

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

W. Rosenstock

IMPACT OF THE PAST

New Leo Baeck Institute Year Book

Once a year this journal takes the unusual course of placing the appraisal of a book on its front page. The occasion is always the publication of a new volume of the Leo Baeck Institute's Year Book.* The reason for giving prominence to these publications is that for us, the Jews from Central Europe, the Year Books are more than just scholarly researches of past events—they are the manifestation of the forces which have shaped our own lives. At the same time they are guides for present-day and especially Western Jewry which, though under different circumstances, is also undergoing the creative tension arising from the relationship with its environment.

The new Year Book depicts, perhaps more than any other, the wide range of Jewish existence in pre-Nazi Germany. The ground covered by the book extends from representatives of extreme Orthodoxy, who were associated with the Berlin Rabbinical Seminary, to Jews on the fringe, like the wife of Richard Dehmel, and beyond the fringe, like the protagonist of the Christian State, Friedrich Julius Stahl. Between these extremes personalities of various shades of Jewish complexion are assessed. It is one of the merits of the Year Books that they do not restrict German-Jewish historiography to persons still within the Jewish fold and to Jewish institutions. Such an approach would be parochial. It would also be unrealistic. We only need remember the extent to which Heine's personality was determined by his Jewish heritage and we also have to recall the great number of well-known Jews, baptised and unbaptised, who were indifferent to their Jewishness and were yet regarded as Jews by their contemporaries. Some of us may disagree with this conception, considering it an aftermath of the "racial" principles of Nazism. Yet the complexities of the "Jewish question" have been recognised by Jewish and non-Jewish thinkers and politicians both before and after the Nazi era.

Thoughts like these come to mind when trying to assess the general conception of the 1967 Year Book. As far as its actual contents are concerned we may distinguish, in chronological order, three main groups of articles; those covering the first phase of emancipation; those referring to the peak of the German-Jewish symbiosis; and those dealing with the epilogue after 1933.

The first phase is, *inter alia*, represented by the profiles of two diametrically opposed personalities: the poet and playwright Michael Beer (1800-1833) and the jurist and politician Friedrich Julius Stahl (1802-1861). Both

* Year Book XII of Leo Baeck Institute. Edited by Robert Weltch. 326 pages and 47 illustrations. East and West Library, London, 1967. 47s. 6d. Free of charge for members of the Society of Friends of the L.B.I.

were scions of families of German Jewry's upper stratum. Yet here the analogy ends. While for Michael Beer (a brother of the composer Meyerbeer) his Jewish origin was a source of constant worry and distress, Stahl seems to have been unreservedly absorbed by his Christian environment. The author of the Beer profile, Lothar Kahn, relates several incidents which illustrate the poet's sensitivity in regard to his relationship with non-Jewish friends and acquaintances. Yet Beer's sense of insecurity is, in the first place, reflected in his play "The Pariah", where the word "Jew" is not mentioned but which portrays the predicament of a man whose origin precludes his complete acceptance in society.

Jewish Protagonist of Christian State

The world of Friedrich Julius Stahl, the subject of an essay by Robert A. Kann, is entirely different. It is one of the paradoxes of German history that the ideological foundations of conservatism were laid by a man of Jewish origin, and that Stahl's conservatism was based not only on political and philosophical theories but, above all, on religious Christian values. From this starting point he also had to come to terms with the status of the Jews. His attitude to this problem is expressed in his brochure "Der christliche Staat und sein Verhaeltnis zu Deismus und Judentum", first published in a Protestant Church journal. As according to him the German State is to be based on Christian principles, the admission of non-Christians to public office would in his view undermine these basic principles. Kann provides an elucidating interpretation of Stahl's political theories. In his introductory remark he stresses that he deliberately desisted from dealing with Stahl's Orthodox Jewish family background and its psychological effect on his personality. This is a pity—it would have been interesting to have learnt more about this phenomenon.

The first phase of emancipation also comes to life in the letters by Simon Belmont of Alzey in Hesse, whose only son August (originally Aron) became a highly successful financier in the United States, also holding American diplomatic offices. The family was related to the Bischoffsheims which numbered among its members the Liberal politician Ludwig Bamberger. The letters are prefaced and edited by Rahel Liebeschutz.

Turning to the later period of which many in our midst still have first-hand experience, the Year Book carries an evaluation of Gustav Landauer by Paul Breines. In juxtaposition to the article on Stahl's conservatism, the essay is headed "The Jew as Revolutionary". According to his friend Martin Buber,

Landauer was "truly a German and truly a Jew", and Landauer himself described "this strange and dualistic unity as something precious". His views caused him to stay outside the Zionist movement, but at the same time he rejected the assimilationist attitudes of friends such as Fritz Mauthner.

Much new ground is covered by Elisabeth Hoepke-Herberg's essay "Frau Isi" which comprises biographical material about Ida Coblenz of Bingen, a close friend of Stefan George and the wife of Richard Dehmel. We obtain an insight into the history of a Jewish family of Alsatian origin which, in the course of several generations, became fully integrated into the West German middle classes. Both in Bingen prior to her marriage, and in Berlin, where she was first married to a wealthy businessman, Konsul Leopold Auerbach, Ida Coblenz was the centre of a circle of prominent intellectuals, writers and artists, among them Karl Wolfskehl, Alfred Mombert, Detlev von Liliencron, Hedwig Lachmann and the composer Konrad Ansorge. Her Jewish origin had comparatively little influence on her way of thinking. On the other hand, she describes her Jewish ancestors with great affection in her autobiographical *roman à clef*. In one of her letters she refers to Max Liebermann, "whose favourite subject is his noble Jewish race". She was active in the movement on behalf of women artists. When she had to chair a meeting in 1933, she was asked by the powers-that-be to make a strong statement on patriotic lines. "I shall tell the audience" she wrote to a friend in March 1933, "with great bitterness that a woman who sacrificed her husband and son in the war has no need to confirm her Germanism in words". She wanted "to die smiling" and put an end to her life in 1942, at the age of 72.

Stresemann's Physician

New biographical details are included in Hartmut Binder's article about Kafka and the Prague Jewish paper "Selbstwehr". The inter-war period in Germany comes to life in extracts from the memoirs of Hermann Zondek. As physician to Stresemann, Professor Zondek witnessed many historical events. Another of his patients was General Schleicher who, even in 1933, still refused to believe in the permanency of the Nazi régime.

While the Nazi period is only briefly mentioned in Professor Zondek's reminiscences, it is dealt with in detail by Richard Fuchs in his article about the Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums under Nazi rule. As a leading member of the Kuratorium, Fuchs describes from first-hand knowledge the daily vicissitudes encountered in those days. As after 1933 students of the Hochschule could no longer study general subjects at the university, it became necessary to extend the syllabus of the Hochschule beyond the Jewish sphere. This was against the policy of the régime, and had to be undertaken clandestinely. Dr. Fuchs' vivid description of the

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manifold dangers, secret gatherings of committee members in private homes and the cruel chicanery perpetrated by the Gestapo will revive many memories among those who were active in Jewish organisations during that period. The Hochschule continued its work even during the first war years until it was closed by the Nazi authorities in July 1942. The article also testifies to the resilience and moral strength with which, amidst a hostile environment, the Jewish minority created a spiritual life for its members, drawing encouragement from their Jewish heritage and, at the same time, preserving the spirit of humanism whose values were no longer available to the majority of the population.

Dr. Fuchs' article, which also summarises the history of the Lehranstalt before 1933, is complemented by Isi Jacob Eisner's essay on the Orthodox Hildesheimer'sche Rabbinerseminar in Berlin, which was founded in 1873, one year after the Lehranstalt, and which operated until November 1938. This institute was equally a product of emancipated German Jewry, replacing the principles of the old Yeshiva system by the recognition of the fact that Jewish knowledge has to be combined with knowledge of secular subjects. The alumni of the Seminar included many personalities who now occupy leading positions in Israel.

Railway Pioneers

Lastly, the Year Book deals with Jewish financial enterprise in a sphere so far inadequately assessed. In a comprehensive treatise, Kurt Grunwald offers much new material on the decisive part played by Jewish financiers as railway pioneers of the last century. Now taken for granted and partly superseded by new means of transport, the creation of a railway system was a revolutionary enterprise in the beginning. Courage and vision were called for and colossal sums had to be invested at great risk. Among the families involved in the creation of railways all over Europe and also in the Orient were the Rothschilds, the Bischoffsheims, the Pereiras and Baron Hirsch. A number of other bankers, especially from Frankfurt, e.g., the Dreyfuses, Erlangers, Speyers, Schusters and Sulzbachs, to quote only a few, were also involved. The author deals in detail with the career of Bethel Henry Strousberg (1823 Neidenburg—1884 Berlin) who amassed a vast fortune in the 1860's but who died a pauper.

The time when Berlin was a centre of Hebrew literature is recalled in an article by Elias Hurwicz. The protagonists were mainly emigrés from Eastern Europe who had comparatively little contact with the indigenous Jewish population. Among the personalities who lived in Berlin at one time or another

were the Nobel prize winner S. Y. Agnon, the poet C. N. Bialik and the historian Simon Dubnov.

The publication is enhanced by a great number of illustrations, many of them hitherto unknown to the wider public. As always, Robert Weltsch, to whose editorship we owe the regular presentation of these monuments of German Jewry, assesses and interprets the contents of the volume in a thought-provoking introduction. The book is dedicated to the president of the Leo Baeck Institute, Dr. Siegfried Moses, on the occasion of his 80th birthday on May 3, 1967.

There are now many university and public libraries which carry the Year Books on their reference shelves, thus making them accessible to students of this particular subject. Yet the Year Books belong equally in the personal libraries of those who stem from the community to which the work of the Leo Baeck Institute is dedicated.

SOZIALVERSICHERUNGSRENTE UND GEMEINDEBEDIENTETE

Das Verwaltungsgericht in Koeln hat in verschiedenen Urteilen vom 29.5.1968 sich der von mir vertretenen Ansicht angeschlossen, dass eine Anrechnung der Sozialversicherungsrenten auf die Bezuege, die vom Bundesverwaltungsamt gezahlt werden, unzulässig ist, soweit sie auf Ersatzzeiten der nationalsozialistischen Verfolgung entfallen, die von den Landesversicherungsanstalten oder der Bundesversicherungsanstalt fuer Angestellte gewahrt worden sind.

