

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Hans Jaeger

GERMANY BEFORE THE ELECTIONS

The elections in the Federal Republic which will be held at the end of September are characterised by two unusual aspects.

Firstly, although in the 1965 elections the C.D.U. was the governing party and the S.P.D. was in opposition, the contrasts were not so marked because the S.P.D. wanted to become a junior partner in the government after so long a period of frustration. It had almost pursued the transformation into a people's party to such a degree of adaptation and moderation that there was very little leeway for conflict and differences. Now the position is completely reversed, although both parties are in coalition. The C.D.U. and the S.P.D. face a battle of greater intensity than that fought four years ago, when they were officially still opponents. This does not necessarily mean that at least sections of both parties do not keep in mind the possibility of a coalition renewal. This awkward situation gives the campaign a special flavour.

Secondly, the election results will, to a certain extent, be less important than the negotiations thereafter. This, too, is rather unusual. The important thing, as far as the final figures are concerned, is only whether one party will gain the absolute majority (which, for reasons to be explained later, is not too certain), whether all three existing coalition possibilities will allow for a majority, and how strong the bargaining position of the parties will be for negotiating after the elections.

A large section of the C.D.U. hopes for an absolute majority. The Right-wing wants to achieve it at any price, and uses every means in its fight against the S.P.D. This the Centre cannot ignore. But it is doubtful whether the C.D.U. can weaken both the S.P.D. and the Free Democrats (F.D.P.) to such an extent that it achieves the absolute majority which it could not obtain in 1965, especially as it has to take into account the extreme Right-wing N.P.D. An increase in votes for the extreme Left would, on the other hand, not be at their expense. It will not be easy for the C.D.U. to obtain a majority, even if the Right-wing thunders against the present policy adopted towards the East and ignores the merits of the Social Democratic Minister of Economy, Professor Schiller, who so successfully fought the recession. The Minister of Finance, Herr Strauss, who at one stage co-operated very well with Professor Schiller, now modestly takes the credit for this exclusively to himself—a recent Gallup Poll revealed that the majority of people questioned thought Schiller was a C.D.U. member. Schiller's stand for revaluation of the DM. is also used as a weapon against the S.P.D.

Even less likely is an absolute majority of the S.P.D., which had losses at recent Laender

elections. They might even lose votes to the F.D.P., which in some areas is endeavouring to gain votes from the Left, and also to the extreme Left, where "Action Democratic Progress" is an extension of the former German Peace Union, absorbing the League of Germans and acting, too, on behalf of the D.K.P., the new German Communist Party.

If there is no absolute majority for either party, or if the majority is so small that it would appear unacceptable to German nerves, there are, of course, three coalition possibilities: (1) C.D.U. plus S.P.D., as before, i.e. the Big Coalition (which also exists in some Laender, such as Lower Saxony); (2) S.P.D. plus F.D.P. (which already exists in Berlin and in North Rhine-Westphalia); (3) C.D.U. plus F.D.P., the Small Coalition (which exists in Bavaria). The choice between these three possibilities makes the negotiations more important than the election results as such, which can only serve as a basis, except in the case of an overwhelming C.D.U. majority. In all three cases there are serious hitches.

As to the first possibility, the Big Coalition, the chances are undermined as the contrasts between the C.D.U. and the S.P.D. were even more strongly accentuated just before the election. Chancellor Kiesinger has made it clear that such an eventuality would be for the last time, and he makes it a condition that the S.P.D. accepts electoral reform. This reform is considered as a means of squeezing out the F.D.P., which is resented for its exploiting the opportunity to tip the scales, as well as squeezing out the N.P.D. (instead of fighting it out in the political arena) and, of course, the D.K.P. At its special congress in Bad Godesberg, the S.P.D., whilst not flatly rejecting the demand for a reform, did not commit itself fully to the idea. The controversy in the S.P.D. is not yet over. Whilst some are in favour of a reform, others warn of a trap which might perpetuate C.D.U. rule. Inside the C.D.U., especially its Bavarian Wing, the C.S.U., the resistance to a Big Coalition is growing. This is for reasons of foreign policy, but also because it may result in the extension of workers' co-determination. Inside the S.P.D., resistance is being strengthened in view of its losses in Diet Elections and the criticism of the Left-wing, which has been revived in spite of stern measures (especially in Berlin, North Rhine-Westphalia, Schleswig-Holstein, Hesse).

As to the second possibility, a coalition between the S.P.D. and the F.D.P., chances have diminished again after a short-lived enthusiasm resulting from the presidential election, when both parties voted for Dr. Heinemann. Many Social Democrats say there was not enough in common with the F.D.P. Though it might be able to co-

operate on foreign policy, the F.D.P., they recall, did not co-operate on matters of social or economic policy and was up in arms against co-determination. These differences are, however, not the only obstacles to a S.P.D.-F.D.P. coalition. It has become clear that the rank and file of the F.D.P. do not agree with the line taken by their parliamentary group, and many have resigned. The switch to the Left of that unhomogeneous party may not be endorsed by the electorate, and financial support is not forthcoming. It is not the first time that the party has faced this fate. The fact that the former chairman, Mende, is isolated in the party should not lead to wrong conclusions, and it is doubtful whether his successor, Scheel, can master a very hazardous situation in the party. The S.P.D. could better co-operate with the Left-wing of the C.D.U., with trade unionists such as Herr Katzer, Minister of Labour; but at this stage a split in the C.D.U. on these lines is wishful thinking, though some keen observers within the C.D.U. face this as a future and fearful prospect.

This leaves the third possibility, C.D.U. plus F.D.P., the Small Coalition. It would require an F.D.P. parliamentary group totally different from the present one. A certain section of the C.D.U. considers the Small Coalition to be the lesser evil.

Matters are, therefore, in suspense. Nobody can predict the outcome of negotiations depending on many factors: the composition of the parliamentary groups, the exact voting figures, and even the mood of the Coalition parties and other irrational elements.

But the C.D.U. will be exposed to greater conflicts than will the other parties. The different possibilities are reflected in the various wings of the party and in various personalities. Kiesinger is not as Right-wing as Strauss, whom he handles very carefully at present. Both have in common a personal antagonism towards Schroeder, although the policy of Schroeder, powerful in the Protestant north, is as Right-wing as that of Strauss and his C.S.U. Strauss would have preferred Schroeder to be Federal President so that he would have only one rival. But, with Schroeder's defeat by Heinemann, this was not so. Kiesinger would accept a Big Coalition, whilst Schroeder stands for the Small Coalition with the F.D.P., and Strauss wants a one-party government. This does not preclude changes of approach at a later stage. The Left-wing, of course, stands for a Big Coalition, without otherwise agreeing with the Centre, especially on the issue of co-determination. In C.D.U. circles the possibility of a government without the party is not envisaged.

Strauss means business. When he paid an official visit to London, where his sort of European concept, with a European nuclear force, was listened to politely (he long stopped his "Gaullism" and did not extend the reservations towards the U.S.A. to Britain), he acted as the future Chancellor. His joke that

Continued on next page, column 1

Germany Before The Elections

Continued from page 1

he would prefer to cultivate bananas in Alaska to becoming Chancellor should be taken with a grain of salt. He is very flexible—without losing sight of the target, he might play for time if necessary or make a detour. Pessimists even say he would enter the arena with better prospects after the others had made "a mess" of things. He could then appear as the saviour, with a programme of excessive nationalism, of German leadership in Europe, of anti-American undercurrents, rejecting any sort of *détente*. With an authoritarian policy he would be a second Papen (where Schroeder would rather be a second Hugenberg).

Much has been said about Strauss's attitude towards the N.P.D. It was he who expressed the view that the N.P.D. had to be overtaken from the Right. This pressure prevented an uncompromising solution of the issue of prescription ("Verjaehrung") and made it possible to smuggle into the law the criterion of "base motives", thus sparing the "writing-desk murderers".

Strauss still believes in intercepting the swing to the N.P.D. by outdoing them. The official Coué-method propaganda, with an eye to world opinion, still tries to minimise the danger, as does even the Minister of Interior, Benda, who once advocated banning the N.P.D. This self-deception was again manifest at the municipal elections in Rhineland-Palatinate, when the N.P.D. put up candidates in the bigger towns and achieved up to 10 per cent and more of the votes. However complacently one chose to play down the outcome by publishing the percentage in the total electorate of the land, which was, of course, much smaller, because the party had not contested election in smaller places. The proper procedure would have been to calculate only the percentage of the votes where the N.P.D. had participated. If one evaluates the election results in this way, one has reason for considerable anxiety.

Despite the local N.P.D. gains, the outcome for the N.P.D. in the general elections is quite unpredictable. The party is not homogeneous, and it may be that some voters who are only disgruntled might be deterred. The large number of resignations from the party demonstrates this. The battle between neo-Nazis and Conservatives is not over yet (and is cleverly exploited by some leaders as "evidence" that they have nothing to do with Nazism). Strauss would still be against an alliance with the N.P.D. because there is an element of neutralism (of a nationalist blend) in that party. This cannot have escaped the attention of the Soviets too, and, therefore, their propaganda against the "neo-Nazi" N.P.D. is as hypocritical as was their propaganda against the Nazis in 1932. Here a real rift exists which neither Strauss nor Schroeder would find it

easy to overcome. All the same, should the N.P.D. become much stronger and the C.D.U. weaker, the temptation would be great, in spite of all assurances to the contrary. However, instead of over-emphasising the danger of the N.P.D., one should never forget that the party has rivals who are not as dissimilar as some might wish to make out within the C.D.U. (especially in the C.S.U. wing), and even in the F.D.P. The forces of restoration are widespread.

The chances of "Action Democratic Progress" are remote, especially as one of its constituents, the D.K.P. (German Communist Party), was stupid enough to approve the occupation of Czechoslovakia. This brands them as "lackeys of Moscow".

The "Democratic Union" rejects the "authoritarian" attitude of the Communists and the violence of the anti-authoritarians as well as the anti-democratic attitude of Trotskyites and Maoists. In short, it opposes the "Left Fascism" of the Left-wing of the Extra-Parliamentary Opposition (A.P.O.), whose "anti-Zionism", expressed in the shameful demonstrations against the popular Ambassador of Israel, Mr. Ben-Natan, comes painfully close to the antisemitism of the extreme Right. However, even if the "Democratic Union" should now turn up as a force of democratic Socialism, backed by the Right-wing of A.P.O. and with cross-connections with Left Socialists, it would be much too late and would only contribute to utter confusion to the Left of the S.P.D.

