

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

STEADILY INCREASING TASKS

AJR Board Meeting

New building projects and recent achievements, questions of social policy and of restitution were among the subjects dealt with at this year's Board Meeting, held on Sunday, January 21, at Hannah Karminski House. More than 70 Board Members, including delegates from the Provinces, were present.

The meeting was opened by Mr. A. S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR. He first paid tribute to the memory of the Executive and Board Members who had passed away during the last year: Dr. K. Krotos (Member of the Executive and Chairman of the Osmond House Committee), Dr. F. G. Salomon (representative of the AJR Bristol district), and Mr. F. Price (former Honorary Treasurer of the Leeds Group). Mr. Dresel also welcomed the new Board Members: Mrs. R. Anderman, Mr. F. Dannen, Dr. A. Fleiss, Mrs. D. Segall and Mr. H. Wreschner.

In his general report Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary, recalled the critical situation which prevailed in Israel when the AJR met in June on the occasion of its General Meeting, and reported that the AJR had raised £25,000 amongst its members for the J.P.A. Emergency Fund, a particularly remarkable result if one takes into account that many members had also made their contributions through other channels.

Homes for the Aged

Turning to the position in the Homes, he stated that it had no longer been possible to replace vacancies in senior staff positions by the appointment of former refugees. He paid tribute to the devoted services of the Matrons, Staff and House Committee members.

The number of very urgent applications is no longer as high as it was during the first years after the opening of the Homes. On the other hand, it still considerably exceeds the vacancies to be expected. Therefore, it is still necessary to exclude from admission applicants who, due to their financial position, could make other arrangements. There are, however, always chances for a speedy admission of those applicants who are prepared to become sharers in double rooms. In fact, applications by prospective sharers would be welcomed and reduced maintenance terms would be offered to them.

The current expenses of the four ordinary homes are more or less covered by maintenance payments received by the residents or on their behalf; however, this does not include major repairs, administrative costs and amortisation of capital. On the other hand, the deficit at Osmond House amounted to £20,000 in 1967, the weekly cost per resident being £25. In spite of this it has been decided to build an annexe to Osmond House, providing accommodation in single rooms for a further

14 residents, and thus increasing the capacity of the home from 37 to 51 residents. This decision has been taken because we consider it as our foremost obligation to look after the ailing members of our community who would otherwise have to spend the rest of their lives in geriatric units.

A further building project is the erection of a *Mental After-Care Home* at Finchley Road, to provide temporary accommodation for patients of mental homes after their discharge. Though this Home is partly financed by the same funds as the Old Age Homes, namely the proceeds from heirless Jewish property in Germany, it seemed advisable that it should be administered by the Jewish Welfare Board and not by the Central British Fund and the AJR. However, two representatives of the AJR, the Executive Member, Mr. V. E. Hilton, and our Social Worker, Mrs. M. Williams, will serve on the House Committee.

AJR Club

Due to the new premises at *Hannah Karminski House* it has been possible for the AJR Club to intensify and extend its activities considerably. At the same time the Meeting Hall has developed into a real community centre, in which a number of Jewish organisations, among them groups of younger Jewish people of British and Continental background, have found adequate accommodation for their functions.

The AJR *Social Services Department*, under the management of Dr. Adelheid Levy, has been particularly busy during the 'flu epidemic of the past weeks and succeeded in finding home-help for people who had fallen ill. As before, the AJR Employment Agency has been successful in its work, though sometimes it is not possible to find the right type of employment for callers and the right type of employees for vacancies.

In connection with the administrative work for the Homes, our Social Workers are in constant contact with local authorities and with hospitals, which have always proved highly co-operative.

Turning to *AJR Information*, the speaker stated that as a non-partisan organisation the AJR is not entitled to take sides in controversial matters. The journal has, however, to serve as a platform for the discussion of the deeper issues involved, because otherwise it would be a colourless information bulletin.

Among the organisations with which the AJR co-operates are the Central British Fund, the Jewish Welfare Board, the Leo Baeck Lodge, the Camden Committee for Community Relations, the Council of Christians and Jews and the Camden Council of Social Services.

The AJR is the British constituent of the

Council of Jews from Germany, which also comprises organisations of former German Jews in Israel, U.S.A., Belgium, France and South America. During the first period of its existence the Council concentrated its activities on safeguarding the rights of the victims of Nazi persecution from Germany in questions of restitution and compensation. This work has not yet been fully completed. The Council also founded the Leo Baeck Institute, whose research work and publications in the field of German-Jewish history will be of lasting value. Furthermore, the Council fought for a share in the recovered heirless German-Jewish property, and if the original resistance to the Council's claim was overcome, it was to a great extent due to the energetic efforts of the late Dr. Hans Reichmann. The Council has to see to it that the few funds still at its disposal or to be expected will be distributed among the member-organisations in a just way. Beyond this the very fact that the Council maintains the contacts between organisations of Jews from Germany all over the world is a very great asset.

Throughout the years the activities of the AJR have mainly been carried out by the London headquarters, in conjunction with the Executive, whereas *local group activities* have always been limited, and in the course of time had decreased. It is, therefore, particularly gratifying that regular functions are still held in Glasgow under the chairmanship of Mr. B. N. Bergmann, and that, especially due to the efforts of Mr. O. L. Einstein, the Group in Manchester has been re-activated.

Income and Expenditure

In 1967 the *income* from subscriptions and donations amounted to about £10,000, and the *expenditure* to about £17,000, the deficit of £7,000 being covered by an allocation out of the heirless German-Jewish property. As compared with 1966 there was an increase of expenditure for salaries (partly due to the first full year's impact of S.E.T.) and for *AJR Information* (due to a rise of production costs and to a decrease of revenue from advertisements). To reduce the deficit of *AJR Information* more advertisements are urgently required. In view of the wide circulation of the paper they are of great publicity value. They also offer an opportunity of support to those members who are in business and who placed advertisements in souvenir programmes as long as the AJR arranged annual concerts.

The speaker also drew the meeting's attention to the *AJR Charitable Trust*, to which payments can be made under Covenant. It would be greatly appreciated if the Trust could also benefit from bequests in wills. Several payments have already been received in this way. The funds of the AJR Charitable Trust will be increasingly necessary to cover that part of the charitable work of the AJR which cannot be covered by income from subscriptions and donations.

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STEADILY INCREASING TASKS

Continued from page 1

To intensify the membership propaganda a special sub-committee has been formed. Efforts have to be made to evoke the interest and co-operation of comparatively younger former refugees in order to secure the continuity of the AJR as long as its services are required.

Erection of a Flatlet Home

Mr. A. S. Dresel reported on the progress made in the erection of the *Flatlet Home* at Avenue Road, Highgate. The scheme provides 48 one-room flatlets in a tower block, four two-room flats, one three-room flat, a three-room caretaker flat, communal rooms and other amenities. Although the site had been purchased as long ago as April, 1962, the building work could only recently commence, because many difficulties had to be overcome. The first difficulty arose from the fact that in the ordinary way approximately half the rooms would have faced North, and that this had to be avoided. After many consultations a satisfactory plan was drafted and approved by the authorities. There was a further delay when the Housing Subsidies Bill lapsed, due to the dissolution of the previous Parliament, and was only enacted in 1966. The preparatory work was also affected by a change of the local authorities in charge as a result of the reorganisation of the Great London administration. Whilst originally the scheme came under the authority of the Middlesex County Council with which certain tentative agreements had already been reached, negotiations had to be started anew after the responsibility had been transferred to the newly-established Borough of Haringey. Due to these delays it took until July, 1967, before the negotiations with the authorities regarding the mortgage and the subsidies had reached a stage at which the contract with the builders could be signed. However, as by this time the original tender had lapsed, the contract had to be re-negotiated. The signing of the contract took place on July 31, 1967. According to the contract the building should be completed at the end of February, 1969, but it is not possible to foretell whether this date will be kept.

The total costs (site, building costs and professional fees) will be about £340,000. Of this, £220,000 will be covered by a mortgage and £120,000 paid by the C.B.F. (two-thirds) and the AJR Charitable Trust (one-third). The main current expenditure will consist of the interest and repayment rates for the mortgage, to which the other outgoings have to be added. It is not yet possible to foretell the rent to be charged. This will partly depend on the question as to whether and to what extent certain grants envisaged in the Housing Subsidies Act will become available. These grants, as well as the rates, will only be decided upon after the completion of the building.

The speaker paid tribute to the Secretary of the Central British Fund, Dr. C. I. Kapralik, whose co-operation had been highly effective in overcoming the great number of difficulties encountered.

Dr. F. Goldschmidt, Chief Legal Adviser to URO and representative of the Council of Jews from Germany on the Legal Committee of the Claims Conference, stated that the *restitution and indemnification* problems were inseparably linked with the political climate in the German Federal Republic. Referring to an article by Heinrich Fraenkel, published in the January issue of *AJR Information*, he expressed agreement with the author's view

that the N.P.D. should not be overestimated. He also recalled the widespread sympathy with Israel which became evident in Germany during the Six-Day War.

The postponement of some indemnification payments ordered by Implementary Regulations of the "Haushaltssicherungsgesetz" for the years 1966 and 1967, against which the Council of Jews from Germany had lodged strong protests, had not been extended. Indemnification payments adjudicated to the persecutees have, therefore, become due on 1st January 1968. For the years 1968 to 1971 a maximum amount (Hoechstbetrag) of DM 200 million p.a. has, however, been fixed for payments due according to the Federal Restitution Law (BRueG). It is not expected that BRueG payments will be delayed, as the maximum amount will, in all probability, cover all claims due during the next four years.

The speaker drew special attention to the provisions of the Social Insurance Laws. Many people were not aware of the fact that even if they had been self-employed during the greater part of their lives in Germany they might qualify for annuities if they had started their careers as employees.

German Indemnification Payments

Complaints had been made regarding the calculation of annuities to be paid on account of damage to career and injury to health. It had been alleged that the tables (Tabellen) for the calculation of these annuities published by the German Federal Government contained some arithmetical errors. The matter had been submitted to the Federal Constitutional Court (Bundesverfassungsgericht). It would take some time until judgement would be given.

The annual investigation of possible changes in the financial position of recipients of certain indemnification payments or alterations in their state of health had become stricter. This was due to the financial crisis which was now felt in America as well as in Europe. If and as far as re-assessments were within the terms of the law nothing could be done against them.

A "Gesetz ueber Beweissicherung und Feststellung von Vermoegensschaeden in der sowjetischen Zone und im Ostsektor von Berlin" had been passed in May, 1965. Up to now, registrations would be of a merely theoretical character, since no claims were possible at present, neither against the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) nor the "Deutsche Demokratische Republik." This

legal position might change if a Bill regarding a new amendment to the Equalisation of Burdens Law (Lastenausgleichsgesetz) should be passed by the West German Parliament. *AJR Information* would, of course, announce any change in the legal situation.

Summing up, the speaker stated that the payments made by the German Federal Republic had been considerably higher than were expected at The Hague Conference. Even if the estimate of the Federal German Government that over DM 45 milliard would be paid up to 1974 might be regarded as rather high, it could certainly be assumed that the sum of DM 40 milliard would be exceeded.

The reports were followed by a lively discussion, in which the following Board Members participated: Mr. F. Godfrey (member of the Otto Schiff House Committee), Mrs. G. Hambourg, Mrs. M. Jacoby (Chairman of the AJR Club), Mr. O. L. Einstein (Chairman of the Manchester Group), Mr. R. J. Friedmann, Dr. L. G. T. King, Dr. H. Lawton, Mrs. S. Horwell, Mr. H. M. Hirsch, Dr. W. Dux (Chairman of the Otto Hirsch House Committee), Dr. Erna Goldschmidt (member of the Otto Schiff House Committee), Dr. E. Gould, Mrs. D. Segall and Dr. V. Wills.

Several questions raised from the floor concerned the policy in restitution and compensation matters. In his reply Dr. F. Goldschmidt reiterated that, as throughout the years, the justified interests of the Nazi victims would be taken up with energy, but that it was also necessary to retain a sense of proportion as far as certain shortcomings were concerned.

A number of speakers stressed that the AJR should also lend a hand in the creation of flatlet accommodation for those AJR members who, due to their financial position, will not be eligible for admission to the Flatlet Home at Avenue Road. Dr. E. A. Lomnitz, Deputy General Secretary, replied that to meet this demand a special Housing Society, "The Eventide Housing Society," had been formed, which would qualify for advance payments by the Housing Corporation, according to the Housing Subsidies Act; at present several sites were under consideration. Some members proposed that a further scheme should be launched for those who are able to pay their share in the full costs of a Flatlet Home. They were promised that the feasibility of such a scheme would also be considered by the Executive. It was, however, also stressed from the platform that the AJR was mainly responsible for those who needed help and assistance because they had no, or only limited, means, and that in any other schemes it could only lend a hand by bringing the interested parties together.

A number of further questions concerned the admission policy of the homes. Several speakers mentioned that the admission of applicants who were already in a bad physical condition at the time of their admission had affected the atmosphere of the homes. This was denied by others, who also spoke from their experience as House Committee Members. Mr. Dresel stated that every application had to be dealt with on its own merits, but that in any case it would be wrong to exclude just those who needed help most. The Social Worker, Mrs. M. Williams, reminded the Board members that there was always the possibility of a transfer from one of the ordinary homes to Osmond House; it had, however, turned out that whenever possible matron and staff preferred to cope with the resident instead of uprooting him by a transfer.

The intensity of the debate reaffirmed the importance attributed to the work of the AJR and the feelings of responsibility shared by all those who take an active part in this work.

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HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

RACE RELATIONS ACT

The closing session of the 15th biennial conference of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress was addressed by Mr. David Ennals, Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office. Mr. Ennals disclosed that legislation to extend the Race Relations Act of 1965 into the fields of discrimination in employment, housing and insurance will be based "on conciliation rather than criminal prosecution".