Nach der Schaetzung des Bundesverwaltungsamts Koeln werden etwa 2500-2800 Faelle dieser Art betroffen. Die Behoerde wird deshalb gegen die Urteile des Verwaltungsgerichts das zulaessige Rechtsmittel einlegen, sodass eine endgueltige Klaerung der Frage bis auf weiteres nicht zu erwarten ist, guenstigenfalls nicht vor etwa 1½ Jahren. Bis dahin wird das Bundesverwaltungsamt seine Praxis nicht aendern, und es bleibt deshalb nichts anderes uebrig, als gegen alle kuenftigen Anrechnungsbescheide Klage beim Verwaltungsgericht Koeln zu erheben, um die Rechte der Betroffenen zu wahren.

Soweit die Berechtigten in der Vergangenheit die Anrechnungsbescheide haben rechtskraeftig werden lassen, ist dringend zu empfehlen, dass diese sofort beim Bundesverwaltungsamt einen Antrag auf Aenderung des Anrechnungsbescheides stellen, da erst von Antragstellung an fuer die Zukunft eine Aenderung zugestanden werden wird, wenn die Rechtsfrage spaeter einmal zugunsten der Berechtigten rechtskraeftig entschieden worden ist.

DR. L. G. T. KING.

STAATSANGEHOERIGKEIT VON AUSGEBUERGERTEN VERFOLGTEN

Entscheidung des Bundesverfassungsgerichts

Nach Art. 116 Abs. 2 des Grundgesetzes fuer die Bundesrepublik Deutschland vom 23. Mai 1949 sind fruere deutsche Staatsangehoerige, denen zwischen dem 30. Januar 1933 und dem 8. Mai 1945 die Staatsangehoerigkeit aus politischen, rassischen oder religioesen Gruenden entzogen worden ist, und ihre Abkoemmlinge auf Antrag wieder einzu-buergern. Sie gelten als nicht ausgebuergert, sofern sie nach dem 8. Mai 1945 ihren Wohnsitz in Deutschland genommen haben und nicht einen entgegen gesetzten Willen zum Ausdruck gebracht haben.

In einer Entscheidung vom 14. Februar 1968—2 BvR 557/62—hat das Bundesverfassungsgericht ausgefuehrt, dass es der Sinn des Art. 116 Abs. 2 des Grundgesetzes sei, den politisch, rassisch und religioes Verfolgten die durch Ausbuergung verlorene Staatsangehoerigkeit nicht gegen ihren Willen aufzudraengen. Die Bestimmung lasse sich nur in den Faellen anwenden, in denen die Betroffenen die Moeglichkeit haetten oder gehabt haetten, ihren Willen zu bekunden und damit den einen oder den anderen der in der Vorschrift genannten Tatbestaende zu erfuellen. Eine solche Moeglichkeit habe fuer Verfolgte, die vor dem 8. Mai 1945 verstorben seien, nicht bestanden. Die Staatsangehoerigkeit dieser Verfolgten falle somit nicht unter Art. 116 Abs. 2 des Grundgesetzes. Vielmehr haetten sie ihre deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit nicht verloren, weil die Ausbuergung auf Grund der 11. Verordnung zum Reichsbuergergesetz fundamentalen Prinzipien der Gerechtigkeit so evident widerspreche, dass der Richter, der sie anwenden oder ihre Rechtsfolgen anerkennen wollte, Unrecht statt Recht sprechen wuerde. Die 11. Verordnung zum Reichsbuergergesetz sei daher von Anfang an nichtig gewesen.

Die Verfolgten, die vor dem 8. Mai 1945 verstorben seien, koennten nicht anders behandelt werden als diejenigen, die das Inkrafttreten des Grundgesetzes erlebt haetten. Auch bei ihnen sei daher in Betracht zu ziehen, dass sie moeglicherweise ihre deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit aufgeben wollten.

Bei der in diesem Zusammenhang erforderlichen Feststellung dieses Willens und bei der Auslegung von Willenserklaerungen hinsichtlich der Staatsangehoerigkeit sei zu beruecksichtigen, dass die Verfolgten Deutschland nicht freiwillig verlassen haetten. Die blosse Tatsache der Emigration koenne daher nicht als Indiz fuer die Absicht, die deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit aufzugeben, gewertet werden. Ebensowenig sprache fuer die Absicht der Verfolgten, ihre deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit aufzugeben, dass sie sich dem Recht ihrer Gastlaender angepasst oder am Kampf gegen das nationalsozialistische Regime teilgenommen haetten. Schliesslich koenne auch die Haltung des Gastlandes gegenueber den deutschen Emigranten und die auslaendische Reaktion auf die nationalsozialistische Ausbuergung nicht fuer die Beurteilung der Frage entscheidend sein, ob die Betroffenen die deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit behalten wollten. Nur wenn sich konkrete Anhaltspunkte dafuer ergaeben, dass die Betroffenen nach dem Zusammenbruch des nationalsozialistischen Regimes und dem Bewusstsein der Moeglichkeit, in ein freies, rechtsstaatlich-demokratisches Deutschland zurueckkehren zu koennen, von dieser Moeglichkeit keinen Gebrauch mehr haetten machen wollen, wird man annehmen koennen, dass sie auf ihre deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit verzichten wollten.

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HOME NEWS *ANGLO-JUDAICA*

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The Queen's Birthday Honours List includes a knighthood for the scientist, Professor Rudolf Ernst Peierls, who came to this country as a refugee, and an O.B.E. for the Chairman of the Central British Fund, Mr. H. Oscar Joseph.

Professor Peierls, who was born in Berlin in 1907, is professor of theoretical physics at Oxford University and has played a prominent part in research on atomic energy. He is the sixth former refugee who has been awarded a knighthood, the other five being the late Professor Sir Francis Simon, Sir Hans A. Krebs, Sir Ludwig Guttman, Sir Siegmund Warburg and Sir Frank Schon.

Mr. H. Oscar Joseph has been associated with the C.B.F. since its inception in 1933 and became its Chairman in 1957. We extend our cordial congratulations to him on the occasion of this well-deserved recognition of his long-standing activities for the benefit of the refugees.

The Birthday Honours List also includes a knighthood for Mr. Karl Cyril Cohen, a former member of the Leeds City Council, and a C.B.E. for Lady Janner, President of the Brady Club and Settlement, Mr. Jan Alfred Lewando, export director of Marks & Spencer, and Mr. Elkan Simons, of Simons Bros. Mr. Allan David Nabarro, former President of Victoria Boys' and Girls' Clubs, was made an O.B.E. for services to youth.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Jews and Colour Prejudice

Whilst the racist groups could gain little comfort from the recent municipal elections, the Jewish defence committee ought not to be too complacent about the results. This was the assessment of Mr. Victor Mishcon, chairman of the defence committee, to the Board of Deputies. The present climate of opinion in the country made it more than necessary that the activities of racist groups should be closely watched. No Jew with the principles of a Jew, said Mr. Mishcon, could tolerate even for one moment the speech by Mr. Enoch Powell, which was bound to increase racial hatred. No Jew could forget that the same kind of remarks had been made about "our fathers and grandfathers when they entered these shores".

Councillor A. Super said that, while canvassing in the municipal elections, he was saddened to find many Jews, some of them refugees of a generation ago, who had swallowed Mr. Powell's speech in its entirety. He was equally saddened by the fact that so few of Anglo-Jewry's ministers had raised their voice to condemn colour prejudice. There must be no complacency about the poor showing by fascist candidates because supporters of other parties, including Labour, shared Mr. Powell's views on coloured immigration.

Racist Candidates

There seems to be no evidence that colour prejudice played a dominant part in the voting pattern of the municipal elections, despite the controversy caused by Mr. Enoch Powell's speech on coloured immigration. Many Jews lost their seats in the anti-Labour swing, whilst others came in with the Conservative victories. As for the racist candidates, especially the National Front and Mosley's Union Movement, they did not do much better than in the past and, in some places, they fared worse.

JEWISH HISTORY LECTURESHIP

The establishment of a Bearsted Lectureship in Jewish History has been announced by Warwick University. The university's aim is "to ensure that all history students should, as a matter of course, be familiar with the role and the contribution of the Jewish people". The university hopes that interested students will be able to proceed to graduate work at the Hebrew University.

IN PARLIAMENT

Sports Clubs' Discrimination

During a debate on allegations of discrimination by sports clubs, Mr. David Ennals, Under-Secretary, Home Office, was asked by Dr. Maurice Miller if the Government would look into clubs which behaved in this manner. Mr. Ennals gave an assurance that he would discuss this with the appropriate Ministers. The matter refers to golf and other sports clubs which draw grants from public funds and which discriminate against people on ethnic or religious grounds.

Protection for Jewish Community

Mr. James Callaghan, the Home Secretary, replied to a debate on the Race Relations Bill, during which it had been argued that discrimination on grounds of religion should be made unlawful. Doubts were expressed as to whether the phrase used in the Bill, "ethnic or national origin", covered the Jewish community. The Home Secretary pledged that the Government would continue to watch the position of the Jew in this country with very great care, to ensure that as far as possible discrimination is not practised against him or against anyone else.

During his lifetime, said Mr. Callaghan, the position of the Jew had improved dramatically. . . . "I think that is a mark of the growing civilisation of the world and also a mark of the fact that every community is capable of absorbing and assimilating people when they have had sufficient history and sufficient time to do so."

Rejection of Ambassador

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Fred Mulley, was asked what was the Government's policy in respect of the refusal of States to accept British diplomatic staff by reason of their religious antecedents. This referred to the case of Mr. Horace Phillips, the diplomat who was rejected by the Government of Saudi Arabia as British Ambassador to Jeddah because he was born a Jew.

Mr. Mulley replied that the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, to which the British Government were signatories, provided that a receiving government might, at any time, and without having to explain its decision, notify the sending State that the head of the mission or any member of the diplomatic staff of the mission was not acceptable.

APPOINTMENTS

Sir Louis Gluckstein, Q.C., was installed into office as chairman of the Greater London Council for 1968-69. Sir Louis has been a G.L.C. member since 1964, when the Council was created. He is president of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue.

The first Conservative Mayor of the Hammersmith borough for 34 years is Sir Samuel Salmon, president of J. Lyons & Co. Ltd. His chaplain is Dr. Leslie Edgar, emeritus minister of the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, of which Sir Samuel is a member.

WOLFSON COLLEGE

More than 1,000 people, including heads of colleges and other distinguished academics, as well as Mr. Harold Macmillan, Chancellor of Oxford University and a former Prime Minister, were present when the Queen laid the foundation-stone of Wolfson College.

The Wolfson Foundation gave £1½ million towards the costs of building, furnishing and equipping the college. Oxford University provided the site and the Ford Foundation donated \$4,500,000. The college will eventually become the largest post-graduate college in Oxford, providing facilities for up to 60 Fellows and more than 250 post-graduate students.