Generally speaking, it is the old story that one extremism generates another, as though they were identical twins. Gradually, Germany is again becoming accustomed to fighting at meetings and in the streets. And this is another aspect which revives unpleasant memories. Of course, it is exaggerated and even dangerous to cry that Germany is approaching a phase of civil war. There are things which cannot be solved by the police alone.

The reaction in Britain to all these signs should be compared with that in Germany. A democracy must be able to cope with unrest without panicking and should try to get at the root of the cause. Disbelief, cynicism, destructive trends, the breakdown of authority, impatience, stem from some reason—a reaction to sterility. One has to differentiate, to search for the causes, instead of lumping all parties together and believing in conspiracies directed from one centre. And all this occurs not in an atmosphere of unemployment, poverty and despair, but in an affluent society. This is a tremendous obligation for the democratic forces, in a period when Germany is heading towards conflicts of a complicated nature.

FROM THE GERMAN SCENE ANTI-ISRAEL DEMONSTRATIONS

Anti-Israel demonstrations occurred at two public meetings addressed by Mr. Asher Ben-Natan, the Israeli Ambassador, at Frankfurt and Hamburg Universities. The Frankfurt meeting, where the Ambassador addressed 1,500 students, was organised by the Federation of Jewish Students in Germany, as part of "a week of peace in the Middle East" initiated by the World Union of Jewish Students. Scuffles broke out and there was frequent heckling from Arab New Leftists when Mr. Ben-Natan started his talk. He said later it was intolerable that German students were joining Arabs in demanding "the racial murder of Jews".

The local group of German and Israeli students invited Mr. Ben-Natan to Hamburg University. There El Fatah supporters and German extremists disrupted the meeting and prevented the audience of 2,500 from hearing the Ambassador.

A West German Government spokesman declared that there were no neo-fascist or anti-semitic motives behind the anti-Israel demonstrations at the universities. Regrettably, the incidents had been exaggerated but, on the other hand, it was encouraging that the Israeli Embassy had received scores of letters from Germans expressing anger at the incidents.

Mr. Ernst Benda, the Minister of the Interior, stated that the behaviour of "young German extremists" at the universities resembled acts of "Nazi terrorism". The Central Council of Jews in Germany has protested against the demonstrations, asking for the withdrawal of financial support from West German public funds from foreign students who distributed antisemitic propaganda and attempted to prevent public debates. A delegation of the Union of Christian Democratic Students saw Mr. Ben-Natan and expressed the condemnation by all liberal students of the activities of extremist elements.

NEW SYNAGOGUE IN OSNABRUECK

On June 1, a new synagogue was consecrated in Osnabrueck. It is part of a communal centre, which also comprises an Assembly Hall, classrooms and a block of flats. The centre will serve the Jews in the town of Osnabrueck as well as those who live in the neighbouring smaller places.

POSTHUMOUS HONOUR FOR ANNE DORE LEBER

The training centre of the "Verein Handwerkerlehrstaette" in Berlin-Britz has been named after Annedore Leber (1904-1968), the wife of the former Social Democratic Reichstag member, Dr. Julius Leber, who was executed as a resistance fighter after July 20, 1944. Annedore Leber was one of the founders of the Berlin *Telegraf* in 1946, and for several years a member of the Berlin Municipal parliament. She edited two books on resistance fighters and victims of Nazism and a work on the Jewish contribution to German life.

KARL WOLFSKEHL EXHIBITION Request for Material

Under the direction of Manfred Schloesser in co-operation with Dr. Margot Ruben, the literary executor of Karl Wolfskehl, the Hessische Landes- und Hochschulbibliothek is preparing a comprehensive documentary exhibition relating to the life and work of the German-Jewish poet. The publication of a bibliography is also envisaged. Any readers who might be able to contribute material and who are not yet in contact with the promoters, are asked to write to: "Agora", 61 Darmstadt, Lucasweg 17.

AUSTRIAN AUTHOR'S LEXICON

"Oesterreichische Juden in der Literatur" is the title of an illustrated author's lexicon compiled in this way for the first time by Harry Zohn, Professor at Brandeis University, Boston. The slender volume lists dates and main works of more than 150 Austrian writers who were and are—according to Zohn's words—members of the Jewish "Schicksalsgemeinschaft". The publishers of this German language edition are Olamenu of Tel Aviv.

Feuchtwanger (London) Ltd.

Bankers

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

Telephone: 01-638 8151

Telex: London 25157

Neue Rueckerstattungsgesetzgebung

Der Deutsche Bundestag hat in seiner letzten Sitzungswoche vor den Neuwahlen zwei Gesetze erlassen, die wichtige Neuregelungen auf dem Gebiete des Rueckerstattungsrechts enthalten. Es handelt sich um das Vierte Gesetz zur Aenderung des Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetzes (BRueG) und um das 21. Aenderungsgesetz zum Lastenausgleichsgesetz.

Aenderung des Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetzes

Das neue Gesetz behandelt diejenigen Faelle, in denen ein Rueckerstattungsanspruch als Entschaeidigungsanspruch angemeldet war. Diese Frage war in dem Dritten Gesetz zur Aenderung des Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetzes vom 2.10.1964 durch die Einfuegung von zwei zusaetzlichen Bestimmungen zu Par. 30 BRueG dahin geregelt, dass eine bis zum 1.4.1959 erfolgte Anmeldung eines rueckerstattungsrechtlichen Anspruchs im Entschaeidigungsverfahren dann genuege, wenn die Anmeldung im Entschaeidigungsverfahren a) "irrtuemlich" erfolgt war und b) aus ihr die feststellbaren Gegenstaende erkennbar sind, fuer die Ersatz verlangt wird.

Gegen diese Regelung im Dritten Aenderungsgesetz war Klage beim Bundesverfassungsgericht erhoben worden. Es wurde geltend gemacht, dass sie die Rechte der Verfolgten in einer dem Grundgesetz widersprechenden Weise verkuerze. Wie wir bereits im Oktober 1968 in "AJR Information" mitteilten, hat das Bundesverfassungsgericht dahin entschieden, dass das Erfordernis des "Irrtums" nur eine Klarstellung der urspruenglichen Fassung des BRueG sei und insoweit der Klage nicht stattgegeben. Hingegen hat es die Beanstandung des zweiten Zusatzes im Dritten Aenderungsgesetz fuer begruendet und demgemass diesen Teil der Neufassung des Par. 30 fuer verfassungswidrig und daher nichtig erklart.

Zu der Frage, in welchen Faellen anzunehmen ist, dass die Anmeldung eines Rueckerstattungsanspruchs im Entschaeidigungsverfahren "irrtuemlich" erfolgt war, ist die Rechtsprechung der deutschen Gerichte auserst widerspruchsvoll. In Berlin z.B. hat jeder der vier Rueckerstattungsgerichte des Kammergerichts abweichende Grundsaeetze aufgestellt, und einer dieser Senate hat sogar in drei verschiedenen Besetzungen drei verschiedene Urteile erlassen. Diejenigen Berechtigten aber, die sich durch unguenstige Urteile nicht abschrecken liessen und an das jeweils zustaendige Oberste Rueckerstattungsgericht appelliert haben, sind besser gefahren. Die Obersten Rueckerstattungsgerichte in Herford (fuer Westdeutschland ohne Berlin) und in Berlin, die sich aus hervorragenden deutschen, britischen, amerikanischen und franzoesischen Richtern unter "neutralen", d.h. skandinavischen, Vorsitzenden zusammensetzen, haben sich durchweg fuer die den Geschaedigten guenstigste Auslegung der Bestimmungen entschieden.

Dies hat den Widerstand des Bundesfinanzministers hervorgerufen und der von ihm als Eilvorlage ohne die sonst uebliche Anhoerung der Verfolgtenverbaende Ende Mai 1969 eingereichte Entwurf des Vierten Aenderungsgesetzes verfolgte den in der Begruendung klar ausgesprochenen Zweck, die Rechtslage zugunsten des Bundesfiskus abweichend von der Rechtsprechung der Obersten Gerichte neu zu regeln. Die Vertreter der Verfolgten haben dies nicht hingenommen. Der Council of Jews from Germany z.B. hat sofort durch Telegramm an den Praesidenten des Bundesrats und anschliessend durch eine eingehende Eingabe an den zustaendigen

Ausschuss des Bundestags begruendeten Protest erhoben. Dieser Ausschuss hat dann muendlich mit dem Ministerium und den Vertretern der Verfolgten verhandelt. Das Ergebnis war, dass das Ministerium seinen Entwurf zurueckzog und dass schliesslich eine Einigung ueber eine Neufassung erzielt wurde, die fuer die Anspruchsberechtigten unseres Kreises die folgenden befriedigenden Bestimmungen enthaelt:

(1) Zugunsten derjenigen, die rueckerstattungsrechtliche Geldansprueche im Entschaeidigungsverfahren statt im Rueckerstattungsverfahren angemeldet haben, gilt nunmehr "wenn der angemeldete Schaden innerhalb des Reichsgebietes nach dem Stande vom 31. Dezember 1937 eingetreten ist" im Einklang mit der Rechtsprechung der Obersten Rueckerstattungsgerichte die Vermutung, dass die Anmeldung nur irrtuemlich an der falschen Stelle erfolgt ist und daher auf Antrag binnen 12 Monaten in das richtige Verfahren uebergeleitet werden kann. Die Regelung fuer die "Auslandsschaeden", an denen der Council hinsichtlich der fruerehen deutschen Juden in Frankreich, Belgien usw., die waehrend der Besetzung eine zweite Verfolgung erleiden mussten, interessiert ist, ist komplizierter. Sie braucht aber hier nicht im einzelnen geschildert zu werden.

(2) Diejenigen, die ihre Rueckerstattungsansprueche zwar an der richtigen Stelle angemeldet haben ohne aber die einzelnen entzogenen Vermoegensgegenstaende erkennbar zu machen, koennen dieses Manko, das bisher die Anmeldung unwirksam gemacht hat, noch durch Beschreibung der entzogenen Gegenstaende binnen 12 Monaten ausgleichen. Diese Verbesserung ist erfreulicherweise vom Bundesfinanzministerium selbst vorgeschlagen worden.

