status of Refugees, others still require ratification in order to enter into force. Among these, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights, and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are of far-reaching importance. Particular efforts will no doubt be made to induce States to ratify these instruments during the International Human Rights Year. One should not expect too much readiness on the part of the Governments to enter into definitely binding obligations—the more so when as in the case of the Convention on Racial Discrimination—a procedure for the examination of complaints by other member States and even of petitions lodged by individuals and groups of individuals is envisaged. (The right of petition will apply only in the case of States which have expressly recognised it.)

Further progress in the sphere of the protection of human rights on a world-wide international level will depend on whether ways and means can be found to establish a workable machinery to control and further the implementation of the instruments which contribute to international human rights law. There exists already a procedure for reports made by States on the progress achieved by them in the sphere of human rights, but very understandably it is not being used for self-

criticism. The project of an International Court on Human Rights has hardly any chance of being realised in the foreseeable future. Considerably better are the prospects for the establishment of the office of a United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights, now under consideration by the United Nations, who similarly to the High Commissioner for Refugees would offer his good services to Governments and would act in co-operation with them.

It still remains the task of informed public opinion and particularly of the non-governmental organisations to take a stand for the observance of human rights and to induce offenders to mend their ways. Experience on the effect of such actions varies. Unfortunately, States which discriminate against sections of their population and violate their human rights as a matter of policy, are hardly swayed by public criticism. However, toleration by silence would cover the offending states against expressions of disapproval by the international community. An example of the ineffectiveness of a well-intended legal instrument without proper implementation is the Genocide Convention which, also adopted in 1948, declared as crimes under international law acts "committed with intention to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, social or religious group". The Convention which owes its inspiration largely to the tragic fate of millions of Jews who perished as victims of the Nazi mass murder machine, has come into force, but failing an international tribunal which would bring perpetrators of genocide to justice, it remains ineffectual.

The international promotion of human rights is, however, not only attended to by the United Nations. Unesco, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organisation and the Food and Agricultural Organisation are among the bodies which make essential contributions to making human rights a meaningful reality. Human beings who suffer from hunger, exploitation and lack of education may resent the injustices to which they are subjected though they cannot be expected to be appreciative of pronouncements on the importance of human rights. The close interconnection between political, social, cultural and economic rights is generally recognised today.

While hopes that the United Nations would bring about an early comprehensive and effective system of human rights' protection have not been fulfilled, tangible achievements on the regional and national level have been sparked off, particularly by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the European Convention on Human Rights has provided a workable machinery of implementation, including opportunities for the examination of individual complaints. The ideas originating from the Universal Human Rights Declaration are also reflected in the constitutions of new states as well as in judiciary and administrative decisions. Above all, the notion that the

Continued on page 2, column 1

International Human Rights Year

Continued from page 1

individual has a place in international law has become more and more accepted in the course of the last two decades. Injustices and flagrant violations are unfortunately still with us but there is now, at least in countries with a liberal tradition, a greater awareness of the fact that there exist basic rights and freedoms which the state and other authorities ought to respect. For Jews the closely connected concepts of social justice and human rights should be a matter of particular concern—not only when their own rights and interests are at stake—if they want to be true to their ideals proclaimed in the teachings of Judaism. Important as the universality of human rights is, the need to achieve their implementation in the daily life of the group in which one lives—the state and the community—is imperative. Respect for the human rights of one's fellow men no less than charity must begin at home.

BRITISH CAMPAIGN OPENED

The British campaign for Human Rights Year opened at the Central Hall, Westminster, when the Lord Chancellor, Lord Gardiner, pledged the support of the Government.

It was stated that the main aim of the British committee is to persuade the Government to ratify the international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, the convention concerning the discrimination in employment and the convention concerning equal pay for women for work of equal value.

Mr. Jeremy Thorpe, leader of the Liberal Party, said that new threats to human rights were to be found in Britain and Mr. Quintin Hogg, M.P., said that every human being had the right to life, liberty and security.

A forum on human rights included Miss Marganita Laski, Lord Soper and Mr. David Pitts, chairman of C.A.R.D., as well as Mr. David Frost, who said that although they had official support of the three major political parties, they all knew that nothing would be done about it.

COLIN JORDAN CLAIMS "HUMAN RIGHTS"

Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist Movement, who is now serving an 18-month sentence for offences under the Race Relations Act, is trying to have his case reviewed by the European Court of Human Rights. He claims that the section of the Act under which he was sentenced is "in violation of the court's charter, the Convention of Human Rights, which includes a right to freedom of opinion and expression".

HAUSHALTSSICHERUNGS-GESETZ

Ende der Verzögerung von Entschädigungszahlungen

In den Ausgaben vom Januar und Februar 1966 und Februar 1967 von *AJR Information* wurde ueber die Hinausschiebung eines Teils bereits zugesprochener Entschädigungszahlungen durch das Haushaltssicherungsgesetz berichtet. Zu unserer Befriedigung koennen wir mitteilen, dass die Verzögerung der Zahlungen mit dem Ablauf des Jahres 1967 ihr Ende erreicht hat. Das Haushaltssicherungsgesetz ist fuer Entschädigungszahlungen nicht verlaengert worden.

Dagegen sind durch Artikel 12 des Finanzaenderungsgesetzes vom 21. Dezember 1967 (Bundesgesetzblatt I Nr. 74 vom 23. Dezember 1967, S.1259 ff.) die Aufwendungen fuer die durch Geldleistungen zu erfuellenden Ansprueche und Haerteleistungen nach dem Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz fuer die Rechnungsjahre 1968 bis 1971 auf jeweils 200 Millionen Deutsche Mark (Hoechstbetrag) festgesetzt worden. Es wird erwartet, dass Ausfuehrungsbestimmungen hierzu nicht erforderlich sein werden, da der Betrag von jaehrlich 200 Millionen Deutsche Mark voraussichtlich fuer die Erfuellung aller Ansprueche ausreichen wird.

Vorsorglich ist aber die Bundesregierung ermaechtigt worden, jeweils fuer ein Rechnungsjahr durch Rechtsverordnung die Faelligkeit von Leistungen nach dem Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz ganz oder teilweise hinauszuschieben. Dabei sollen von dem Hinausschieben der Faelligkeit ausgenommen werden:

Rechtsansprueche bis zu einer bestimmten Hoehe, sowie

Rechtsansprueche von Berechtigten oder Haerteausgleichszahlungen an Antragsteller, die ein bestimmtes Alter erreicht haben.

Rechtsansprueche, deren Faelligkeit ganz oder teilweise hinausgeschoben wird, sind im folgenden Rechnungsjahr in Rahmen des zur Verfuegung stehenden Betrages vorrangig zu befriedigen.

EAST GERMAN BACKS ISRAEL'S COMMUNISTS

Professor Christoph Adler of Dresden, an East German scientist, has expressed his backing for the Jewish-led Israel Communist Party, which supports Israeli policy towards the Arabs. In his letter Professor Adler referred to the "struggle on many fronts. You have to fight those chauvinistic circles in your country which have annexationist ambitions, while combating Arab nationalist extremism and the lack of principles within our own international movement". It was his opinion that the attitude to Israel was the real touchstone for a true Communist nowadays.

The New Communist Party in Israel, which is mainly Arab, follows the Moscow line.

DE GAULLE'S ATTACK

President de Gaulle has told the Chief Rabbi of France, Rabbi Jacob Kaplan, of his surprise at the "emotion" aroused by his recent statement on the Jews. The President said he regarded his statement as a justified tribute to the value of the Jews. It will be remembered that, at a Paris press conference about Israel's policies in the Middle East, General de Gaulle referred to "Jewish people, an élite people and domineering," made innuendoes about the "means" employed to buy land in Palestine and other unpleasant allusions.

Rabbi Kaplan stressed to the President that French Jewry's support for Israel should not be interpreted as an act of dual loyalty, and the President agreed.

Seventeen Gaullist deputies, of whom only one was Jewish, signed the pro-Israel manifesto circulated by the French Committee for Solidarity with Israel. The manifesto protested against the embargo on military supplies to Israel and spoke of Israel's right to "frontiers defined by history."

A new commercial agreement has been signed in Paris by the French and Israeli Governments.

STORM OVER GIBRALTAR

The United Nations debate on Gibraltar was responsible for creating a storm in the Spanish press and in the Madrid Jewish community. The Israeli delegate, explaining his nation's abstention on the motion condemning British policy on Gibraltar, drew a comparison between the Spanish régime and the Nazis. His reference to the "Blue Division" (sent by Spain to aid Hitler's forces on the Russian front) was particularly resented. The Spanish delegate pointed out that Israel would do well to remember the Spanish attitude towards Jews during the Second World War.

The president of the Madrid Jewish community, Señor Max Mazin, sent a telegram to the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr. Abba Eban, deploring what he considered the insulting references to Spain. He emphasised the "traditional humanitarian attitude of the Spanish Government during the Nazi persecutions and on all occasions of danger for our brethren, safeguarding in many countries their liberties and lives".

To a "Jewish Chronicle" correspondent Señor Mazin described the stand taken by Israel at the U.N. as "inadmissible". No other country had felt compelled to make an explanation, said Señor Mazin.

SPANISH-JEWISH RELATIONS

The Judeo-Christian Friendship Association has been granted civil and ecclesiastical permission to open centres throughout Spain. The joint presidents of the Association are Señor Max Mazin, the president of the Madrid Jewish community, and Father Vicente Serrano.

The Association has been responsible for setting up a mixed commission for the revision of school textbooks to eliminate offensive references to Jews. With the collaboration of the Ministry of Education and Science, the commission has checked 159 books in the past year, finding that about one-fifth needed revision.

KAMINSKA TROUPE DEFECTION

When the Ida Kaminska Yiddish theatre company left New York after a successful eight-week engagement, Henryk Grynberg, the youngest member of the troupe, chose to remain behind.

In an interview Mr. Grynberg, who considers himself a writer rather than an actor, said he had never written anything against the Polish Government. But the Government did not permit his writing about Jews and his own experiences as a Jew during the Second World War, and this attitude had intensified since last June.

Henryk Grynberg, born in the Warsaw district in 1936, was hidden in Polish villages when the Nazis invaded Poland. Vallentine Mitchell have obtained the English translation rights of his most important work, "The Jewish War", the story of his wartime experiences in Poland.

Feuchtwanger (London) Ltd.

Bankers

BASILDON HOUSE, 7-11 MOORGATE, E.C.2.

Telephone: METropolitan 8151

HOME NEWS

NEW YEAR HONOURS

Jewish recipients in the New Year Honours are:

Dr. Abraham Fryberg, Australia, who was knighted for services in the fields of medicine and public health.

Professor Zelman Cown, vice-chancellor of the New England University, New South Wales, who received the C.M.G.