He told delegates that he had always been convinced that those—white or coloured—who held racial prejudices on grounds of colour were also biased against Jews or Israelis. The law, whilst no substitute for community action and voluntary personal effort, should step in before patterns of discrimination became hardened and embittered, as had been the case in the United States. It had already curbed incitement to racial hatred and discrimination in places of public resort and had also provided valuable experience in dealing with race relations problems. The experience of the Race Relations Board had shown that most instances of racial discrimination can be dealt with by reason and persuasion.

A delegation from the Board of Deputies, headed by Alderman Michael Fidler, called on the Home Secretary, Mr. James Callaghan, to discuss amendments to, and extensions of, the 1965 Race Relations Act.

G.L.C. CHAIRMAN

Sir Louis Gluckstein, Q.C., is to be elected chairman of the Greater London Council in May. Sir Louis, president of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, who also plays an active part in other Jewish organisations, was Conservative Member of Parliament for Nottingham East from 1931 to 1945. He rose to the rank of colonel in his military career which spanned the two world wars.

OLD BAILEY JUDGE

Mr. Alexander David Karmel, Q.C., was appointed an additional judge at the Old Bailey. His cousin, Mr. David Karmel, is the Recorder of Wigan. Judge Karmel is the third Jewish lawyer to be appointed to the Bench at the Old Bailey, following in the footsteps of Judge King-Hamilton and Judge Gillis.

JEWS IN CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Mr. Quintin Hogg, M.P., spoke at a meeting held under the auspices of the B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England at the Hampstead Synagogue community centre. He was asked from the floor why Jewish M.P.s were to be found predominantly in the Labour Party.

The reason, said Mr. Hogg, might stem from the fact that many British Jews came originally from the Continent, where the name "conservative" had often been attached to, and synonymous with, those who persecuted Jews. The Conservative Party was at present mainly Anglican. "Rather than having any prejudice against them, we should like to have more Jews and Catholics join us".

INTER-FAITH ASSEMBLY

The Allerton Grange School, which has over 300 Jewish pupils, is to hold a weekly Jewish-Christian assembly. A panel of two Christian and two Jewish teachers will select readings and prayers acceptable to both faiths.

The school's headmaster, Mr. John W. Whitehead, is an executive member of the Leeds Council of Christians and Jews.

B.B.C. DOCUMENTARY

A documentary on Israel and the diaspora will be shown by the B.B.C. in May. A B.B.C. unit visited the Yiddish Theatre at the Grand Palais, Commercial Road, where they photographed an extract from Goldfaden's "Two Kuni-Lemels", part of a scene in the musical, "The Cantor's Son", which will be included in the documentary.

BRITAIN'S IMMIGRATION POLICY IN 1933

Hitherto secret Cabinet papers now on view at the Public Record Office reveal that at the time of Hitler's rise to power Anglo-Jewish communal leaders expected an influx of only three to four thousand German Jewish refugees. The figure was given to the Home Secretary, Sir John Gilmour, in March, 1933, by the then chairman of the Jews' Temporary Shelter, Mr. Otto M. Schiff, who later became chairman of the Jewish Refugees Committee. The Home Secretary reported this to the Cabinet when it was discussing the advisability of changing the restrictions on aliens in view of the persecution of Jews in Germany. The Cabinet agreed with the Home Secretary's doubts about the estimate given by the Jewish community.

On April 5, 1933, the British Cabinet appointed a special committee to investigate the problem of refugees. The Cabinet accepted the committee's recommendation that the restriction on the entry of aliens should not be eased deciding, however, that the visas of visitors from Germany could be extended if the British Jewish community guaranteed adequate means of maintenance. The Cabinet also welcomed a proposal that it should try to secure for Britain prominent Jews expelled from Germany. The advantages of the possible transfer to Britain of some industries were considered against the objections of admitting persons who might become destitute.

EMIGRANTS TO ISRAEL

Mr. Joseph Kittinger, national chairman of the recently established Volunteers' Union of Britain, has criticised the Jewish Agency for its handling of prospective British emigrants to Israel. The union's efforts to encourage its members to emigrate to Israel had been hampered by the Agency's refusal to change its system under which emigrants in general were not given guaranteed employment in Israel before their departure.

Over 2,500 ex-volunteers have already joined the union, which has also taken over the register containing the names of almost 8,000 Britons who enlisted as volunteers during the crisis.

The union is mainly concerned with providing manpower for special projects organised in Israel for volunteers prepared to spend at least one year in the country, but also aims at encouraging emigration to Israel.

ALIYAH DRIVE

Rabbi Meir Schlesinger, head of the yeshiva at the Poale Agudat Israel kibbutz, Shaalvim, near Latrun, visited Britain to assist in the campaign to encourage emigration to Israel among Orthodox Jews. Rabbi Schlesinger was born in Germany and went to Palestine, as it then was, at an early age. A founder-member of Kibbutz Shaalvim in 1951, he worked there as a shepherd before becoming a rabbi. His father, Dr. F. Schlesinger, is head of the Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem.

BBC AND ISRAELI SONGS

Mr. Geoffrey Finsberg, Conservative Parliamentary candidate for Hampstead, wrote to the BBC asking why a recording of an Israeli song by Topol was so little played. The record is an English version of "Yerushalayim shei Zahav" (Jerusalem the Golden). A letter from the BBC to Mr. Finsberg stated that producers of programmes other than request programmes had been asked not to "over-expose" the record "and thereby give the impression that we are partisan".

Larry Adler, the harmonica virtuoso, has claimed that the restrictions also extend to his version of the song. He stated that he had long suspected that there were political motives behind the BBC's refusal to play his record.

Prince Philip Supports Work for Elderly

The Jewish Welfare Board is launching an appeal for £2 million to build new homes and flatlets for Jewish old people. The Duke of Edinburgh has agreed to attend a private dinner at St. James's Palace on February 27 to be given by the Board, where he will meet leading donors to the scheme.

Jews' Temporary Shelter

The report of the annual meeting of the Jews' Temporary Shelter gave particular prominence to the rescue of the remnant of the Jewish community in Aden. The Shelter received these people and provided a home for them pending their resettlement, which is now largely completed.

It was stated that the total number of night unit accommodations in the year was 7,687 compared with 7,463 for the previous 14 months. An average of 21 people per night had been lodged at the Shelter as against 18 for the previous period. The countries of origin of the persons assisted continued, as previously, to be mainly India, Aden and other Middle East countries.

Jewish Day Schools

Councillor Sir Samuel Fisher was the guest of honour at the annual prizegiving of the Kerem School, held in the Max Weinbaum Hall of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue. In his early days, said Sir Samuel, he had his doubts about Jewish day schools, but now he had come down firmly on their side. The future of Jewish youth and of the community would depend on such schools. But he warned pupils against exclusiveness and urged them to plan an active role in the communal life of the country on reaching adulthood.

Youth Aliyah Support

At the annual meeting of the Children and Youth Aliyah British committee, it was announced that last year the record sum of over £393,500 had been raised. There were a number of non-Jewish organisations among the friends and supporters of the committee. These included the Save the Children Fund which last year contributed £54,000 and Oxfam, which had made a donation of £9,500 and was also associating itself with a Youth Aliyah training project.

J.N.F. Peace Forest

At the 22nd annual Blue and White ball of the J.N.F., Eva, Marchioness of Reading, the guest of honour, announced that a forest is to be planted by the J.N.F. on the hills surrounding Jerusalem in memory of the Israeli soldiers who died in the June war. She called on Anglo-Jewry to support the project, to be known as Ya'av Shalom, or Peace Forest.

Henrietta Szold Award

Baroness Serota has received the Henrietta Szold Award for 1967. The presentation was made at the annual meeting of the Children and Youth Aliyah British committee, when the Earl of Balfour, an honorary vice-president, paid tribute to Lady Serota.

Leo Baeck College Graduate

Rabbi Roger V. Pavey, a recent graduate of the Leo Baeck College, has been inducted as minister of the West Central Liberal Synagogue, London. The honorary director of studies at the college, Rabbi John Rayner, was among those who conducted the service.

Industrialist Honoured

A Leeds industrialist, Mr. Philip Abrahams, has been awarded the insignia of Chevalier de l'Ordre de Léopold II for his long association with the Belgian textile industry. Mr. Abrahams, an ardent Zionist, is a senior vice-chairman of Leeds J.P.A.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Jewry in Eastern Europe

MR. WILSON'S MOSCOW VISIT

In answer to a letter by Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, wrote that he had discussed the position of Jews in Russia with Mr. Kosygin and other Soviet leaders on the occasion of his recent visit to Moscow. He was told that Jews, exactly like other races and nationalities, were regarded as in every sense Soviet citizens. The leading positions of a number of Jews were instanced to him. With regard to the restriction on emigration to Israel Mr. Wilson got the impression that there would be little hope of reconsideration at this time. With regard to the reunion of families in individual cases, he wrote that the matter would continue to be dealt with through normal diplomatic channels, i.e., through the British Ambassador discussing each case with the Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs.

BRITISH APPEAL

An appeal to the Soviet Government on behalf of Russian Jewry appeared in the form of a full-page advertisement in "The Times", coinciding with the arrival of Mr. Harold Wilson in Moscow during his recent visit.

Signed by 236 academics, including professors from over 20 British universities, the advertisement pleaded for the termination of discrimination and antisemitism in the Soviet Union.

The Inter-University Jewish Federation and the Universities' Committee for Soviet Jewry collected the signatures and paid for the advertisement.

SOVIET WRITERS' TRIAL

The four Soviet writers accused and sentenced in Moscow of anti-Soviet activities, include a Jew, Alexander Ginsburg. The sentences were exactly as demanded by the State prosecutor, Gennadi Terekhov. Terekhov, an assistant to the Attorney-General of the U.S.S.R., was himself born in a White Russian Jewish shtetl and speaks some Yiddish.

An appeal to world opinion on behalf of the four writers was made by Dr. Pavel Litvinov, a grandson of a former Soviet Foreign Minister, Maxim Litvinov, who is said to have insisted that his nationality be given as "Jew" and not "Russian" in his passport. Mrs. Larissa Daniel, the wife of the imprisoned writer Yuli Daniel, was the other signatory to the appeal.

POET'S ESCAPE

Dr. Naum Gourevich, a Russian-Jewish poet, feigned mental illness to obtain permission to travel to Israel. Now in Glasgow he has stated that he wishes to make his home in Britain. He is critical of a number of aspects of Israeli life and has no intention of returning there.

Dr. Gourevich writes under the name of Naum Odnopozov. He was able to leave Russia with his mother, who is now living in Jerusalem, after convincing the Soviet security police that he could only get adequate treatment in Israel.

In an interview with the "Jewish Chronicle", Dr. Gourevich said that Jews in the Soviet Union are persecuted not for their religious beliefs but on ethnical grounds. On political grounds he thought the Soviet Government would never allow Jews to leave the country for Israel. But he hoped that sooner or later Russian Jews would be allowed to settle in other countries. However, the government would never release Jews from the Soviet Union under pressure.

ANTISEMITISM IN RUSSIA

A lecture on "Soviet Jewry and the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution" arranged by the British Section of the World Jewish Congress in London was given by Professor Alec Nove, director of international economic studies at Glasgow University and expert on Soviet affairs.

The professor advised caution in accusing the Soviet Government of antisemitism. He said that the first consistent and official anti-Jewish campaign in the U.S.S.R. that could be described clearly as antisemitic took place in the last years of Stalin's rule, from 1948 till his death early in 1953.

There had undoubtedly been some improvement in the plight of Russian Jewry since then but there were still many spheres and instances of anti-Jewish discrimination as well as widespread antisemitism never combated by the authorities. The official reaction to the Six-Day War had intensified the feeling in the Soviet Union that Jews were an alien and unreliable element whose loyalties were suspect.

W.J.C. CONDEMNATION

A resolution adopted by the governing council of the World Jewish Congress has condemned the attacks on Israel and Zionism which are continuing in the Soviet press and other mass media. Soviet propagandists are charged with encouraging anti-Jewish prejudice and with hampering the achievement of peace in the Middle East through "grotesque" comparisons of Zionism with Nazism.

HINTS ABOUT JORDAN'S DEATH

The *Observer*, in an article by Lajos Lederer recently published, states that Czechoslovakia has unexpectedly reopened the mysterious case of the death of Mr. Charles Jordan, the director-general of the American Joint Distribution Committee, whose body was found last August in the Vltava River, near Prague. The Czech authorities, says Mr. Lederer, have been giving strong hints that responsibility for Mr. Jordan's death lies with the Russian counter-intelligence agency.

The Czechs now openly link this death with the murder in Zürich in December of a Swiss pathologist, Dr. Ernest Hardmeier, who carried out the post-mortem examination on Jordan and was on the point of making his final report at the time of his death. Dr. Hardmeier represented the J.D.C. at the investigations in Prague into Jordan's death.

The J.D.C. was always considered by the Russians as a front for the most dangerous American subversion and espionage. This explains why, in the 1950s, Beria forced it out of East Europe and why the Russians stopped Jordan's activities when he returned to Prague last year.

CZECHOSLOVAK MILLENARY

Prague Jewry's thousandth anniversary and the seven-hundredth anniversary of the Altneuschul will be commemorated for three days at the end of August and the beginning of September.

The community's celebrations will include services in the Altneuschul and the Pinkas Synagogue; a solemn meeting of the communal administration; and the laying of wreaths at the memorial to the Czechoslovak Jewish victims of the Nazis at the Pinkas Synagogue. Wreaths will also be laid at the Theresienstadt cemetery.

A permanent exhibition portraying the achievements and cultural contributions of Czechoslovak Jews during the past thousand years will be mounted in the Jewish State Museum in Prague. The museum will also exhibit paintings and organise lectures to mark the Altneuschul anniversary.

CZECH-JEWISH WRITER REHABILITATED

Dr. Eduard Goldstuecker has been appointed as head of the Czechoslovak Writers' Association. A Jew and a veteran Communist, he was his country's first diplomatic envoy to Israel from 1948 to 1951. In 1952 he was sentenced at the Slansky trial to 20 years imprisonment for "Zionist activities" and released only after serving several years. He is now a professor of German at Charles University in Prague.