Im Ergebnis werden unsere Freunde nunmehr in den meisten Faellen mit der Befriedigung berechtigter und belegter Rueckerstattungsansprueche rechnen koennen. Ausfallen werden leider wie zuvor z.B. diejenigen, die mangels naeherer Kenntnisse der Schaeden, die etwa ihren verstorbenen Eltern zugefuegt wurden, vor dem 1.4.1959 weder im Rueckerstattungsverfahren noch im Entschaeidigungsverfahren eine Anmeldung vorgenommen haben.

Aenderungsgesetz zum Lastenausgleichsgesetz

Weniger Erfreuliches ist ueber das zweite verabschiedete Gesetz, das 21. Aenderungsgesetz zum Lastenausgleichsgesetz zu berichten. Dieses Gesetz soll im Prinzip Entschaeidigung fuer Entziehungen im Gebiete der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik einschliesslich Ost-Berlin (in der Gesetzes-sprache: "Zonenschaeden") gewaehren. Wie bereits in der April-Ausgabe von "AJR Information" mitgeteilt wurde, enthielt der Gesetzentwurf so starke Einschraenkungen, dass er fuer unsere Freunde fast wertlos war. Elnige dieser Einschraenkungen sind vom Bundestag gestrichen worden, die wichtigste aber ist verblieben. Auch der Bundestag ist ebenso wie die Regierung davon ausgegangen, dass wegen der angeblich bedraengten Finanzlage der Bundesrepublik nur die "sozial Schwachen" Entschaeidigung fuer ihre Verluste erhalten koennten. Eine Entschaeidigung wird daher in allen Faellen versagt, in denen der Antragsteller im Durchschitt der letzten Jahre ein Einkommen von mehr als 7.200 DM gehabt hat oder ein Vermoegen von mehr als 50.000 DM besitzt. Falls er ein Vermoegen besitzt, das unter 50.000 DM liegt, so soll die Entschaeidigung entsprechend gemindert werden. Im einzelnen sind noch verschiedene Zu- und Abschlage vorgesehen, ueber die in diesem Rahmen nicht berichtet werden kann. Erwaeht sei nur, dass sich die Einkommensgrenze von 7.200 DM auf 15.000 DM erhoehet, wenn die Entziehung dem Geschaedigten die Existenzgrundlage entzogen hat. Die Abgrenzung und Bewertung des Einkommens und Vermoegens sollen in einer Rechtsverordnung naeher bestimmt werden. Hierzu haben der Council of Jews from Germany und die Claims Conference bereits Antraege gestellt, die darauf hinauslaufen dass (a) bei den Einkommen und Vermoegen die Kaufkraft der Waehrung des Wohnlandes zu beruecksichtigen ist (dies ist besonders fuer Geschaedigte in U.S.A. und anderen "teuren" Laendern wichtig) und (b) aus Entschaeidigungsleistungen herruehrende Kapitalertraege und Zinsertraegnisse unberuecksichtigt bleiben.

Erst nach Erlass dieser Rechtsverordnung, die einige Monate auf sich warten lassen duerfte, wird sich ersehen lassen, ob das Gesetz auch fuer diejenigen Geschaedigten unseres Kreises, die nicht so gut wie mittellos sind, Bedeutung hat. Wir werden hierueber zu gegebener Zeit berichten.

STATUTE OF LIMITATION

The West German Parliament passed the ninth amendment to the country's penal code, abolishing the statute of limitation for future genocide and extending the statute's application for murder charges from 20 to 30 years. Thus, former Nazis charged with murder may be prosecuted until the end of 1979.

The amendment received 280 votes for, 127 against, and four abstentions. The Free Democratic Party voted against the amendment, as did a number of Christian Democrats and Christian Socialists. Mr. Friedrich Zimmermann, a Christian Socialist, declared that the prosecution of Nazi criminals confronted the German judiciary with an almost insoluble task. The number of Nazi murderers still unknown was very small, and future proceedings would mainly be against subordinate criminals. It would also prove increasingly difficult to obtain convictions on the basis of available evidence and witnesses' accounts.

Speaking for the supporters of the new law, Professor Adolf Suesterhenn, of the C.D.U., said the amendment was the final instalment of the legislative contribution towards discharging the heavy burden of the Nazi period from West Germany.

PELTOURS

World Wide Travel Agents
for
Business and Pleasure

We have moved to
72 Wigmore Street
London W.1

'phone

01-935 5500

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Nixon's Aide

Mr. Leonard Garment has been appointed to the White House staff to deal with minority problems. He was formerly in charge of the effort to win Jewish support for Mr. Nixon during last year's Presidential campaign. A Jew, he is a member of the President's former law firm.

Appointment for Polish-Jewish Professor

The post of distinguished visiting professor in the Department of Government at Southern Illinois University has been accepted by Professor Julius Katz-Suchy. He was formerly head of the Institute for Foreign Affairs in Warsaw, and was "retired" by the Polish Government during the purge last spring of Jews in prominent posts.

If Dr. Katz-Suchy is permitted to come to America, he will be based at the Southern Illinois University centre at Carbondale.

Burden on "Joint"

In the annual report of the American Joint Distribution Committee the executive vice-chairman, Mr. Samuel L. Haber, stated that events in Czechoslovakia and the resurgence of antisemitism in Poland placed a heavy burden on the organisation during the past year.

In addition, some 246,000 people in more than 25 countries were also assisted and an estimated 81,000 needy Jews received assistance in a "relief-in-transit" programme.

The "Joint", the bulk of whose funds come from the United Jewish Appeal in America, had a deficit of about £104,000 for the year.

CANADIAN JEWRY

Mr. Saul Laskin, Mayor of Port Arthur for several years, has been elected Mayor of the new city established through the amalgamation of Port Arthur with Fort William. His brother, Mr. Bora Laskin, is a judge of the court of appeals.

Five Jews have been elected to the provincial legislature in Manitoba.

Professor Anthony Richmond, of York University, is the recipient of the largest single grant made by the Canada Council. He has been awarded a sum of \$118,000 for a study of Jews, Italians, Germans and Slavs living in metropolitan Toronto.

AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE

The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. John Gorton, has condemned countries which continue to oppress their Jewish citizens. At a dinner given in his honour by the Victoria Jewish Board of Deputies in Melbourne, Mr. Gorton denounced the barbaric practice of public hanging (without naming Iraq where nine Jews were hanged in January). He stated that Australia would admit Jews from the countries of oppression if they were permitted to leave.

Re-emphasising his support for Israel, Mr. Gorton said he believed that the causes of the Jewish community and of Israel were right and were supported by Australians for this reason.

AWARD FOR PROFESSOR GOLDSTUECKER

The Cologne Academy of Language and Literature has awarded the 1969 prize for German Philology Abroad to Professor Eduard Goldstuecker of Prague, a visiting professor at Sussex University. The Professor has stated that he will give the £600 prize money to Charles University, Prague, to purchase German literature.

Making the presentation Professor Gerhard Storz, president of the Cologne academy, said that Professor Goldstuecker had preserved and had renewed "the cultural heritage of Czechs, Jews and Germans".

NORWEGIAN SUPPORT

Norway's Foreign Minister, Mr. John Ling, replying to a question in the Norwegian Parliament stated that Norway will continue to support international organisations working on behalf of Jewish minorities in certain Arab countries.

The Governments of the Scandinavian countries had, he said, discussed the possibility of joint action in the matter, but had decided that any efforts at assistance should be channelled through existing international organisations. This was because the minorities concerned were citizens of the countries where they lived, and aid to them could not be given by the methods normally used for refugees. However, said Mr. Ling, conditions might change, and the Norwegian Government remained ready to take an initiative if the situation demanded it.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Press and Israel

The Yugoslav press, although anti-Israel and pro-Arab since the June, 1967 war, remained free from antisemitism until a short time ago. A number of newspapers have, however, shown increasing tendencies towards the expression of anti-Jewish feelings. As a result, the Federation of Yugoslav Jewish Communities and a number of individual communities have applied for the institution of criminal proceedings against the editors of certain newspapers and some of their contributors.

Today there are only some 6,500 Jews left in Yugoslavia. Of the 75,000 Jews in the country in 1939, only about 16,000 were left after the end of the Second World War. Of these 8,000 emigrated to Israel and 1,500 to America and other countries.

Synagogue's Centenary

The 220 remaining Jews of Osijek, in northern Yugoslavia, are this year celebrating both the official founding of the community and the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of the Osijek synagogue.

Jews existed in Osijek at the end of the 1700s and were able to establish themselves after the restrictive laws governing Jewish residents gradually eased. A Jewish day school had been set up by 1856, and eight years later a chevra kadisha and a cemetery were organised. The large synagogue was destroyed by the Nazis, who also reduced the community from more than 2,500 to its present number.

BULGARIA

A novel, "The Wedding Candles", by Viktor Barukh, published in Sofia last year, concludes that antisemitism is a real problem in Bulgaria, where there has been no past history of anti-Jewish feeling or actions.

This is the first occasion that a Jewish novelist in an East European country has been allowed to imply that antisemitism is still a serious problem under a Communist régime. Yet Barukh had not only not been condemned or reprimanded, but has actually been praised for his brave "civic experiment" in raising the question of antisemitism in Bulgarian society.

About 45,000 Jews were freely allowed to emigrate to Israel in 1949 and 1950, and there remain only some 6,000 Jews in Bulgaria today.

NEW LIBERAL JEWISH CONGREGATION

51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

are held regularly on the Eve of Sabbath and Festivals at 6.30 p.m. and on the day at 11 a.m.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

JEWRY IN THE EAST

POLAND

Time Limit for Emigration

According to the Polish news agency, Pap, from September 1 Poland is to abolish special regulations allowing Polish Jews easy emigration to Israel. At the same time Pap announced that 5,264 Jews have left Poland since July, 1967.

In New York, Mr. Samuel L. Haber, executive vice-chairman of the A.J.D.C., forecast at the mid-year meeting of the organisation's board of directors that, by the middle of the summer, at least half of Poland's small remnant of about 20,000 Jews will have left the country to beat the time limit.