The C.B.E. was awarded to Dr. Basil Joseph Asher Bard, board member and chief executive officer of the Department of Applied Science, National Research Development Corporation; Mr. Frank Hauser, director of productions at the Oxford Playhouse; and Mr. Asher Winegarten, chief economist to the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales.

Mr. Sydney Ernest Franklin, J.P., received the O.B.E. for services to the London Federation of Boys' Clubs. The award was also made to Mr. Israel Green, of New South Wales, for services to the community and to Dr. Joseph Shlosberg, former Mayor of Salford, for services to local government in Salford.

The sculptress, Miss Astrid Zydower, became an M.B.E. for services in connection with Expo '67; she came to this country from Germany as a child refugee.

ATTLEE ON BEVIN'S POLICY

Earl Attlee two years ago recorded an interview in a Granada historical records published in the Panther series, to be revealed only after his death.

Lord Attlee said he had not doubted the wisdom of Bevin's policies in Palestine. He denied the charges that Bevin was in any way anti-semitic. President Truman had opposed the drastic measures taken by the British Government against the Jewish population of Palestine in June, 1946, because of pressure groups and the American vote.

Lord Attlee also denied that either oil interests or strategic interests were factors in the British decision to give up the Mandate. The British, he said, had the responsibility—the Americans were quite irresponsible.

EARLY WARNINGS ABOUT HITLER REVEALED

Minutes of Cabinet meetings and Government papers covering the period from 1922 until the beginning of 1938 have been opened to public inspection at the Public Record Office in London.

Early warnings to the Government about Hitler's real intention in regard to Jewry are revealed in the documents. There is also a record of the debate within the Cabinet whether to end the Arab revolt in Mandatory Palestine by putting a halt to Jewish immigration or to crush it by drastic military means.

EDEN RECALLS HOLOCAUST

The Earl of Avon has called for religious and racial tolerance and for the condemnation of restrictions and other acts of injustice imposed on the citizens of any country on account of their colour or religious faith.

Made public at a meeting of the European executive of the World Jewish Congress in London, this was a message to Mr. A. L. Easternman, international affairs director of the World Jewish Congress. The occasion was the 25th anniversary of the Allied Declaration, which revealed Hitler's plans for the extermination of European Jewry. Lord Avon, then Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, made the declaration in the House of Commons on December 17, 1942.

SOCIALIST LEADERS MEET

Socialist leaders of 15 countries spent a day at Chequers when they also talked about the Middle East. The leaders included Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's former Foreign Secretary, and the Deputy Premier of the Federal German Republic, Herr Willy Brandt. Mr. Harold Wilson and Mr. George Brown represented the British Government.

The meeting was informal and confidential but it is believed the discussion on the Arab-Israeli conflict proceeded from the basis of the resolution which the council of the Socialist International adopted at its meeting last October in Zürich. The International then called for the absolute right to sovereign existence of Israel and all States in the Middle East, the safeguard of free passage through the Suez Canal and the Tiran Straits to all nations, regional disarmament, a solution of the refugee problem and the establishment of effective means to guarantee the maintenance of peace and security of all States "within mutually agreed frontiers".

ARSON CASES

In reply to a question in Parliament Mr. Dick Taverne, Under-Secretary, Home Office, stated that 19 cases of arson or malicious damage to synagogues and other Jewish communal premises in the Metropolitan Police district were reported in 1966, and nine in 1967. He added that the police were paying special attention to this difficult problem.

Mr. Taverne agreed that the renewed dissemination through the post of antisemitic literature had to be watched. At least, he said, it was encouraging to report that the membership of the National Socialist movement seemed to be declining to a very small band.

At Brighton Quarter Sessions Francis Edwin Radford was found guilty of trying to set fire to the Middle Street Synagogue, Brighton, and to the offices of the *Evening Argus*.

In Slough two youth were charged with setting fire to the Slough Synagogue, where the hall floor and bannisters were damaged.

APPOINTMENT OF FORMER GERMAN JEW

German-born Mr. Frederick Honig, who served in the British Army and who was a judge-advocate in Germany after the war, has been appointed a judge of county courts.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

C.B.F. Grants

At a council meeting of the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation, grants totalling £64,750 were made. Of this £55,000 was earmarked for resettling Jewish refugees from Arab countries, including £20,000 for housing and furnishing schemes for North African refugees in France.

Prayers for Soviet Jewry

A day of prayer for Soviet Jewry was held in Britain on January 6. Chief Rabbi Jakobovits urged ministers to devote their sermons to the anxiety felt over the religious freedom of Russian Jewry.

Aliya Aim for Zionist Youth

The Federation of Zionist Youth at its annual conference held in Oxford, passed a resolution directing the movement's main aim from fund-raising to aliya.

Sholem Asch Anniversary

A meeting in London commemorated the tenth anniversary of the death of Sholem Asch. The speakers included Mr. Joseph Leftwich, Mr. M. Zylberberg and Mr. Joel Cang.

Mendele Mocher Seforim

Mendele Mocher Seforim Year has been launched, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the grandfather of modern Yiddish and Hebrew literature. The first function, organised by the cultural committee of the British section of the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Cultural Society of Poale Zion, was conducted in Hebrew, Yiddish and English.

Christmas Volunteers

This Christmas again, Jewish volunteers helped at hospitals all over the country. About 4,000 men and women were involved in a scheme planned by the Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women to relieve domestic staff and orderlies.

Willesden Attack

A Jewish minister was attacked by a gang of youths as he left a Willesden synagogue. Members of the synagogue youth club have been attacked by youths on previous occasions. Windows of the synagogue have also been smashed. The police are keeping a watch on the premises.

HALLGARTEN SELECTION

KING SOLOMON WINES

The Israel wines
for all occasions

Dry and Sweet White, Red and Rosé

10/- per bottle

Ask for them at your wine merchant and
favorite restaurant. Full information and
details of stockists from sole importers:

S F & O HALLGARTEN, 1 CRUTCHED FRIARS
LONDON EC3. ROYAL 9716

AP 100P

MEMO

Next time see
PELTOURS
first



Peltoours offer you a comprehensive, dependable travel service for all Rail, Steam-ship and Air bookings at the official rate. No additional booking charge.
* Personal service is our pleasure.

PELTOURS

29 DUKE ST. LONDON. W.1.
WELbeck 9943/7

NEWS FROM ABROAD

NEW IMAGE IN ARGENTINE ARMY

Although Brazil has three generals and many colonels of Jewish faith, the Argentine Army in the main only admits Jews as privates. There is not even a Jewish captain in Argentina and no Jews are admitted to any of the military academies. Admission is strictly reserved for Catholics.

Now, Israel's victory in the Six-Day War is making a change in the feeling of the Argentine Army towards Jews in general and Israel in particular, without the policy in any way altering.

Argentine military officers were caught between their hatred of Communism and their lack of sympathy towards the Jews and the anti-Communist line prevailed among the overwhelming majority of the Argentine Army. The expression of its sympathy with the Israel Defence Forces has indirectly meant the beginning of a new approach towards Jews generally and a new image of the Jew is being gradually created within the Argentine Army.—(J.C.)

AUSTRALIA

Census "Disturbing"

An interim report on the 1966 Australian census describes the present situation of Australian Jewry as "disturbing". It is stated that the erosion of the three largest communities in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia through death, assimilation, intermarriage and conversion, experienced after previous waves of immigration, have reached "noticeable proportions".

The apparent number of Jews had increased by 3,942 between 1961 and 1966 but in assessing this figure the "known" immigration of 3,778 during this period has to be borne in mind. The over-all 1966 figures were such that they represented a clear warning that the 1971 census was likely to reveal a decline in the numbers of Australian Jews unless present trends were arrested. The "declared" Jewish population of Australia, according to the 1966 figures, is 63,271, with the "adjusted total" given as 69,481.

Nazi Party

The headquarters of the National Socialist Party of Australia have been established in Canberra. Mr. E. R. Cawthorn, a research worker at the Australian National University's school of physics, has edited the first journal of the party.

Mr. Cawthorn said that the party did not believe it should imitate German Nazi methods in Australia. The swastika was used but not as a German symbol—it was an "Aryan" symbol. Antisemitism was not a primary objective of the party, said Mr. Cawthorn, but it was inherent in its outlook.

NEW ZEALAND

Tribute to Jewish Citizens

During the visit to New Zealand of Mr. William Frankel, editor of the "Jewish Chronicle", Mr. Keith Holyoake, the New Zealand Prime Minister, paid tribute to "the immense Jewish contribution to our nation's progress in many fields". The Jewish community, he said, was a vital and integral part of the mainstream of New Zealand life. Despite the smallness of their numbers (about 2 per cent of the total population) Jews had also played an important role in national affairs. Many famous New Zealanders had been of Jewish extraction, in particular Sir Julius Vogel, twice Prime Minister, and Sir Michael Myers, a former Chief Justice.

Arsonists Gaoled

In Auckland, New Zealand, two men have been found guilty of arson and have been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and a further year's probation. They admitted writing Nazi slogans on the walls of a synagogue and setting fire to petrol poured on the entrance of the building.

JEWISH "HIPPIES" IN U.S.A.

Mr. Milton Himmelfarb, the director of the Jewish Information Service of the American Jewish Committee, addressed the opening session of the committee's annual western regional conference in San Francisco. The fact that 20 to 25 per cent of San Francisco's hippie population was Jewish led to the conclusion that "the synagogue—or rather what we, the middle-aged, have made of the synagogue—has failed them", he said. Noting the hippies' thirst for spirituality, for religion, Mr. Himmelfarb said that modern Judaism "is too unphysical, too unemotional, too impersonal".

JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN EUROPE

The vast majority of the 1.25 million Jews, who live in the 17 countries looked after by the Standing Conference of European Jewish Community Services (Geneva), are residents of France or England (together one million). This was revealed at a recent session of the Standing Conference, held in Nizza. The main question under discussion at the session was, how the other 250,000 Jews spread over the 15 different countries could be helped in maintaining and intensifying the cultural activities of their communities.—(E.G.L.)

ANNIVERSARY OF BUDAPEST SEMINARY

The ninetieth anniversary of the Hungarian Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest has been celebrated. Emperor Franz Josef was the founder of the seminary but Hungarian Jewry provided the funds which made it possible. Long before the Hebrew University was established in Jerusalem in 1925, the Budapest institution was regarded as the Hebrew University.

Most of the rabbinical training colleges in Europe were eradicated during the Nazi régime, but the Hungarian Rabbinical Seminary was built up again after the war and has been active ever since. Its present director is Rabbi Dr. Alexander Scheiber and it now has ten permanent students.