This appointment and the election of Mr. J. Prochazka as deputy president, are seen as symbolising a break with Czechoslovakia's recent past, after the elimination of Mr. Antonin Novotny as First Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. Also, the Association has now returned to its control its weekly "Kulturny (formerly Literarny) Noviny".

THE MIDDLE EAST

WAR INEVITABLE?

Mohammed Hassanein Heikal, editor of the Egyptian paper, "Al Ahran" and a close friend of President Nasser, has repeated his statement that a military battle with Israel is inevitable. He has added that "it is impossible to reach a reasonable political solution without such a battle". Israel alone was not the source of danger, stated Heikal, but was part of a plan which involved an American attempt to fill the so-called vacuum left by the British in the Persian Gulf. It was here that a new clash was building up.

Criticising the importance placed on terrorist activities against Israel, Heikal said that, while these activities must be maintained "to help keep Israel uneasy", they would not drive her from the occupied territories. Egypt had a "special role in the inevitable armed clash" as the biggest Arab State and "directly confronting the enemy".

COMMUNITIES IN ARAB LANDS

According to a report issued in Geneva by Mr. Louis D. Horwitz, the director-general of the American Joint Distribution Committee's overseas programme, more than 24,000 Jews left the Arab countries in the second half of last year. France received 15,000 and the rest went to Spain, Italy and other countries. A report from the Cairo correspondent of the "New York Times" said that Spanish, French and Italian officials have provided travel documents for several hundred Egyptian Jews, enabling them to leave.

An American Jewish Committee survey states that there are only 700 Jews left in Egypt, 220 of them in gaol. Rabbi Joachim Nefoussi, the Chief Rabbi of Alexandria, has been enabled to leave Egypt. According to the survey there are 4,000 Jews in Syria and 2,500 in Iraq. Libyan Jewry now numbers less than 100.

FLIGHT FROM EGYPT

The Milan newspaper, "Corriere della Sera", published a long report based on interviews on the plight of the Jews in Egypt. It commented bitterly on the failure of the Italian authorities to protest against the treatment of some Italian Jews whose property was confiscated by the Egyptians and whose passports were marked with the letter "J". The article re-echoed the reports of the imprisonment of Jews and brutality in Egyptian gaols, where a "grotesque parody of Buchenwald was enacted".

FRENCH AWARDS TO MOROCCAN JEWS

Several Moroccan Jews still working in the country are among foreigners awarded the Médaille d'Honneur du Travail by the French Government. They include the manager of a private bank in Tangier and a male and a female member of the staffs of two other Tangier banks.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

REPORT ON POLITICAL TRENDS

In its latest report on extremist movements, published in the Information Bulletin *Innere Sicherheit* of January 25, the Federal Ministry of the Interior writes that, judging by the results of last year's elections, the proportion of those who, for whatever reasons, are in sympathy with extremist trends does not exceed 10 per cent. According to the report, it cannot be overlooked that there is an interrelation between the rise of Right-wing and Left-wing movements. On the one hand, the N.P.D. presents itself to the citizen who is frightened by the leftist students' excesses as the protector of law and order, on the other hand the leftist parties base their propaganda on references to the danger of neo-Fascism. Whilst the extreme left is split up into many factions, the N.P.D. has succeeded in rallying all people who hold nationalist-authoritarian views.

Though the programme adopted at the party congress of the N.P.D. in Hanover has been carefully worded in order not to risk a ban of the party, it reflects all the same the N.P.D.'s political methods. Every section of the population is promised what it likes to hear, even if these promises are incompatible or have no chance of realisation. It will be the task of the democratic parties to make the electorate aware of the demagogic character of the programme. Foreign observers who attended the Party Congress were greatly perturbed by the "Sportpalast atmosphere" of the rally, the report states.

On the credit side, the report refers to the active opposition against the nationalist extremists, especially among younger people. According to statistics of last year's Landtag elections, voters in the 21-30 age bracket are less prone to the slogans of the N.P.D. than members of the higher age groups.

According to statistics issued by the West German Interior Ministry, the number of offences associated with Nazism or anti-semitism dropped from 449 in 1966 to 387 last year, when the courts sentenced 70 people for such crimes. Many of these offences, it was stated, had been committed by children or by older people without political motives.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS CALL FOR BAN OF N.P.D.

The S.P.D. Party Congress in Hamburg passed a resolution demanding that the National Democratic Party be prohibited. This is the first time that a major party has officially called for banning the neo-Nazis. The Congress said that, for the sake of free democratic development and because of Germany's reputation abroad, the Federal Government must find a way to outlaw the N.P.D.

INQUIRIES INTO CRIMES

Dr. Fritz Bauer, the State Attorney-General, announced in Frankfurt that the Hesse legal authorities are inquiring into more than 140 major cases of Nazi crimes and that most of the suspects are at liberty. The courts, he said, would need many years to wind up proceedings against Nazi criminals.

West Berlin's Senator of Justice, Herr Hans-Guenther Hoppe, stated that the city's legal authorities are inquiring into 64 cases of suspected Nazi crimes, 18 of which involved 234 former officials of the wartime German security office and the Gestapo headquarters.

FORMER NAZI FREED

Hans-Joachim Rehse, a former Nazi People's Court judge, sentenced in West Berlin in July to five years' imprisonment for complicity in murder or attempted murder, has now been freed on bail of 200,000 DM. on the ground of ill health. An appeal is pending and Rehse must report to the police twice a week.

MOVEMENT AGAINST EXTREMISTS

The "Action January, 1968" group has been formed in Munich to fight Right-wing extremism and other extremist tendencies in West Germany. The group consists of representatives of public and cultural life. Herr Frank Arnau, president of the German League of Human Rights, is the head and its founders include Professor Max Born, the 1954 physics Nobel prizewinner; Frau Hildegard Hamm-Bruecher, State Secretary of the Hesse Ministry of Cultural Affairs; trade union leaders and writers.

Political parties represented in the West German Parliament plan a campaign against the National Democratic Party, particularly in view of the Baden-Wuerttemberg State elections in April. An N.P.D. spokesman has said that the party does not fear such a campaign and is confident that they will obtain a number of seats in the State Parliament to make it the seventh in which the party would be represented. They were also confident of securing representation in the West German Parliament in Bonn at the general election next year.

ANTISEMITE CONVICTED

During the Hamburg election campaign a mechanic, named Rowald, mutilated S.P.D. election posters which read: "Hamburg elects its Mayor, Professor Dr. Weichmann" by sticking paper over the word "Mayor" and writing on top "Jew". The poster thus read: "Hamburg elects its Jew Weichmann."

The Hamburg law court found Rowald guilty of incitement (Volksverhetzung) and sentenced him to eight months' imprisonment. The verdict, against which Rowald lodged an appeal, was upheld by the Supreme Federal Court.

AMERICAN LEADERS' CONCERN

Two American B'nai B'rith leaders, Dr. William Wexler and Mr. Hermann Edelsberg, world president and director of its international council respectively, met Dr. Kurt-Georg Kiesinger, the West German Chancellor, in Bonn. It is understood that the Chancellor was told of the alarm of overseas Jewish communities at the activities of the extreme Right-wing National Democratic Party.

The visitors also expressed the view that steps should be taken to cancel the application of the statute of limitation which, on December 31, 1969, would end further proceedings in respect of crimes against humanity during the Nazi period.

The Chancellor was said to have emphasised his confidence in West Germany's democratic forces and his Government's plans to strengthen them.

TRIALS AND SENTENCES

The Dortmund public prosecutor is inquiring into reports that former Nazi witnesses appearing in West German trials of war criminals have been "advised" by former Nazi "experts". It is possible that some trials may be reheard if the reports that witnesses offered "prepared" evidence are confirmed.

The Luebeck district court has rejected an appeal by the public prosecutor to bring to trial a former Nazi judge and a prosecutor who were members of a Warsaw special Nazi court which sentenced Jews to death during the war. The Schleswig High Court has confirmed the rejection, ruling that the jurists had to apply the law as then existing not only for ghetto inmates but other people, too.

In Osnabrueck five former members of Hitler's bodyguard are charged with taking part in the wartime murder of more than 70 Jews in the Lake Maggiore area of Northern Italy.

OESTERREICHISCHE SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Personen, die Sozialversicherungspensionen aus Oesterreich beziehen, werden die Wahrnehmung gemacht haben, dass die Pensionsanstalten seit 1967 oesterreichische Lohnsteuer von den angewiesenen Betraegen in Abzug bringen. Dieser Abzug kann vermieden werden, wenn

- (a) der betreffenden Pensionsanstalt eine Bestaetigung des zustaendigen U.K. Inspector of Taxes beigebracht wird, dass der Pensionist "a resident in the U.K. for Income Tax purposes" ist;
- (b) ferner der Nachweis darueber erbracht wird, dass die Pension in das U.K. ueberwiesen wird.

Der Empfaenger der Pension hat die Moeglichkeit bis zum Ablauf des dritten Kalenderjahres, das auf das Jahr der Lohnsteuereinhaltung folgt, bei dem zustaendigen oesterreichischen Finanzamt (die Adresse waere bei der betreffenden Pensionsanstalt zu erfragen) einen Antrag auf Rueckzahlung der gezahlten Lohnsteuer einzubringen. Er wird dem oesterreichischen Finanzamt nachzuweisen haben, dass er ein "resident in the U.K. for Income Tax purposes" ist (siehe unter [a]).

INTERVIEW WITH AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR

Dr. Josef Klaus, the Austrian Chancellor, met Dr. William Wexler, world president of the B'nai B'rith, and Dr. Akiba Eisenberg, the Chief Rabbi of Vienna. He reaffirmed the pro-Israel attitude of the Austrian Government, which was shared by most of the public. He was of the opinion that the Holy Places should continue under unified control within Israeli territory.

Regarding compensation for victims of Nazism, the Chancellor said that several funds had been established, which paid considerable sums to them. A number of welfare and relief measures had also been passed or were in preparation to provide assistance.

The authorities, said Dr. Klaus, were taking all possible legal steps to bring war criminals to justice.

A.J.A. CALLS ON GERMAN EMBASSY

The first counsellor and chargé d'affaires at the German Embassy in London, Dr. Franz Breer, received a delegation from the Anglo-Jewish Association at the embassy, deputising for the Ambassador who was in Bonn at the time.

The delegation discussed the activities of the extreme Right-wing nationalist parties in West Germany and the steps likely to be taken by the Government over the next few years. They also expressed the view that, if necessary, the statute of limitation should be extended. Dr. Breer felt that, despite the expiry date, Nazi criminals would continue to be brought to trial when caught. Education in West Germany today was discussed, with particular reference to the teaching in schools about the period of the Third Reich.

ACTION AGAINST "SOLDATEN-ZEITUNG"

The publisher of the weekly *Deutsche National und Soldatenzeitung* has been formally charged with propagating a Nazi emblem by printing a picture of Hitler on the front page of one of its issues. The picture appeared last July, together with that of Moshe Dayan, and the banner headline said: "Israel's Auschwitz in the Desert—The Mass Murder of the Arabs—Dayan in Hitler's footsteps."

The list of editors, printed in each edition, now includes the name of Mr. Moshe Menuhin (U.S.A.), who is described as "consultant editor for cultural affairs". Mr. Menuhin, the father of Yehudi Menuhin, is an ardent anti-Zionist.

Jacob Jacobson

JEW IN THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION OF PRUSSIA

In his book "A Century of Jewish Life" (Philadelphia, 1946), Professor Ismar Elbogen pointed out that it would be highly desirable to record the long list of Jews who had held municipal office in their towns or provinces.

His wish has been fulfilled in part at least by the author of a recently published book.* Her work is a product of the tutorial work of Adolf Leschnitzer, formerly the head of the schools department of the Reichsvertretung der deutschen Juden, and since 1955 honorary professor at the Free University of West Berlin, where he teaches for six months each year. In an excellent introduction she describes the basis of her work in detail and the particular object of her inquiry. She traces developments up to the Stein Municipal Reform of 1808 and stresses the fact that the holding of office in synagogues and a wide variety of Jewish organisations had prepared Jews for the conduct of public business, and how later on it was quite common to find prominent Jewish personalities active in both fields at the same time.

The main part of the book is concerned with the situation in Berlin, Breslau, Silesia and the province of Posen.

Although at the first elections in Berlin, Potsdam and Königsberg, one unbaptised Jew was elected as town councillor ("Stadtrat") in each of these places—David Friedlaender the leader in the fight for emancipation in Berlin, his nephews the leather manufacturer Elias Daniel Itzig in Potsdam, and Samuel Wulff Friedlaender in Königsberg—this must not obscure the fact that in 1809 only one Jew, the banker Salomon Veit, was elected as a municipal representative ("Stadtverordneter"). David Friedlaender's term of office expired in 1814, but Salomon Veit, the brother-in-law of Dorothea Mendelssohn, was granted so much confidence by his fellow-citizens that he was repeatedly re-elected until he voluntarily gave up office in 1822 at the age of 70. However, it remains an open question whether Veit was not elected in a district with a considerable Jewish vote, for this was now a time of mounting reaction and not a single other Jew entered the municipal parliament. The position only altered when the whole picture of municipal representation changed as a result of a change in the economy itself, i.e., when independent artisans became dependent on large industrial enterprises and the counter-movement of municipal liberalism had taken

root. The end of the third decade of the nineteenth century saw a man of independent means, Benda, among the municipal representatives. Interested in popular education and very democratically inclined, he was eventually elevated to the city council. By the end of the forties there were seven Jewish municipal representatives in Berlin, from old-established and new families, including the bookseller, Dr. Moritz Veit, nephew of Salomon Veit, and Carl Heymann, originally from Glogau, founder of the well-known publishing house specialising in political science.