In London, a joint emergency meeting of the Polish Jewish ex-Servicemen's Association and the Association of Jews of Polish Origin issued a strong protest against the curtailment of Jewish emigration.

Antisemitic Book

Mr. Kazimierz Sidor's book, "The Revolution Behind the Pyramids", has been criticised by Folks-Sztyme, the Warsaw Yiddish paper. Mr. Sidor was for many years the Polish Ambassador to Egypt. He is prominent in the faction headed by General Mieczyslaw Moczar, the former Minister of the Interior and head of the security police, who instigated Poland's anti-Jewish campaign in March of last year.

Folks-Sztyme criticises the book for its "lack of critical Marxist assessment and analysis of social phenomena" and for its "sad confirmation of the author's ignorance" of Jewish matters. The author implies that Jews have homelessness in the blood. He attacks Zionism, accusing it of always having supported Germany even in the days of the Nazis. His book describes Jewish refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe as "German spies", alleging that emigration into Palestine before 1948 was organised by the Gestapo.

HUNGARY

The 25th anniversary of the war-time killing by the Hungarians and, later, by the Nazis, of more than 660,000 Jews, has been commemorated in Hungary. Memorial services have been held in many towns.

The brutal official antisemitism in Hungary since 1919 culminated in 1940 and 1941 in the forced despatch of about 200,000 men to labour camps. More than 42,000 had been killed when the Nazis invaded Hungary in March, 1944. Adolf Eichmann and his department deported the men's families to concentration camps from ghettos in Budapest and provincial cities and towns. Some 618,000 died in the camps, 400,000 of them in Auschwitz.

RUMANIA

In Bucharest, Dr. Moses Rosen, the Chief Rabbi of Rumania, spoke at the annual congress of the Federation of Jewish Communities. He emphasised the importance of the welfare help given by the Federation to elderly, sick and isolated Jews in the country. Cash grants were allocated to some 4,500 of the poorest people, fuel and Passover supplies were distributed to 6,000 in "marginal circumstances", and nine canteens in Bucharest and other cities provided meals for more than 1,300 people a day. These welfare schemes were operated from the Federation's own resources, together with money received from the American Joint Distribution Committee.

HEBREW IN GEORGIA

Boris Gaponov, a Crimean-born half-Jew living in Soviet Georgia, has made a Hebrew translation of the monumental twelfth-century classic, "The Knight in Panther's Skin", by Shota Rustaveli, regarded as Georgia's greatest national figure. The translation is to be published in Israel and has been hailed as a Hebrew classic by Avraham Shlonsky, the Israeli poet, himself a translator of genius. Gaponov's Hebrew versions of poems by Lermontov are also to be published in Israel.

HOME NEWS

RACE RELATIONS REPORT

The publication of "Colour and Citizenship—A report on British Race Relations", which was sponsored by the Institute of Race Relations and prepared by Mr. E. G. B. Rose, was welcomed by the Board of Deputies and the British Section of the World Jewish Congress. Both organisations took, however, issue on the recommendation calling for the repeal of Section 6 of the Race Relations Act, which makes it an offence to stir up racial hatred by speech or in writing. "This statute", Mr. Victor Mishcon, chairman of the Board's Defence Committee, states, "has done much to curb worst excesses of racist propaganda. . . . Far from repealing Section 6, an early opportunity should be sought to strengthen its provisions. . . ."

COLIN JORDAN FIGHTS ELECTION

Colin Jordan, leader of the extremist British Movement, received 282 votes and lost his deposit in the recent Parliamentary by-election at Ladywood, Birmingham. The seat was won by the Liberal, Mr. Wallace Lawler. The Conservative candidate, Dr. Louis Glass, who is Jewish, came third.

In his campaign Jordan attacked coloured immigration, making no reference to Jews.

CIVIC HONOURS

Alderman Leslie Freeman has been elected chairman of the Greater London Council, and Councillor Leonard Pearl as Lord Mayor of Westminster. A reception to mark the occasions was held at the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, of which both men are members.

CAMBRIDGE HONORARY DEGREES

Professor Arthur Goodhart received the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature at Cambridge. Until his retirement he was Master of University College, Oxford, and is the first American and the first Jew to become the head of an Oxford or Cambridge College.

Though still an American citizen, Professor Goodhart is one of the outstanding academic lawyers in this country. He has become a master of the English Common Law, edits the Law Quarterly Review and was appointed a K.B.E. (not used because he is American) in 1948. Cambridge University had to alter its rules so that, for the first time, an honorary degree of Doctor of Literature could be given to someone who already holds the degree of Doctor of Laws.

At the same ceremony an honorary degree was presented to David Oistrakh, the famous violinist. This is the first time that Cambridge has so honoured a Russian-Jewish artist.

CIVIL SERVICE COLLEGE POST

Professor Eugene Grebenik, professor and head of the department of social studies at Leeds University, has been appointed principal of the Civil Service College. He came to Britain in 1934 as a refugee from Germany.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Shechita Probe

The British Veterinary Association recently called a meeting of 40 organisations interested in the slaughter of food animals. A working party was formed to study shechita and other forms of slaughter and animal handling.

Dr. Bernard Homa, chairman of the Board of Deputies' shechita committee, who attended the meeting, said afterwards that the Board had made it clear that unless the working party comprised only scientific experts, they could not participate. Dr. Homa stated that the working party now consisted of representatives of various organisations, some of whom were known to be prejudiced against shechita.

Women's "Parliament"?

The Chief Rabbi has advocated the establishment of an Anglo-Jewish women's "parliament". Dr. Jakobovits, addressing the Association of Synagogue Ladies' Guilds on "The rôle of the woman in the community", urged Anglo-Jewish women to use their ingenuity, perseverance and imagination to make the community a more vibrant and friendly entity. He would, he said, like to see a women's body as powerful and influential and as much in the public forefront as the Board of Deputies or the Council of the United Synagogue—a sort of women's parliament in which home and family life and relations between the family and the synagogue could be discussed and brought before the public. Such an organisation would eventually become as effective a forum in communal life as the various men's organisations.

Education Plan Support

At a council meeting of the United Synagogue, Sir Isaac Wolfson, the president, pledged moral and financial support for the Chief Rabbi's £3 million plan for Jewish education in Britain. He called for a major conference to discuss the issues involved, but this received a mixed reception from the organisations immediately concerned. Mr. S. S. Levin, a vice-president of the U.S., felt that there was no point in further inquiries and investigations. Intervention by outside bodies in the working of Jews' College would be strongly resented, stated Mr. B. Marmorstein, its chairman. Although the College would be prepared to take part, he did not see how a one-day conference would be able to work out a blueprint either for the college or for Jewish education. Mr. Asher Fishman, chairman of the London Board, said conferences never produced any results. What was required were the necessary finances to put into effect the existing plans of the London Board, which were already well known.

Old Acquaintances

This and That: Richard Weininger of New York, brother of Otto Weininger of "Geschlecht und Charakter" fame, has established a Franz-Theodor Csokor Prize worth 15,000 schillings to be awarded annually by the Austrian P.E.N. Club for the best play by a contemporary author. The jurors are Ernst Haeussermann, ex-director of the "Burg", and Piero Rismondo and Erik Wickenburg, the critics.—Bernard Shaw was always grateful to Siegfried Trebitsch who discovered and translated his plays for the German stage before they achieved success in London. Now, after Trebitsch's death, Wolfgang Hildesheimer, Martin Walser and Alf Poss have been commissioned to write new translations of Shaw's plays.—Forty years ago the first talkie, "The Singing Fool", with Al Jolson, was shown at Berlin's Gloria-Palast. At this year's Film Festival the film was shown again on the same screen.

Obituary: Seventy-nine-year-old Hans Reimann, originator of the Saxonian jokes, editor of "Der Drache" and "Stachelschwein", co-author (with Max Brod) of the stage version of "Schwejk" and actor, died in Schmalenbeck. His works include "Die Dinte wider das Blut", a parody of Arthur Dinter's "Die suende wider das Blut". But he also admitted in his memoirs that after 1933 he contributed to the "Schwarze Korps".—Hilde Koerber, the 63-year-old Viennese actress and former wife of Veit Harlan, died in Berlin. She was the founder and, until recently, director of the Max Reinhardt School for Actors.

News from Everywhere: Lucie Mannheim, her husband, Marius Goring, and playwright John Osborne, will appear in "Erste Liebe" directed by Maximilian Schell.—Leonard Steckel was elected a member of Berlin's "Academy of Arts".—Klaus Pringsheim, of Tokyo, has been awarded the Bavarian Medal of Merit.—Maresa Hoerbiger, daughter of Paula Wessely, is to take the part of Juliet in "Romeo und Julia" in Berne.—Elisabeth Lennartz, now married to Gustav Knuth, will act in the Basle production of "Onkel Wanja", directed by Hans Bauer.—Walter Wicclair read Ernst Toller's "Jugend in Deutschland" at the Horseshoe Theatre in Los Angeles.

Milestones: Helene Thimig, Max Reinhardt's widow, celebrated her 80th birthday in Vienna where her father, Hugo, was once director of the Burg-Theater, and her two brothers, Hermann and Hans, are still successful actors. "Just good enough for Bruenn", said Helene Bleibtreu after an audition. She appeared first in Baden under the name of Helene Werner, but since 1908 she has been known as Helene Thimig. During the First World War she went to Berlin and joined the "Schauspielhaus". She played all the great parts: Luise, Stella, Iphigenie, Johanna and Elisabeth. With her husband she went into exile to the States where she remained until her return alone.

Germany: Robert Gilbert, son of Jean, has adapted the musical "Never on Sunday" to be produced in Duesseldorf.—Erich Fried, the Austrian poet who lives in London, recited some of his poems at the Market Place in Hamburg.—Israeli Ephraim Kishon produced his own comedy "Zieh den Stecker raus. . ." at Hamburg's Kammerspiele. —Vienna-born Martin Esslin, of London's B.B.C., has adapted Barnes' "The Ruling Class" for the German stage.—Herbert Gruenbaum and Franz Nicklisch are in the TV production of "Flucht nach Aegypten".