ENDOWMENT TO COPENHAGEN JEWISH LIBRARY

The Judaistic Department (Bibliotheca Simonseniana) of the Royal Library in Copenhagen recently received a collection of about 2,500 books in Yiddish. The collection had been built up during the past decades by Jews from Russia, who had found refuge in the Danish capital, and their descendants and until now was kept as a special "Yiddish Library". The custodians handed it over to the Royal Library, because they could no longer take charge of it. With its total of almost 70,000 books, the Bibliotheca Simonseniana (founded in the seventeenth century) is probably the largest Jewish library in Europe.—(E.G.L.)

Your House for:—
CURTAINS, CARPETS, LINO,
UPHOLSTERY

SPECIALITY
CONTINENTAL DOWN
QUILTS!

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS

ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK

Telephone: 904 6671

Personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman

JEWRY IN THE EAST

ANGLO-RUSSIAN DIALOGUE

Under the auspices of the International Publishing Corporation, Soviet editors and commentators met their British counterparts at a conference in London.

One session of the two-day conference was devoted to the Middle East, when the Russians denied that the U.S.S.R. was hostile to Israel. The Russian delegates stressed that their Government and country were in favour of a political solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, not a military one.

The only Jewish member of the Soviet delegation was M. A. Tseytlin, of "Izvestia". He declared that, although a Jew and recognising the existence of Israel, to him, as to the overwhelming majority of Jews in the Soviet Union, the United States or Britain, his country of birth was his homeland.

HATIKVA IN MOSCOW

A Moscow audience of 2,500, including the Soviet Minister of Culture, Mrs. Ekaterina Furtseva, gave an enthusiastic reception to Maya Casabianca, the French-Jewish singer, when she sang Hatikva in Hebrew and in French. Miss Casabianca, who spent six weeks in the Soviet Union where she gave 30 performances in different cities, said that the most successful songs in her repertoire were two horas.

AUSCHWITZ BOOK

Five Czechoslovak Jews were among the 80 persons who escaped from Auschwitz during the war. Their detailed reports on the camp, given to the Allied authorities and to the Vatican, were suppressed. One of the five, Erich Kulka, has now written his eighth book—the history of the five escapees and their unsuccessful attempt to rouse world opinion.

Mr. Kulka's new book is being sponsored by the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and has the approval of the Czech authorities. He has stated that he can produce documents proving that the Allied Governments as well as Pope Pius XII had been fully aware of the horrors at Auschwitz.

C.S.R. LITERARY PRIZE

In a literary competition sponsored by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Culture and Information, the third prize was awarded to Arnost Lustig, the Jewish author and State prizewinner, for his latest book, "The House of the Quiet Echo". The story deals with a Prague Jewish family and their persecution by the Nazis until their death in "the house of the quiet echo"—an Auschwitz gas chamber.

LIFE IN RUMANIA

The Chief Rabbi of Rumania, Dr. Moses Rosen, told a press conference in New York that Judaism in his country was flourishing. Since the end of the war there was no persecution and persons who made antisemitic remarks could be gaoled for several months. There were 20 synagogues in Bucharest alone, which were filled for the Friday night services; the number of yeshivot had increased and a synagogue could not be demolished without his permission.

A Yiddish theatre in Bucharest and a publishing house for Yiddish books were supported by the Rumanian Government. A twice-monthly newspaper in Rumanian, Yiddish and Hebrew, with a circulation of 10,000, was printed by the Federation of Rumanian Jewish Communities.

Dr. Rosen is a Rumanian Member of Parliament, together with other religious heads.

H. G. Reissner

NEW YORK'S "OLD" GERMAN-JEWISH FAMILIES

A Story of their Rise

The colloquialism "Our Crowd" in the title of the book under review* is borrowed from a novel by Emanie Sachs describing aspects of German-Jewish society in New York around the turn of the century. "Our crowd", as the novel's heroine saw it, was clannish, rigid and stifling.

The author of "Our Crowd", Stephen Birmingham, has perused the recent voluminous flow of publications devoted to such families and individuals as the Guggenheims, Seligmans, Otto H. Kahn and Jacob Schiff. He has also had the benefit, and made good use of, the assistance of numerous descendants of the families he focuses on. They have made unpublished private letters available to him and supplied him with amusing anecdotes. One which this reviewer had not known before and savoured all the more concerns Felix Warburg as a philanthropist. When at times a pensioner of his would come to his house with a little gift, Felix would hum under his breath "Tatü-tata", i.e., the tune of the horn of the Kaiser's car, which irreverent Berliners would paraphrase with the words "Für unser Geld".

Yet it would be hasty to conclude that a book written in an entertaining fashion must not be taken seriously. Essentially this is the story of the growth, and status in society, general and Jewish, of the leading families of Jewish merchant bankers in America. While as a "crowd" and in their business activities they were, perhaps, more collectively compact than Jewish merchant bankers had ever been in Europe, neither came close to achieving an occupational monopoly. Birmingham gives telling examples of American-Jewish financiers' competition, and temporary alliances, with the Gentile giants of the trade—the Gouls, Harrimans, Morgans, Vanderbilts, etc. Entry into merchant banking, at one stage or another, is the common denominator by which Birmingham selects—or eliminates—his principal actors. In his view, August Belmont (appearing on the American scene as the representative of the Rothschilds), the Speyer brothers (coming with the material backing of their Frankfurt family), and Jacob Schiff, Otto H. Kahn, Felix and Paul Warburg (sons-in-law of earlier founders), remain just a little peripheral.

The genuine "founding fathers" of the Goldman, Sachs, Guggenheim, Kuhn, Loeb, Lehman dynasties in America were erstwhile peddlers who had immigrated prior to 1850 (cf. H. G. Reissner "The German-American Jews (1800-1850)" in *Leo Baeck Year Book X*, 1965, pp. 57ff). However, unlike a host of other contemporary and later arrivals from Germany, they were not content with retailing or manufacturing consumer goods in the hinterland. Eventually they "graduated" into finance business in New York proper. Birmingham makes an appropriate observation with regard to Marcus Goldman, the founder of Goldman, Sachs & Co. In its earlier stage Goldman's business amounted just to "peddling" commercial paper, i.e., I.O.U.s or promissory notes of petty New York merchants, which he would acquire at a certain

discount and resell, hopefully, at a lesser discount to commercial banks. Birmingham's researcher omitted clarifying a salient consideration, viz., whether or not Goldman added his own endorsement to the notes thus sold. However, in America as in England, retailing merchandise was deemed as less dignified a pursuit. Consequently, Jewish families which had sometimes made equal fortunes in department, chain store and mail order businesses, were socially and matrimonially looked down upon by "Our Crowd" (eclipsed only by potential *mésalliances* with descendants of East European Jewish immigrants).

Birmingham is pragmatically right in treating the Seligmans as "the true anchor family of the crowd". This is justifiable for an accumulative multiplicity of reasons: early date of immigration, large numbers of offspring, speedy involvement in significant national business trends including the California gold rush of the 1850's and the local and international funding of the Union's Civil War debt. The Seligmans also ushered in, and accelerated, the gradual decline of "Our Crowd" as a paramount social and economic group. There was the "deep and unsettling effect" of World War I. It entailed for some not only, as Birmingham stresses, a problem of political loyalty and national allegiance, but also generally the beginnings of income tax and government regulations in banking. Birmingham confines himself to commenting: "In those golden pre-income-tax days, such partners of Kuhn, Loeb, Schiff, Felix Warburg and Otto Kahn must have brought home very nice pay cheques indeed". The fateful problem appearing vaguely between the lines could rather have been one of social and biological inbreeding. Birmingham skims the surface when he describes how these choice families created their own cluster of summer residences at Elberon on the New Jersey coast, copying as it were the example of the Newport Rhode Island resort palaces of families eligible for inclusion in the "Social Register". It might have been a good idea to evaluate precisely the effects of marriages between blood relations, repeated over several generations, on the vitality of their offspring, a phenomenon, incidentally, which has been equally patent in numerous instances of both distinguished Jewish families in Germany and of prominent Gentile bourgeois families all over Europe.

However, this is, as his publishers say of him, a novelist's "first full-length work of non-fiction". The impact of his narration does, indeed, grow on the reader. It ends—like Thomas Mann's "Buddenbrooks"—with the emphatic reaffirmation of the essence of the old order, spoken by a matron of the clan. It becomes all the more pathetic because the ladies in both books must have recognised implicitly that the past cannot be retrieved. This is how Mrs. Walter N. Rothschild (a great-granddaughter of the Kuhns and the Loeb, herself the mother of three who all married non-Jews, and the grandmother of 13) summed it all up: "We had a certain graciousness of living, and a sense of *noblesse oblige*. That's what we had—and discipline. . . . If you have discipline, then you can always rise to occasions."

Old Acquaintances

Home News: Elisabeth Bergner scored a success in Oxford in "The Madwoman of Chaillot".—Willi Frischauer's Onassis biography will be published by Bodley Head.—John Kisch has resigned as editor of the *Illustrated London News*.—Robert Muller adapted Buechner's "Woyzeck" for TV under the title "Death of a Private".—At "Club 43" Hanne Norbert recited when Egon Larsen gave a lecture on "Humor der Voelker".

Milestones: Maria Zweig, the first wife of the late Stefan Zweig, celebrated her 85th birthday in Stamford (U.S.A.).—Dorothea Wieck, who appeared with Hertha Thiele in the first "Maedchen in Uniform" film (1932), celebrated her 60th birthday.—Dancer Harald Kreuzberg, who now lives in Seefeld (Austria), became 65 years old.—Franz Schoenberger, the last editor of Munich's *Simplicissimus*, partly paralysed since 1951, celebrated his 75th birthday in New York.

Obituary: Dr. Wolfgang von Einsiedel, literary editor of *Die Zeitung*, the German weekly published in London during the war, died in Munich at the age of 64.—Heinz Hilpert who, with Max Reinhardt's consent, took over his theatres in Berlin and Vienna, died in Goettingen; he was the first German invited to direct abroad after the war.—86-year-old Heinz Tietjen, Intendant of Berlin's "Deutsche Oper" from 1925 to 1945 and from 1948 to 1954, died in Baden-Baden.—That noble authoress, Annette Kolb, who spent most of her life in Paris, died in Munich at the age of 97. She survived the war in the States.

Germany: Willy Haas, who spoke at an Alfred Kerr Memorial Exhibition in Hamburg in the presence of Kerr's son, daughter and five grandchildren, went to Israel to report for *Die Welt*.—In Munich Fritz Kortner produced Martin Walser's "Zimmerschlacht", with Werner Hinz and Hortense Raky.—Gustav Froehlich appears in "Krach im Gruenen" in Stuttgart.—The musical "Fiddler on the Roof" will be known as "Anatevka" when it is presented in German in Hamburg.—Marika Rokk will star in Paul Abraham's "Blume von Hawaii" at Berlin's Theater des Westens.—To mark the 25th anniversary of Robert Musil's death, a memorial tablet was unveiled at the house in Kurfuerstendamm 217 where the author lived before he went into exile.