Orthodox-Progressive Differences

In a sermon preached at the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, Rabbi John Rayner, senior minister, referred to the refusal of Chief Rabbi Jakobovits to allow a joint Orthodox-Progressive service on Israel's Independence Day. He also attacked, as "patently absurd" and "intolerant and inflammatory" the remark made by the Chief Rabbi at the conference of Anglo-Jewish preachers in Manchester when Dr. Jakobovits declared that "it was inconceivable the Orthodox could give authenticity to men in the Reform movement who undermine Judaism and who do not profess the same religion, ethics or morality." Although there were considerable differences between Orthodox and Progressive Judaism, said Rabbi Rayner, they were slight compared with the common ground.

Dr. Jakobovits has repudiated these accusations in a sharp statement, saying that a single, community-wide service, as held for many years past, was this time opposed by the Progressives. Rabbi Dr. Van der Zyl, chairman of the Council of Reform and Liberal Rabbis described the Chief Rabbi's statement as "seriously misleading in several aspects". The Reform and Liberal sections of the community, he stated, had never been invited to co-sponsor the Independence Day services, but only to send representatives to attend these services.

Preachers' Conference

A conference of Anglo-Jewish preachers was recently held in Manchester. The discussion on religious education stressed that ministers and rabbis must involve themselves more in the field of Jewish education and among teenagers and students.

At the final session a call was made to all faiths to help alleviate racial tension. A resolution calling for the promotion of tolerance towards all members of British society, irrespective of creed or colour, was passed.

Jews' College

Mr. Frank H. Levine has been appointed executive director of Jews' College, with responsibility for organising appeals on behalf of the college.

New Synagogue Movement

Rabbi Dr. Louis Jacobs's New London Synagogue decided at its annual meeting to take action to help other groups of people throughout the country to set up organisations whose aims were similar to their own. The meeting endorsed Dr. Jacobs's views that the synagogue was the spearhead of a new movement.

Catford Synagogue

The new Catford and Bromley Synagogue was consecrated by Dayan Meyer Steinberg. The congregation of over 400 families until recently worshipped in what is now the synagogue hall. The service, attended by more than 500, included the Mayors of Bromley and Lewisham and representatives from local synagogues and churches. Dayan Steinberg in his address expressed the "bitterness, disgust and anxiety" felt by Anglo-Jewry at the treatment of Jews in Poland.

London Jewish Choir in New York

The London Jewish Male Choir visited New York for a one-week concert tour of Jewish communities. This was the first time the 42-year-old choir had sung outside Britain or Israel.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

ITALY

Cemetery Desecrations

In Lucca, north-east Italy, three youths were sentenced to three years and eight months gaol for desecrating the Jewish cemetery in the coastal town of Viareggio earlier in the year. They were also banned from public office for five years, but were released pending an appeal. The youths went at night to the cemetery, where they daubed swastikas and offensive slogans on graves, stole human skulls and overturned tombstones. All three said they had never had hostile feelings against Jews, and blamed their actions on heavy drinking. Their parents had paid to the Jewish community the cost of restoring the damage in the cemetery.

New Communities' Charter

At an extraordinary congress of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities in Rome, recommendations for the "democratisation" of the 1930-31 Italian State laws regulating the administrative and religious life of the country's Jews were approved. Under the proposals, all members of Jewish communities aged 21 years and over have the right to vote for community councils. Women aged 25 years and over can be elected to the councils. Only tax-paying members (heads of families) had been entitled to vote and only male members could be elected to the councils. The only stipulation now is that all candidates must be "of regular religious conduct".

"Medal of the Righteous"

The Israeli Ambassador in Rome this year again presented the Jewish State's "Medal of the Righteous" to non-Jews who had saved Jews in times of persecution.

The three recipients were two citizens of Florence who had risked their lives during the last war helping Jews, and Armin Wegner, the 81-year-old German writer, who sent a letter to Hitler in 1933, denouncing the beginning of the Nazi terror against the Jews. As a result he was beaten unconscious and spent several years in German and Italian prisons. His works were burned by the Nazis together with other examples of "degenerate art".

HITLER REMEMBERED IN SPAIN

In Barcelona and Madrid memorial masses for Adolf Hitler, prohibited last year, were celebrated without the civil or the ecclesiastical authorities intervening. The church service in Barcelona was well attended by leading Right-wing Spaniards and Germans living in the city. The mass in Madrid was attended by more than 300 people. A memorial pamphlet distributed in church said it was observed "for the eternal rest of Adolf Hitler and all those who fell in the defence of Christianity and Western civilisation".

Among the congregants were many former members of the Blue Division, the Spanish troops who took part in Hitler's Russian offensive during the Second World War, and representatives of the Falange, Spain's ruling and only legal political party.

SCHOOL EDUCATION IN SWEDEN

In spite of the statement in the Swedish Parliament by Mr. Olaf Palme, the Minister of Education, that the State subsidy to the Hillel Jewish day school in Stockholm would continue. Swedish Jews still do not know whether a subsidy of 100 per cent will be received. This is necessary to safeguard the school's future. Other countries, such as Denmark allow Jewish schools a full subsidy.

About 13,000 Jews live in Sweden, with approximately half in Stockholm. Under the present system some kind of religious education is compulsory but Jewish children are excused Christian tuition by attending a communal religious school.

GREEK PLEDGE

Representatives of world Jewry came to Salonika to pay tribute to 65,000 Greek Jews murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War. A service was held at the "Memorial of the Martyrs" in the city's Jewish cemetery.

Mr. Michael Sideratos, the Under-Secretary in the Prime Minister's office, who represented the Prime Minister at the service, assured the visitors that the Greek Revolutionary Government has no intention of adopting any discriminatory policies towards its non-Christian citizens. It would be against "the centuries-old principles" of Greece to interpret the slogan "Greece is the country of the Greek-Christians", launched by the Prime Minister at a mass rally of Salonika University students in March, "as a sign of racial discrimination". The intention of the Prime Minister, said Mr. Sideratos, was to remind Greek youth that they must abide by Greek-Christian civilisation. The slogan has now been replaced by a new slogan: "Youth, Forward for a New Greece". But the old slogan is still franked on letters by the Post Office, and appears on all State-controlled public utilities.

TURKISH ANTISEMITISM DENOUNCED

"Demokrat Izmir" has denounced the antisemitic campaign being waged by another newspaper, the extreme Right-wing "Bugun". Jews in Turkey had enjoyed freedom and tolerance since the time of Sultan Mehmet, the Conqueror, and there was no reason why this should be changed, said "Demokrat Izmir". "Bugun" was exposing Jewish firms and Jewish businessmen as if they had committed a crime. Their only crime was to be successful and rich because they work hard. "Instead of attacking the Jews, we should take them as an example."

No Jewish candidate stood in the Istanbul municipal and provincial councils. In their lists the main parties have for many years included a Jewish candidate, as they did for the Greeks and the Armenians, but they did not feel the necessity to name a Jewish candidate this time.

U.S.A. CHASIDIM AND DRUGS

A conference in New York on drug addiction among Jews was told that a "substantial number" of youths from Chasidic families in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, the centre of Chasidism in America, have become drug addicts. One out of every five "hippies" in the Haight-Asbury section of San Francisco, the "hippy capital of America", is a Jew. The use of drugs among the "hippies" is widespread.

This first conference on the subject of addiction among Jews was sponsored by the Commission on Synagogue Relations of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Jewish Requests to Government

The Council of Czechoslovak Jewish Communities called on the Government to approve a series of measures restoring Czech Jewry's honour and basic rights. In a 1,500-word document adopted at a special conference of the Council and made public after its submission to the Government, the declaration rejects any attempt to sever Czech Jews from fellow-Jews abroad who subscribe to the same philosophy.

It expresses satisfaction that Czechoslovak public opinion was not misled by the anti-Israel press campaign of the past, and particularly praises the current intrepid attitude of Czech journalists and newspapers.

The declaration demands: public condemnation by the Government of manifestations of antisemitism in the political trials of the past, and full rehabilitation in the case of those administrative decisions which particularly affected Jews; the inclusion of racial persecution in the new laws being drafted against political persecution; permanent access to the place on the River Eger where the ashes of some 20,000 prisoners were dumped by the Nazis; international political events should not be allowed to affect the position of the Jewish community or contacts between the Council and fraternal organisations abroad; the 1,000th anniversary of Czech Jewry should be celebrated with the full participation of foreign representatives and in a manner befitting the occasion; no administrative interference in the religious education of Jewish youth.

Attitude Towards Israel

Czechoslovakia's Foreign Ministry has announced that a restoration of diplomatic relations is out of the question while the Israeli Government "refuses to comply with the November 22 resolution of the Security Council and is increasing tension in the Middle East with its actions".

Despite this, the public attitude shows sympathy with Israel. In the Prague May Day parade students marched with a banner reading "Let Israel Live!" Another banner portrayed a menorah bearing the words "Long Live Israel!", bringing applause from on-lookers. At Prague University 3,000 students passed a resolution urging the Government to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. A nation-wide petition on the same terms was also initiated by the students council of the faculty of literature.

Dr. Otto Klicka, Czechoslovakia's Ambassador to Egypt, who was in Prague recently, in a television interview said he had a "considerable opinion of Jewish heroism". He had spent five years in a Nazi concentration camp with Jewish comrades. "Our foreign policy must not be influenced by antisemitism," Dr. Klicka emphasised that Czechoslovakia favoured a Middle East settlement which not only acknowledged the existence of Israel and its right to survival, but also allowed freedom of passage for her shipping through the Suez Canal and the Straits of Tiran. He was of the opinion that the Middle East dispute would be settled by political negotiations and that this would create a new situation in which it would be possible to restore diplomatic relations with Israel.

Wife of New C.S.R. President

The wife of General Ludvik Svoboda, the new President of Czechoslovakia, is Jewish. She was born at Kibbutz Sarid, leaving Palestine with her parents in 1927. She lived in England for some time.

Visitor to London

A meeting of the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London was addressed by Professor Eduard Goldstuecker, chairman of the Czechoslovak Writers' Union. He spoke on recent events in Czechoslovakia. This was the first in a series of lectures which the Institute intends to hold with visiting lecturers from abroad.