PEM

London's
Newest
Banqueting
Venue

The Bloomsbury Centre Hotel—one of London's newest most comfortable and reasonably priced hotels. Bookings accepted for functions (Fish meals and Receptions) to be catered under the supervision of the Kashrus Commission. Three-course meals start at 18s. 6d. For further details of the wide range of banqueting facilities contact: Andrei Eldon-Edington, Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, Coram Street, Russell Square, London, WC1. Telephone: 01-837 1200



CENTRE HOTELS
for comfort and value

Egon Larsen

GERMAN YOUTH AT THE POISONED WELL

On my desk is a book of nearly one thousand pages. It is also on the Federal German school desks, those of the pupils as well as those of the teachers; you find it on the bookshelves of the educated citizens and the students, in the public and university libraries, and probably also in those of the *Bundeswehr*. Abroad—such as in Britain—the teachers and scholars use it for the study of German literature; for it is the standard anthology of German poetry covering nine centuries. It was published by the reputable firm of C. H. Beck in Munich, in 1955; the 1966 reprint, presumably the latest, brought the number of copies up to 184,000. The title is "*Der ewige Brunnen*", and its editor, Ludwig Reiners, says in his preface: "A book such as this has the ambition to be somewhat more than just a book, namely, a part of life as it is being lived." This sounds quite praiseworthy, and the 350 poets whose work is here represented ought to give us a true and balanced picture of German life as it was and is being lived, and of course also a general idea of thought and literary creation in that nation of poets and thinkers.

Books don't start just with page one, they begin with the blurb on the flap. There are two highly laudatory reviews of the book; one by Friedrich Sieburg, the other by Ina Seidel. This anthology, she writes, "will serve the young and the uninitiated readers as a guide through German poetry, educating their taste". No wonder that Frau Seidel likes the book, for it includes eleven of her own poems. But there is a memory that springs to mind. Was not Frau Seidel one of those 88 German authors who signed a solemn declaration of allegiance to Adolf Hitler in October, 1933? And she seems to have found little wrong with the Third Reich, for in April, 1939—five months after the *Kristallnacht*—she wished the Fuehrer many happy returns on his 50th birthday, the "Chosen One of his generation", as she called him. I have the text of her birthday message before me, but I find it beyond me to render this appalling exudation of a hysterical mind in plain English. It is, of course, not included in the anthology.

The list of authors whose works were chosen by Herr Reiners for his volume has many other interesting names. About one-fifth of the 350 spent at least part of their lives under Hitler, and a surprisingly great number of them are on record for their loyalty to, and praise of, the Nazi leaders and their deeds. There is, for instance, Agnes Miegel, also represented with eleven poems in that anthology; her odes to Hitler (e.g., "*Lass in deine Hand, Fuehrer, uns vor aller Welt bekennen: Du und wir—nie mehr zu trennen!*") may have been conveniently forgotten by Herr Reiners, but the school-children of the little town in Lower Saxony, Bad Nenndorf, remembered and recently protested against the plan of calling their secondary school after her (she died there in 1964).

Other names of anthology contributors who were among those 88 Nazi loyalists include Rudolf Presber, Lulu von Strauss und Torney, Hermann Claudius, Heinrich Lersch, Friedrich Schnack, Arthur Rehbein, Boerries Freiherr von Muenchhausen (with 18 poems) and a few lesser-known ones. Some of the contributors had no need to profess their devotion to the Nazi cause by any special *Treuegeloebnis*—such as the *SS-Obersturmfuehrer* Edwin Erich

Dwinger, or Georg Schmueckle, a Party member since 1931, or Max Mell, who ran in his native Austria the "*Bund deutscher Schriftsteller*" as a "camouflaged NS organisation" until 1938, according to the *Reichsschrifttumskammer*. Then there is Josef Weinheber, here represented with ten poems—not, however, with the one he dedicated to the Fuehrer on the latter's 50th birthday; nor do we find, among Richard Billinger's contributions, his 1938 poem with the simple title, "Adolf Hitler", which claimed that the Fuehrer's spirit originated "in the fire".

So much for the poets included in Herr Reiners' "*Ewiger Brunnen*"; now let us look at the kind of literary, educational, and spiritual nourishment we find in that well of poetry. To be sure, there is among those more than 2,000 contributions all you might expect, at least so far as the classics are concerned; but there is also a great deal you would not expect to find in a collection mainly intended for the young Germans of today. Two dozen chapter headings guide the reader towards what he may be looking for, and most of them—"The Book of Nature", "The Art of Living", "The Book of Faith" and so on—are unobjectionable. But there are also some surprises: "The Book of Strife" and "The Book of Death" comprises 70 pages, rather a lot for subjects which ought to be presented with special tact and caution to young people in our time. Herr Reiners does not seem to have realised this necessity. *Kampf*, to him and his contributors, means mainly war and battle. Here are a few titles of poems: "Ritter, Tod und Teufel", "Der Ritt in den Tod", "Soldaten-Morgenlied", "Der Marschall", "Die Fuesse im Feuer"—the latter being a rather gruesome piece by Conrad Ferdinand Meyer (who has no fewer than 44 poems in the volume).

Death is one of Herr Reiners' favourite subjects; one hundred poems deal with it from all aspects, and many—by poets such as Graf von Schnack, Ricarda Huch, Ludwig Uhland—even try to make it morbidly attractive to the young readers. Anton Ulrich, Duke of Brunswick, sums it all up in the categorical line: "Es ist genug! Es sei gestorben." And there is a war poem of 1944 by Wilhelm Lehmann, set in a cemetery: "Der Eisenhut blitzt blaues Licht. Komm, wisch den Schweiss mir vom Gesicht."

Uneasily, one takes a closer look at the contributions under the headings "From History" and "Book of the Fatherland", altogether 190 pages. And here, indeed, we find a veritable feast of chauvinism—as though the Third Reich had never happened; and there is no lack of that traditional companion of the German *Hurrahpatriotismus*, sadism. Herr Reiners was unable to resist the temptation to present the young generation with Uhland's classical aberration: "*Zur Rechten sah man wie zur Linken einen halben Tuerken heruntersinken*", probably in order to "educate their taste", as Frau Seidel puts it in her blurb. And there is, of course, Detlev von Liliencron's "*Lewver duad ues Slaav*", describing how a knight's head is pushed into a bowl of hot pulp until he suffocates. For five whole pages, Enrica von Handel-Mazzetti goes on about "Teutonic justice", telling the story of the pure virgin who wants to "weep blood", and the tortured robber from whose breast "*ein Wehshrei wie Bruellen des Urs sich wand*". These pages, too, are full of battles and battlefields, war and war-songs,

death and graves, interspersed with praise of the beauties of a mercenary's life. And here we find, of course, good old Fridericus Rex with his battalions and squadrons and guardsmen, in the poems of Willibald Alexis and Theodor Fontane. Andreas Hofer even dies twice for his "*Land Tirol*" (Schenkendorf and Julius Mosen). The last 50 years of German history seem clean forgotten: there's Arndt's "*Der Gott, der Eisen wachsen liess*", there are the *Wacht am Rhein*, *Luetzows wilde Jagd*, Field Marshal Radetzky, the trumpet of Vionville, and three poems in praise of Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor. And there's Bruno Frank in his most jubilant mood, for it's up and at them again—the "old enemy" will be smashed in this "greatest of all times", this "proud year", to wit, 1914. It is all rather nostalgic for the aged warriors, and enormously educational for the young.

However, Herr Reiners does not want to create the impression that he has no sense of humour, and he devotes 100 pages to it, all very cosy and good-natured, mildly amusing in an old-world way. Or perhaps not all of it; for sadism keeps creeping in, such as in Arthur Rehbein's (the Hitler loyalist's) duel incident in which the nose of one of the participants is hewn off. Terribly funny, too, is Friedrich Haug's execution quatrain in which the victim complains that the executioner takes so long to do his job, and the latter tells him: "*Sie sind ja laengst gekoepft, mein Herr—wenn guetigst Sie nur schuetzeln wollen!*" Herr Reiners cannot manage to exclude the jolly war from his section of humour; a poet called Woland Kreuzler speaks, in 1870, of Germany's "millions of fists" hammering away at the "*fraenkischen Kujonen, das ganze Lumpenpack, dass die Lappen fliegen, dass sie all' die Kraenke kriegen in das klappernde Gebein*". Those were the days, long before Nato and the Common Market, weren't they?

And where there's laughter, jokes about the Jews cannot be far behind. One Ludwig Eichrodt takes his cue from the Bible in his two-page poem on the firm of Jakob & Söhne, explaining to his readers that already in those days the Jews were businessmen and spoke Yiddish: "*Wozu sein wir Handelsleut?*" they exclaim. Then Eichrodt goes on, in his irresistibly funny verse: "*Es verdiente aber viel Geld da Gottes Volk in diesem Nildelta*", and Pharaoh is "*voll Bewunderung ueber diese Volksauspluenderung*", i.e., by the Jews. Dr. Goebbels himself could not have done better. Similarly, old Johannes Trojan rhymes in a harmless-humorous vein: "*Isidor, genannt der Schoene, geht auf dem Produktenmarkte*", and at the end of a frustrated love adventure we are told: "*Innerlich ist er zerschmettert, aber sonst ganz beim Geschaefte*". Thus Herr Reiners makes sure that the young German generation knows exactly what the Jews are like—exploiters of the people and soulless speculators.

He would have had to leave out some of these masterpieces of German poetry in order to make room for authors whom some other editor might have deemed more important. There is only one poem each by three of the leading modern writers: Bertolt Brecht, Erich Kaestner, and Klabund (only six lines by the latter). There is not a single one by Tucholsky or Nelly Sachs, Günther Eich or Karl Krolow, Piontek or Enzensberger. And one also misses a certain poem by Heine with its first line that comes so vividly to mind when gazing into that poisoned well: "*Denk ich an Deutschland in der Nacht. . .*"

(The author wishes to thank the Wiener Library for its assistance in compiling this article.)

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

A GREEN BRIDGE

What happens beyond the headlines is sometimes more significant than the report on another border incident or another political statement. This time it is a forest which brought closer together Arabs and Israelis—in a part of the country famed from Biblical times in the Modiin area, the land of the Hasmoneans.

If one branches off from Lodd towards the east and passes the Herzl Forest one reaches the Yitzhak Ben Zvi Highway, the road named after Israel's second president which leads to the Tombs of the Maccabees. Joining the Tomb a large park of 400 acres has been landscaped in which all plants mentioned in the Bible and the Talmud are to be gathered, called Neot Kedumim, Israel's Ancient Culture Park.