From then on—and here the account depicts the broad features well beyond 1848—after the founding of the political parties and the growth in their importance, the proportion of Jews in municipal administration increased considerably. Now the representatives of property and culture were joined by Jewish doctors who placed their energy, knowledge, social conscience, zeal and spare time at the disposal of the city as a whole. There is need but to mention Dr. Salomon Neumann, co-founder of the *Lehranstalt fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums* and protagonist of social hygiene, who was a member of the assembly of municipal representatives for almost fifty years, and Dr. Wolfgang Strassmann from Rawitsch who was even chairman of the municipal assembly in Berlin for ten years.

The situation in Breslau differed from that in Berlin. Silesian Jewry was not subject to the Prussian Jewish legislation of 1750. In composition, history and occupations it was unlike the rest of Prussia, and in its provincial minister Count Heym it had an enlightened and willing friend. There was a law of 1790 that dealt specifically with the position of the Breslau Jews, leading them culturally towards slowly developing assimilation. Inclusion of the Jews in accordance with the Stein Municipal Reform was at first strongly resisted in Breslau, which was more deeply influenced by the ancient corporations than Berlin. Only when the composition of the assembly altered, after the backward element of petty tradesmen had given way to the enlightened, liberal ideas of the general mass of the citizenry, did the Jews gradually enter the assembly of municipal representatives in conformity with their cultural standing, administrative experience and in proportion to their numbers. Here the classification of the municipal electorate into three income groups proved of positive advantage. The information provided by the author about the second half of the nineteenth century culminates in her mention of Geh. Justizrat Dr. W. S. Freund who became a municipal representative in 1871 and was chairman of the municipal assembly of Breslau from 1887-1914.

Silesia had only become part of Prussia after the Silesian wars and the position of the Jews there depended on very special circumstances, which at the crucial moment had a direct effect on Jewish participation in local government in Upper and Lower Silesia. Frau Jersch-Wenzel demonstrates this by a number of examples drawn from both halves of the nineteenth century. These show clearly that the Jews, who were experienced in managing their own independent communities, formed the educated, well-to-do, German-speaking element of the population in the small Polish Catholic towns, and were ready and able to devote their leisure to public affairs as town councillors, committee members, chairmen, treasurers and deputy mayors. Their influence was also noticeable in the developing industrial and large cities of Upper Silesia. There is only need to call to mind the cultured Fraenkel family of Neustadt near the Jewish village of Zuelz or the "coal baron" Emanuel Friedlaender from Glogau, who played a role in the municipal administration of Gleiwitz.

The attainment of a reasonable relationship with the ruling classes was more difficult for the late Jewish migrants to the growing towns of Lower Silesia, where the population was German-speaking and not favourably inclined towards the Jews. But here, too, in the second half of the nineteenth century, Jews obtained entry to all branches of municipal administration.

The author found the widest reward for her thesis in the province of Posen. The question of Jewish participation in municipal administration only became acute, however, when the Jew Law of 1833 divided the Jews of the province, or grand duchy as it then was, into two classes, those who were naturalised, on account of a reasonable income, a good reputation, a certain level of education and steady trade, and those—and they comprised the majority—who were tolerated. Only the former class had the right and duty, somewhat hesitatingly exercised at times, to obtain citizens' rights. In the national tension between Poles and Germans the Jews strengthened the German element. Furthermore, they were on the whole more wealthy, more active and receptive to German culture. On the other hand, because of this there was such a fear of "over-alienation", that in some towns Jewish participation in municipal administration had to be limited by the straitjacket of a *numerus clausus*, whereby not more than one-third or one-quarter of the municipal representatives could be Jews. But this was eventually abandoned, as was the division of the Jewish population into two classes. In the long run their importance to the economy and their cultural development became so remarkable that in the city of Posen itself, for instance, even in the last half century of Prussian rule, Jews—merchants, industrialists and professional men—presented about one-third of the municipal representatives. And from the middle of the 1870's onwards, up to the collapse of the Reich, six Jews successively were chairmen of the municipal assembly.

The author has provided excellent statistical groundwork for all this, assessed the economic and cultural factors, and has thus shown the structure from which there developed the close association of Jews with the municipal administration of German cities in the service of Germanism. It might have been profitable to investigate the party affiliations of the Jewish city fathers more closely, but this and minor disagreements about the evaluation of some individuals are the only criticisms of this excellent book in which so much energy and devotion has been exercised.

* Stefi Wenzel: *Juedische Buerger und kommunale Selbstverwaltung in preussischen Staedten, 1808-1848*. With an introduction by Prof. Hans Herzfeld. Walter de Gruyter & Co. 268 pages. Published by the Historical Commission in Berlin at the Friedrich-Meinecke Institute of the Free University of Berlin. Volume 21, Berlin, 1967.

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Ignaz Maybaum

KURT WILHELM'S LAST MESSAGE

A Document of German Jewry

Professor Erich Heller recently wrote: "The modern mind . . . whether . . . in London . . . or in . . . San Francisco speaks German, not always good German, but fluent German nonetheless." The *Wissenschaft des Judentums* speaks German and good German at that. Franz Rosenzweig writes the German of Goethe (as it has been affirmed by many), Abraham Geiger, Julius Guttmann, Max Wiener, Eugen Täubler, Leo Strauss write the German of the German University professor. Martin Buber writes in the style of the German essayist of the period of *Lebensphilosophie*, later called existentialism; Leo Baeck and the rabbis of his circle write the German of the cultured sermon of their time. Works by these men and thirty-seven other eminent authors of the era of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* have been collected and republished by the late Rabbi Dr. Kurt Wilhelm.

These articles are not in the least dated, but remain of lasting importance. In the two volumes *Wissenschaft des Judentums im deutschen Sprachbereich** Wilhelm, whose premature death is mourned by his congregation in Stockholm and his friends in Germany, Israel, Britain and America, not only left us a monument of his own learnings and untiring work. He has also left a memorial for those, whom he would have called his own teachers, and who will certainly remain the teachers of subsequent generations of Jewish scholars. The authors of the period of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* turned not only to the scholar but also to the layman. They did so in the conviction that the Jewish layman must participate in the work of the scholar. Otherwise he is an *am-haarets*, and no Jew has the right to be an *am-haarets*. The Leo Baeck Institute deserves the full praise (and the publishers deserve the admiration) of the German-reading public of Jewish books. This public is today partly—and not a small part—non-Jewish.

All attempts to find an English translation for the word *Wissenschaft des Judentums* have failed. Needless to say "Jewish Science", or, as the Americans prefer, "Jewish Lore", are unacceptable. It is important that we recollect the unique historic hour in which the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* appeared in the life of modern Jewry. In the struggle for emancipation German-Jewish scholars regarded an exposition of the Jewish past by historians as a decisive help in achieving the aim of the emancipation. "Once our Christian fellow-citizens will see the Jewish past in its true, i.e., glorious light, they will realise how unfair the still existing civic disabilities of the Jews are". The scholar of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* was, therefore, first and foremost an historian. But as an historian he had to do the yeoman's work of the pioneer. No specialisation for him. His first and perhaps his greatest achievement was the discovery of a new realm. This realm was history. With this discovery he made the decisive step from the Middle Ages into the new era. The Middle Ages saw the world as an eternally static cosmos. To the medieval man the concept "history" was as unknown as gunpowder and the printing press. The

Wissenschaft des Judentums, as the Jewish branch of the pre-eminently German but later wider European *historische Schule*, was the Jewish self-emancipation from the Middle Ages. The ingenuity with which Rabbi Wilhelm collected the articles of the two volumes under review, the wisdom of his knowledge of what to include and what to exclude, will make his collection the document of the classical period of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*.

The scholar of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* had to be everything as an historian. At the same time he had to be a philosopher and chronologist, a textual critic and a linguist. His material made such demands and only giants could do such work. Steinschneider, Geiger, Graetz, Bacher and all the others selected by Wilhelm, were giants such as our age of specialists no longer produces. They could do this superhuman work, because they were inspired by their conviction that they would find in the past not merely facts, not even—desirable as it was—the type of man, called Jew. They turned to history to find Sinai, to find God. "Everything is in history, but how does one get at it?" wrote the young Franz Rosenzweig. He was at that time under the spell of what was then called historicism, and historicism is the word by which we come closer to what the untranslatable words *Wissenschaft des Judentums* mean. Later, Franz Rosenzweig became critical about historicism and turned to his *Neues Denken* but, unlike Buber, without becoming sceptical about historicism. Buber's greatest works are in the field of the existential essay. Franz Rosenzweig even as philosopher of the *Neue Denken* remained faithful to the method of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*. Instead of historicism the word historicism is also used. But the latter has absorbed an entirely negative meaning and is especially used by existentialist thinkers. Rosenzweig is not one of them. He, the author of the *Stern* and the *Neue Denken*, whom existentialists would like to claim as one of their own, stands firm in the tradition of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*.

The last passages of Professor Hugo Bergmann's "In Memoriam Kurt Wilhelm" are very moving:

"Wie viele Rabbiner haben wir heute in der Welt, die bereit und faehig sind, ein Gesprach mit den Vertretern der grossen Religionen der Welt im Namen des Judentums zu fuhren, wie es Wilhelm hier tat?!"

Und wir duerfen es wohl hier sagen: Wilhelms Konzeption des humanistischen, glaeubigen Judentums, wie es hier zutage tritt, ist Produkt und Symbol des deutschen juedischen Erbes.

Dass Kurt Wilhelm in schwersten aeusseren und inneren Umstaenden das schuf, was er geschaffen hat, das verdanken wir nicht zum geringsten Teil seiner tapferen Lebensgefahrtin Ilka. Mit einem ehrerbietigen Gruss an sie sei dieses Vorwort abgeschlossen."

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Old Acquaintances

News from Everywhere: Peter Loeffler, who started as lector under Kurt Hirschfeld's directorship and became secretary of Berlin's Academy of Arts, has succeeded Leopold Lindtberg as director of Zürich's Schauspielhaus.—It has now been disclosed that Anton Walbrook donated his whole fee for acting in "The 49th Parallel" in 1941 to the International Red Cross.—In memory of the architect, Erich Mendelsohn, who died in 1953, the Academy of Arts in West Berlin staged an exhibition of his work.

Home News: Annemarie Hase came over from Berlin to visit relatives and friends. "The Times" interviewed her about her wartime "Frau Wernicke" broadcasts from Cambridge. To this day Berliners believe that she broadcast from an underground shelter in Berlin. Until Brecht's death she was a member of his ensemble, but since then she has played in West Berlin and elsewhere.—Before going on a tour of the Continent, Egon Jameson tried out his lecture, "Auf die Barrikaden, ihr Greise," at London's Club 43. His attack on today's overrated youth received an enthusiastic reception from his audience.—Paul Tabori has been commissioned by Harrap of London and John Day of New York, to write a large-scale book about the exiles' contribution to the culture and civilisation of the 20th century. He would welcome any suggestions or data.

Milestones: Heinz Ullstein, senior of the third Ullstein generation, who survived the Nazis in Germany, is 75 years old. He wrote comedies under the pen-name of Heinz Hull and produced films with the late Richard Oswald, starring his wife, Aenne.—Elow, founder and compère of Berlin's Kabarett der Namenlosen and ex-chairman of the Jewish Club in Los Angeles, is also 75 years old.—Herbert Ihering, drama critic of "Boersenkurier", who paved the way for Brecht, Bronnen and Zuckmayer, is 80. He now works in East Berlin.—Erich Dombrowsky, former assistant editor of the "Berliner Tageblatt" and co-founder of the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung," has celebrated his 85th birthday.

Austria: Bernhard Wicki will direct Shakespeare's "The Tempest" at the Burg, with Erwin Balsler as Prospero and H. Schweiger as Caliban.—Ernst Schroeder will take the part of the Prime Minister in Leon Epp's production of Hochhuth's "Soldaten" at the Volkstheater.—Fritz Hochwaelder's "Befehl" will be produced by Kurt Meisel at the Burg.—Herbert von Karajan's secretary, Andre Mattoni, has disclosed that the conductor would like to do a screen remake of "The Merry Widow," starring Rex Harrison and Julie Andrews, with Rudolf Nureyev as choreographer.

Obituary: The 81-year-old film director, Max Neufeld, died in Vienna. He started his career as an actor.—Franz Hoellering, a former editor of Berlin's "12 Uhrblatt," and brother of London's Academy owner, George Hoellering, died in Munich at the age of 72. He returned from the States and adapted plays for the German stage.—The director of Austria's State Opera, Egon Hilbert, died in Vienna at the age of 69.

Germany: Leonard Steckel and Blandine Ebinger appeared at Berlin's Komoedie in Peter Schaffer's "Komoedie im Dunkeln," directed by Romy Schneider's husband, Harry Meyen.—Kurt Hoffmann directed a "Rheinsberg" film, based on Tucholsky's famous love story.

* *Wissenschaft des Judentums im deutschen Sprachbereich*. Ein Querschnitt. Mit einer Einführung herausgegeben von Kurt Wilhelm. Schriftenreihe wissenschaftlicher Abhandlungen des Leo Baeck Instituts No. 16. J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), Tübingen. Bd. I/II. Lw. DM.81, kart. DM.72.

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

ISRAEL—RESULTS OF TWO OPINION POLLS

VOLUNTEERS—SUCCESS OR FAILURE?

Of the 7,200 volunteers who had come to Israel since the historic days in June, one thousand were interviewed about their experiences and impressions. "When after the interviews I called all the interviewers together to discover what they had found out, their reaction was that just meeting the volunteers was a great experience in itself", said Chanoch Rinot, a one-time Director-General of the Ministry of Education and in charge of the "Operation Interview". "They met this 'new generation' for the first time and felt that a large proportion of them are excellent, fine youth — apart from a certain adventurist minority who were not ready for the experience".