Egon Larsen

"TUCHO" FOR ANGLO-SAXONS

Eleven years ago, Dr. Harry Zohn of Brandeis University, Massachusetts, an Austrian-born literary historian, published the first selection of Kurt Tucholsky's writings in the English language, fifty satirical essays, courageously translated—in both senses of the word—from the Berlin vernacular of the '20s into the "New Yorker" idiom of the '50s. At the time, I didn't think his labour of love came off, and I still believe his publishers (a smallish Cambridge, Mass., company) lost their money. For how could the Anglo-Saxon reader in our time raise more than a passing smile at "Tucho's" satirical attacks, or understand his despair about the forces of reaction in pre-Nazi Germany?

But a lot of things have happened in the last decade. Tucholsky has experienced a great renaissance in his native land, and to the English-speaking world the Germany of the 1920s is no longer a far-away country with troubles of purely historical interest. Brecht and his political and literary era are now familiar to British and American readers and playgoers, and the period itself has come "into fashion." But there are also some sinister parallels between Tucholsky's worries and those which we, and many thinking Germans, are experiencing in the face of recent developments. It is, therefore, a timely volume which Dr. Zohn, in association with the poet Karl F. Ross, has now published with a well-known firm, Funk & Wagnall in New York, under the title "What If—?" ("Was wäre, wenn"), over 200 pages of Tucholsky's satirical prose and verse from 1916 to 1932 (\$6.95). There is a good deal of material which strikes us as almost uncannily topical.

"A rather thick-set head . . . a mouth used to snapping orders . . . a well-cut black coat, a conservatively looped necktie with a sort of pearl in it, and always-clean collar . . . Impeccably correct and polite . . . Will probably soon be some big shot," we read in one of the essays, "Face of a German." Good heavens, didn't we see that face on the telly only the other day? Or the portrait of a Social-Democrat Bonze: "While taking food and cigars from the waiters, you scoff at hotheads and agitators . . . you shrug as you sip champagne from your glass, a spokesman for Germany's working class!"

The 26 poems in the volume are printed in both languages, the German original and Ross' translation, and an excellent job he has done with them, even maintaining the same meter. But where Tucho's verse—he called himself a *Gebrauchsliteratur*—is rooted mainly in the circumstances of the period and the language of Berlin, a faithful as well as meaningful (and entertaining) rendering is almost impossible. Ross has, in many cases, produced good, readable poems full of deft strokes of wit; but they aren't Tucholsky's—you might call them "inspired" by the original ones. In other cases, he has tried to stick more faithfully to Tucho; and the result must be rather puzzling to an Anglo-Saxon reader, who cannot possibly understand what, for instance, the classic "Anna-Luise" ("When at Dusk the Hedgehogs Go A-Hunting"), is all about. There are also some misguided attempts at "modernising" Tucho's language; when he talks, in his poem addressed to Lucian, of the *Schwebelbahn* as a twentieth-century achievement, the translator turns it into the cyclotron (mind you, the verses were written in 1918!). In his *Gruss nach vorn*, Tucholsky speaks to the reader of 1935: ". . . auch dein Gehirn trägt du ganz anders," which Zohn renders, unintel-

ligibly, as "you carry your cranium quite differently too." The sincere verses addressed to the dead Siegfried Jacobsohn are translated without the—surely necessary—explanation who S. J. was; the English reader may find only a passing reference to him way back in the introduction.

There are, however, some enlightening footnotes, such as the very good one on the character of Herr Wendriner: "The personification of a Berlin businessman, a spiritually empty, unctuous, servile, assimilated Jew, a lightweight in mind and morality." The book includes the truly devastating and horribly prophetic "Herr Wendriner Under the Dictatorship", written three years before the *Machtergreifung*.

Altogether, it is a good thing that Tucholsky has found these two interpreters in the Anglo-Saxon world. The mere fact that the evils he attacked are still, or again, with us makes the book important. The last poem, on Europe in 1932, is as topical as it was then (perhaps even more so here and now): "Britons, buy British! . . . Swedes, buy Swedish goods! . . . Germans, buy German lemons! . . . At record rate the goods are made, for the export trade. The other should buy the merchandise! . . . We? Import licence and custom gate: a barrier nothing must penetrate . . ." Kurt Tucholsky may not have been, as Zohn and Ross claim, a latter-day Heine; but he was a superb essayist and an effective satirical poet on the topics of the day—some of them, again, today's topics. "He looked into the future," said George Grosz a few years ago, shortly before his own death, "and he found it so frightening that he decided to opt out. Now he's resurrected. Still in time?"

BOOKLET ON INTER-GROUP RELATIONS

The booklet "Judaism and Inter-Group Relations" (Board of Deputies, 3s. 6d.) consists of a number of comprehensive articles written since 1938 by Myer Domnitz, M.A., secretary of the Board's Central Lecture Committee. It provides useful information both for Gentile and Jewish readers. Most of the 24 articles deal with Jewish festivals and Biblical personalities. Yet essays on secular subjects such as the history and the institutions of Anglo-Jewry and problems of group prejudice are also included. The 88-page publication is enhanced by a Book List of literature on Judaism, Antisemitism and Israel.

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Old Acquaintances

Milestones: Erich Maria Remarque, of "Im Westen nichts Neues" fame, has celebrated his 70th birthday. Born in Osnabrueck, he was first a teacher and then a publicity officer for Continental-Reifen in Hanover. Nearly all his novels were made into films.—Carl Posen, who during the war published the works of Jakob Wassermann and Emil Ludwig in Switzerland, and who also represented Erich Kaestner, is 75 years old.—Heinrich Strobel, who started as the music critic of Berlin's *Boersenkurier*, later editing *Melos*, is 70 years of age; since 1945 he has been the musical director of Baden-Baden's radio and T.V. station.—Former film star Anny Ondra, married to Max Schmeling, has turned 65.

Germany: Eric Pohlman of London appeared in Horvath's "Italienische Nacht" at Berlin's Volksbuehne.—Kortner's production of "Sturm", with Martin Held, was successfully staged at Berlin's Schiller-Theater.—Robert Neumann's play, "Luise", will be produced in Cologne.—The East German Government conferred the title of "Professor h.c." on Frank Arnau, who lives in Munich.—Heidemarie Hatheyer played Brecht's "Mutter Courage" in Duesseldorf.—Trude Kolmar directed Blackmore's "Tapetenwechsel" at Munich's Kleine Freiheit.—Axel Eggebrecht lectured on T.V. about the "Weltbuehne", with interviews with Walter Mehring and Walther Karsch.

Obituary: Marcella Salzer, actress daughter of the once-well-known reciter Marcel Salzer, died in London after a long illness; she was married to the poet Clifford Dymont.—Charlotte Dieterle, wife of the former German film star and Hollywood director, William Dieterle, died as the result of an accident in Lichtenstein. Before her marriage, as Charlotte Hagenbruch, she was a member of Max Reinhardt's ensemble.—Sixty-eight-year-old Ernst Neubach has died in Munich. He wrote the lyrics of "Ich hab mein Herz in Heidelberg verloren" and many other popular songs, mainly for Joseph Schmidt, and later produced films first in Paris and then in Germany.

Home News: Anely Juda has opened her own art gallery at 11 Tottenham Mews, London.—Bernard Grun has been authorised by Alban Berg's widow to translate and edit the 569 letters which the composer wrote to her between 1907 and 1935 for publication by Faber & Faber of London.—Together with Wolf Frees of the B.B.C., Wanda Rotha made a successful appearance in a double bill at Guildford's Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Ionesco's "Delire à deux" and Musset's "Un Caprice".—Louis Hagen, son of the well-known Berlin banker who wrote "Arnheim Lift" and "Follow My Leader", after two years' research in Germany published "The Secret War for Europe" with Macdonald, London.

News from Everywhere: Gert von Gontard, who sponsored and organised the world tour of Vienna's Burgtheater, also financing it with \$200,000, received the Austrian title of "Professor" for his effort.—The Habimah will reopen in its completely renovated theatre on January 1; Israel now has 51 theatrical companies, professional and amateur.

Austria: Introduced by Franz Theodor Csokor, Hertha Pauli of New York spoke about playwright Oedson von Horvath to mark the 30th anniversary of his death; he was killed by an uprooted tree on the Champs Elysées.—At Vienna's Volkstheater Leon Epp will direct Frantisek Langer's "Peripherie" and Gustav Manker "Arzt am Scheideweg".

PEM

Gabriele Tergit

A HERO OF OUR TIME

In Memory of Varian Fry

In 1940 France, the haven of three million aliens, among them 54,000 refugees from Germany, became a death trap. Petain had signed an armistice which stipulated that "the French Government was to hand over all German subjects designated by the Reich Government who were in France or in her overseas possessions." The United States had, by its quota laws, limited immigration and in the years between 1938 and 1940 when the quotas were overdrawn, did not permit the taking up of the German quotas which had not been fully used in the years 1933-1937.

At that time the head of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in New York was Dubinsky, a great man who had led the way to a decent living standard for those who worked 16 hours per day in windowless closets (there were 361,000 such places in the City of New York before 1914). He felt responsible for the safety of the members of the Second International, the Social Democratic leaders, and for his Menshevik friends. However, as Isaiah Minkoff, the Secretary of the Jewish Labour Committee, stated in an interview in 1966: "We never thought only of the Jewish workers. We were life-long internationalists, we decided to save men of all nationalities and all countries." Together with William Green, President of the American Federation of Labour, the representatives of the Jewish Labour Committee visited President Roosevelt in Washington. The President immediately gave orders for the issue of 1,000 emergency visitors' visas. The delegation gave an assurance that the Federation of Labour would be financially responsible in place of individual guarantors.

The Committee compiled lists of persons to be saved and these were approved by Washington. No sponsors, no affidavits, no question of economic status, literacy or character. Guarantors were, in fact, the Jewish tailors of New York—the descendants of the people who had worked in the windowless closets for 60 cents a week. The Committee sent Dr. Frank Bohn to Marseilles, where he installed himself in the Hotel Splendide. An emergency rescue committee was formed comprising Frank Kingdon (Chancellor of New York University), Raymond Gram Swing and Dorothy Thomson. For the dangerous task of getting the refugees out of France a former Harvard student, Varian Fry, was chosen. He had witnessed a pogrom on the Kurfuerstendamm in 1935 and was actuated by a feeling of sympathy for the German and Austrian Socialists and for the Jews. Fry joined forces with Dr. Frank Bohn in the Hotel Splendide.