High on a hill at its centre a Menorah will rise, surrounded by salvia plants of all varieties and by olive trees. The salvia plants will show their close resemblance to the shape of the Menorah, as described in Exodus 37, and the olive trees, with their crowning bright luminousness will stand as a symbol for light and peace.

Beneath this hill where till June, 1967, the Jordanian-Israeli frontier used to run, there is a valley, Wadi Malakhi. Here Yehoshua smote the Amorites; here Juda Maccabee fought two battles; here, two centuries later, the army of Cestius Gallus, the governor of Syria, was destroyed by the Jews. Here, in the Six-Day War, tank battled against tank. Now the former no-man's-land of Wadi Malakhi is being transformed into a huge forest covering 2,500 acres. Within the next five years two million trees are to be planted; access roads have already been cut to transport men and saplings.

Nothing, however, seems ordinary in this area hallowed by Jewish history. This forest has assumed a special meaning. Extending over the two sides of the old border, it is

being simultaneously planted both from east and west—on the former Jordanian side by Arab workers and on the Israeli side by Jewish labourers, a common effort of touching significance. This season the first 300,000 saplings have been put into the soil; when the two groups, coming from opposite directions, met somewhere in the middle near the erstwhile border line, a kind of Israeli-Arab friendship rally in miniature took place.

In appreciation of this event, Jews and Moslems planted an especially marked cluster of trees on the site of their meeting point. "This forest is a green bridge between the past and the future", said Yitzhak, a forester from Moshav Yashresh in charge of the Jewish team.

The group of 140 Arab workers was led by Mordechai Rooh from Beth Zayit. It was not easy for him to turn them into foresters. Those Arab peasants, felaheen from the surrounding villages, have no feeling for forest trees, he explained. The only trees which they know and appreciate are olive and fig trees. Any plant which does not yield fruit is useless in their opinion. And it took some time until they grasped what afforestation means and got used to the planting methods.

Some of the villages are rather remote from the afforestation area and the only means of transport for the felaheen are donkeys—"special taxis", as they are jokingly called. One day, after the rains had ceased and the soil was softened and fit for taking in saplings, the Arabs did not report for work. What had happened? A strike, a demonstration, intimidation by terrorists? By no means. Peasants remain peasants, and they used the interval between the rains to till their fields. Only afterwards did they drift back.

Most of the trees are pines, the remainder cypresses. To prevent forest fires an observation post will be set up from which one will have a wide view of the land of the Maccabees. All in all, 1,500 Arabs are employed in afforestation in the Israeli-held territories. The forest of Modiin, however, in which Jews and Arabs have an equal share, stands out as an experiment in peace. Here, a practical attempt is being made to bridge the gulf between the two peoples by common constructive work. "Plant trees, not mines" is a suggested slogan for some of the more militant Arab citizens of the new areas.

U.N. RESOLUTION ON EAST JERUSALEM

At the Security Council talks in New York on the Middle East, a resolution was unanimously passed demanding that Israel rescind all the measures she had taken to incorporate East Jerusalem within Israeli territory, and to restore the *status quo* as it existed immediately after the June victory when the city was in two halves.

Lord Caradon, the head of the British delegation, reiterated the statement made by Mr. George Brown, the then Foreign Secretary, in the General Assembly on June 21, 1967, when he warned Israel of international isolation if she made any move to annex the city.

Mr. Yosef Tekoah, Israel's U.N. representative, declared that Jerusalem had been the capital of one nation only—the Jewish people, whose history was irrevocably bound up with that city. He also stressed that the universal religious interests in Jerusalem would be ensured with utmost respect and consideration. In Jerusalem, the Foreign Minister, Mr. Abba Eban, said: "The Security Council which took no action during the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, ignores the war in South East Asia and does nothing about the current humanitarian disaster in West Africa... is in a weak moral position".

WOMEN IN JEWISH LAW

At the triennial convention of the International Council of Jewish Women held in Jerusalem, Mrs. Vera Braynis said that after a long campaign to improve the status of women in Jewish law, the council has achieved some success. A delegation from the council met Israel's two Chief Rabbis, and received from them public acceptance of a petition signed by one million women seeking to improve their status. Both Chief Rabbis promised to do all they could to alleviate the present situation, which in some countries causes hardship to Jewish women.

The convention was attended by 22 of the 26 countries which have women's groups affiliated to I.C.J.W. The largest group of 36 came from Britain. A resolution was passed calling on rabbis all over the world to follow the lead given by the Israeli Chief Rabbis.

Special opportunity
to acquire fine wines
of great Vintages at
most advantageous
prices

Write for remnant lists of fine wines
from Rhine, Moselle, Franconia and
other European districts.

Please state name of your usual supplier.

Write to department A.R.,

S. F. & O. HALLGARTEN
1 Crutched Friars, London, E.C.3

Your House for:-

**CURTAINS, CARPETS, LINO
UPHOLSTERY**

SPECIALITY

**CONTINENTAL DOWN
QUILTS!**

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS

ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK

Telephone: 904 6671

Personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman

**DUNBEE-COMBEX-MARX
LTD.**

Dunbee House
117 Great Portland Street,
London, W.1

Tel: 01-580 3264/0878 (P.B.X.)

Grams: FLEXATEX LONDON,
TELEX.

INT. TELEX 2-3540

F. Thorn

LEST WE FORGET

Three Documentary Books About Nazi Rule in Austria

The first two of these three paperbacks*—slender booklets in fact, although impeccably printed—are latecomers in the long series of relentless research, rather appendices to learned studies, almost appendices to history. Others have penetrated deeper into the many layers of the Inconceivable (and both Moser and Rosenkranz conscientiously list their sources), but what makes these collected informations so unique is their Austrian flavour. Let there be no mistake: it is the nauseating stench of greed, hatred and stupidity, this flavour of Austria in 1938 and the early 'forties, and the two authors succeed in conveying it with hardly a word of comment or complaint, with a bare framework of explanation—but for the facts reported, it would be just a model of good reporting.

Unfortunately it is more. It shows the smooth application of methodical annihilation so typical of the Austrian scene, i.e., without the teething troubles of its development in Germany. "Die Zerstörung der Tempel und Bethäuser erfolgte in Wien in den meisten Fällen durch Werfen von Handgranaten im Inneren der Tempel und durch Anzuenden des Mobiliars derselben. . . . Bei den Tempelzerstörungen war im grossen und ganzen ein diszipliniertes Vorgehen festzustellen", says the official Bericht des Sicherheitsdienstes with understandable pride, adding that party members protected Jews against the outraged mob "after weapons had been found in several synagogues". Rosenkranz, however, who extensively quotes from documents about distribution of "Belastungsmaterial" in the temples by the SS, confirms the most amazing discovery of others: "Es gehoerte zu den Eigenheiten von Nazidokumenten, dass darin an Fiktionen auch in behoerdlichen, selbst internen und geheimen Berichten mit scheinheiligem Ernst festgehalten wurde, bis man sie glaubte."

Jonny Moser's sober account of mass deportations and arrests shows the logic and inexorable development from the so-called "Madagaskarprojekt" of forced labour settlements to the Final Solution. After the conquest of Poland in autumn, 1939, the region south of Lublin was chosen, and when Seyss-Inquart visited Lublin he was told by

Distrikts-gouverneur Schmidt that " . . . dieses Gebiet mit seinem stark sumpfigen Charakter als Judenreservat dienen koenne, welche Massnahme womoeglich eine starke Dezimierung der Juden herbeifuehren koennte". Even today, 30 years afterwards, the utter callousness clad in administrative language is revolting beyond imagination. (Incidentally, "trial deportations" from Vienna into this part of Poland had already begun one month earlier under the supervision of that great expert, Adolf Eichmann.)

In tables carefully compiled and checked, Jonny Moser was able to give the relevant dates about the deportations until 1945: "Abgangsdatum", "Bestimmungsort", "Anzahl". . . . I do not think there can be any other statistical material in existence where every word, every figure spells death, torture and terror. Among the sources Moser used is the war diary of the "Kommandostab des Reichsfuehrers SS" with "Tätigkeitsbericht" of various SS units which the same publisher (Europa Verlag) printed in 1965. Its title: "Unsere Ehre heisst Treue."

Herbert Steiner's "Gestorben fuer Oesterreich" is a bulky volume all right, but still not a book in the conventional sense. It does not entertain or instruct or mirror the world—there was no longer any world when these martyrs wrote their last letters, and execution warrants were neatly typed out for the files and for eternity. This collection of documents, letters, poems and accounts of eyewitnesses does not belong to the class of books whose value can be assessed. You have to read all these facsimiles, often in the heavy handwriting of workers, all these sublime statements of faith and strength, all these horrible printed forms the KZ machinery used, and all the official enunciations, dictated by some Heeresjustizoberinspektor before he went to lunch. You have to read it several times.

A first edition of the book was published in 1964 under the title "Zum Tode verurteilt" and is now out of print. The new volume contains many letters of Austrian resistance fighters which were not available at the time of compilation. In an introduction, the story of the Anschluss and the following events are retold, but now we learn that there was resistance behind the howling crowds in the streets of Vienna and Graz: 2,700 Austrians were condemned to death for active fighting against the Nazis, and 33,000 more died in camps and Gestapo prisons—priests, professional men, workers and students, Communists and Catholics alike.

In an introductory note, Dr. Anton Pelinka—a young Catholic writer—says: "Nur dann, wenn wir nicht vergessen, haben wir die Chance, den verderbenbringenden Traditionsstrom von Judenhass, Rassenhass, nationaler Ueberheblichkeit, demokratischer Unreife und Mangel an Selbstverständnis endgueltig zu unterbrechen."

IMPORTANT RECENT ACQUISITIONS BY THE BROD GALLERY

We can hardly go to a commercial exhibition of Dutch paintings without an ironic or knowing smile on our lips. The second half of the 17th century is called the "golden age" of Dutch painting. But "golden" can, of course, have two very different meanings. It also means that there was a big investment boom in the Netherlands at that time, that pictures were bought in quantity not for aesthetic reasons only but also to be sold later at a profit. What struck me in that particular context at the Brod Gallery Exhibition was the change in prices for van Goyen, the "Rembrandt of landscape painting". Only a few years ago his canvases were to be had at around £5,000. Now we are asked to pay £25,000. Van Goyen has arrived.