U.S.A.: Frederick Kohner's new novel, "Kiki of Montparnasse", will be adapted for stage and screen by Dale Wasserman, whose "Man of La Mancha" has proved a great success in New York and also in Vienna.—Fritzi Massary's biography is to be undertaken by R. Wennersten.—Gert von Gontard founded the Association for International Theatrical Exchange Inc. in New York; his first venture, the successful visit of Vienna's Burg to Paris, will be followed by a two-week tour of the company through the States.

News from Everywhere: Leopold Lindtberg has resigned as director of Zürich's Schauspielhaus.—F. Th. Csokor was elected vice-president of the International P.E.N. Club in Dublin.—Wanda Rotha, of London, will visit South Africa, where she will star in "The Lions in Winter".—Anton Walbrook bequeathed his estate of £9,700 to a friend, Eugene Edwards, in London. Explaining the comparative smallness of the estate, Mr. Edwards stated that the actor had spent thousands of pounds on the rescue and support of his Jewish friends from the Continent.

* Stephen Birmingham: "Our Crowd"—The Great Jewish Families of New York. Harper & Row; New York, Evanston and London. 1967.

TRIBUTES TO NORMAN BENTWICH

85th Birthday on February 28

A SELFLESS SERVANT TO MANY CAUSES

If it be true that the worth of a human being can be gauged by his achievement minus his vanity, nothing need be deducted in the case of Professor Norman Bentwich. Even the most critical of his censors, even his opponents, if there are such, would be hard put to it were they to discover any trace of conceit or self-applause in his personality. In his autobiography "My Seventy-Seven Years" (Philadelphia, 1961), in which he treats us to a breath-taking ride across continents, people and causes, it is rather the less auspicious episodes on which he dwells with special care, as if he wished to make up for any lack of success by an extra of heartfelt solicitude.

For it is heartfelt solicitude above everything else which Norman Bentwich brings to the causes he adopts as his own. Whether it be the refugees from Nazi oppression or the Falashas in Ethiopia; a settlement in Kenya or—with indubitable pride of place—the Hebrew University in Jerusalem: his devotion springs invariably from a deep emotional involvement with the objectives he wishes to serve.

Though driven, as he says of himself, by the "demon of hurry"—a demon, that is, to further even more beneficial schemes, to help even more people in distress—a distinct harmony pervades all his doings. It is the harmony of trustful generosity with which he approaches men and affairs alike. When he praises his friend Felix Warburg, saying: "Everywhere he looked for what was good and hopeful", or describes another one as "the most selfless of men", it is in fact his innermost self which he thus reveals. Not in the most remote corner of his consciousness would he give room to the idea to adorn himself with any of these epithets. By conferring them, in reticent admiration, on his fellow-men, he lets us into the secret of his own standards of excellence. Has he, on the other hand, to record a human dilemma which, in the eyes of many contemporaries, led to tragic mistakes, he tenderly withholds his verdict, remarking in informed charity only: "There, but for the grace of God, go I".

The relationship between Jewish communities of different countries is highly charged with problems, both of an objective and a subjective nature, at the best of times. It becomes often critical in times of distress. We Jews from Germany ought to have realised this to the full, because we ourselves had been all but blameless in our attitude to Eastern Jewry when they were persecuted and we still fortunate and prosperous. Yet, in the hour of our affliction, we were firmly convinced that our fellow-Jews abroad would unanimously rally to help us. No need to recall that such great expectations were bound to lead to disappointments. World affairs in general and Jewish affairs in particular would not be what they are if the sincere concern aroused by our difficulties had not been counteracted by a multitude of adverse facts and considerations. No such hindrances stood in the way of Norman Bentwich. Early in the years of Nazi persecution we heard his name in gratitude and awe; soon it became a household word in all Jewish relief agencies in Germany. Even though it did not prove fully justified that we began to conceive of British Jewry in his image, we owed it essentially to him that we

came to this country with a deep feeling of gratitude and appreciation for the solidarity we had witnessed.

When the war was over and the time was ripe, Professor Bentwich accepted, to the burden of his other obligations, the office of President of the United Restitution Organisation. He was, that is to say, at the helm of the organisation set up to obtain for needy claimants what was their due in restitution and compensation from Germany. In fact, however, Professor Bentwich is just as reluctant a recipient as generous a giver. During all the years of this office he has been the strict contrary of a dare-devil. Far from pushing recklessly for more and ever more material compensation as some less scrupulous of his charges might have preferred, he applied his insuperable fairness even to the field where unspeakable human agony had to be precariously balanced against some semblance of indemnification. Fortunately, his outlook found ample understanding with his colleagues. To him and his team it is to be attributed that the successful operations of U.R.O. were due to the same extent to their actual exertions as to their reputation as a legal agency of prudent equity.

However well he may have acquitted himself of the presidency of U.R.O., the cause closest to his heart has always been the Hebrew University. Just as he mentions of Cardozo, the Jewish Justice of the Supreme Court in Washington, he has the faith that it will become "the nursery of the Jewish genius". His devotion to scholarship and scholars and the depth of his Jewish responsibility meet in this glorious dream. The indefatigable ardour with which he strives to make it come true can be touched here only in passing; it can be fully appreciated only by those who share his day-by-day work.

Norman Bentwich's day-by-day work is full of drama. Over and over again does it find him in the thicket of events at their most spectacular. One of his books bears the title "I Understand The Risks"; though dealing with the refugee soldiers who joined the British army while technically still "enemy aliens", the title has some autobiographical inkling. He, too, has often understood the risks without evading them. On the contrary, he seems at times to have wooed them if only

to try to avert them from his protégés. If an aircraft he intended to use is fog-bound, he travels by boat and train, but he travels. If the Foreign Office warns him not to go to Vienna immediately after the Nazi entry, he disregards caution and goes. His vivid account of those ominous days depicts all the risks every average Jew would have had to take by venturing there. He, however, was not average. He was "on a blacklist of the Gestapo", but reports triumphantly: "Personally I was not molested during these days." One month later, when once again he set out to go there, he was. He was "thrown off the train", "rudely rebuffed" and "forcibly conducted the next day back to Trieste". He was not dismayed. He went to London, got the Foreign Office to obtain for him a visa to Vienna and worked there for a month, "narrowly watched" by the Gestapo.

Understanding and overcoming the risks gives him obviously a feeling of elation. That he found the winter of the "Blitz" 1940-41 "exhilarating" because "each day one had the joy of survival" is characteristic of this very feeling of triumph over adversity. May Norman Bentwich, this "embodiment of humanitarian feeling"—to quote another of the laudations so generously bestowed on his fellow-workers and, in fact, fitting himself—live through many more "exhilarating" days and years.

Indeed, to assess his human value, no vestige of pretentiousness need be detracted from the world-spanning magnitude of his accomplishments. And also the contrary is true: they shine brighter in the light of his radiant cheerfulness, his self-effacing integrity, his smiling magnanimity.

We all are looking forward to his autobiography, Part II: "My Ninety-nine Years".

EVA G. REICHMANN.

A GREAT NON-CONFORMIST

A politician who wants to be successful has to make many compromises. The same applies to a humanitarian who desires to help people in need. Professor Norman Bentwich, whose whole life has been devoted to the task of working selflessly for Zionism and for the rescue of persecutees, has certainly always been in favour of amicable settlements.

But, just as a statesman—in contradistinction to a not very scrupulous politician—has to be inflexible when his basic principles are concerned, so has Norman Bentwich, in spite of his amiable character, shown himself a great non-conformist whenever his conscience compelled him to oppose views favoured by overwhelming public opinion. Thus he worked for full co-operation of Jews and Arabs in Palestine and opposed the theory of collective guilt of the Germans.

The refugees from Nazi oppression in their trail of great distress had the good fortune that a man of the stature of Professor Bentwich resolved to fight for their rights and their rehabilitation in spite of all dangers and difficulties.

The extent of his endeavours to rescue persecutees can be seen by the various positions he took over in the years that followed: He became Deputy of the League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, Honorary Director of the (Jewish) Council for German Jewry in the United Kingdom, co-founder of the Kitchener Camp, the transitory refuge of about 5,000 Nazi victims, and his

Continued on page 7, column 1

Das erste deutsche Lexikon des Judentums seit 30 Jahren

Chefredakteur: John F. Oppenheimer
unter Mitarbeit von Emanuel bin Gorion,
E. G. Lowenthal, Hanns G. Reissner und
zahlreichen Wissenschaftlern.

LEXIKON DES JUDENTUMS (PHILO-LEXIKON)

496 Seiten, über 200 Fotos auf 32 Kunstdrucktafeln,
6000 Stichwörter, Abhandlungen, exakte Daten,
Tabellen, Übersichten, Literaturangaben. Großformat.
Leinen DM 65,-.

Alle Aspekte des Judentums: Geschichte, Religion,
Brauchtum, Kultur, Leistung auf allen Gebieten der
Kunst, Wissenschaft, Literatur, Politik und Wirtschaft.

C. BERTELSMANN VERLAG
Gütersloh · West Germany



Prof. Norman Bentwich *Egon Larsen*

Continued from page 6

torian of the refugees in Great Britain. Last but not least, he has, since its foundation in 1948, been the Chairman of the United Restitution Organisation (U.R.O.), which has become the greatest legal aid society in legal history.

Under his guidance, U.R.O. has represented over 200,000 indigent persecutees with more than 300,000 claims before the German authorities and courts. The German Federal Ministry of Finance has estimated that the total costs of restitution and indemnification up to the end of 1974 will amount to over DM.45 milliard (including payments to the State of Israel). DM.22 milliard have already been paid for indemnification claims based on the Federal Indemnification Law (BEG). This figure does not include the claims of former civil servants, judges and Jewish Community officials based on a special law (BWGoED) and the Social Insurance annuities. During the past 19 years, U.R.O. has recovered about DM.2½ milliard for its clients. To this must be added the value of property regained by U.R.O. clients in restitution proceedings (e.g., landed property, valuables, liftvans, securities, etc.) amounting to about DM.200 million.

In his report, "Nazi Spoliation and German Restitution" (published in Year Book X of the Leo Baeck Institute, London, 1965), Professor Bentwich has recognised that by material compensation the Germans have responded to the moral demands for material atonement on account of unparalleled crimes. However, he always remembers the millions of persecutees who perished, and in his autobiography he has stressed that this remembrance is "a sober thought to check any complacency about what we have done".