Of the 1,000 young volunteers questioned, over 50 per cent expressed a positive attitude to the entire project and three out of four are prolonging their stay to continue their studies or to explore the possibilities of settling. The actual break-down is as follows: Returning to their home countries without further contacts, 41.5 per cent; returning with intention of continuing contacts, 11.5 per cent; exploring possibilities of remaining in Israel, 3 per cent; exploring work possibilities (professionals and salesmen), 7.5 per cent; learning a trade, 1.3 per cent; remaining as students, 10.9 per cent; attending a Hebrew "Ulpan" (study course), 10.3 per cent; working in settlements, 4.8 per cent; at service with the Army Land Pioneer Movement (Nahal) and other auxiliary units, 4 per cent; miscellaneous, 5.2 per cent.

The main question facing the Israeli public is whether the Volunteer Movement was a one-time phenomenon, or whether it is a resurgence of "Halutzit" in a modern version.

Over 80 per cent of the volunteers (about 6,000) reached Israel during the first five weeks from the outbreak of the Six-Day War, and only 1,200 joined them during the ten weeks that followed. There was then not sufficient time for setting up the necessary machinery to deal with their arrival, and only gradually a system was worked out to employ them to the best of their abilities and to the best of the country.

The variegated group included professionals, students and people without formal education; youth from working-class families and from wealthy homes. Some came impelled by the sudden urge to help Israel in her hour of crisis, others were driven by the desire to take part in building up the State. Those who wanted to fight were disappointed when "all was over" before they had set foot on the land. They were psychologically not prepared for the day-to-day routine work instead of the drama they had expected. Nevertheless, 700 of them have decided to stay in Israel as immigrants or temporary residents.

Where did the volunteers come from? Anglo-Jewry with its community of half a million sent nearly 2,000; the 100,000 Jewish community of South Africa sent more volunteers (801) than the 5½-million strong U.S.A. Jewry (only 707). Altogether, about 4,000 came from the English-speaking communities, approximately 1,300 from Latin-America, and just under 1,800 from the European Continent. Less than half had previously any contact with a Zionist or Jewish youth movement.

Of the 7,200 volunteers, 4,850 worked in

kibutzim; 1,010 in civil auxiliary services with the army; 415 in Moshavim; 230 on Mount Scopus or in other restoration work in Jerusalem; 134 in "Nahal"; 125 with archaeological digs; 110 in afforestation and land reclamation of the Jewish National Fund; 255 as doctors and nurses; 85 in different occupations.

What about the future? Any volunteer must know that he cannot expect an aura of dramatic heroism, but he can derive deep satisfaction if he is prepared to forgo personal comforts and to work on projects which are all-important for Israel. The minimum time of service has been extended to one year. There are specific challenges: to set up new settlements, to work in immigrant villages, to be "in" on special development projects, to serve with "Nahal" or civil units of the Army—to name only some of the tasks which involve a personal commitment.

Volunteering can be one stage on the road to immigration. At the same time, the volunteer who returns to his country of origin at the conclusion of his service should not be considered a "deserter"—on the contrary, he has fulfilled an important function of which he can justly be proud.

WHAT TOURISTS THINK

What visitors think about Israel as a tourist country—whether they are satisfied with hotels, restaurants, prices, service—was the subject of a recent survey, undertaken on behalf of the Ministry for Tourism.

Seventy per cent of the visitors found their hotel rooms comfortable, 22% "quite" comfortable and only 2% were dissatisfied. As for services, 44% considered the prices reasonable or even low and 35% thought the charges were too high. It is interesting that more guests were satisfied with medium-class hotels than with those in the luxury category. As to the fare in the restaurants—near to 50% liked it, 30% "quite" liked it and only 6% disliked it. It seems that Jewish guests are more fastidious than non-Jews, as far as food is concerned—for only 52% of them were satisfied as compared with 62% of the non-Jewish guests.

In 1966, 50% of the tourists were Christians and 40% Jews. Last year the percentage of Christians dropped to 45% and that of Jews rose to 44%, the reason being that many Jews rushed to visit Israel immediately after the Six-Day War. The number of Jewish visitors from the U.S.A. and Canada is twice that of Christians, but from Europe the ratio is just the other way round—twice as many Christians came as Jews.

Last year, 290,000 persons visited Israel, 42% of them from the U.S.A. More than 80% of the tourists said they would like to return for another visit, and 92% added they would also advise their friends and acquaintances to come here—in the opinion of the Ministry for Tourism, a highly satisfactory result.

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MAN'S PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE

Erich Unger's Last Work

Some of those who met Dr. Unger in Berlin, Paris, London or during the war years at Oxford will remember him as a man of great charm, wit and originality of mind. His publications reflect a refugee's *curriculum vitae*: two books and numerous articles appeared in Germany before Hitler, some essays in French in Paris in the 'thirties, a number of English essays and a book "The Imagination of Reason" in England. "Das Lebendige und das Goettliche", one of the manuscripts which he left when he died in London in 1950, has now been published in Israel.*

The theme of the book is the evolution of living forms and Man's place in it and in the universe. Rejecting the view that Life is a by-product of the interplay of blind forces and accidental chemical events, Unger starts from the assumption that Life is at the core of the evolving world and indeed potentially inherent in Matter from the beginning. Movement and Mind are the characteristics of Life. Cosmic Matter, originally formless though, diffusely alive, becomes organised and, stage by stage, differentiated in increasingly complex, increasingly individual forms. It must be noted that, in this view, evolution proceeds not from a minute and as yet hardly "living" speck of something towards higher organisms, but from the totality of cosmic Matter towards the individual living forms in a series of divisions. The immeasurable masses of non-living, or "less"-living Matter, which form the astronomical and terrestrial environment of the life on earth, are seen as "shells", from which Life has, so to speak, receded as it contracted and concentrated in the succession of living and, finally, conscious organisms. As Mind is an inseparable attribute of Life, the evolutionary process in which Life manifests itself tends to make the implicit quality of Mind explicit in the higher organisms, culminating in Man and human consciousness. From here, Man is going to take over: "Man is the only creature whose final form does not mean the end of evolution. He has to go on with it, probably by developing a collective form for his kind" in accordance with the eternally creative pattern. Thus, our planet, however small on the astronomical scale, may yet be the central scene where Man continues the process of natural evolution by ordering his, i.e., the social world. Mankind becomes the agent of a living impulse which, in a sense, must be called Divine.

This bare statement of the book's main theme does not, of course, do justice to the closely reasoned argument by which the author supports and clarifies his thesis; nor to the detailed discussion of a number of related topics as, e.g., the part of the imagination in any total picture of the world or, indeed, of any whole, as no totality is immediately given to experience; or of the problems of Time and Change, the arrangement of Matter in the universe, the diversity of animal species regarded as embodiments of different "Lebensideen" (strength, swiftness, cunning, hiding, etc.)—inventions of Life for coping with the environment of which, again, the creature itself is a part. But however rich in ideas and original in outlook, it must be said that the book makes considerable demands on the reader and that some parts of the argument are rather difficult.

J. CHRYSOSTOMIDES.

* Erich Unger: *Das Lebendige und das Goettliche*. Jerusalem, 1966.

Yomtov Ludwig Bato (Ramal Chen, Israel)

IN MEMORY OF ZVI PEREZ CHAJES

Fortieth Anniversary of his Death

In the latter half of the nineteenth century the Jews of the East and West produced personalities destined to leave their mark on Jewish history. Zvi Perez Chajes was an outstanding example among them.

His grandfather, Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Chajes, was a remarkable character, standing out in his generation and surroundings and combining extreme contrasts within himself. As a rabbi of the old school he served the community of Zolkiew in Poland and was acknowledged to be one of the greatest Talmudic luminaries of his time. Yet at the same time, he was imbued with ideas of emancipation. Seeing him portrayed in caftan and spodek (the high fur hat of Polish Jewry), long beard and curled ringlets over his ears, it is hard to conceive that he obtained his doctorate at the University of Lemberg and, as was recorded in 1832, one Shabbos delivered in the synagogue a much admired eulogy of Goethe, who had recently died. According to the anecdote, he is said to have referred to him as "Rabbi Goethe".

His grandson, Zvi Perez Chajes (1876-1927), was no longer prepared to put up with the traditional form of Jewish study. He learned at the Yeshiva of his uncle, but at the same time studied secondary school subjects and afterwards attended the rabbinical seminary and university in Vienna. His almost miraculous powers of mental retention enabled him to master the whole Talmud, he was amazingly well-read in rabbinical literature—and all this while still a youth.

Then Chajes went to Florence, where the gifted Rav S. H. Margulies was at work, setting a new path for Italian Jewry that had become estranged from its glorious past. He became his eager co-worker, fulfilling the duties of lecturer at the local Collegio Rabbinico, later at the university as well, and he was also the leading light of the Società Asiatica Italiana.

Most of his time in Florence was devoted to research.

A year before the outbreak of World War I he left his quiet retreat and accepted the call of the community of Trieste to become their chief rabbi. The poorly attended service at the synagogue in the Austrian seaboard town did not satisfy him. He sent out a spiritual call to his people, summoning them in meetings and lecture-halls. He endeavoured to create a Jewish atmosphere—and succeeded.

A Leader of his People

In the meantime the great Jewish community of Vienna was seeking a spiritual leader. After many unsuccessful attempts, they thought that they had found the right man in the person of Zvi Perez Chajes and in the summer of 1918, as the war drew to its close, elected him as deputy to the aged chief rabbi Dr. Gudemann with the right to succeed him. The latter exclaimed: "Now I can depart in peace, knowing that my office is entrusted to worthy hands." And, in fact, a few weeks later he relinquished his mortal existence and Chajes became chief rabbi of Vienna. With that he became a leader of his people far beyond the bounds of a single city or country.

"I have come to you to serve my people", he said in his inaugural sermon, "to serve them with all my heart, all my soul and all my resources. Apart from that, I serve no man. I do not stand here to occupy an office, but to fulfil a mission. Anyone who attempts to limit my spiritual freedom or independence will turn me into a useless tool. Anyone who thinks that he can deflect me by threats, obstacles, slander or promises from the path that I must take, or estrange me from the convictions that I have acquired in decades of conflict, will strike against granite. . . . Each beat of my heart, every atom of strength that I possess, every outpouring of my soul, every day of my life will be unrestrainedly devoted to Judaism and its historic mission, the liberation of mankind. May the Shield and Guardian of Israel lend me strength and His blessing!"

This was the prelude. From there it progressed step by step. He avoided the use of clichés in all his addresses and proudly professing his bounds with the Jewish people proclaimed the new and revolutionary concept of freedom, which was linked to their illustrious past and held out promise for a comforting and glorious future. His idealism, his unbending spirit and resolute attitude enthused the populace, who adored him. Wherever he spoke, whether in synagogue or assembly hall, they flocked to hear the master in such numbers that often the police had to be called out.

Today, forty years after his death and in the twentieth year of the existence of the State of Israel, it is hardly possible to conceive the importance at the time of the chief rabbi of one of the largest communities in Europe, whose officers fought Zionism as a pernicious influence, having audience with the young Emperor Karl a few weeks before the end of the war in order to explain to him the national Jewish aspirations of Austrian Jewry and to discuss with him in detail the problem of Palestine and Zionism. Every Shabbos, in praying for the republic of Austria, he entreated the Almighty to bestow his blessing on the whole Jewish people, the land of their

fathers and the men who were preparing the new way for Israel.

Actually, during the chief rabbi's first months in office, the leaders of the community were considering the idea of reprimanding him. The rumour of their intention had scarcely got out when the public adopted such a threatening attitude that they dared not proceed. His love for the Jewish people and their country had nothing chauvinistic about it. On the contrary, it was intimately associated with the whole fate of humanity. The Ten Commandments were intended for all mankind and the prophets wanted to save all mankind. The idea of peace between nations was first expressed in the Jewish Bible.

Chajes was accorded enormous respect in the Zionist world organisation and for many years he filled the post of chairman of the Zionist Actions Committee.

In order to maintain Judaism amongst the Viennese youth, he established at great personal self-sacrifice the Jewish Secondary Modern School and also the Hebrew College, in which many young people were prepared for the Hebrew teaching profession in Eretz Israel. He himself taught at this school, not because the school needed him as an instructor, but because in his view he needed the school. In Vienna, the only Jewish community in Europe without a school of its own, his efforts to create a Jewish educational system caused a lot of doubtful head-shaking. Some people saw Jewish schools as a return to the ghetto. Chajes, however, viewed the Jewish education of young people as security for the continued existence of the Jewish people.

His heartfelt desire was to go to Jerusalem and disseminate Jewish learning from the podium of the Hebrew University. The descendant of a family that for centuries had provided wise and great scholars had as his ambition the desire to exercise his role as a teacher in the place where the Torah itself was proclaimed. But things did not turn out that way. His intentions were never fulfilled because of various obstacles, culminating in his sudden death in December, 1927.

The memory of the brilliance of his personality remained, however, in the hearts of those who had the fortune to know him.

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H. W. Freyhan

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

The Vienna Philharmonic in Pictures

In 1967, the Vienna Philharmonic could look back on 125 years of concert giving. From the beginning, its membership was identical with that of the Imperial Opera Orchestra, and this personal union has been preserved to the present day, although the concert orchestra is a self-governing body which elects its own conductors and soloists.

Its founder and first conductor was Otto Nicolai, composer of "The Merry Wives of Windsor", who was also *Kapellmeister* at the Opera House. He took charge of the orchestra's first symphony concert in 1842 and thus headed the imposing list of composers whose names have been associated with the Vienna Philharmonic.

In honour of the 125th anniversary, the *Oesterreichischer Bundesverlag* presents a pictorial monograph which will prove a great attraction to the Vienna Philharmonic's innumerable admirers all over the world.*

"Die Philharmoniker preisen heisst Geigen nach Wien tragen"—but Richard Strauss's *bonmot* need not apply to a volume which indulges in such praise almost exclusively by means of a pictorial documentary. The textual introduction, with English and French translations, limits itself to a brief survey of the orchestra's history, and here solely to its highlights. These include the V.P.O.'s first appearance in Paris, in 1900, under Mahler. His letter of resignation, sent only one year later, is reproduced, but the rather unfortunate reasons which prompted this step must be looked up in Professor Redlich's Mahler biography (in: *The Master Musicians*; Dent).