Refugees sat around in cafés and hunted for news. The French had to get permission for exit visas from Vichy which, in fact, meant Wiesbaden. How were the refugees to get out of France? Gangsters in Marseilles offered escape at a price—ships, cars, mountain guides. Rumour upon rumour abounded. Suddenly another rumour: "An American has arrived in Marseilles with special United States visas for everyone." The story has been told by Hans Sahl in his novel "Die Wenigen und die Vielen": "When I opened the door (in the Hotel Splendide) a friendly young man in shirt-sleeves put his arm around me, pushed some dollars into my pocket and said in a stage whisper: 'When you need more come. In the meantime I will cable your

name to Washington. We will bring you out, there are ways.'" It was Varian Fry who thus spoke.

Bohn and Fry brought out not only the Mensheviks but the Austrian Socialists, Dr. Wilhelm Ellenbogen, Karl Hans Sailer, Joseph Luitpold Stern, Otto Leichter and Julius Deutsch, the members of the German Reichstag, Marie Juchacz, Wilhelm Wagner and Friedrich Stampfer. They also brought out Hans Hirschfeld, Leopold Schwarzschild, the Nobel Prize winner Dr. Otto Meyerhoff, Hans Natonek, Alfred Polgar, Herta Pauli, Konrad Heiden, Friederike Zweig (wife of Stefan), Professor E. J. Gumbel, Leonhard Frank, Alfred Döblin, Friedrich Torberg.

Fry personally brought out the Heinrich Manns and Golo Mann and the Werfels. Werfel, though a Jew, had on him letters from French church dignitaries addressed to Spanish church and lay officials requesting all help and protection for one of the leading Catholic writers of that time. He had not yet written "The Song of Bernadette". Varian, who was the only holder of an exit visa, met the Manns and the Werfels at Marseilles station. Contrary to the usual procedure at the Spanish frontier, all passengers now had to show their travel documents to the frontier police who had strict orders not to let through anyone without an exit visa. Fry, therefore, advised the party to make a long and weary climb over the foot hills of the Pyrenees. He was doubtful whether stout Werfel and the 70-year-old Mann could make it. Nevertheless they decided to undertake the journey, together with one of Fry's American helpers. Fry himself travelled by train taking with him 17 pieces of luggage and documents. Neither the French nor the Spanish customs officials made any difficulties. The experiences of the Manns, who had American papers under the names of Mr. and Mrs. Heinrich Ludwig, and of the Werfels, were incredible. When they reached the crest of the hill two French Gardes Mobiles appeared: "Are you looking for Spain?" they asked. "Well, follow the footpath here to the left. The right one would lead you to the French border post and without exit visas you may get into trouble". The Spanish border sentry was only interested in the passport of Golo Mann. "I am honoured to make the acquaintance of the son of so great a man", he said and arranged for a car to collect the party.

Feuchtwanger was hidden by the Vice-Consul Harry Bingham in his villa before he was able to cross the frontier safely.

On October 1, 1940, after Himmler's visit to Madrid, Spain closed her frontiers and Portugal stopped the issue of transit visas. Fry now had to find respectable documents. He purchased forged Danish and Dutch passports as well as demobilisation orders from soldiers from Morocco, with which young men could escape. A new escape route was discovered. Ships for Martinique left every four days. Thus, Fry was able to send away Cracauer, the film historian; Lipschitz, the sculptor; Lotte Leonhard, the singer; Peter Pringsheim; Hans Aufrecht; Oscar Goldberg, the Hebraic scholar; Marc Chagall, whom he got out of a Marseilles prison; Walter Mehring; and Wanda Landowska. Then the British unaccountably seized one of the Martinique ships. The only escape route from Hitler's Europe was now cut off. For Hitler it was a pin-prick, for thousands of his

enemies a death warrant. Vichy cancelled all further sailings and put the passengers from two of the ships, almost all of them refugees, into concentration camps.

Fry now worked under the menace of the Gestapo, the Vichy officials and the State Department.

"The State Department through the intermediary of the Consul put spokes in our wheels whenever they could, stating that they did not wish to give help or sympathy to agitators in a friendly country", wrote Mary Jayne Gold, a young, rich American, who helped Fry in every way. Frank Kingdon, in an interview with Will Schaber in 1967, said: "Some officials feared complications with Vichy if visas were given too lightly. The stumbling blocks were the European desk of the State Department and the passport division. It was through the influence of Mrs. Roosevelt, Sumner Welles and Adolph Berle that we were able to overcome a great many of the obstacles. There was also trouble with the Consulates in Lisbon and Zürich. Sometimes their resistance to granting visas was tinged with antisemitism". Kingdon saw President Roosevelt and explained the situation to him. The President expressed his complete sympathy and called the State Department at once, but nothing happened. Kingdon visited the President again a few weeks later, but he was unable to do much. During the second interview the President said to him: "You know Frank, I hope that some time before the war is over the State Department will be on our side". Kingdon once threatened to inform the press: "This I didn't do lightly because we did not want much exposure. Ours was basically a secret operation".

Those refugees who had been brought to relative safety in Lisbon were still waiting. Alfred Döblin described their anxiety: "The poste restante corner in the main post office of Lisbon, the outer corner of Europe, was the tragic meeting-place for many in this year of debacle, 1940. Some came in the morning or in the evening, some came in the morning and again in the evening." The letters, postcards, telegrams they expected had to be written and mailed in the States, as had visas, tickets, money. Strangers had to care for them. Ingrid Warburg, Erika Mann, Lisl Frank (daughter of Fritzi Massary) gave all their time to this work.

Fry and Dr. Bohn worked under the most difficult circumstances. In a letter from the State Department they were warned that "this Government cannot countenance the activities as reported of Mr. Bohn and Mr. Fry in their efforts to evade the laws of countries with which the United States maintains friendly relations". Bohn returned to the States but Fry stubbornly remained. In 1942 the State Department not only refused to renew his passport, but confiscated it. Fry then received a summons from the Intendant of the police in Marseilles requesting him to return to the United States without delay because he had protected Jews and anti-Nazis. "You have caused my good friend, the Consul-General of the United States, much annoyance. . . ."

On his return Fry did not receive a hero's welcome. He was neither honoured by the United States (nor by the Jews). Only France made him a Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur. He wrote an excellent little-known book, "Surrender on Demand", published and forgotten in the storms of 1945. All he got was a caseful of the books of the writers he had saved and their gratitude. He was never offered an adequate position. He died in 1967 at the age of 59, a Latin teacher at a boys' school.

Fritz Friedlaender (Melbourne)

MORITZ HEIMANN

Centenary of his Birth

Sometimes a man visualises his purpose in life in a different way from the image which exists in the minds of his contemporaries. Moritz Heimann's contemporaries knew him as a man who, as a reader of a leading publishing house—S. Fischer Verlag, Berlin, founded in 1886—decisively influenced the currents of modern German and European literature. Samuel Fischer was a shrewd and cultivated businessman, but it was Moritz Heimann who destined the intellectual direction of his firm.

Born in a little village in the Mark Brandenburg, Werder near Rehfelde, on July 19, 1868, Heimann made the buzzing Reich capital the sphere of his influence. He smoothed the way for Thomas Mann's, Jakob Wassermann's and Hermann Hesse's path to fame. Being the brother-in-law of Gerhart Hauptmann, he was close to him, and Herman Stehr whom Hauptmann had introduced into the literary world, also became his friend. Heimann possessed the precious gift of inspiring confidence; the publisher's reader became a trusted and esteemed friend of the author. Encouraged by him, young writers such as Emil Strauss, credited by him with writing the best modern German prose, as well as Emil Goett, Oscar Loerke and Wilhelm Lehmann, entered the literary scene.

Heimann's Berlin home was a meeting place for the intellectual élite of his day, and all those fortunate enough to be included fell under the spell of his personality. His keen critical mind soon realised what was either genuine or false lustre: "Er war eine Lessing-Natur und allem Windigen, Oberflächlichen abgewandt. Er hatte den schärfsten Blick für innere Wahrhaftigkeit im Leben und im Werk" (Rudolf Kayser).

Moritz Heimann was not content, however, just to be a pioneer for others, he felt he had been chosen to have his own say as both a poet and writer. As he grew older he preferred to withdraw further from the turmoil of Berlin into the calm and loneliness of his house in Kagel, a village in the Mark Brandenburg, in order to be able to concentrate on his own writings.

It is strange that, though his tender and pensive nature lacked the grip of the born dramatist, he first wrote dramas of which "Armand Carrel" (1920) and "Das Weib des Akiba" (1922) were the most important. Certainly they bear the stamp of the author's refinement, but they were too overburdened with reflections to fascinate an audience. In the same way his poems, apart from some ballads, lack the naivety of great lyrical poetry.

Heimann's lasting fame rests on his short stories, essays and aphorisms. For example, a remote village somewhere in North Germany's lowlands is characteristically the scenery of his masterly story "Wintergespinnst" (1905), which obviously had been written by the author when in a brooding state of mind.

The same philosophical approach to the subject, as well as the readiness to become personally involved, make his essays and

reviews collected in "Prosaische Schriften" (3 vol. 1918) and in "Nachgelassene Schriften" (1926) immune from the changing intellectual vogue. Above all, his aphorisms are gems of penetration, often reaching Nietzschean level.

Two of these aphorisms, often quoted, outline his view of Judaism. Heimann believed that "die nicht aufzuhebende Zerstreuung" is Jewish destiny, and concluded: "Es ist nichts Unnatürliches darin, seine Bahn mit zwei Mittelpunkten zu laufen, einige Kometen tun es und die Planeten alle. Unvereinbar Scheinendes zu vereinen, darin besteht im Grunde das ganze geistige Geschäft."

Heimann's belief in assimilation emanated from personal experience; he came from the only Jewish family in a hamlet, being on amiable terms with its Christian neighbours. Later, in Berlin, eminent non-Jewish intellectuals sought and treasured his friendship.

He was, however, thoroughly opposed to an assimilation betraying Judaism. Though he turned away from Orthodox Judaism in which he was reared, he was nevertheless proud of his Jewishness. Micha Josef bin Gorion, the great neo-Hebrew writer, was his close friend, and Martin Buber, when planning a translation of the Bible, had intended to invite Heimann to take part in this work. It was also Buber who emphatically agreed with Heimann's noted answer to the Jewish problem: "Was ein auf die einsamste, unzugänglichste, Insel verschlagener Jude noch als 'Judenfrage' anerkennt, das einzig ist sie."

In his view, first of all, a Jew has to clarify what Judaism means to him. Is the Jewish problem a racial one? Heimann denies this, for race is "eine Bedingung des Lebens, nicht sein Ziel." Does Zionism offer a solution? Heimann rejected that kind of Zionism, which was content with making propaganda, but he deeply respected the hard working chalu. However, he felt that a Jewish national home would only partially solve the Jewish question.