It has become the custom to assure a man of advanced age of his youthful appearance. The writer of these lines may be allowed to mention an incident which occurred about a year ago, when during the lunch interval at a two-day U.R.O. meeting—held in winter—Professor Bentwich suggested to him to go for a walk. Declining to wear an overcoat, he remarked: "No! When it is warm, we walk; when it is cold, we run!" Since it was cold, we ran!

On February 28 Norman Bentwich will be 85 years old, and in the course of this year U.R.O. will complete its twentieth year of existence under his presidency. It is our ardent hope and wish that he will remain the chairman of U.R.O. in undiminished vigour and strength until the great work of restitution and indemnification is brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

F. GOLDSCHMIDT.

DR. FRANZ MEYER 70

Dr. Franz Meyer (Jerusalem), celebrated his 70th birthday on December 26. He started his Jewish activities in the Breslau Blau-Weiss and later became a leading member of the K.J.V. During the years 1933-1939 he held responsible positions with the Berlin headquarters of the Zionist Organisation and with the Palaestina-Amt and the Reichsvertretung. In these capacities he initiated and implemented several constructive schemes facilitating the emigration of German Jews to Palestine. He himself left Germany only a few months before the outbreak of war. In Israel, Franz Meyer is closely associated with the work of the Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa, the organisation of immigrants from Central Europe. As a many-sided scholar, he has been a particularly valuable and helpful Board member of the Jerusalem Section of the Leo Baeck Institute since its inception.

STERNFELD IS EIGHTY

I met Wilhelm Sternfeld for the first time in a mutual friend's modest "digs" in Prague, engaged in a somewhat unusual literary activity. While our friend—Ludwig Wronkow, now executive editor of New York's *Aufbau*—was reclining comfortably on his couch, filling in the black squares in a crossword puzzle pattern for the next Saturday edition of the *Prager Tagblatt*, Sternfeld phrased the clues, or definitions, of the words: "Three letters across—African antelope," and the like. Many of us had to do strange things during that early stage of our emigration; we had no labour permits in Czechoslovakia, but somehow we managed to keep body and soul together in those days before the war. Sternfeld, at 50 a senior member of our little refugee colony, submitted as cheerfully as the rest of us to that enforced retraining which emigration imposed on those who had escaped from Nazi Germany.

He had a short but distinguished career in Berlin behind him. Born on February 1, 1888, at Unna, Westphalia, he had volunteered for the Kaiser's army in 1914, then worked as a business employee in the provinces until, in 1931, he found a more congenial position in the *Gemeinnützige Siedlungs-Treuhandgesellschaft* under Professor Franz Oppenheimer. He must have rendered excellent service, for even the new Nazi bosses who took over in 1933 tried to keep him until they were overruled by the *Oberpraesident* of Brandenburg and Berlin.

Sternfeld emigrated first to Paris, only to be expelled two years later as a "refugee without any means of support." Dr. Ignaz Zollschan, the Czechoslovak anthropologist, persuaded Dr. Benes, then Foreign Minister, to offer Sternfeld political asylum in the Czechoslovak Republic. Sternfeld shared the honour of being expatriated by the Nazis, in 1937, with Theodor Wolff, Ludwig Marcuse and Hugo Simon.

He had already done a good deal of journalistic work in pre-Nazi Germany and in Paris; now, in Prague, it became his livelihood (the crosswords being part of it); it was, in fact, one of the few things we could do without a labour permit. But it was another calling to which he seemed to be destined, an activity which soon grew into his great vocation in life: the care for his fellow-refugees.

The *Thomas Mann-Gesellschaft*, organised by Friedrich Burschell with the blessing of Thomas Mann, tried to rescue the writers and artists among the refugees from the physical—and often spiritual—ruin of exile. Sternfeld, who became its secretary in 1938, devoted himself to this extremely difficult work wholeheartedly. He managed to get money from Czechoslovak Jews and political sympathisers for his "cases"; and from his *Stammplatz* at the Café Conti or Julis (where one could sit from morning till midnight for the price of a few cups of coffee) he ran the good work of the *Gesellschaft* with an efficiency and human

understanding that made him the veritable angel of the German intellectual emigration in Czechoslovakia.

After the Munich Agreement, when it became clear that the occupation of the whole Republic by Hitler was only a matter of time, the *Gesellschaft* had to find ways and means of getting those in its care—nearly all of them blacklisted by the Gestapo—safely out of the country. Sternfeld organised much of this vital rescue work in association with the official refugee committees; and like the captain of a sinking ship, he stayed on until the others were saved: knowing well enough what was in store for him if he had been caught, he remained underground in Prague after the *Reichswehr* had marched in and the Gestapo began its murderous hunt. His work completed, Sternfeld at last escaped across the Polish border and made his way to London.

Tasks and conditions were rather different in England, but he took up his work for all of us with renewed zeal. The *Gesellschaft* had become the Thomas Mann Group of the Czechoslovak Trust Fund, and Sternfeld was again its guiding spirit. The first years of the war, and again the first post-war years, were the most difficult for us, and Sternfeld certainly helped us to survive. But for many of the writers and artists from Central Europe who had settled in Britain, emigration had become a permanent condition. They needed help, and increasingly more as they grew older. Sternfeld mobilised assistance from Germany. He had met Theodor Heuss for the first time as far back as 1932; and in the 1950s he persuaded the Federal President to extend his *Künstlerfonds*, originally set up to help writers and artists within Germany, to those in need among the refugees. It is still in active operation. So is the *Künstlerfonds* of the *Süddeutscher Rundfunk* in Stuttgart. Sternfeld acts as adviser to both, and he has also succeeded in opening up a British source for the same purpose. Since 1951, he has helped some 120 writers and artists to the tune of altogether DM 730,000 from the two German sources alone; assistance is still being rendered to the amount of DM 30,000 each year.

Sternfeld has also continued his journalistic work, mainly for *Die Welt*, which he has regularly supplied with information on British affairs. But his main work, whose first edition was published in 1962, is the *Bibliographie der deutschen Exil-Literatur* under the patronage of the *Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung*, which Sternfeld compiled together with Eva Tiedemann; Professor Dr. H. W. Eppelsheimer wrote the preface. The work has met with some criticism, and therefore a second, definitive edition will appear in the autumn, purged—it is hoped—of the errors of the first, thus qualifying as the standard reference work of Germany's literary emigration between 1933 and 1945.

Now that he is eighty, Sternfeld will be the target of a great flood of praise, affection and good wishes from all who have watched and admired his work. The most pertinent words, however, were spoken already two decades ago when Thomas Mann visited London and reviewed the work done by the *Gesellschaft* and *Gruppe* named after him. "Edel sei der Mensch, hilfreich und gut", Mann quoted Goethe. "Und damit meine ich unseren Freund Wilhelm Sternfeld".

BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER
Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS.
Part exchange. Deferred terms.
JAQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.
2 Park West Place, Marble Arch, W.2
Tel.: PAD. 8818/9
AUTHORISED BECHSTEIN DEALERS

Erich Gottgetreu (Jerusalem)

THE ISRAEL-JORDAN PARADOX

It is now barely six months since the end of the Six-Day War and there have already been developments in the relationship between Israel and the Arabs in the occupied territories on the West Bank of the Jordan, and in East Jordan, which will eventually lead to closer co-operation between Israel and the Arabs outside her boundaries. On the Jordan side the realities of economic necessity have in this case outweighed political considerations. The inevitable progress of these developments cannot be halted by the terrorist forays of the still active El Fatah bands which, incidentally, are not being passively accepted but energetically countered by the Israeli authorities—and not without success.

I recently visited Tulkarem, one of the larger towns in the area now occupied by Israel on the west of the Jordan, i.e., the territory administered by Jordan from 1948 to June, 1967. Here in Tulkarem both the Israeli military governor and the Arab mayor confirm that a considerable part of the production of the Tulkarem district, especially citrus fruit and olives, as well as oil and soap manufactured from olives, is regularly dispatched across the Jordan eastwards for use in East Jordan or in other Arab countries. The same is true for other districts in West Jordan, for Nablus and Jenin, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron. Although methods of agricultural production are not very intensive, the area west of the Jordan has traditionally been the market garden of East Jordan, which is partially covered by desert. After West Jordan came under Israeli control, the East Jordanians have been making efforts to keep the door open to their West Jordanian larder. On the other hand, the Israelis are interested in preserving this main sales market for the 600,000 Arabs in occupied West Jordan and also to protect their own Israeli agricultural industry from West Jordanian dumping. This com-

munity of interests has produced a *modus operandi*. Thus, unaffected by border tensions, undisturbed by minor incidents and despite the propaganda war on the air, a regular lorry trade has grown up across the Jordan, even though at present in one direction only, from west to east. The lorries usually come back empty, apart from mailbags from Arab countries that reach West Jordan through the agency of the Red Cross. Laden lorries have come back in a few isolated cases. Once an importer was allowed to bring from Amman some Arab cosmetics not obtainable here. Another consignment consisted of medical apparatus for the Helen Keller Home for the Blind in East Jerusalem. It was released free of duty.

In parallel with this west-east trade there is also a certain amount of free trading between West Jordan and the actual State of Israel itself. Since October 24 last, manufacturers in West Jordan no longer require special permits to export their products to Israel.

From all these developments the conclusion can be drawn that the Israeli authorities are anxious to get the economy of occupied West Jordan running on healthy lines as quickly as possible, and this is also true for the Gaza Strip, the Sinai peninsula and the Golan heights on the Syrian border. Israel is not only activated by humane motives in fostering the economic prosperity of these zones. As is so often the case, moral policies are also pragmatic. Unemployment and suffering would only make the inhabitants of the occupied zones disaffected towards Israel and could turn a potential fifth column into a resistance army. Israel needs friendly and co-operative neighbours; the Arabs need a benign Israel.

Naturally, it is impossible to turn the occupied territories into a Garden of Eden overnight. Many West Jordanians blame King Hussein's Government for not having done enough for the development of West Jordan in the nineteen years after the end of the British Mandate over Palestine. The example of Israel shows that in appropriate conditions the stony soil of the area between the Jordan valley and the Mediterranean, and even the barren hill zones, can produce far more than was the case in West Jordan under East Jordanian rule.

Apart from the unwritten agreement between Israel and Jordan to permit trade, other developments have been initiated during Israel's administration of the occupied territories. A few examples: Within a few weeks the whole civil administration of the occupied zone was restored to normal. Israeli military governors were supported by civilian experts from the Israeli administrative service, but all Arab officials were permitted to retain their existing posts if they declared themselves willing to co-operate. Similarly, all former Arab mayors in West Jordan have retained their posts. All civil courts have started operating again since there was a sufficiency of Arab judges and lawyers to carry out the necessary functions. The courts operate on the basis of Jordanian law which has been kept in force. Only acts of terrorism and crimes against Israeli State security are tried by the Israeli military courts.