The political upheavals which affected the orchestra are rather glossed over, and the English version shows a strange deviation from the German text when it renders the original words "Ein gnaediges Geschick bewahrte das Orchester auch von den sonst so schweren Verlusten der Jahre 1938 bis 1945" as follows: "By another fortunate dispensation of Providence the orchestra was spared the atrocities and destruction of the years 1938-1945". What atrocities are here referred to, and why for the benefit of only the English (not even the French!) reader?

The main contents of the book are pictorial

* *Botschafter der Musik. Einleitung und Bildtexte*: Helmut Boese. *Gesamtgestaltung*: Alois F. Rottensteiner. *Oesterreichischer Bundesverlag* Wien-Muenchen. S 288; DM 48.

and include a few beautiful colour plates. Apart from the portraits of the composers and conductors who had played a part in the orchestra's past, most of the material dates from the last two decades and covers also the international tours which were undertaken during this period. The reproductions are of good quality, and the whole volume is handsomely produced.

Mendelssohniana

Among recent English studies of Felix Mendelssohn's life and works, *Philip Radcliffe's* volume (*Mendelssohn, in The Master Musicians*; Dent), stands out as a scholarly and sound guide (reviewed in *AJR Information*, August, 1954). A new edition (1967) brings the book up to date in various respects (Bibliography), especially by an additional chapter in which he examines those compositions that have been published since the first edition (1954). The list is not inconsiderable: it includes the early Violin Concerto in D minor, which has been discovered and edited by Yehudi Menuhin. Although it is the work of a boy of 13, it shows "some original features, one of which forecasts the later Violin Concerto". From the same time date two of the symphonies for strings (which leave ten others still to be published). Other *juvenalia* which have been made available include two piano quartets, two concertos for two pianos and orchestra, and a clarinet sonata. All these works precede the "Midsummer Night's Dream" Overture, the incredible masterpiece of the 17-year-old Mendelssohn.

The latest work among these new publications is the violin sonata of 1838, "one of the best instrumental works of its period, and it is surprising that its composer apparently did not consider it worthy of publication."

It is perhaps worth mentioning that Mr. Radcliffe has felt an urge to reshape the last sentence of his book. Whereas in the first edition he summed up Mendelssohn as "a composer . . . in whose work we may still find much that is well worth exploring," he now writes: "for whose best work we shall always feel a deep and lasting affection."

The Case of Furtwaengler

All those who owe some of the great musical experiences of their life to Furtwaengler—and even those who know only his recordings—will be glad to find their enthusiasm shared by an imposing array of leading musicians from many countries. Daniel Gillis has collected tributes from three generations*, introduced by letters of condolence to the conductor's widow from Schweitzer, Heuss, Adenauer and others and continuing with memorial broadcasts, addresses, newspaper articles and other documents. A few good and characteristic photos and a list of Furtwaengler's own compositions and writings are as welcome as the scholarly discography which Michael Marcus has provided.

Apart from minor criticisms, the image of Furtwaengler as one of the greatest conductors of the century is affirmed on every page of the book. It is only natural that the controversy about his decision to remain in Nazi Germany should be referred to in many of the contributions, and it is hardly surprising that in a volume of this kind only counsel for the defence gets a hearing. One cannot overlook

* *Furtwaengler Recalled*. Edited by Daniel Gillis. John de Graff Inc. Tuckahoe, New York. \$5.95.

the fact that this line is taken by numerous Jewish contributors, many of whom can support their case with evidence of Furtwaengler's courageous help in their own plight under the Third Reich.

I have often wondered why so many German musicians whose record in this matter cannot compare with Furtwaengler's have been spared the bitter antagonism which he had to face after the war and which deprived the American public of the opportunity ever to hear him again after 1927. It might well be a case of love turned into hatred: more was expected of him because he had been regarded as the noblest representative of German musical life.

Any judgment of Furtwaengler's personality must take into account his tragic lack of inner harmony. His letters have shown that throughout his brilliant career this highly sensitive artist was torn by the tormenting doubt whether his true mission did not lie in composing rather than in conducting. Unlike Mahler and Richard Strauss, he was unable to achieve a satisfactory equilibrium between these fundamental urges. This basic insecurity had become part of his nature and may also have manifested itself in his reluctance to face the inner isolation which emigration would have brought to one so deeply rooted in the German musical tradition. It is known that he did come quite near to leaving Germany; if in the end he shrank from this step, one must also allow for counter-pressure from both sides: Nazi blackmail as well as hostility from influential circles in the U.S.A. Whether one accepts the arguments with which he then persuaded himself that he still had a beneficial mission to fulfil in Germany is another question.

Furtwaengler's case is in every respect a complex one; as such, it is bound to bring forth reactions which differ violently. But in view of his record, which places him far above most members of the German cultural *élite*, there should be no room for sweeping judgments and condemnations. The testimony of men like Schweitzer, Menuhin and others should suffice to call for a balanced approach.

MEMOIRS OF A JEWISH MATHEMATICIAN

The memoirs of the mathematician Professor Abraham A. Fraenkel ("Lebenskreise—Aus den Erinnerungen eines juedischen Mathematikers", Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, Stuttgart 1967, DM 19.80) were recently published under the auspices of the Jerusalem section of the Leo Baeck Institute. Born in Munich as the member of an Orthodox family, Fraenkel describes his academic career in Germany and especially his personal contact with numerous outstanding personalities, among them Albert Einstein. The author also deals with problems of Jewish education and recalls his long-standing association with the Zionist cause. In Germany, Professor Fraenkel taught at the universities of Marburg (until 1928) and Kiel (until 1933). After his emigration, he became professor at the Hebrew University and served as its rector during the academic years 1938/40. He died in Jerusalem in 1965 at the age of 74.—(E.G.L.)

STUDENTS IN ISRAEL

Mr. Shimon Hadar, head of the Student Authority set up by the Jewish Agency and the Diaspora Centre, stated in Haifa that about 1,500 Jewish students from overseas mainly from Western countries and South America, are taking courses in Israel. The authority pays the students' fees and provides them with living expenses of about £235 a year, low-cost accommodation and free auxiliary instruction, chiefly in Hebrew. Most of the students were immigrants or prospective immigrants and civilian aid volunteers. They were not required to stay in Israel after completing their courses.

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ORGANISATIONAL AND CULTURAL NEWS

VISITS BY MAYOR OF CAMDEN

The visits which the Mayor of Camden, Councillor Mrs. Millie Miller, paid to Otto Schiff House on January 17 and to Hannah Karminski House on January 30, were highlights in the history of both houses. Her informal approach and deep human interest immediately created an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

On both occasions, the Mayor had an exchange of views with the committee members and spoke to each of the residents and club members. At Otto Schiff House she was welcomed by Mrs. R. Berlin, chairman of the House Committee. Among the guests were the chairman of the Central British Fund, Mr. H. Oscar Joseph, and the chairman of the AJR, Mr. A. S. Dresel. At Hannah Karminski House Mrs. M. Jacoby, chairman of the AJR Club, briefly described the history and present activities of the Club. She also extended a special welcome to Lady Karminski whose husband, Sir Seymour Karminski, is a first cousin of the late Hannah Karminski. After the visits the AJR received the following letter from Councillor Miller:

"I would like to thank you and the Committees of both Otto Schiff and Hannah Karminski Houses for their kindness to me on my visits. I do congratulate your Association most sincerely on the fine work they are doing not only for their own members but in providing facilities for other groups within the community.

With kind regards to you all,
Yours sincerely,
Millie Miller, Mayor"

STOKE MANDEVILLE SPORTS STADIUM

This issue carries a letter by Sir Ludwig Guttman in which he asks members of the AJR for their support towards the erection of an indoor sports stadium for the paralysed at Stoke Mandeville. We strongly endorse Sir Ludwig's appeal.

The scheme deserves the assistance of all citizens of this country. Former refugees have, however, also a special reason for associating themselves with this venture. The wide recognition with which Sir Ludwig Guttman's pioneer work for the paraplegics has met, has also added lustre to our community with which he has always whole-heartedly identified himself. He has been a Board Member of the AJR since its inception, and has repeatedly lent us his experienced advice, especially in connection with the work for the homes. Contributions to the Paraplegic Sports Endowment Fund are, therefore, also personal tributes to Sir Ludwig Guttman's signal achievements. Members of the AJR Executive have already made a joint contribution to the Fund. It is sincerely hoped that readers of this journal will generously respond to the appeal.

CIVIC TRUST AWARD FOR HEINRICH STAHL HOUSE

The Civic Trust Awards for the best architectural works done in Greater London between 1964 and 1967 include a Class I Commendation for Heinrich Stahl House, the Old Age Home jointly administered by the C.B.F. and the AJR.

In their comments the Civic Trust state: "This building has solved the difficult problem of creating a non-institutional character for what is, in fact, an institution, and the domestic character of the street is maintained with the old and the new blending well".

We extend our congratulations to the architect, our friend Mr. H. J. Reifenberg who, together with Building Design Partnership, designed Heinrich Stahl House.

GIFT FROM NEW LIBERAL JEWISH CONGREGATION

As last year, the New Liberal Jewish Congregation allocated £25 of the proceeds of its Chanukah Bazaar to the Welfare Department of the AJR. We are extremely grateful to the Hon. Officers of the Congregation for this renewed expression of their appreciation of our efforts.

"THE HYPHEN"

In the March 1948 issue of *AJR Information* a letter was published, over the signature of the present writer, asking those young readers "who did not feel 300 per cent British" to contact him with the view to founding a cultural social group. A short while later, several young people who had responded met in Dr. Rosenstock's office to discuss the further procedure. As the result of the deliberations a further announcement was published in the September 1948 issue, and the first meeting, arranged under the auspices of the AJR, on October 31, 1948, was attended by more than 70 people of whom more than 50 became active members. It was the late Eva Massey who proposed naming the group "The Hyphen", i.e., the generation "in between". We immediately got going in setting up a programme comprising weekly lectures, discussions, a study circle, play reading, French conversation and rambles.

The first year's activities were reviewed by Ilse Apt in the November 1949 issue of *AJR Information*. She stressed the "feeling of belonging" which had developed. In 1950 "The Hyphen" started the publication of a bulletin, "Hyphen News", of which 16 editions appeared over a period of five-and-a-half years. By the time "The Hyphen" was ten years old, 25 couples, who met for the first time at the group's functions, had married and 50 "Hyphenettes" had been born.

The founders had given "The Hyphen" a life expectancy of three to five years. In fact, its activities went on for almost two decades. However, at the Annual General Meeting in 1967 it was decided that the group should be wound up at this year's A.G.M., because too little support was forthcoming from its 30 or so present members. This meeting will take place on Sunday, March 17, at 7.30 p.m. at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, London, N.W.3. It is meant to serve as a reunion of all those who have been associated with "The Hyphen" at one time or another. Therefore, all former members are cordially invited.

PETER W. JOHNSON.

"LITERATURE IN EXILE"

Authors Meet in Luxemburg

The Exhibition "Exil-Literatur 1933-1945" which was compiled by the "Deutsche Bibliothek" in Frankfurt in 1965 and has since been shown in several countries, was recently opened in Luxemburg. The occasion was linked with a meeting of 40 politicians and writers who had left Germany when the Nazis came to power. In his address, Federal Foreign Minister, Herr Willy Brandt, referred to manifestations of a new nationalism in Germany and said: "We are no weaklings and we are not prepared to allow a repetition of the fate of the Weimar Republic. The foundations of our democracy are stronger than some people think. . . . There have been writers in exile throughout the ages, it has, however, never happened before that more than 1,300 authors had to leave their country of birth. This exodus has impoverished Germany but it has enriched the world".

The main speaker, Professor Golo Mann, stressed that the emigration of writers should not be considered as a Jewish emigration. This would give the wrong impression that all writers were Jews and left Germany because they had no choice. Like their non-Jewish colleagues, most Jewish authors left Germany immediately after the Nazis had come to power, whereas the majority of the German Jews waited too long because they could not imagine what was in store for them.

Among the participants were two authors from London. Dr. Richard Friedenthal and Dr. Eva Reichmann.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY WEEK IN FRANKFURT

Address by Ernst Simon

A Hebrew University Week was held in Frankfurt from January 15 to 22. Under the auspices of the University, seven Israeli professors gave lectures on their particular subjects. At the opening ceremony the Rector of the University, Professor Ruegg, stressed the historical importance of this venture by which, for the first time, links between a university in Germany and a university in Israel were established on an official level. The inaugural lecture was given by Professor Akzin (Jerusalem), Professor of Public Law and Political Science. The subject was "Problems of a Young University in a Young State."

One of the functions during the week was dedicated to the memory of Martin Buber who was a lecturer at Frankfurt University up to 1933. The speaker was Professor Ernst Simon.

At the conclusion of the Hebrew University Week Professor Simon delivered a lecture on "The Change of the Jewish Image in the New State of Israel". Professor Simon's sincere and self-critical analysis of the situation left a deep impression on the audience. The speaker stated that in the course of a comparatively short period the Jewish people had undergone two fundamental changes. The first change arose from the sudden confrontation with their environment after the emancipation. From the Middle Ages which, for the Jews, lasted 300 years longer than for other people in Europe, they were abruptly catapulted into modern life. The impact of this experience had been so strong that, more than their non-Jewish bourgeois counterparts, they became protagonists of revolutionary ideas, symbolised by the names of Marx, Freud and Einstein. By the second change, the establishment of a Jewish State, the Jews had regained their identity. They now faced a reality which was entirely their own. This might lead to the emergence of a new mythology, and there was the danger that their new functions as soldiers and peasants might result in an idolisation of State and War. However, in the view of the speaker, this danger should not be over-estimated. Professor Simon especially referred to the address which General Rabin, the Israeli Chief of Staff, gave after the end of the war on Mount Scopus when an honorary doctorate was awarded to him. In that address General Rabin deplored the cruelty of warfare and the losses suffered by the vanquished.