Being no less critical of Reform than of Orthodox Judaism, he expressed his hope of a renaissance of the Jewish faith, although in rather vague terms. His relevant ideas had, probably, not yet taken a definite shape when the last years of his life were overshadowed by a grave illness. He died in Berlin on September

22, 1925, and was thus at least spared the experience that friends of his, such as Emil Strauss and Hermann Stehr, succumbed to National Socialism.

A recent effort to revive the Judaeo-German dialogue in Federal Germany was also for the benefit of Heimann's work. Wilhelm Lehmann, faithful to Heimann's memory, edited a selection of the late writer's works; a collection of his essays was also published separately. However, a noble mind like that of Moritz Heimann will hardly attract those keen on best sellers, but will only appeal to the chosen few.

HEINE YEAR BOOK

Interesting details about past and present, futile and successful activities of the City of Duesseldorf in memory of Heine are recorded in the recently published Seventh Heine Year Book of the Duesseldorf Heine Archives, edited by Bibliotheksdirektor Dr. E. Galley (Hoffmann & Campe 1968, 105 pp., 8 illustrations).

In his article about the history and task of the Heine Archives, Dr. Galley reports that the Committee for the erection of a Heine monument in Duesseldorf, founded in 1887, had to disband its plans, due to obstruction by the Municipal authorities which, at least to a certain extent, acted on Government orders and possibly also on personal intervention by the Kaiser. However, in 1904 it became possible to use the donations collected for the Monument for the purchase of a great Heine collection, which formed the nucleus of the present archives. The collection was constantly increased by further purchases, including Heine's private library, which was acquired in 1923 with the financial help of some industrial combines and several Duesseldorf bankers (Falk, Hammerschmidt and Simons) and merchants (Gordon, Hugo Meyer and Tietz)—most, if not all of them, Jews. By skilful manipulation the Archives were kept intact under the Nazis, and after the war adequate premises were made available in the rebuilt Municipal Library. New acquisitions include a comprehensive collection of Heine manuscripts, one section of which (poems) is listed in the Year Book by Franz Finke, Duesseldorf.

From a Jewish point of view the bibliography of Heine translations into Hebrew is of special interest. The author is J. Raphael (Ramat Gan), who, in his introduction, deals with the impact of Heine's message on the Haskalah movement, which aimed at a renaissance of the Hebrew language, coupled with the integration of world literature into the Jewish sphere of thought. Fritz H. Eisner (London) deals with "Some Riddles in Heine's Life." One of them is the poet's year of birth, sometimes given as 1797, sometimes as 1799. It is now uncontroversial that 1797 is correct. According to Eisner, that date was put forward by Heine's parents in order to avoid his liability for Prussian military service. This, and not an alleged pre-marital birth, is, in Eisner's view, the accurate explanation. The Year Book also carries an essay about Heine's "Ideen, Das Buch Le Grand," by Juergen Jacobs (Koeln), and about Heine and Lassalle by Shlomo Na'aman (Tel Aviv).

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Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

GHOST-TOWNS ON THE SUEZ CANAL

A few mosques, two Coptic churches—Kantara. Nobody is seen in the streets, not even a dog. The shops have pulled down their shutters, the houses are empty or in shambles. Of the 15,000 inhabitants of the town approximately 1,000 remained, yet the only civilians we see are three Arabs, selling cold drinks in the canteen, one of them suffering from an eye-sore—Trachoma. The canteen in a café-garden, on a tree-lined boulevard, has obviously seen better days.

We leave our car and walk to the check-post. The Israeli sentry to whom we show our permit inquires by telephone. A young lieutenant comes to meet us. His name is Yoram and he hails from a kibbutz in Galilee. The barrier is lifted. We follow him through a lane which leads to the Suez Canal. Of the bars and pubs once noisy with sailors, only some battered signs have remained. In the burnt-out shops traders used to haggle with tourists.

Suddenly we stand before the waterway, here about 100 metres wide. On the other side is Kantara-West. The two halves of the town were linked by bridges which were blasted. The distorted silhouette of a crane rises into the air.

"You can go down to the quay but turn to the right", says Yoram. We look to the left, see no difference between the two sides, yet obediently we keep to the right. "Don't wash your feet in the water", he calls after us.

At a distance of 100 metres are the Egyptian positions which follow meticulously each of our movements. Here as well as there the U.N. flag flies over one of the houses—which have been turned into observation posts. A deadly silence hovers over the water.

Forty kilometres to the south is Ismaila, not the biggest but the most fashionable of the four Canal towns. On our side there are only the ramshackle houses of a poor suburb, now garrisoned by troops. On a signpost somebody

has scribbled "Discotesque to the Rising Sun". We climb a few steps. Up there a few Israeli soldiers are sitting in the sun. One plays a guitar. Down there the canal is glittering. On the other embankment, as if not touched by war, the town—the waterfront, the promenade, a park, houses with rich oriental façades, others in modern functional style.

"Do you ever see people on the Egyptian side?" we ask the soldiers.

"Not civilians."

"You have here a beautiful view", we say and point to the boulevards which sparkle in the bright light of the day.

"If you look for weeks at the same empty houses, . . ." one of them replies and makes a sour face.

On we go southwards, passing the Bitter Lake and the fourteen freighters which a year ago got caught in the Arab-Israeli conflict and since are trapped. The desert wind drives the sand in waves across the highroad and here and there an army tractor, working like a snow-plough, clears the way.

Where the canal enters the Gulf, the town of Suez stretches along the Western embankment. Who has remained of her 200,000 inhabitants is difficult to say. Here the waterway already widens and the streets on the other side are hardly discernible. The black skeletons of the oil refineries soar ghost-like into the sky. After the Egyptians had sunk the destroyer "Elath", the Israelis shelled the refineries to pieces.

Wherever we go, there is an expanse of ochre and yellow, dazzling in the sunlight. Day by day, night by night, the sands of Sinai run onto the highways, obliterate roads, seep into the water and slowly they clog the canal, which no dredger has touched for a year. In nine months, the 13 metre deep shipping lane has lost over 20 centimetres.

It will be 100 years in November, 1969,

since the Suez Canal was ceremoniously opened by the Empress Eugenie of France. At that time the Egyptians awarded a 99-year concession to the Suez Company. When President Nasser in 1956 broke this contract by nationalising the Canal, France and Great Britain resorted to military action. Today, hardly twelve years later, the question when and whether the Suez Canal be opened to international shipping has lost much of its importance. For this waterway, once a symbol of progress is itself in danger of being left behind by technical developments.

Long before the Six-Day War, oil-transport has more and more shifted to supertankers which are too big for passing through the Canal. According to a reliable estimate in the year 1970 there will be about 180 tankers with a tonnage of 200,000-300,000 tons each, plying the high seas. Since the closure of the Suez Canal the building of over 100 giant tankers has been started.

Israel, too, makes an effort to take part in oil transport. As early as next year the first stage of an oil pipe-line from Elath at the Red Sea to Ashkelon at the Mediterranean Sea will begin operating. At full exploitation the capacity of the 42-inch wide and 150-mile-long pipe-line will be 60 million tons per year—equal to a third of the capacity of the Suez Canal. The return trip from Gulf ports to Rotterdam round the Cape is 22,500 miles; through the Suez Canal 17,700 miles; by the Israel pipe-line it will be cut to 12,900 miles.

To set off Israel's competition, Cairo considers building a pipe-line from Suez to Alexandria at a cost of 100 million dollars, capable of carrying 50 million tons a year. Egypt's alternative would be widening and deepening the Canal and opening it to the use of super-tankers. This, however, depends on political developments which in shipping circles are not viewed optimistically. The biggest private shipping line for passenger trade, the British P. & O. group has included the Cape detour in its schedules for 1969. Its chairman, Sir Ronald Anderson, stated that the Suez Canal can never again be relied upon as an international waterway, "for it has become a weapon in warfare and politics."

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THE GERMAN SCENE

VON THADDEN

FEARS UNJUSTIFIED?

On the occasion of Israel's 20th anniversary, Dr. Kiesinger, the West German Chancellor, gave an interview to "deutschland-berichte," a pro-Israel information bulletin published in Bonn. He spoke of the past that could not be forgotten and of Germany's admiration for Israel's achievements, observing that the Israel issue united all the major parties in the Federal Republic. Dr. Kiesinger sought to reassure Jews that fears of a neo-Nazi revival in West Germany were unjustified. The recent election successes of the National Democratic Party, he said, were due to a "protest reaction" by citizens dissatisfied with the policies of the main parties. He was confident that these "protest voters" would return to the major democratic groups and only an unimportant extremist rump would remain.

STUDENTS ACCUSE PROFESSOR

Professor Hans Eckhardt, the director of the West Berlin Free University Japanese Institute, has been accused by students of uttering antisemitic statements, and his dismissal has been demanded. The city's Jewish student organisation and the Jewish community have associated themselves with the student protest. Leading political leaders, including Herr Klaus Schuetz, the Chief Burgomaster, have expressed disapproval of the professor's activities.

Two years ago West Berlin's administrative court ordered a temporary reduction in the professor's salary after hearings into complaints of his antisemitic remarks. The administrative high court quashed the sentence when the university appealed, and the professor (Hitler's former Nazi Party emissary in Japan) received only a reprimand.

DEMOCRATIC FORCES EXIST

Speaking at a meeting of the local German-Israel Society in Bonn, the Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Asher Ben-Natan, said that those countries which had suffered at the hands of the Nazis were understandably deeply alarmed by recent developments. But he warned against exaggerating the meaning of the recent State elections in Baden-Wuerttemberg, in which the N.P.D. won twelve seats.

Generalised criticism would only help the extremists and weaken the democratic forces. It was important to know and recognise the existence of democratic forces in West Germany, which were fighting neo-Nazism, he said.

In an effort to prevent the local N.P.D. leader, Wilhelm Gutmann, from taking his seat in the State Parliament, representatives of the Evangelical Church in Baden-Wuerttemberg addressed a letter to Adolf von Thadden pointing out that Gutmann had played an active part in the persecution of Jews.

AUTHORITARIAN LEADER FAVOURED

A poll was conducted by the political institute of Bonn University at the request of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs. The findings showed that 25 per cent of adults, 14 per cent of working youth and four per cent of students questioned said they favoured an authoritarian leader for Germany.

When asked whether they thought Nazism had been a good idea badly implemented, 50 per cent of the adults said "Yes," as did 43 per cent of the working youth and nine per cent of the students. Ninety-five per cent of the students were opposed to one-party rule whilst 39 per cent of adults favoured it.