Furthermore, Israel exercised no compulsion over the opening of schools. They were, however, rigid on the question of school textbooks, expunging those Arabic texts which

contained anti-Israel and anti-Jewish propaganda. In the meantime Arab parents have realised that only they and their children will suffer if the schools remain closed for months, or even years. *De facto*, all schools in West Jordan are now open.

Israel provides loans to Arab local administration for constructive purposes—under the same conditions as to municipalities and district councils in Israel. Recently, the town of Nablus obtained a three-year loan of 200,000 Israeli pounds. The total amount invested by Israel in West Jordan up to the end of the financial year may be of the order of a hundred million Israeli pounds. This is about as much as King Hussein's finance minister provided for West Jordan annually.

As far as tourism is concerned, the stream to West Jordan via Beirut, Damascus, Cairo and Amman has not yet started up again, but this has been compensated for to some extent by the fact that West Jordan has become a favourite visiting place for tourists from Israel—and also for foreign tourists who come to Israel. At the same time, there has been a start on day tours to Israel for Arabs from West Jordan—to the advantage of the Arab travel agents in Nablus who started them.

Mention should also be made of the assistance given by Israeli technicians, in co-operation with local Arab experts, to Arab farmers in modernising their property and farming methods. In the same way the Israelis have taken the initiative in extending the communications network. As in Israel, gangs of road workers are now a characteristic sight in many parts of West Jordan.

Naturally, in conversation with the population, little is heard of what goes on under the surface. It is, however, a fact, confirmed from many sources, not only Israeli, that today the Arab population of West Jordan is far less inclined to give shelter and assistance to the Syrian El Fatah saboteurs operating from East Jordan. And this is not only because the risks have become greater, but because the population has gradually realised that individual acts of terrorism will not destroy Israel nor alter the situation in any way.

With the Compliments of

DICK & GOLDSCHMIDT

LTD

London W.1

STRAUSS & CO.

(Fabrics)

LIMITED

76, Wells Street,
London, W.1

Fritz Friedlander (Melbourne)

SAMUEL LUBLINSKI-POET, CRITIC, SCHOLAR**Centenary of his Birth**

In contrast to Goethe's saying that "our wishes are the presentiments of our abilities," Samuel Lublinski tried all his life to conquer the stage as a dramatist. But he did not succeed, and proved his real strength in other fields.

As the scion of a Jewish middle-class family, he was born in Johannsburg (East Prussia) on February 18, 1868. He left school before matriculation and worked first discontentedly in the bookselling trade. This he gave up for journalism after settling down in Berlin. His contributions to daily papers and magazines covered a wide range of subjects. By his review of Thomas Mann's "Buddenbrooks" (1901) in the "Berliner Tageblatt" he became the first critic who realised this author's genius. He opposed literary naturalism as well as neo-romanticism and advocated a renovation of the classical drama, orientated on the ancient Greeks.

Ambitious to put his theory into practice, he wrote several plays, e.g., "Elisabeth und Essex" (1903) and "Gunther und Brunhild" (1908), works which, in spite of their poetic beauty, lack dramatic impetus. They were not performed during his lifetime and, as far as I know, only one of his dramas was tried out on the stage after his death.

On the other hand, he made his mark as a literary historian with his work "Literatur und Gesellschaft in neunzehnten Jahrhunderts" (4 vol., 1899-1900), in which he delineated the interaction between society and literature. Yet his strongest influence on the literature of his time emerged from his brilliant critical

analyses "Die Bilanz der Moderne" (1904) and "Der Ausgang der Moderne" (1908).

Like many Jewish intellectuals in Germany of that period, Lublinski considered himself mainly a German. But the antisemitic movement of the Stoecker era made him conscious of his Jewishness and he began to sympathise with the Zionist doctrine, although only for some time. In his thoughtful essay "Der Antisemitismus" (1896) he predicted that a future world war would result in a tremendous increase of Jew-hatred; however, the only questionable remedy he had to offer was the establishment of a Jewish national minority status in the diaspora. This suggestion antagonised Achad Haam who took Lublinski to task. On the other hand, the conclusions of his fine study "Jüdische Charaktere bei Hebbel, Grillparzer und Otto Ludwig" (1898) were widely recognised. In February, 1906, Lublinski left Berlin for Italy to prepare his magnum opus "Der urchristliche Erdkreis und sein Mythos" (2 vol., 1910), in which he demonstrated that early Christianity to no small degree depended on elements of ancient paganism. In this work he also denied the historic existence of Jesus, just as Arthur Drews did in his sensational book "Die Christusmythe", published at the same time. Like Drews, he had to defend this thesis against adverse criticism.

Lublinski spent the last period of his life in Weimar where he enjoyed the friendship of two noted German poets: Paul Ernst and Wilhelm von Scholz. His hope of writing a system of humanistic philosophy in his old age did not materialise: he died suddenly of a heart attack on December 25, 1910.

HISTORY OF HAMBURG JEWS**A recent Publication**

One of the latest volumes of the series "Hamburg Studies of Modern History", edited by Professor Dr. Fritz Fischer and sponsored by the Hamburg Municipality, is devoted to the history of the Jews in Hamburg during the first half of the past century. The author is Helga Krohn and her work is based on the files of the Hamburg State Archives and of the Hamburg Jewish community. The study deals with social trends (e.g., position in economic life and vocational retraining) as well as with Jewish cultural reforms and the fight for civic emancipation.—(E.G.L.)

AJR CLUB MEMBERS COMMENDED

"Despite regular fortnightly calls at the AJR Club, one collector had to provide a second Blue Box at Hannah Karminski House, to keep pace with ever increasing contributions", reported the *Jewish Observer* in one of its latest J.N.F. News columns. It states that the AJR Club has now established a firm position among the best boxes of the week and that, in addition, members raised £25 at a recent Israeli film show for the J.N.F. Charitable Trust.

CHANUCAH CELEBRATIONS IN HOMES

In all five Homes, lights were kindled during the Chanucah week and the occasion was also marked by various functions and celebrations. This was possible due to the devoted help of members of the House Committees and of a number of other friends, among them Cantor and Mrs. J. Dollinger and Mr. and Mrs. George Moses, who paid several visits to the Homes and to whom we wish to express our special thanks.



little X
by
Silhouette

Corsets Silhouette Ltd. 84 Baker St. London, W.1

AJR CHARITABLE TRUST

These are the ways in which you can help:

CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER COVENANT

(in lieu of your membership subscription to the AJR)

A Covenant commits the covenanter for a period of seven years or during his life, whichever period is shorter.

**GIFTS IN YOUR LIFETIME
A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL**

Ask for particulars from:

The Secretary, AJR Charitable Trust, 8 Fairfax Mansions, N.W.3.

Space donated by

TRADE CUTTERS LIMITED,

Britannia Works, 25 St. Pancras Way, N.W.1.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Editorial Cols. £2 per inch,
($\frac{1}{4}$ width of page) single column.
Advert. Cols. £1.10 per inch,
($\frac{1}{4}$ width of page) single column.

A discount of 20% is granted for orders of six or more insertions.

Orders should be received by the 10th of the preceding month.

"AJR Information,"
8 Fairfax Mansions, London,
N.W.3
'Phone: MAIda Vale 9096/7

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

199b Belsize Road, N.W.6
MAI. 2646/KIL. 2646

Electrical Contractors & Stockists
of all Electrical Appliances
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED HOOVER
SERVICE DEALERS

LUGGAGE REPAIRS

Large selection of all types of travel goods,
especially Air Travel Cases.
All travel goods repaired.
Old trunks and cases bought.
FAIRFIELD & FUCHS
267 West End Lane, N.W.6
'Phone HAMPstead 2602

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

HANS-EHRENBERG-SCHULE

Opening-Ceremony in Sennestadt

The Hans-Ehrenberg-Schule in Sennestadt (Kreis Bielefeld), a secondary school founded in 1962 by the Protestant Church of Westphalia, recently moved from temporary premises into its newly completed permanent building. At the opening ceremony, held on November 8, 1967, addresses were delivered by representatives of the Government and Church authorities as well as by Professor Dr. Victor Ehrenberg (London), a brother of the late Hans Ehrenberg. A specially published brochure describes and assesses the life and work of Hans Ehrenberg (1883-1958), after whom the school has been named.

Of Jewish parentage, Ehrenberg became a Protestant minister in Bochum in 1924, after he had been Professor Extraordinary of Philosophy at Heidelberg University during the preceding seven years. He continued his work as long as this was possible when the Nazis came to power. During the war, he found refuge in England, but he returned to Germany after the end of hostilities. His particular position as a Christian who was always conscious of his Jewish heritage is described in the brochure by D. Wilhelm Niemoeller. Ehrenberg had studied economics and philosophy and held doctor degrees of these two faculties. He was a renowned author and a close friend of Franz Rosenzweig.

GERMAN AWARD FOR JEWISH PROFESSOR

Professor Dr. Charles Horowitz, Lecturer of Rabbinical Literature at Bonn University and vice-chairman of the Bonn Jewish community, was awarded the Grand Federal German Cross of Merit.

JEANETTE WOLFF "STADTAEKTE" OF BERLIN

In recognition of her devoted public services Frau Jeanette Wolff was awarded the title of "Stadtälteste" of Berlin. During the war she had been in several concentration camps where she lost most of her closest relatives. She was one of the few Jewish members of the Federal Parliament and also a member of the Berlin Municipal Assembly. At the same time, she has always taken a leading part in the work of the Jewish organisations in post-war Germany.

COMMUNAL CENTRE IN OSNABRUECK

At a ceremony held on December 11, the foundation-stone for a new Jewish communal centre in Osnabrueck was laid in the presence of representatives of the authorities, the churches and the trade unions. The building, which is expected to be completed this summer, will comprise a synagogue, a meeting hall, a club room and a library. There are about one hundred Jews in the Osnabrueck district.

HANOVER'S FORMER JEWISH CITIZENS

Guests of Municipality

In answer to an appeal by the City Council, about 275 emigrated former Jewish residents of Hanover sent in their names and addresses. They were invited to visit the city. So far 49 former Hanoverians have accepted the invitation and spent a fortnight in their former home town as guests of the municipality.

DEATH OF DR. EMIL MAURER

Dr. Emil Maurer, the former president of the Vienna Jewish community, died in Vienna on December 23 at the age of 84. Before the war, he was a lawyer and leading Social Democratic politician in Vienna. When the Nazis occupied Austria, he was sent to Dachau with the first transport because of his political activities. He spent the war years in England but returned to Vienna in 1946 and played a prominent part in the reconstruction of Jewish life in Austria. In 1957, Dr. Maurer was awarded the Distinguished Medal for his services to Austria.