FOUNDATION OF MENDELSSOHN SOCIETY

To uphold the memory of the Mendelssohn family and the achievements of its members, a Mendelssohn Society has been founded in Berlin, the home town of the family for about 200 years.

Among the aims of the Society is the collection of documents and other objects with the view to perusing them for publication or incorporation into the Mendelssohn Archives in Berlin-Dahlem. It is also envisaged to reinstate the Moses Mendelssohn stipend (endowed in 1929 and discontinued in 1933), to catalogue letters of members of the Mendelssohn family as well as the artistic works of the painter, Wilhelm Hensel (husband of Fanny Mendelssohn). The documentation of the history of the Mendelssohn banking firm, especially during the first half of the nineteenth century, is also considered. Among the founder members of the Society are Mr. Ernst Lemmer, Dr. W. Stresmann, Professor Dr. E. Redslöb, Professor Dr. H. J. Schoeps and Rabbi Dr. B. Brillig.

Application forms for membership (annual subscription D.M. 25) may be obtained from Dr. Cécile Hensel, 1 Berlin 33, Podbielskiallee 44, W. Germany.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

LINGUISTIC ARTISTRY

Anyone with an ear for rhythm and admiration for the discipline of form and linguistic skill will certainly derive pleasure from Laura Wallace's recently published poetry.*

Her poems reflect the feeling and longing of a loving woman, concrete situations are described, experiences and fluctuating moods reflected. For all this the poet has deliberately chosen a verse form reserved only for those who are fully in command of both language and style—the sonnet. Hardly ever does she deviate from this self-imposed framework, and she adds to her mastery by making an acrostic from the first letters of each line. This is craftsmanship indeed—all the more so as the author cannot claim English to have been her mother tongue. Laura Wallace came to this country from Germany in her teens.

Those however—and the reviewer belongs to this group—who look for content and valid imagery in a poem will find this volume less rewarding. One is frequently left with the impression that achievement of form and style was brought about at the expense of substance. I was disturbed by a certain repetitiveness, the recurrence of hackneyed phrases and sentimentality on a level hardly to be reconciled with the poet's quality of style. I am thinking of passages like:

"Oblivion ends it all, eternal rest;
Ultimate heaven? Oh, love, our love is
blessed!"

I could imagine that some of Miss Wallace's poems would win greatly when recited—by someone sensitive and able enough to bring out the charm and humour you sense between the lines.

LUCIE SCHACHNE.

* Laura Wallace: *Make Me a Willow Cabin* and other poems. Mitre Press, London. 12s. 6d.

ORDINARY GERMANS

"It is inspiring to learn how people you would never pick out in a crowd as unusual, behaved superbly," says David Astor in his foreword to Michael Horbach's book, *Out of the Night* (Valentine, Mitchell, 25s.). Horbach, born at Aachen in 1924, was sent to the Russian front at the age of 18; after the war he became a journalist—working for some time as the Bonn correspondent of Associated Press—and made a name for himself as a novelist, film and television author.

His new book, published in Germany under the title *Wenige*, tells a number of hitherto unknown stories about those "ordinary" Germans who helped Jews and Resistance fighters at the risk, and often the cost, of their lives. There are the East Prussian farmers who hid the girl survivors of the Palmnicken massacre; the civil engineer in the occupation army who saved Jews from Czernowitz; the Berlin barber who sheltered his old client and then took in another Jew on the run; the Sudeten-German girl who saved inmates of Theresienstadt from deportation; the *Wehrmacht* corporal who let ten prisoners escape from a train after the July 20 attempt; the farmer from Lake Constance who helped a young Dutch Resistance fighter across the Swiss border and was himself killed; the little woman teacher in Westphalia who hid her Jewish nephew; the Protestant pastor who saved concentration camp victims from being drowned by their captors in the last month of the war; people in Thuringia and Silesia and innumerable Berlin families who rescued, sheltered and helped Jews. But Horbach also tells the story of one or two Jewish traitors who played into the hands of the Gestapo and the S.S.

The material, collected in the form of interviews in Germany and Israel and from Israeli archives, seems authentic enough, but some

serious readers may be put off by his "journalistic" style, his invented dialogues, his artificial dramatising. Such mannerisms may help to sell the book in Germany to those who are reluctant to hear, once again, about the past; but it robs these tales of a little of their documentary value, notwithstanding Horbach's boast that he spoke to 87 eye-witnesses, recorded 53 tapes, filled 14 diaries and exchanged 322 letters. The translation, by Nina Watkins, is expert and lively.

EGON LARSEN

"CLOTHES FOR JEWS" SCHEME

A Wartime Rescue Proposal

Dr. Lev Zelmanovits, head of the relief and rehabilitation department of the World Jewish Congress in London during the war, has revealed details of a Nazi "clothes for Jews" plan.

Now a lawyer in Cologne dealing with indemnification cases, Dr. Zelmanovits made these revelations in an interview in Duesseldorf, following recent controversy in the *Jewish Chronicle* about whether more Jews could have been saved from the Nazis. The controversy started with the book "While Six Million Died" by Arthur Morse, published recently in America, which states that many more Jews could have been rescued.

Dr. Zelmanovits said the Nazis were willing to free a certain number of Jews from camps and allow them to be evacuated to Sweden on condition that for every released Jew clothing was provided for one German citizen bombed out by the Allies in the Ruhr district. The Allied Powers opposed the plan.

"We all held the view in those days", Dr. Zelmanovits concluded, "that many thousands of Jews in Nazi camps whose lives were in danger during the final phases of the war, through hunger, epidemics and a last flare-up of Nazi brutalities, could have survived if the Allies had been more co-operative and shown more imagination. . . . But it all failed because the Allies maintained that their chief aim was to win the war and regarded such relief and rescue measures as undesirable interference with their own plans for the conduct of the war".

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MAURITIUS-INTERNIERUNG ALS FREIHEITSENTZIEHUNG

Kammergericht erkennt Entschädigung an

In der Monatsschrift "Rechtsprechung zum Wiedergutmachungsrecht" (Januar 1968, S.28) wird eine Entscheidung des Kammergerichts vom 13. Juli 1967 veröffentlicht, durch die ein Rechtsstreit beendet worden ist, der sich lange Zeit hingezogen hat. Die Klagerin, eine frühere deutsche Staatsangehörige, hatte sich einem sogen. illegalen Palaestina-Transport angeschlossen, der am 26. August 1940 in einem Sonderzug Danzig verlassen hatte. Sie wurde von der britischen Mandatsregierung mit ihren Gefährten zunächst vom 24. November bis 9. Dezember 1940 im Lager Atlith interniert. Anschliessend wurde sie gegen ihren Willen nach der im Indischen Ozean gelegenen Insel Mauritius gebracht, wo sie am 29. Dezember 1940 ankam. Die Klagerin ist am 26. August 1945 nach Palaestina zurückgekehrt.

Sie hat u.a. Entschädigung wegen Schadens an Freiheit fuer die Zeit vom 26. August 1940 bis August 1945 begehrt.

Die Entschädigungsbehörde hat den Anspruch der Klagerin mit der Begründung zurückgewiesen, sie sei von den britischen Behörden nicht wegen ihrer juedischen Herkunft, sondern aus fremdenpolizeilichen Gründen auf der Insel Mauritius interniert worden; die Internierung haette rechtsstaatlichen Grundsätzen entsprochen. Das Landgericht hat der Klage stattgegeben. Das Kammergericht hat auf die Berufung des beklagten Landes die Klage abgewiesen. Der Bundesgerichtshof hat durch ein am 20. Dezember 1961 verkündetes Urteil das Urteil des Kam-

mergerichts aufgehoben und die Sache an das Kammergericht zurückverwiesen.

In dem jetzt ergangenen Urteil hebt der erkennende Senat des Kammergerichts hervor, dass nach der staendig vom Bundesgerichtshof vertretenen Rechtsauffassung, die seiner eigenen Auffassung entspreche, u.a. Voraussetzung fuer einen Anspruch wegen Freiheitsentziehung nach § 43 BEG sei, dass die Entziehung der Freiheit durch die auslaendische Regierung mit rechtsstaatlichen Grundsätzen nicht vereinbar sei. Die Freiheitsentziehung muesse ausserdem durch Versagung des Schutzes, den der eigene Staat seinen Staatsangehörigen nach voelkerrechtlichen Grundsätzen selbst oder durch die von ihm beauftragte Schutzmacht im Ausland gewahrt, ermoglicht worden sein.

Das Kammergericht legt unter Hinweis auf ein White Paper von Trevor (Jerusalem 1948), ein Gutachten der URO vom 29. Oktober 1962 sowie ein Gutachten des Instituts fuer Zeitgeschichte in Muenchen vom 23. November 1962 eingehend dar, dass der Transport nach Mauritius und die Internierung auf der Insel unter Bedingungen erfolgt seien, die als eine Verletzung rechtsstaatlicher Grundsätze angesehen werden muessen. Darauf, ob die britischen Behörden auch subjektiv eine Schuld treffe, komme es nicht an.

Die Klagerin habe Deutschland, dessen Buergerin sie gewesen sei, verlassen muessen, um, wie die weitere Entwicklung der Dinge gezeigt habe, ihr Leben zu retten, und sei allein deshalb in die Lage gekommen, illegal nach

Palaestina einwandern zu muessen. Den Schutz des Deutschen Reiches habe sie unter diesen Umstaenden nicht in Anspruch nehmen koennen. Waere sie bei einer illegalen Einwanderung aus anderen Gruenden als dem genannten von den britischen Behörden inhaftiert worden, so haette sie sich an die zustaeudige Schutzmacht wenden koennen und waere dann im unguenstigsten Falle nach Deutschland zurückgeschickt worden. Weil sie aber eine deutsche Staatsangehörige juedischer Herkunft war, sei sie weitgehend rechtlos geworden und habe praktisch keine Moeglichkeit gehabt, sich gegen die Massnahmen der britischen Behörden zu wehren, Massnahmen, die nicht oder wenigstens nicht in dieser Form erfolgt waeren, wenn die Klagerin den Schutz des Reiches haette in Anspruch nehmen koennen. Der Anspruch der Klagerin auf Entschädigung wegen Freiheitsentzug von 53 Monaten sei nach alledem begründet.

"FIDDLER" PERFORMANCE IN HAMBURG

"Anatevka" the West German version of the musical "Fiddler on the Roof", opened at the Operettenhaus in Hamburg. Its international cast stars Shmuel Rodensky and includes David Wiener Moses. Mr. Rodensky, asked to comment on the Israeli controversy over staging the musical in West Germany, replied that he was an actor not a politician, and he didn't regret it. He believed the play would be a success in Germany as well.

ATHENS' CHIEF RABBI LEAVES

Dr. Isaac Gabai, the Chief Rabbi of Athens, has left Greece to become the principal rabbi of the Tiferet Israel Synagogue in Caracas. There are about 10,000 Jews in the whole of Venezuela with the community of the capital, Caracas, numbering about 7,000. Dr. Gabai was the spiritual leader of the Athens community of 3,500 for six years.



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Birthday Tributes

ERNST KATZENSTEIN 70

Dr. Ernst Katzenstein, Director of the Claims Conference in Germany and Head of the Frankfurt Regional Office of U.R.O., recently became 70 years old. He was associated with the Zionist movement since his student days as a member of the K.J.V. When he established himself as a lawyer in Hameln his house became an hospitable centre of Zionist activities. He went to Palestine in 1935 after having passed his examination as an English barrister, and joined one of the leading law firms in Tel Aviv.

When, several years after the end of the war, the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation for the American Zone (J.R.S.O.) was established, it was soon realised that the manifold new and difficult tasks of the organisation could only be handled under the guidance of an outstanding lawyer with German qualifications. It was no accident that the call went to Ernst Katzenstein. After the death of Dr. Herbert Schoenfeld he became Director of the Claims Conference. His thoroughness is coupled with an almost unlimited working capacity and a genuine gift for grasping the essentials of any problem.

Ernst Katzenstein is a personality with wide-spread interests. He also has an intuition which enables him to co-ordinate divergent views, thus creating an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding. This makes him an incomparable friend. We sincerely wish Dr. Ernst Katzenstein many more years of success, health and enjoyment of all things which are dear to him.

H.T.

ALFRED SCHUELER 80

It is hard to believe that Dr. Alfred Schueler, the chief Legal Adviser of U.R.O. headquarters in Frankfurt, has attained the age of 80. He is just as active, alert and hard-working as he has been in his younger years.

Until 1935 Dr. Schueler was legal adviser to the Lingner (Odol) Werke in Dresden. When he lost his position in 1935 and had to emigrate, he first went to Spain and after many vicissitudes, finally found refuge in the United States. Until 1955 he did night work as a bookkeeper in a New York hotel. For the past 13 years he has held his responsible position with U.R.O. His outstanding gifts as a lawyer are reflected not only in innumerable "opinions" on controversial cases, but, above all, in his information circulars and in his articles and comments on High Court decisions published in the *Rechtsprechung zum Wiedergutmachungsrecht*. He is considered as an authority and often quoted in court decisions on restitution and compensation matters.

Whenever one calls on Dr. Schueler, be it for professional or private reasons, he shows a personal interest in his visitor, thus living up to the old adage that a busy man always has time. He is loyal to his numerous friends now spread all over the world. They all wish him health, strength and happiness for many years to come.

E.G.L.

MR. RICHARD A. EHRlich 80

Mr. Richard A. Ehrlich recently celebrated his 80th birthday in Boston. Deeply rooted in the tradition of Jewish life in the former province of Posen, he moved from Rogasen to Berlin after the First World War. There he built up a printing plant which *inter alia*, produced the *Posener Heimatblaetter*, published by the "Verband juedischer Heimatvereine". During the war he and his wife were deported to Theresienstadt. After the liberation, Mr. and Mrs. Ehrlich joined their son in Boston. Mr. Ehrlich is also the author of many articles about the history of the Posen Jews, some of which were published in *AJR Information*. We extend our heartiest birthday wishes to Mr. Ehrlich.