The remarkable thing about the Brod Gallery is their directors' ability still to acquire works by great master: A Rubens, Cranach, de Hooch within a few months is no mean achievement.

Personally, I was more attracted by some minor artists on view. There is a "Merry Company" by Johann Liss. He was a German who trained in the Netherlands, settled in Venice and died very young. In the foreground of his painting a revelling company of men and women is seated round a table with a "necking" pair as a special delectation. It is beautifully painted in a style which is a mixture of Rubens and the Venetians: light and lively, in glowing colours and flowing movement. The technique is almost Impressionist.

And there is a magnificent Self Portrait by Adriaen Brouwer. He looks at us cheeky and self-confident, almost leaping out of the canvas. The refreshing liveliness is characteristic of Brouwer's "The Drinker". He holds a little bottle in his right hand and a bowl in his left. His mouth is wide open as if he were shouting a drunken obscenity at the spectator. This wild gesture is in striking contrast with the subdued colours.

Jan Steen's "Diogenes Searching for an Honest Man" holds a lesson for any age. How would he find him among those laughing and boozing people. Subject and execution foreshadow William Hogarth, who was born 18 years after Steen's death.

Cuyp, Brueghel the Younger and others round off an exhibition enjoyable as much for its quality as for its liveliness.

A. ROSENBERG

* "Die Judenverfolgung in Oesterreich 1938-1945" by Jonny Moser; "Reichskristallnacht, 9. November, 1938 in Oesterreich" by Herbert Rosenkranz and "Gestorben fuer Oesterreich, Widerstand gegen Hitler" by Herbert Steiner, 54, 68 and 240 pages respectively. All three: Europa Verlag, Wien.

Elka Couture

E. HORNIK LTD.

Elsely House

24/30 Gt. Titchfield Street

London, W.1

Telephone: 01-580 3448/9/0

BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER
Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS
Always interested in purchasing
well-preserved instruments

JACQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.
2 Park West Place, Marble Arch, W.2
Tel.: PAD. 8818/9

J. C. Gilbert Ltd.



Columbia House
Aldwych
London, W.C.2

IN MEMORIAM

DR. ERICH COHN

Dr. Erich Cohn, former legal adviser of the United Restitution Office, passed away on June 28 at the age of 82. Before he came to this country, Dr. Cohn had gathered a wide and varied legal experience both as a municipal civil servant and as a lawyer at the Appeal Court (Oberlandesgericht) in Koenigsberg. He joined URO in 1957 and retired from his daily work as legal adviser in 1965. However, he remained in contact with the office and gave valuable advice in special cases. Many clients of URO owe the settlement of their claims to the energy and expert knowledge with which he took up their interests. He also repeatedly contributed to *AJR Information* and, *inter alia*, wrote a detailed description of the "Entschaeidigungsschlussgesetz", published in the September 1966 issue.

On behalf of his colleagues at URO to whom he had become a trusted friend, tribute was paid to him by Dr. Hans Herzog who, in his funeral address, recalled Dr. Cohn's widespread interests which included not only legal matters but also politics, history, literature and the impact of our Jewish inheritance. "Erich Cohn (he said) not only had no adversary, but was liked by everyone who met him".

PROFESSOR WLADIMIR ELIASBERG

Dr. Wladimir Eliasberg, the psychiatrist, neurologist and sociologist, died in New York at the age of 81. Born in Wiesbaden as the scion of a Russian-Jewish family, he was the founder of the "Deutsche Kongress fuer Psychotherapie" and also worked as psychiatrist and expert in forensic psychiatry. He left Germany in 1933 and settled in the U.S. in 1938, where he soon became well known as a consultant, editor of psychiatric periodicals, lecturer and author. His works include treatises on the psychological problems of former concentration camp inmates.

MRS. ELSE ROSENTHAL

Only a few months ago, we paid tribute to Mrs. Else Rosenthal on the occasion of her retirement as Matron of Otto Hirsch House (Kew). Unfortunately, the leisure which she had so well deserved after eleven years of devoted service was granted to her for only a short time, as she passed away in June 28.

The history of Otto Hirsch House is inseparably linked with her name. Having been Matron of the Home since its establishment, she built it up from the beginning, steering it through the manifold vicissitudes which are bound to occur in a venture of this kind. A disciplinarian, she demanded a lot of herself and often undertook work which others in her position would have delegated. She knew that for the sake of the Home community it was not possible to fulfil all personal wishes of those in her charge, yet she would go out of her way whenever a legitimate request was put before her, and there have been numerous instances in which her compassion and patience helped to ease and to brighten the lives of the residents. She also loyally co-operated with the members of the House Committee to whom she had become a trusted friend. Mrs. Rosenthal leaves many people who are indebted to her and by whom she will be remembered with feelings of deep gratitude. We extend our sincerest sympathy to her son, daughter and their families.

DR. OSKAR RABINOWICZ

Dr. Oskar K. Rabinowicz died in New York at the age of 66. A businessman and scholar, he came to this country from Czechoslovakia and re-emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1956. He has several books on contemporary Jewish history to his credit, including "Fifty Years of Zionism", "Winston Churchill and the Jewish Problem" and "Herzl, Architect of the Balfour Declaration". Dr. Rabinowicz

possessed a unique library of Judaica, including more than 15,000 volumes. During his stay in England, he served for many years as treasurer of the Society for Jewish Study, and he was also a joint treasurer of the Tercentenary Council.

MR. MAX NATHAN

Mr. Max Nathan (Jerusalem) passed away in his 69th year. A Zionist of long standing, he worked with the Keren Hayesod, first in Germany and later in Israel. After his retirement he joined the Jerusalem office of the Leo Baeck Institute, where his deeply founded background knowledge of Jewish life in Germany made his co-operation particularly valuable. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his wife, Mrs. Thea Nathan (née Meyrowitz), a leading social worker with the Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa, and his children.

ANGLICAN ISRAELIS

Israel's Minister for Religious Affairs has recommended to the Cabinet that the country's Anglican community should be granted full status as a recognised community, together with Jews, Moslems, Druse and the various Catholic and Orthodox sects. The implementation of this now depends on completing arrangements within the Anglican community for the establishment of religious courts and the other institutions of a recognised community. Since the Six-Day War in June, 1967, Israel's Anglican population has more than doubled to about 2,000, with a further 500 or so in Bethlehem and towns on the West Bank. This accounts for the decision to grant full status to adherents of the Church of England.

The six non-Conformist Protestant Churches active in Israel, with about a thousand members, have still not been recognised. Probably the objections to granting these groups official status are because their members are mainly foreign nationals and because they pursue missionary activities.



Rosebud Range

Firmer-control foundations.
New from Silhouette.
The makers of Little X.

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

AJR CHARITABLE TRUST

These are the ways in which you can help:

CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER COVENANT

GIFTS IN YOUR LIFETIME

A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL

Space donated by
TRADE CUTTERS LIMITED,
Britannia Works, 14 Vicar Lane,
25 St. Pancras Way, Ossett,
London, N.W.1, Yorks.
01-387 7461/5 09-243 4675

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

EDITORIAL COLUMNS
(1/3 width of page)
£2 per inch, single column.
ADVERTISEMENT COLUMNS
(1/2 width of page)
£1.10s. per inch, single column.
A discount of 20% is granted for orders of six or more insertions.
Orders should be received by the 10th of the preceding month.
"AJR Information,"
8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3
Phone: MAldA Vale 9098/7

H. WOORTMAN & SON

8 Baynes Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3
Phone HAMpstead 3974
Continental Builder and Decorator
Specialist in Dry Rot Repairs
ESTIMATES FREE

H. KAUFMANN

Painting & Decorating
Specialising in
High-class Interior Decorating
201 Wembley Hill Road,
Wembley, Middx. (ARNold 5525)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

In order to ensure that you receive your copy of "AJR Information" regularly, please inform us immediately of any change of address.

BIRTHDAYS

LADY HENRIQUES 80

On August 17, one of the staunchest friends of the AJR, Lady Henriques, will celebrate her 80th birthday. For many decades, her life has been dedicated to Jewish welfare work in the East End. Yet whilst other Jewish middle-class social workers in that district continued to live in the West End, she and her husband, the late Sir Basil Henriques, took up residence amidst those in their charge at the Bernhard Baron Settlement, Berners Street (now fittingly renamed Henriques Street). Many readers will remember her broadcast series in which she vividly described the life in the East End, especially of its Jewish population. Her gifts as a social worker and competent administrator are enhanced by her talents as an accomplished painter and musician.

The Anglo-Jewish family to which Lady Henriques belongs originally stemmed from Germany, and her grandfather, the famous orientalist Louis Loewe, was born in Silesia. She not only speaks an idiomatic German but, due to her background, also understands the mentality of those German Jews who came to this country as refugees. When, after the Second World War, the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad (founded by the Central British Fund) sent relief units to the liberated countries, Lady Henriques, the head of the Committee's German department, went over to Germany to assist the survivors of the Holocaust. At that time there were two different groups of Jews in that country: the inmates of the D.P. camps, who were of Eastern Jewish origin, and the few German Jews who had survived in hiding or as partners of mixed marriages. Whilst Lady Henriques felt responsible for both sections, she considered it one of her special tasks to assist the German

Jews in re-establishing their "Gemeinden".

As a Council member of the C.B.F., Lady Henriques is still actively associated with the work for those who came to this country as refugees at one time or another. She also has personal links with a number of hon. officers of the AJR, and last year was the guest of honour at the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the establishment of Otto Hirsch House. Throughout the years she has also been a most interested and diligent reader of *AJR Information*.

We gratefully extend our sincerest congratulations to Lady Henriques and wish her unimpaired health and happiness for many years to come.

DR. HENRY G. SANDHEIM 70

On August 2, Dr. Henry G. Sandheim will celebrate his 70th birthday. He was born in Berlin, and saw active service in the First World War on the Western and Eastern Fronts. After having completed his studies he served for a short time as a Deputy Judge with the Landgericht I Berlin and then set up practice as a lawyer. He was also actively associated with the Juedische Reform-gemeinde.