AUSTRIAN NAZI'S ESCAPE

Having allowed Erich Rajakovitch, a wanted Nazi war criminal, to escape when he was on holiday in Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav Interior Ministry dismissed several security officials "because of their irresponsible attitude in the performance of tasks assigned to them in the Rajakovitch case". Rajakovitch, an Austrian and a former aide to Adolf Eichmann, is wanted in Holland for allegedly deporting Dutch Jews to Auschwitz and other camps. The Dutch authorities asked for his arrest whilst he was staying in a villa at the Yugoslav seaside resort of Piran but, when the Yugoslav security police went to arrest him, they found he had fled back to Austria.

CEREMONIAL HALL IN VIENNA CONSECRATED

The rebuilt Jewish ceremonial hall at the Central Cemetery in Vienna was consecrated on December 17. Addresses were delivered by Rabbi Dr. Eisenberg, Vienna's Mayor Herr Marek, and the president of the Jewish community, Dr. Feldsberg. The old hall had been destroyed by the Nazis during the November, 1938 pogroms.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthday

Fabian.—Dr. Richard Fabian, of 47 Hillside Court, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3, celebrated his 86th birthday on January 14.

Marriage

Black : Krasner.—The wedding of Miss Marion Black, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Black, 96 Fernleigh Road, Glasgow, S.3 (formerly Julius Schwarz, Muenchen), and Dr. Neville Krasner, elder son of Dr. and Mrs. George Krasner, 10 Merrylee Road, Glasgow, S.3, took place on Sunday, January 14, at the Queens Park Synagogue, Glasgow.

60th Wedding Anniversary

Schweitzer.—Mr. Heinz and Mrs. Clara Schweitzer, of 24 Danes Court, Wembley Park, Middlesex, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on February 4. They will not be at home that day.

Deaths

Aal.—Mr. Hans Alfred Aal (formerly Nürnberg), 9 Burton Road, London, N.W.6, passed away suddenly, aged 65. Sadly missed by his relatives and many friends.

Bauer.—Mr. Ernest Bauer, of Flat G, College House, New College Parade, London, N.W.3, passed away after a short illness on January 7. Deeply mourned by his wife, Ilse.

Burgner.—Miss Elsie C. Burgner, of 14 Netherhall Gardens, London, N.W.3 (formerly Berlin), passed away peacefully on January 3. Deeply mourned by her sister and brother.

Cohen.—Hanni (née Baum), widow of Max Cohen, formerly of Siegburg, passed away on January 12. Deeply mourned by her daughter, Ruth, son-in-law, Heinz, and three grandchildren. Shire, 27 Carisbrooke Road, Birmingham, 17.

Rosenthal.—We deeply mourn the death of our dear mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Franziska Rosenthal, who passed away suddenly and peacefully on December 19, 1967.—Ellen and Leo Dorfmann, Jacqueline and Michelle, 26 Shirehall Gardens, Hendon, N.W.4.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 3s. for five words.

Situations Vacant

Women

RESIDENTIAL COMPANION-HELP wanted for lively middle-aged lady, St. John's Wood. Salary to be agreed. Daily help kept. 'Phone PRI. 2846.

Men

PART-TIME rent or rental collecting, messenger duties, knowledge of German, own car, districts between Swiss Cottage-Bayswater. Box 910.

Women

INTELLIGENT LADY, versatile, German-speaking, looks for position as companion for six weeks between April 15 and end of June either in England or Germany. References may be obtained from relatives in England. Box 907.

Accommodation Vacant

N.W.11—CENTRALLY HEATED ground-floor furnished flat with all facilities in modern block near Brent Bridge. To be shared with one lady. Single bedroom with fitted basin. Six guineas. Box 904.

COMFORTABLE ROOM near Holland Park Tube Station, suit professional lady. 'Phone: BAYswater 7110 between 7-9 p.m. only.

BRIGHT, COMFORTABLE ROOM, Golders Green area, suit middle-aged lady. Telephone business hours 01-736 1316, otherwise 01-954 0169.

Accommodation Wanted

MIDDLE - AGED GENTLEMAN looks for a room in boarding house or pension, either with full board or breakfast only, for permanent residency. Swiss Cottage or Hampstead districts. Box 905.

ELDERLY GENTLEMAN requires comfortable, modern, permanent accommodation, near transport. Hampstead or Baker Street area preferred. Box 908.

Miscellaneous

EXCLUSIVE FUR REPAIRS AND RE-STYLING. All kinds of fur work undertaken by first-class renovator and stylist, many years' experience and best references. 'Phone 452 5867 after 5 p.m. for appointments. Mrs. F. Philipp, 44 Ellesmere Road, Dollis Hill, London, N.W.10.

ACCOUNTS, AUDITS, INCOME TAX, including double taxation, speedily dealt with by experienced accountant. 'Phone 01-455 1183 or write Box 903.

OLD GRAMOPHONE RECORDS, photographs and other souvenirs of opera and concert singers of the past wanted. Liff, 3 Kingstown Street, N.W.1. 'Phone: 01-722 2833.

Personal

GENTLEMAN, 66, seeks cultured lady as companion for occasional theatre, restaurant, cine visits. Box 906.

HANDSOME YOUNG MAN, early thirties, excellent position, wishes to meet attractive young lady, good family background, object matrimony. Box 909.

FAMILY RESEARCH

Descendants of **Isidor Fellner**, born in 1873 in Berlin, **Benno Passarge**, born 1863 in Berlin, **Julius and Sigmund Steinhagen**, born 1850 and 1853 respectively in Berlin. Information to: Mr. S. W. Nelki, 43 Nightingale Lane, London, S.W.12.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Lagus.—Edgar Lagus, born November 26, 1905, in Hamburg. Sought by Mr. S. W. Nelki, 43 Nightingale Lane, London, S.W.12.

Sicher.—Ernst Joachim Sicher, born March 9, 1924, in Bruchsal. Last known address: 17 St. Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7. Sought by United Restitution Office, 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. 'Phone: KILburn 0021.

Enquiries by AJR

Frank.—Mrs. Margarete Frank, widow of Henry Frank, last known to be living in London. Present address required by Amtsgericht Neumarkt/Oberpfalz.

IN MEMORIAM

RABBI DR. I. E. LICHTIGFELD

Dr. Isaac Emil Lichtigfeld, rabbi of the Jewish communities in Frankfurt and Hesse and chairman of the Conference of Rabbis in Germany, died on December 24 at the age of 74. Born in Burstyn, Galicia, he went to Duesseldorf with his parents at an early age and served in the German army during the First World War, in which he was wounded and decorated. He studied law and practised as a lawyer first in Duesseldorf and later in Cologne. In 1933, Dr. Lichtigfeld emigrated to Britain. He changed his profession and qualified at Jews' College as a rabbi. During the war he was rabbi of the Cricklewood Synagogue, and the first meeting of refugees in the district, convened by the AJR shortly after its inception, took place in the Synagogue Hall under his chairmanship.

After the war, Dr. Lichtigfeld undertook various missions for the relief of Jewish refugees on the Continent and in 1954, he accepted a call by the Frankfurt Jewish community. In recent years, he was also president of the United Jewish Appeal in Germany, and he was one of the chief organisers of last summer's campaign for Israel among West German Jewry. He was awarded the Great Service Cross with Star of the Federal Order of Merit and the Medal of Honour of the city of Frankfurt in recognition of his efforts for Christian-Jewish understanding and the consolidation of Jewish life in the country.

Throughout his life, Dr. Lichtigfeld was an adherent of Jewish Orthodoxy, yet his own strong convictions were combined with a sense of tolerance. Originally an Agudist, he became a staunch supporter of the Zionist cause after the Second World War. A knowledgeable and helpful personality and an impressive speaker, he was widely respected by Jews and non-Jews.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS LATER

In Memory of Heinrich Stahl

Early in 1943, with the war still raging, several hundred Jewish refugees from Germany gathered in the Stern Hall of the West London Synagogue, at the invitation of the AJR and the New Liberal Jewish Congregation, to pay tribute to the memory of a man who for many years had been the chairman of the former Jewish community in Berlin. With some delay it had become known that Heinrich Stahl had died in Theresienstadt, to which he had been transported in June, 1942. Four personalities who had been associated with him in Berlin re-created the character and achievements of this helpful, self-sacrificing and upright Jew: Rabbi Dr. Warschauer, the lawyer Heinrich Stern and A. Schoyer, Stahl's colleague on the council of the community and chairman of the AJR, all of whom are no longer alive, and Mr. S. Adler-Rudel (now in Jerusalem).

Heinrich Stahl was born in 1868 in Berlin or, more precisely, in Berlin-Rudow. His ideas and activities made him eminently successful in the international insurance field, but he was well known and highly thought of in a far wider circle. He had already been serving for a long time on the council of the Jewish community, when in the crucial year 1933 he was called upon to become its chairman. With courageous energy he helped to soften the bitter fate of his fellow-Jews. Open-minded in his approach, he undertook a task that was bound to become impossible in view of ever-increasing Nazi persecution. He stayed with his community, like other leading men and women, although he had the opportunity to emigrate. His achievements as a member of the communal council, especially in the field of care for the aged, and his generosity in his private capacity, will not be forgotten.

The reconstituted Jewish community in Berlin has honoured his memory by naming an annual prize they have endowed for special cultural accomplishments, after Heinrich Stahl, and in London he is commemorated by the name of one of the homes for elderly refugees, Heinrich Stahl House.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

JACK BILBO

Jack Bilbo, who died recently in Berlin at the age of 61, was author, painter, art lover and, above all, rebel. A son of Hugo Baruch, he made a name for himself in the 'twenties when he published his memoirs as Al Capone's bodyguard. A blockade-runner during the Spanish civil war, Bilbo arrived in Britain before the Second World War broke out. After his release from internment he opened an art gallery off the Haymarket, where he was the first to exhibit cartoons by Vicky. He also tried to help Kurt Schwitters, whose "Merz" collages, highly prized today, could not even pay his lunch money in those days.

After the end of the war the bearded giant went to Paris where, for a time, he ran a restaurant in Montparnasse. Finally he returned to Berlin. Opening a boutique in Knesebeckstrasse, he placed a life-sized photograph of himself before his little shop.

"Kaep't'n", as he was called, was known as an original around Kurfuerstendamm and managed a night club known as "Hafenspelunke". He probably knew he had not long to live and thus he lived a full life as the eternal rebel he always was.

PEM.

It was with deep sorrow that we received the news of Dr. Eugen Mayer's death in Jerusalem just before the end of the year, barely six months after celebrating his 85th birthday. Mayer was one of the last of the generation of German Jews which easily and joyfully combined thorough Jewish learning with universal culture and devotion to all aspects of the mind. In pre-Hitler Germany he was well known as the Syndicus of the Frankfurt Jewish community, and reference is often made to his close relations with Franz Rosenzweig and with the legendary circle of modern conservative Jewish intellectuals around Rabbi Nehemia A. Nobel (whose biography has been written by the late Oscar Wolfsberg [Yeshayahu Aviad]). At the beginning of the century in Munich he was also near to the George circle and was an intimate friend of Karl Wolfskehl, with whom he exchanged hundreds of letters. In recent times Mayer was the pillar of the efforts, sponsored by the present City administration of Frankfurt, to set up a literary monument to the memory of the Jews of that city and their multifarious achievements.