FRENCH EX-MAYOR HONOURED FOR RESCUING JEWS

The "Award of the Righteous" was awarded to M. Jean Deffaught, former Mayor of Annemasse (France) and a leader of the French resistance in the Franco-Swiss area, by Ambassador Aryeh Levavi, Israel's envoy to Switzerland. At the risk of his life, M. Deffaught rescued 32 Jewish children from the hands of the Gestapo during 1944.

ITALIAN HONOURS

The Italian-Jewish scientist, Professor Beniamino Segre of Rome University, has been elected president of the Accademia dei Licei, Italy's leading scientific academy.

Milan municipality's awards of gold medals to citizens whose activities are considered particularly worthy and regarded as enhancing the city's prestige, have been made to the president of the city's Jewish community, Dr. Guido Jarach, and Professor Yossef Colombo, a high school teacher.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Ehrlich.—Mrs. Charlotte Ehrlich (frueher Hindenburg O/S), of 54 Hertford Street, Cambridge, will celebrate her 80th birthday on March 31st.

Lopatka.—Mr. Max Lopatka (formerly Berlin/Neukoelln), of 10 Thornfield Avenue, London, N.W.7, will celebrate his 80th birthday on March 28th.

Death

Brann.—Gertrud (née Katzenstein) passed away suddenly at her home, wife of the late Julius Brann. Deeply missed by all her relatives in New York, Israel and London.—1 Felbridge House, 105 Belsize Road, London, N.W.6.

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FAMILY RESEARCH

Mr. Charles Jackson Friedländer, 1664 Thirty-Fourth Street N.W., Washington, D.C.20007, U.S.A., seeks the following members of his family:

Hamburger—Ludwig or Ulrich Hamburger, son of Dr. Carl Hamburger and Anna Cohn (sister of Emil Ludwig).

Friedländer—Descendants of the late Flora Friedländer (née Tichauer) (wife of Waldemar) who died in London in 1949. Believed to have had two daughters, Pauline Gibson then of Worthing, Sussex, and Hilde (Mrs. Arthur), St. John Templer-Branch.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Schiff—Grete and Hans Schiff, formerly 2 Hamburg 52, Parkstrasse 28, sought by Gertrud Kähler, Rilkeweg 12, Hamburg 52, W. Germany.

Klausner—Mr. Majer Klausner, born 17.10.1910 in Dombrowa/Polen, last known address: c/o Salomons, 66 Parade Mansions, London, N.W.4. Sought by United Restitution Office, 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3 'Phone: KILburn 0021.

IN MEMORIAM

GEORG HERLITZ

Dr. Georg Herlitz died in Jerusalem in his 83rd year. He was born in Oppeln and studied at the Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums in Berlin. However, though he obtained his rabbinical qualifications, he did not take up an appointment, but decided to become an historian and archivist. Until 1916 he worked with the Gesamtarchiv der deutschen Juden. After the war he organised the archives of the Zionist Organisation for Germany and was their custodian first in Berlin and, after their transfer to Palestine, in Jerusalem, until he retired in 1955. In the course of more than three decades he built up a unique collection of documents which has become indispensable for any research work on the history of the Zionist movement.

Together with the late Dr. Bruno Kirschner, Herlitz was also the editor of the five-volume German-language Juedische Lexikon (Berlin 1927-1930). In Israel he edited a collection of Herzl's letters as well as the Minute Book of the Berlin Jewish Community (1723-1854). In 1964 he wrote his autobiography under the heading: "Mein Weg nach Jerusalem."

Georg Herlitz was a most valuable board member of the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem and a highly esteemed contributor to the Institute's publications. His elder daughter, Esther, is the Israeli Ambassador to Denmark. —(E.G.L.)

MR. K. HENRY ROTHENBERG

On January 22, Mr. K. Henry Rothenberg, O.B.E., passed away at the age of 51. Born in Halberstadt, he came to England at the age of 16 and studied accountancy. In 1940 he volunteered for the British Army where he saw service abroad. In 1946 he joined his brother and together they built up a successful accountancy practice. He later joined James North & Sons Ltd., manufacturers of industrial gloves, and helped to transform the company from a purely domestic concern into a world-wide marketing and manufacturing organisation.

In recognition of his work, Mr. Rothenberg was made an O.B.E. in 1965 for Services to Safety. This was the culmination of a series of honours. In 1958 he was given the Freedom of the City of London. In 1963 he was one of the Gold Medallists at the Lord Mayor of London's Export Achievement lunches, and in 1964 he was awarded the Merite Civique, Medaille de Vermiel for services to industrial safety.

SYDNEY SILVERMAN

With the death of Sydney Silverman at the age of 72, the country has lost a colourful and much loved personality from the political scene.

This indomitable champion for the underprivileged, known as a complete independent, came from a large Liverpool Jewish family. As the Labour member for Nelson and Colne since 1935, he was responsible for the abolition of the death penalty after a long struggle to which he brought all his gifts of logic and persistence.

Silverman, always a rebel, was on the left of his party. Before the Second World War he opposed Labour's policy of non-intervention in Spain. During the war he fought against the policy of mass obliteration bombing. After the war he attacked Labour's Palestine policy and advocated reconciliation with Russia. He opposed German rearmament, was against British rearmament at the time of the Korean war, and opposed Mr. Gaitskill's nuclear policy.

As a Jew, Silverman was a stalwart fighter for Jewish rights and an ardent supporter of the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. As one of the Parliamentary delegates to the Nazi camps after the war, he was passionately concerned that the Jewish survivors should not be denied the chance of making their homes in Palestine. He was for many years chairman of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress and later its honorary vice-president and a member of the world executive.

JULIUS DEUTSCH

The former Austrian Socialist leader, Julius Deutsch, died in Vienna at the age of 84. When the Austrian Republic was established after the First World War he was appointed Secretary of State for the Army. Later he organised the Republikanische Schutzbund.

He tried everything possible to stem the flood of Nazism and other Right-wing movements. After the abortive uprising against the Dollfuss Government in 1934 he fled to Czechoslovakia. Later he did service in Spain. He survived the Second World War in the United States and returned to Austria after the end of hostilities.

Deutsch was also a prolific writer. His works include a History of the Austrian Trade Union Movement. He was married to Adrienne Thomas, the author of "Die Katrin wird Soldat".

JONAS LESSER

The death occurred on February 9 of Dr. Jonas Lesser. He was born in 1895 as the son of a rabbi in Cernauti (formerly Czernowitz), which once belonged to the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy and is now Russian. He moved to Vienna where he was confronted with violent antisemitism while still a student. His work in the publishing firm of Paul Zsolnay brought him in contact with the literary world (Schnitzler, Werfel). Later he established a close friendship with Hermann Hesse and, especially, with Thomas Mann.

Lesser came to London in 1938. His excellent book "Thomas Mann in der Epoche seiner Vollendung" (Kurt Desch, Munich, 1952), reveals him at the climax of his creative period. It was his subject, as he was fundamentally a literary type. His work "Germany—The Symbol and the Deed" which was published in 1965 (Thomas Yosseloff, New York-London) expresses his deep bitterness. Various other manuscripts remained unfinished or unpublished.

Lesser also wrote poetry which, because of a certain shyness, he usually kept to himself. One of his poems expresses, in a pathetic way, how deeply he suffered from his uprooting. Unlike others who were more robust, he was unable to make a fresh start, nor could he co-ordinate the impressions of a rapidly changing world in which old values had become obsolete. He must have felt cornered, and his feeling of loneliness, together with bodily ailment, accelerated his death.

HANS JAEGER.

RABBI S. LOEWY

Rabbi S. Loewy died recently in Raananah (Israel). Born in Vienna, he was rabbi of the Kehillah Agudath Achim (Hamburg-Barmbeck).

In 1939 Rabbi Loewy and his wife emigrated to Brussels. They survived the occupation time in hiding. After the liberation they did everything in their power to help their fellow Jews in Belgium. In 1952 they went to Israel.

Rabbi Loewy was widely esteemed for his ability as a teacher, his sincere piety and his deep human feeling and understanding. He is survived by his wife Rosa (née Wohlgenuth). P.H.

PAULA BEN-GURION

Mrs. Paula Ben-Gurion died in Beersheba Hospital at the age of 75. She was the wife of David Ben-Gurion, the former Prime Minister. The funeral ceremonies were held at Sde Boker and were attended by President Shazar and other personalities. The cables of condolence which reached Mr. Ben-Gurion included messages from President Johnson, President de Gaulle, the British Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, and Chancellor Kiesinger.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STADIUM FOR THE PARALYSED

An Urgent Request

Sir,—I would be grateful if you would be good enough to allow this letter to appear in your publication.

For many years Great Britain has been leading the world in the development of sport for the paralysed and other severely physically handicapped, such as blind, amputees, spastics, polios, etc. It was in 1948 that the Stoke Mandeville Games for the Paralysed were founded, with 16 paralysed British ex-Servicemen, and from this small beginning the Stoke Mandeville Games have developed into a world-wide sports movement of the paralysed and, indeed, are recognised as the Olympics of the Disabled.

Throughout the years the Paraplegic Sports Endowment Fund has been responsible for raising funds for the development and continuation of these Games and has spent large sums to develop the existing sports facilities on the sports ground of Stoke Mandeville Hospital, which has become the cradle of sport for all disabled.

After protracted negotiations with the Ministry of Health and the Oxford Regional Hospital Board, this fund has received permission to build an indoor sports stadium at Stoke Mandeville, which will be the first national, and, indeed, the first international Sports Stadium for the Disabled.

This project is entirely outside the Health Service and the sum of £350,000 has to be raised from voluntary contributions.

We have now launched a public appeal, and I am glad to say that the response has so far been very encouraging and has revealed the understanding and, indeed, active interest which the public in this country and, I may say, also abroad, have taken in the re-integration of their disabled fellow-men into society through the medium of sport.

As founder of this sports movement, I appeal to my fellow-refugees to give all the help they can to this unique venture in sport and humanity.

Donations should be sent to the Secretary-General of the Paraplegic Sports Endowment Fund, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Yours, etc.,

(Professor Sir) LUDWIG GUTTMANN,
Chairman of the Executive Committee of
the Paraplegic Sports Endowment Fund.
Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury, Bucks.

HISTORY OF WIEDERGUTMACHUNG

Sir,—I am grateful for Walter Breslauer's fairness in reviewing my book, "Die Ehrenschuld" (January issue of AJR Information). I should, however, like to correct some of his mistakes, which, I am sure inadvertently, became a part of his review:

(1) As to the work of the Council of Jews from Germany, the latter is mentioned, not only on page 76 but, though indirectly, by the activities of Dr. Curt Silberman (pp. 139 ff.), Dr. Hans Reichmann (p. 83) and directly on pp. 63 and 83. Superfluous to mention that the Council is a membership organisation of the Claims Conference and, therefore, well represented in my book. May I, however, point out that none of the other membership organisations have found special mentioning.

(2) Referring to Dr. Breslauer's "serious charge" that I have not treated the German officials "who were in charge of drafting the complicated laws," fairly let me point out for the record: Georg Blessin is mentioned on p. 122; Ernst Feaux de la Croix and Ernst Zorn on p. 123. Furthermore, on p. 76 I pay tribute to the working group preparing the amended indemnification law 1956.

Dr. Breslauer reproaches me, as his friends have done previously, that I "at times indulged in the past" in strident attacks against the Ministerialbuerokratie. When I attacked the latter I did it for good reasons, reasons recognised by the leadership of the Claims Conference. After all, we represent the small group of survivors of one of the most terrible crimes of centuries. We have to protect our rights with dignity and decisiveness. We don't owe "the bureaucrats" anything.

(3) I did not omit the contribution of the Allied governments and I refer Dr. Breslauer to pp. 15, 16, 17, 26, 39, 40, 65, 91 and 148. On these pages Dr. Breslauer will find the indemnification and restitution laws promulgated by the Occupation Powers' interventions regarding the German-Israel Agreement, and others.

Yours, etc.,

KURT R. GROSSMANN.

New York.

DR. W. BRESLAUER writes:

"(1) The work the Council of Jews from Germany has done in the legislative field since 1947 is merely mentioned on page 76 as stated by me. The other passages cited by Mr. Grossman concern side-issues, and in one case the activities of a special committee in New York comprising various American organisations which was founded as late as 1964.

"(2) I certainly agree with Mr. Grossman that we have to protect the rights of the

persecutees 'with dignity and decisiveness'. The Council of Jews from Germany has done this throughout the years. However, as I already stated in my review, the German policy in indemnification matters is not decided by the civil servants, but by the ministers and by parliament. Civil servants should, therefore, not be blamed for shortcomings which are not their fault. On page 122 the author gives the impression that the position had deteriorated because the late Ministerialrat Dr. Blessin was transferred to another post. Anybody with inside knowledge knows that this was not the case.

"(3) I did not deny that the Allied Restitution Acts are very briefly mentioned by the author (pp. 15-16—the other passages mentioned by Mr. Grossmann contain merely American comments on the German indemnification legislation). However, what I objected to was that the book gives a one-sided picture because it mainly deals with the German legislation on indemnification matters, and not adequately with the Restitution Laws enacted by the Allies. Their great importance to many victims has been set out by me. At the same time the legislative spade work done by the Allies in the field of restitution was also a decisive stepping-stone for the enactment of the Indemnification Laws".

COLLECTION OF BUBER'S LETTERS

Appeal for Co-operation

Sir,—In accordance with Martin Buber's last Will his personal archives were transferred to the Hebrew National and University Library in Jerusalem, where they are at present being catalogued.

It has turned out, however, that the correspondence includes comparatively few letters by Buber himself, because he wrote most of his letters by hand without retaining any copies. We, therefore, ask all those who possess letters by Martin Buber to donate either the originals or copies or photostats to the archives. Expenses will be defrayed if desired. In case of publication the donors will first be asked for their consent. Any communications should be addressed to: The Buber Archives, Jewish National and University Library, P.O.B. 503, Jerusalem, Israel.

Yours, etc.,

(Professor) ERNST SIMON.

Jerusalem.

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