Adolf von Thadden, leader of the West German National Democratic Party, was interviewed on BBC-1's "24 Hours" by Michael Barrett, who produced a record card showing that von Thadden had joined the Nazi Party on September 1, 1939. Although he claimed that he could not remember signing an application form, von Thadden admitted that he had been a member of the Hitler Youth Movement.

In South Africa where he spent a holiday with his mother, Baroness von Thadden, the N.P.D. leader declared that he was not a neo-Nazi . . . "with my background it is ridiculous to suggest I ever will be" he said during an interview in Johannesburg.

CALL FOR N.P.D. BAN

Young demonstrators tried to break up a meeting of the National Democratic Party in the small Upper Franconian town of Lichtenfels. Shouting "Nazi, Nazi," and "We don't want to be sent to a concentration camp," they forced their way into the meeting-place. Order was only restored when the police intervened.

Demands for a ban on N.P.D. activities by West German trade union leaders are continuing. An executive member of the board of the Trade Union Federation demanded that the sword which the Federal Government had used to cut down the Communist threat a dozen years ago, must now be applied to the Right-wing danger before it was too late.

PLAQUE ON SYNAGOGUE SITE

At the unveiling of a plaque on the site of the synagogue which the Nazis burned in Philippsburg, Baden-Wuerttemberg, the burgomaster said it represented a "debt of honour" in memory of former Jewish fellow-citizens.



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IN MEMORIAM

DR. JACOB JACOBSON

The historian, Dr. Jacob Jacobson (Worcester), died on May 31, in his 80th year, in Neuenahr, where he was for a cure. In Germany he was Director of the "Gesamtarchiv der deutschen Juden" and also editor of the Archive's bulletin. He carried out his duties until the middle of the war, when he was deported to Theresienstadt. After the liberation of the camp he joined his wife and son, who had emigrated to England. Here he resumed his research work and remained active as a scholar and author to the end.

Jacob Jacobson's knowledge of German-Jewish history, especially from the 18th century onwards, was outstanding and, in the field of genealogy of Berlin's Jewry, unsurpassed. Two standard works, published after the war, bear witness to this: "Die Judenbürgerbriefe der Stadt Berlin (1809-1851)" (1962) and "Juedische Trauungen in Berlin, 1759-1813" (1968). Both works appeared in the series of the Veröffentlichungen der Historischen Kommission (Volume 4 and 28 respectively). The first was based on the municipal register which the Berlin authorities maintained for Jews who were granted Berlin citizenship; it comprises more than 3,000 entries. The second, published only a few days prior to Dr. Jacobson's death, comprises the records of about 1,000 marriages conducted by the Berlin Jewish community during the pre-emancipation period. The particular importance of both publications derives from the innumerable explanatory notes and cross references which only a scholar of Dr. Jacobson's experience and background knowledge could have produced. It is under this aspect that his death leaves an unbridgeable gap. His literary legacy, is, however, not restricted to these two works. It also includes monographs and many articles published both before and after his emigration. Among those who benefited from his co-operation are the Leo Baeck Institute, with which he was also closely associated as a Board Member of the British section, and *AJR Information*, to which he contributed many important articles and book reviews.

Dr. Jacobson was never a detached scholar.

The driving force of his research work was a passionate devotion to Judaism and Jewry, whose unique history was always on his mind. He had been a Zionist since his student days. Yet the particular subject of research he had chosen for himself made it necessary for him to deal also with personalities and families who had left the Jewish fold. In these cases he did not try to simplify the issue by superficial criticism, but evaluated such trends in their wider historical and social context. His works include many references to the tragic position of persons who were only partly of Jewish ancestry, but who had, all the same, to face the Jewish fate after 1933.

Due to his expert knowledge, Dr. Jacobson was an indispensable adviser to many people and he always selflessly rendered his help. By his sincerity and his entirely unassuming personality he endeared himself to all who had the privilege of knowing him. Together with his widow and son, many friends and colleagues mourn his death.

W. ROSENSTOCK.

DR. THEODOR WERNER

A short time ago Dr. Theodor Werner died in London, aged 70. He was the son of Dr. Sigmund Werner, who was the editor of the first official organ of the Zionist Organisation, *Die Welt* (Vienna). Theodor Herzl was his godfather.

Werner studied medicine in Prague and Vienna and settled in Moravska Ostrava. He arrived in this country in March, 1939, and was able to save important Zionist material, including letters from Theodor Herzl, Nathan Birnbaum (Mathias Acher), Martin Buber, Hans Herzl and others. He presented the material to the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem.

Dr. Theodor Werner was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was active in the Jewish Refugee Committee and the Czech Refugee Trust Fund. He had joined the Zionist student club "Hasmonaea" over 50 years ago and was well known and honoured in Zionist and academic circles in London. He leaves a widow and two sons.

JOSEF FRAENKEL.

MR. RAPHAEL ROSENBERG

Mr. Raphael Rosenberg, who died in London at the age of 73, was a co-founder of the Golders Green Beth Hamidrash. An art dealer by profession, he left Berlin in 1933 to settle in Holland from where he later re-emigrated to this country. He was a member of the AJR since its inception. We extend our sympathy to his widow, Mrs. G. Rosenberg, who is actively associated with our work as a member of the Otto Schiff House Committee, and to the other members of his family.

INAUGURATION OF DACHAU MEMORIAL SITE

Due to the efforts of the Comité International de Dachau (CID) and with the financial help of the Bavarian and Federal German Governments, the City of Munich and various organisations, the former camp is being rebuilt into a permanent Memorial Site and, at the same time, a place of meditation. The design includes a new monument, a Catholic Memorial Chapel, a Protestant Memorial Church and a Memorial Synagogue. The inauguration of the site and the unveiling ceremony of the monument will take place on Sunday, September 8. Many Governments, most likely also Her Majesty's Government, and organisations will be represented. Any readers who might consider to participate in the ceremony, especially former inmates of the camp or relatives of theirs, should get in touch as soon as possible with Captain B. R. Hanauer, British Representative on the Comité International de Dachau, 2 Birnam Close, Send Marsh Road, Ripley, Surrey. (Phone Ripley 2620).

LINZ SYNAGOGUE CONSECRATED

On April 2 a new synagogue was consecrated in Linz (Donau). It is built on the site of the previous synagogue, which was opened in May, 1877, and destroyed on November 10, 1938. The ceremony took place in the presence of representatives of the State, municipal and Church authorities. The guests were welcomed by the President of the Kultusgemeinde, Herr Wilhelm Schwager, and the main address was delivered by Dr. Ernst Feldsberg, President of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Austria.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Bermann.—Mrs. Doris Bermann (formerly Breslau), of Leo Baeck House, The Bishop's Avenue, London, N.2, celebrated her 92nd birthday on June 12.

Taterka.—Mrs. Wally Taterka, of 19 Sneath Avenue, N.W.11, will celebrate her 85th birthday on July 19.

Weiss.—Mrs. Ida Weiss, of 54 Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6 (formerly Berlin and U.S.A.) will celebrate her 80th birthday on July 27.

Deaths

Cahn.—Mr. Franz Cahn, of 21 Hillfield Court, Belsize Avenue, London, N.W.3 (formerly Frankfurt a/Main) passed away peacefully on May 25, after much suffering uncomplainingly borne.

Goetz.—Mr. George Goetz passed away on June 15 at the age of 75 years. Deeply mourned by his widow, sons, daughters-in-law, sister and grandchildren.

Marx.—Mr. Alfred Marx, of 30 Corringham Road, London, N.W.11, passed away peacefully in his sleep on May 25. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by his family and friends.

Morawitz.—Mrs. Elsa Morawitz (née Goldschmidt), of Otto Hirsch House, Kew (formerly Hamburg), passed away peacefully on May 21 in her 89th year. Deeply mourned by her family in London, Gothenburg and Stockholm and her numerous friends.

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MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Fuchs.—Mrs. Wilma Fuchs (née Sass), last known address: c/o Charles Bedrich, 21/23 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2. Wanted in connection with the estate of the late Mr. Alfons Sass. Box 949.

Enquiries by AJR

Abrahamsohn.—Selma Abrahamsohn, wanted by Rosa Forst, Israel.

THE ISRAELI SCENE

RUSSIAN IMMIGRANTS' MEETING

A public meeting of immigrants from Russia was held in Tel Aviv—the first since emigration from that country within the framework of the reunification of families scheme. The programme has been discontinued since the rupture in diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, expressed his conviction at the meeting that Russia's Jews will soon be able to come to Israel, thus considerably strengthening Israel's Jewish population. "We shall not sit quietly", he said, "as long as there is a country denying to its Jews the freedom of emigration". The Prime Minister made a large part of his speech in Yiddish. Over 3,000 people were present at the meeting, and many were unable to get into the hall.

MENUHIN DONATES HIS FEES

A large part of Yehudi Menuhin's earnings from his recent concert tour of Israel has been donated to local charities. Donations of \$1,000 each are to be applied for the provision of comforts for wounded soldiers in hospital and the repair of damaged villages. Mr. Menuhin has given amounts of \$500 each to various organisations, to the Arabic edition of the magazine "New Outlook", the Jerusalem Youth Orchestra and for the provision of a musical scholarship for a young Israeli violinist at the Yehudi Menuhin School in England. A sum of \$850 has also been made available to Unrwa to provide a scholarship for Gaza students at an Israeli university or some other university in a friendly country.

BRITISH IMMIGRANTS

British emigration to Israel continues at a high level. In the first four months of this year the total showed an increase of more than 80 per cent compared with the same period in 1967. At the end of May, 1968, there were 353 British emigrants as against 161 in the same period last year. In 1966 the total number of British emigrants to Israel was 520; the total for 1967 was 720.

The reasons for this considerable rise in British emigration are given as the widely extended activities of Jewish Agency officials in London, coupled with the increased good will towards Israel since the Six-Day War.

EBAN HECKLED IN STOCKHOLM

When Mr. Abba Eban, the Israeli Foreign Minister, visited Stockholm recently, about 300 people took part in an anti-Israel demonstration. They were led by the Leftist Youth Federation, including members of the Marxist-Leninist and "New Leftist" factions, and the Arab Club in Stockholm. About 40 anti-Israel demonstrators were waiting outside Stockholm airport when Mr. Eban's aircraft arrived. Students heckled him when he gave a lecture at Uppsala University. At a lecture at the Wenner-Gren Centre, police turned away demonstrators.

CAPITULATION TO ARAB BOYCOTT?