Eugen Mayer was a man of exceptional charm, of sparkling humour and great personal dignity. A visit to his house in Jerusalem, where he was wont to sit in his narrow studio behind a pile of books and papers, was a great pleasure, an occasion to enjoy the richness of his knowledge and the wisdom of his judgement, apart from his genuine humanity. On a personal note I would add that his conversation was not only always entertaining but was also productive of ideas. He was a great friend of the Leo Baeck Institute, thoroughly perusing every word printed under its name. He was one of the most scrupulous reviewers of its Year Book, every item of which he would deal with critically.

The last time I saw him was at the end of June, in Jerusalem, when he was as alert as ever, diligently working on the biography of one of his South-German rabbinical ancestors. We discussed a contribution he had agreed to write for the L.B.I. Year Book on an interesting text he had discovered concerning an early chapter of Jewish-Christian relations in nineteenth-century Germany. The manuscript actually reached me in London mid-December, together with a letter in his own exquisite hand-writing, amiable as ever though containing the gloomy remark, "Ich bin in keiner sehr guten Verfassung, muss aber dankbar sein, dass das Alter sich erst jetzt und ziemlich schonend bemerkbar macht". My encouraging reply was of no avail; he may still have just received it, probably with an ironical smile. Only a few days later I was shocked to learn that he was no longer alive. Many friends, in Jerusalem and elsewhere, join his wife (née Bentwich) and family in mourning his loss.

ROBERT WELTSCH.

Catering with a difference

Foods of all nations for formal or informal occasions—in your own home or any venue.

Free consultations—please 'phone

Mrs. ILLY LIEBERMAN

WESTern 2872

Hotel Pension ARLET

MRS. L. SCHWARZ
77 ST. GABRIEL'S RD., LONDON, N.W.2
Tel.: GLA. 4029
Exquisitely furnished rooms for visitors and permanent guests.
Central heating. TV. Radics. Garden.

'THE HOUSE ON THE HILL'

Nursery and Kindergarten

5 NETHERHALL GARDENS, N.W.3

Prospectus from the Principal, HAM. 1662

THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine—Licensed

169a Finchley Road, N.W.3

(MAI. 6301)

PARTIES CATERED FOR

YOUR FIGURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

... by a visit to our Salon, where ready-to-wear foundations are expertly fitted at

Mme H. LIEBERG

871 Finchley Road, Golders Green, N.W.11 (next to Post Office)

SPE. 8673

Newest shades in Hosiery

Do you want comfort and every convenience, First-Class Accommodation

room with own bath, excellent Continental food, TV lounge, gardens?

Mrs. A. WOLFF,

3 Hemstal Road, N.W.6

(MAI. 8521)

A HOME FOR YOU

ROSEMOUNT

17 Parsifal Road, N.W.6

HAMPstead 5856 & 8565

The Boarding House with Culture

THE ISRAELI SCENE

TRADE WITH BRITAIN

In the first nine months of 1967 Israeli exports to Britain increased by almost 25 per cent compared to the same period in 1966. During that time British exports to Israel dropped from £40 million to just over £38 million.

Exports to Britain were £27,132,454 at the end of September, 1967, as against £22,243,560 in 1966.

UNION OF BRITISH VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteers Union comprising former British volunteers to Israel has been established. Its aim is to distribute material informing British Jews and volunteers of the conditions and opportunities in Israel; to encourage the extension of temporary volunteer service into permanent settlement on a realistic basis; to continue the volunteer programme and, in consultation with the authorities in Israel, to initiate prospects involving personal participation.

STUDENTS' GRANTS

The Jewish Agency and the Centre for Diaspora Jewry in Israel has established a new students' authority which will provide a grant on arrival and a regular monthly allocation of up to about £25 to Western students who want to attend Israeli universities.

According to Israel's new immigration law, tuition will also be free for the first three years. Accommodation in university hostels or contributions towards private accommodation will be provided.

The grants are available to students accepted by Israeli universities, teachers' seminaries or the Institute for Higher Education in Beer-sheba. The new financial assistance will also apply to volunteers who decide to study at Israeli universities on completing their voluntary period.

OPRESSED IN ARAB COUNTRIES

Mr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister, told the Knesset of the tragic plight of the 100,000 Jews still living in Arab lands. In Iraq, particularly, Jews were being imprisoned and held for ransom and Jewish shops had been closed. The situation was nearly as bad in Syria where Jews were being denied water and shopkeepers were not allowed to sell them food.

Mr. Eban stated that approaches to international agencies and foreign Governments to intervene had had some result but he could not reveal the details.

AID TO REFUGEES

Five thousand Arab refugees from the 1948 War of Independence who left Bethlehem for South America in 1948 and 1949 are sending money to help the poor in Bethlehem. So far, £5,000 have been raised.

"HAROLD HOLT GROVE"

In memory of Mr. Harold Holt, the Australian Prime Minister who was drowned at Portsea, Victoria, a grove of 10,000 trees in the Anzac Memorial Forest in Israel will be named after him.

REFUGEES' LIVING STANDARDS

A statistical report on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip published in Jerusalem by Dr. Roberto Bachi, the Government statistician, gives evidence that the "refugee problem" is a myth kept alive by anti-Israel propaganda.

According to the report, there is little difference in living standards between the refugees and other inhabitants. The standard of accommodation in the refugee camps in the two areas is better than that of the people living in the villages. Refugees in towns have nearly as good housing standards as their neighbours.

RIGHTEOUS GERMAN REMEMBERED

A street in Tel Aviv has been named after a courageous German soldier, Sergeant Schmidt, who tried to rescue Jews of the Vilna Ghetto and on account of this, lost his life at the hands of the Nazis. The story of "Feldwebel Schmidt" is told in a documentary play by Hermann Adler and Hans Wiemuth, which was broadcast by Hamburg TV under the direction of Nathan Jariv.

GERMAN TOURISM PROMOTED

A West German company is to take over a Herzlia housing estate, originally built for the Writers' Association of Israel. The company, in which the German trade unions are a major partner, will use the estate to promote tourism from Germany to Israel, particularly for youth. The estate was originally intended as an international youth centre.

CHANUCAH LIGHTS

For the first time a chanukya was lit at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Before 1948 this was banned by the Mandatory authorities in Palestine as well as by their predecessors. From the graves of the Maccabees at Modiin, relays of Maccabi torch-bearers retraced the route of Judas Maccabeus's original victorious march on Jerusalem via Beit Horin, previously occupied by Jordan, eventually presenting a torch to President Shazar in Jerusalem.

ZIONIST WORK IN POST-WAR GERMANY

The close bonds between the Jews in post-war Germany and in Israel are reflected in the Keren Hayessod Year Book of the Jewish Community in Germany, a symposium edited by Mendel Karger-Karin.*

The 75 articles are not restricted to the description of the present efforts of the Jews in Germany for the Keren Hayessod. General contributions deal with over-all ideological and practical questions related to the past and present position of the community. Thus, Staatssekretär a.D. Dr. Hermann Puender recalls the work of the pro-Palaestina Komitee (1926-33), whose non-Jewish sponsors included Dr. Adenauer, Graf Bernstorff, Rudolf Breitscheid, Siegfried and Katharina von Kardorff, Paul Loebe, Thomas Mann, Freiherr von Richthofen and Max Slevogt.

During the first post-war years Jewish life was dominated by the Jewish Displaced Persons. But after many had left for Palestine or other countries, the remaining Jews were at first excluded from participation in the work of the Zionist World Organisation and of the Keren Hayessod. It was the view of these organisations that Germany was no longer a country in which Jews could settle permanently. Only as late as 1953 were contacts with the outside Jewish world re-established, as the result of efforts in which the late Karl Marx played a leading part.

The Year Book also carries interesting statistical material. An article about the Jewish community of Berlin states that there were 160,000 Jews in that city in June, 1933, and 75,000 in May, 1939. The number of deportees is estimated at 50,500. In August, 1945, there were 5,000 persons of the Jewish faith in Berlin, including 1,000 returnees from concentration camps and 1,000 who had survived underground, plus about 2,000 Jews who were not members of the Jewish community. At present the West Berlin community consists of 6,000 members, and about 850 Jews live in East Berlin. The communities next in size are Frankfurt (4,159), Munich (3,333), Hamburg (1,490), Duesseldorf (1,443) and Cologne (1,243). The total Jewish population in the German Federal Republic amounts to about 25,700.

This well-illustrated publication, which is introduced by a message from President Shazar, also carries reports on the regional and local activities of the Keren Hayessod, brief references to the past and present of the communities concerned, a Who's Who of about 160 honorary officers and lists of contributors.

* Israel und Wir. Keren Hayessod-Jahrbuch der juedischen Gemeinschaft in Deutschland. Herausgegeben von Mendel Karger-Karin. Verlag des Keren Hayessod, Frankfurt, 1966.

LIBRIS

Wir interessieren uns auch für Ihre mitgebrachten deutschen Bücher und Autographen

LIBRIS (LONDON) LTD.

38a BOUNDARY ROAD,
LONDON, N.W.8

Director: Dr. J. Suschitzky
Phone: MA1. 3030

PHOTOCOPIES

QUICK and RELIABLE

GOLDERSTAT

25 Downham Road, N.1
Phone: CLIssold 5464 (5 lines)
54 Golders Gardens, N.W.11
Phone: SPEdwell 5643

JEWISH BOOKS

of all kinds, new & second-hand. Whole libraries & single volumes bought. Talesim. Bookbinding.

M. SULZBACHER

JEWISH & HEBREW BOOKS (also purchase)
4 Sneath Ave., Golders Green Rd.,
London, N.W.11. Tel.: 455 1694

H. KAUFMANN

Painting & Decorating
Specialising in
High-class Interior Decorating

201 Wembley Hill Road,
Wembley, Middx. (ARNold 5525)

H. WOORTMAN & SON

8 Baynes Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3
Phone HAMpstead 3974

Continental Builder and Decorator
Specialist in Dry Rot Repairs

ESTIMATES FREE

For English and German Books

HANS PREISS

International Booksellers
LIMITED

14 Bury Place, London, W.C.1
HOL. 4941

HIGHEST PRICES

paid for
Gentlemen's cast-off Clothing,
Suitcases, Trunks, etc.

WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME

S. DIENSTAG

(HAMpstead 0748)