The reported capitulation of two German industrial combines, Thyssen and Mannesmann, to the Arab boycott campaign, as well as West German equivocation in the matter, is disturbing Israel. A statement by the two firms, implying a denial of the allegation, is considered by the Israeli Embassy in Bonn as unsatisfactory.

"A TIDE OF CHAUVINISM"

Rabbi Lionel Blue, formerly religious director of the European board of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, was a speaker in a forum on "Israel—the Challenge to European Jewry", at the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, London. He alleged that Israel was allowing her preoccupation with the Holy Places to prejudice chances of a Middle East peace settlement. As far as he was concerned, there was no inherent holiness in bricks and mortar and bits of wood and stone and the Holy Places were not worth a single life. The best thing the diaspora could do for Israel would be to inaugurate a dialogue with the Islamic world, he stated.

Rabbi John Rayner, senior minister of the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, said that too many people had been swept away by the tidal wave of nationalism and chauvinism as a result of the war.

Differing views were expressed by other members of the panel and by members of the audience.

THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the alleged assassin of Senator Robert Kennedy, is a Christian Arab from Palestine. He was described by acquaintances as "hating Kennedy because he hated everyone with money". It was also said he was depressed by Israel's victory in the Six-Day War last year.

Arab delegates at the United Nations, who were the moving force in a decision to cancel the emergency session of the Security Council summoned to discuss Jordanian and Israeli complaints, were said to feel that their case would not be well received at the present time.

Senator Kennedy had expressed support for Jews in general and Israel in particular. It was he who had interceded with the late President John F. Kennedy and with the Pentagon to furnish arms to Israel, and he had recently emphasised America's "commitment" to safeguard Israel.

JEWISH PRISONERS IN EGYPT

Mr. Gaynor Jacobson, the executive vice-president of the United Hias Service, the international Jewish migration agency, reported in Geneva that an estimated 200 Jews were still being kept in Egyptian prisons. In the months following the Israeli-Arab conflict, many hundreds of Jews were allowed to leave Egypt, but this movement recently came to a standstill.

IRAQI MEASURES

The European Office of the American Jewish Committee reports that the Iraqi Government, dropping any pretence of being only anti-Zionist, has promulgated a new series of measures officially and openly directed against "the Jews".

A new amendment to Iraqi law, the Committee states, makes it impossible for "the Jew" to sell or otherwise dispose of any immovable property he may own or even to try and get a mortgage or loan upon it or lease it, without special permission from the Minister of Interior. Another provision orders all Government and private offices and businesses not to pay out any sums "due to the Jew" but to notify the Minister instead. Jews are only allowed to be paid salaries due to them up to £100 per month. The Interior Minister is given complete control over any money due to Jews. The Iraqi Government also does not allow the transfer of any money to Jews outside the country. As the Iraqi courts have now decided to recognise as "heirs" to Jewish properties in Iraq Jews who have left the country, instead of their share being distributed among any heirs remaining in Iraq as heretofore, the Government now can claim the estate due to such foreign "heirs" and put it in the hands of a special Custodian of Jewish Property.

Israel has complained to the United Nations Secretary-General, U Thant, of a "particularly serious aggravation" of Jews in the Arab countries, especially Iraq, where they are being subjected to "Nazi-like persecution".

SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET JEWRY

An "international solidarity day with Soviet Jewry" was organised by the World Union of Jewish Students, with about 40,000 Jewish students participating in 30 countries. Non-Jewish students, professors and intellectuals, joined in the protest campaign against the policy of anti-Jewish discrimination and the complete halt to the reunification of Jewish families with their relatives abroad, especially in Israel.

Mr. Michael Hunter, president of the Union, at a press conference in London emphasised that the campaign had no political motivation other than to secure for the Jewish minority in the Soviet Union the same cultural and religious rights which its own constitution and practice afforded to all ethnic groups. Their aim was also to give courage to the Jews in the Soviet Union.

PIUS XII

A high-ranking member of Venezuela's Roman Catholic hierarchy, Mgr. Luis Eduardo Henriquez, spoke at a student meeting called to protest against Soviet discrimination against the Jews.

Mgr. Henriquez said that Pope Pius XII did the best he could to aid European Jewry during the war in the circumstances then prevailing. He claimed that the Vatican had quietly saved the lives of many Jews during the Nazi period, and that a public condemnation of Nazi Germany's antisemitic policies would not have had the desired effect.

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ROUND AND ABOUT

PARAPLEGIC SPORTS STADIUM FUND

A supper evening attended by 170 people was held by the Women's Society of the New Liberal Jewish Congregation at 51 Belsize Square, on June 6. Guests of honour were Sir Ludwig and Lady Guttmann.

The object of the evening was to raise money for a fund to establish a sports stadium for the Paraplegic Games at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, as outlined in a letter from Sir Ludwig published recently in *AJR Information*. In an interesting speech he described the progress of the Games, which reached their first main impetus when teams of wheelchair athletes from all over the world competed in Rome in 1960 immediately after the Olympic Games held there. Four years later a much larger contingent travelled to Tokyo for a highly successful sports meeting, and it was the intention this year to hold the Games in Mexico City, but owing to local difficulties it had been decided to transfer the venue to Israel.

The building of a stadium for wheelchair events in England was essential, and Sir Ludwig set a target of £350,000 for that purpose. The stadium would be completed next year and the opening is planned for July, 1969. He appealed to those present to contribute as generously as possible to the worthy cause, and a raffle and the selling of "bricks," as well as donations and covenants, raised £575 within an hour.

OLYMPIC GAMES STAMP

The series of special stamps to be issued by the German Federal Post on the occasion of the 1968 Olympic Games will include a stamp in memory of the half-Jewish sports-woman, Helene Mayer (1911-1953), who was awarded the Golden Medal for Fencing in 1928. Helene Mayer was the daughter of the physician, Dr. Ludwig Mayer, in Offenbach. She went to the U.S.A. in 1932 and for many years was a teacher of German at Mills College in Oakland (California). She returned to Germany in 1952 but died one year later of an insidious disease.—(EGL)

JEWISH JUDGE IN ZAMBIA

Mr. Samuel W. Magnus, Q.C., M.P., a former London lawyer and member of the Board of Deputies, has been appointed a member of the High Court in Zambia. The first Jew to be appointed to the High Court, he was also the first Jew to become a member of the Zambian Parliament. Mr. Magnus settled in Zambia about eight years ago.

RECENT AWARDS

Dr. O. W. Loeb

The Federal German Cross of Merit, First Class, was awarded to Dr. O. W. Loeb (Richmond, Surrey), on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Prior to his emigration, Dr. Loeb was a partner of the old-established wine merchant firm of Sigmund Loeb in Trier, which had been run by his family for several generations and was re-established after the war. Dr. Loeb came to this country in 1937 and formed his company, O. W. Loeb & Co. Ltd., early in 1938. He has since been engaged in importing and selling wines of quality, mainly Estate bottled. His customers include consumers both in this country and abroad. For over 33 years the firm has been the only supplier of all German and most French wines for the annual Glynedbourne Festivals. Dr. Loeb is a member of the AJR.

Mr. Walter Levy

U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Rusk, awarded a plaque to the oil expert, Mr. Walter J. Levy (New York), in grateful recognition of his invaluable merits as consultant to the U.S. Department of State. Mr. Levy, who was born in Germany, is the first U.S. citizen by naturalisation on whom this high distinction has been bestowed. At the Washington ceremony, Mr. Rusk referred to Mr. Levy's voluntary services to the missions of Mr. Harriman in Iran and Mr. Wyatt in Indonesia. Mr. Levy, the Secretary of State declared, was one of those "elite" people without whose help many successes of the Department of State would not have been achieved.

HELPED TO RESCUE PERSECUTED

A meeting in Munich attended by Dr. Vogel, the Chief Burgomaster, Bavarian State Government officials and leading representatives of public life in the city, honoured four Germans who helped to rescue persecuted Jews during the Nazi régime.

The meeting was organised by the Munich Association for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, and tributes were paid to Frau Maria Dinzinger who hid Jews in her house; to Dr. Gerhard Wolf who saved many Jews and other people from arrest and deportation while serving as war-time German Consul in Florence; to Herr Josef Meyer who rescued 40 Jews in Galicia; and to Herr Werner Krumme, who was deported to Auschwitz concentration camp because he was married to a Jewess and who helped Jewish prisoners there.

MR. S. D. CRAMER 75

Mr. S. D. Cramer recently celebrated his 75th birthday. Scion of an old-established Frankfurt family, he has, since his immigration to this country, worked for the benefit of his fellow refugees as committee member, vice-chairman and, since 1964, chairman of Self Aid of Refugees. His devotion and sound judgement have always been greatly appreciated by all those who had the privilege of working with him. Mr. Cramer's activities have also resulted in many opportunities of co-operation with the hon. officers of the AJR, of which he has been an interested member since its inception. We extend our sincerest birthday greetings to Mr. Cramer.

MISS HILDA SCHLESINGER 80

Miss Hilda Schlesinger, who recently celebrated her 80th birthday, has taken a leading part in Jewish welfare work throughout her life. She was vice-president of the Jewish Board of Guardians (now Jewish Welfare Board), and is a vice-president of the West Central Jewish Club founded by the late Miss Lily Montagu, one of her relatives. Her activities as chairman of the Association of Jewish Welfare Workers have earned her the respect and affection of Jewish social workers in London, including those of the AJR. We extend our sincere birthday greetings to her.

IDA DEHMEL PRIZE

The "Gemeinschaft deutscher und oesterreichischer Kuenstlerinnen" (GEDOK) commemorated the name of its founder, Ida Dehmel (1870-1942) by the inauguration of an Ida Dehmel Prize. The first recipient of the award is the authoress Hilde Domin, who was born in Cologne in 1912 and returned from the U.S.A. to Heidelberg in 1954. Ida Dehmel, née Coblenz, was the wife of Richard Dehmel. Her life and personality are described in an essay published in the 1967 Year Book of the Leo Baeck Institute.—(EGL)

MATHEMATICAL GENIUS

Simon, son of Mr. Richard Norton, vice-president of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, is a 16-year-old mathematical genius from Eton. He amazed leading mathematicians by scoring maximum points in the national mathematical contest. His achievement has been described as "quite phenomenal." (J.C.)

JEWISH GAMBLERS?

Sir,—I noticed with misgivings that you published the item "Jews tend to Gamble" (page 3 of the May issue) without any editorial comment. I live in a Jewish district. There are four betting shops in my neighbourhood, however, I have not seen Jewish people going into these shops. It may be that Jews gamble in casinos, but judging from my own observations they do not frequent betting shops.

London, N.W.2.

Yours, etc.,

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