In this country Dr. Sandheim joined H.M. Forces after the outbreak of war but was discharged on medical grounds in 1941. He then first worked as an accountant and later established himself as a lawyer for restitution and indemnification cases. In this capacity he has been of outstanding help to his numerous clients.

Dr. Sandheim is vice-chairman of the Ex-Service (1943) Association, a Board member of the AJR and a Management Committee member of the F.W.V., his former Students' Association. He is also a member of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law.

We extend our sincerest congratulations to Dr. Sandheim.

LORD SIEFF'S 80TH BIRTHDAY Dinner at St. James's Palace

The Duke of Edinburgh attended a dinner of the Simon Marks Education Fund in celebration of Lord Sieff's 80th birthday. The dinner took place at St. James's Palace. Due to a slight accident suffered the night before, Lord Sieff was unable to attend. In greeting the Duke, Mr. Victor Mishcon said that youth and education had always been the Duke's chief interests and that his presence would encourage those engaged in Jewish education to continue and extend their efforts. The Duke, who was given a standing ovation, said in the course of his address that Lord Sieff had made a telling contribution to the nation as a whole as well as to the Jewish community of this country. "His story will live as long as men admire greatness". An excerpt of the address prepared by Lord Sieff was read by Mr. Edward Sieff. "What we are trying to achieve (Lord Sieff wrote) is an education which should foster loyalty to England and respect for, and knowledge of, Jewish tradition. This implies two languages but it is no problem for a child". So far, Lord Sieff stated, the Fund had established eleven schools.

JEWISH RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FOR CIVIL SERVANT

Mr. Chaim Raphael, civil servant, author and historian, is to leave Whitehall to take up a specially created research fellowship in Jewish social history at Sussex University. Mr. Raphael, 60, was head of the information division of the Treasury from 1957 to 1968, when he was appointed to a similar post in the new Civil Service department.

The subject of Mr. Raphael's research will be the relation of the history of the Jews to the history of the people among whom they have lived. During the last pre-war year, Mr. Raphael, then a lecturer at Oxford, was hon. secretary of the committee in charge of the administration of Kitchener Camp (Richborough). In 1940, he was liaison officer between the Home Office and the transit camp in Lingfield, established for those interned "enemy aliens" who were due to re-emigrate.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthdays

Baumann.—Mrs. Vally Baumann, of Otto Schiff House, 14 Netherhall Gardens, London, N.W.3, celebrated her 85th birthday on July 17th.

Bloch.—Mr. Egon Bloch, of 16 Quex Road, London, N.W.6, son of Bernard Bloch, a founder of the Bohemian ceramics industry, will celebrate his 80th birthday in the middle of August.

Halberstadt.—Mrs. Bertha Halberstadt, née Rothschild (formerly Halle), of Sde Yaakow, Emek, Israel, will celebrate her 90th birthday on August 15.

Deaths

Finkenstein.—Miss Jenny Finkenstein (formerly Berlin), died peacefully on July 15th. Mourned by her nieces, nephews, brother-in-law and friends. Miss Nettie Abrahams, 98 Lauderdale Mansions, Lauderdale Road, London, W.9.

Herzberg.—Dr. Max Herzberg (formerly Wuppertal), died peacefully after a short illness on July 1 at the age of 89 in Haifa. Families Herbert (Westcliff, Essex), Goldenberg (London), Herzberg (New York), Kahana (Bet Haemek, Israel).

Landsberg.—Mr. Otto Ludwig Landsberg, of 1 Priory Court, 47 Shepherds Hill, London, N.6, died peacefully whilst on holiday. Deeply mourned by his wife, daughter, son and relatives.

Rosenthal.—Mrs. Else Rosenthal, widow of Professor Rosenthal, late of Hamburg. Deeply mourned by her children, grandchildren and relatives. 16 Primrose Road, Liverpool, 18.

Rosenthal.—Mrs. Hermine Rosenthal, wife of the late Ludwig Rosenthal (formerly Heilbronn), of 116 Kenilworth Avenue, London, S.W.19, died suddenly on June 26. Deeply mourned by her daughter, Alice (Liesel) Schwab, her son, Jack (Helmuth) Rosenthal, and their families.

Sachs.—On June 10, my dear husband, Eugen Sachs, of 42 Boundary Road, London, N.W.8, died peacefully in hospital in his 88th year. Deeply mourned by his wife, Margarete (née Lasker), now 58 Burnham Towers, Adelaide Road, N.W.3, his daughters, Helli Schrier (London), Gertrud Marx (Kfar Yediyah, Israel), his four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Tombstone Consecration

Abraham.—The Memorial Stone in loving memory of the late Mrs. Helene Elsa Abraham will be consecrated at the Bournemouth Crematorium, Strouden Avenue, Bournemouth, on Thursday, August 21st at 3 p.m.

Thanks for Good Wishes

Markus.—Miss Susan Markus, of 93 Wellesley Court, London, W.9, wishes to thank all her friends and the members of the AJR Club for the countless get well wishes she received during her recent illness.

CLASSIFIED

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

Situations Wanted

Men

RETIRED BANK OFFICIAL, 65, temporarily employed by Rothschild's, seeks employment in any capacity. Box 076.

Women

RECEPTIONIST/ORDER CLERK, experienced, seeks full-time work in N.W. London. Box 072.

BOOKKEEPER/CLERK, seeks full- or part-time work, also copy typing to be carried out at home. Box 075.

EXPERIENCED COPY-TYPIST, also for manuscripts, English/German. Own machine. Box 077.

Accommodation Vacant

COMFORTABLE BED-SITTER for lady or gentleman, with central heating, near Wembley Park Underground Station. 'Phone 01-904 5044.

TO LET. Two adjoining rooms each approx. 500 ft on 1st floor, Finchley Road, as office, work-room or studio for quiet tenant; £12 inclusive. Apply Box 068.

Accommodation Wanted

CENTRAL LONDON: Has cultured family 1-2 furnished rooms (breakfast only) for elderly bachelor (non-Orthodox), away weekends. Box 073.

For Sale

NEW SILVER cutlery, silver-plated cutlery, menorah, spice box, ethrog box; Persian lamb coat, like new, £250; velvet coat, £20. Box 070.

Personal

WIDOW, late 40s, wishes to meet gentleman aged about 55. Box 071. ELDERLY WIDOW of independent means, German born (refugee), living in London, petite, intelligent, interested in music, theatre, literature, etc., is looking for an occasional escort. Box 069. ATTRACTIVE LADY seeks friendship of educated, cultured gentleman, aged between 50/55. Box 074.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Boehm-Vincent. — Ruth Boehm-Vincent and her three sons sought by Mrs. Kaethe Schweiger, Sydney. Replies to Mrs. Hilde Gerrard, 6 Edge End Avenue, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancs., England.

Family Research

Searching for the children of Paul and Lotte (née Rosenfeld) Friedlaender (originally from Oppeln), named Fritz (Fred), Hanne and Suzanne, from Germany. The children of Erna Frankl (née Jacobsohn) from Schneidemühl and Berlin, and for the children of Heinrich and Frances Levysohn (née Frankl) from Berlin/Wilmersdorf (Wegenstrasse). Please contact Charles Friedländer, 1664, 34 St. N.W., Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

"THANK-YOU BRITAIN" FUND

Lecture by Cambridge Vice-Chancellor

"The international language of scholars and scientists is now English with a foreign accent." With these words Sir Eric Ashby, F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, paid tribute to the achievements of former refugees, when he delivered the fourth annual "Thank-You Britain" Fund lecture at the British Academy on June 11.

Sir Kenneth Wheare, C.M.G., President of the British Academy, was in the chair. The audience included many academicians as well as a great number of contributors to the Fund.

The subject of the lecture was "The Academic Profession". Speaking from first-hand experience, Sir Eric dealt with the conflicting loyalties with which many university teachers are faced in our days. While it is their main duty to teach, they are often called upon to serve on time-absorbing governmental and other committees. As far as their educational duties are concerned, it should be their paramount aim to shape the personalities of those in their charge. The lecturer also analysed the present unrest among university students, stressing the need for understanding the underlying motives but rejecting the methods of violence now used abroad and also in this country. The full text of the brilliantly formulated lecture will be printed shortly and sent to all contributors of the Fund.

While, as in previous years, the annual lecture was delivered by an outstanding scholar, the main benefit of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund consists in the award of research fellowships. The awards are decided by a special committee of experts, set up by the British Academy, at which the "Thank-You Britain" Fund is represented by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Appeals Committee, Mr. Werner M. Behr and Mr. Victor Ross. The decisions are based on careful investigations of the academic qualifications and personal records of the applicants.

The first fellowship was awarded in 1967 to Mr. John Allan Patmore, Lecturer in Geography at the University of Liverpool. It enabled him to take leave of absence and to start comprehensive research work on countryside planning and recreation facilities, a very urgent problem in our times of city congestion. Mr. Patmore did a great amount of field work in this country and overseas and

will thus be able to make a most valuable contribution to a general review of the problems involved, aimed at all interested in the optimum use of land. In the light of the latest progress report received from Mr. Patmore, the grant has been extended until September 30, 1969.

A second fellowship was awarded last year to Dr. Robert Skidelsky, Oxford graduate in Modern History and Research Fellow Nuffield College, 1965-68. His subject is Mosley and British Fascism, and his research includes the systematic perusal of newspaper reports and Home Office and police files relating to the matter.

The recipient of the latest fellowship is Miss Rita McWilliams, research student, Darwin College, Cambridge, whose research, commencing on January 1, 1970, will be concerned with the development of university education for women.

When the "Thank-You Britain" Fund of more than £90,000 was handed over to the British Academy, it was agreed that research for which fellowships were to be granted should refer to questions relating to the welfare of this country. All three subjects, different as they are from each other, answer to this requirement. Town and country planning is decisive for the way of life of our generation and those which follow; the lesson of British Fascism in the '30s has its bearing on present-day policy *vis-à-vis* Fascist and other totalitarian movements; and the position of women in professional life, now plays a great part in public discussion. By the creation of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund, the former refugees have helped to provide facilities for dealing with these problems in a systematic way.

C.B.F. ANNUAL REPORT

The 36th Annual Report of the Central British Fund states that during the year 1968 a fair number of Jews from Czechoslovakia had come to the United Kingdom. Most of them had arrived penniless and the C.B.F. had made contributions towards their temporary maintenance and, in a number of cases, towards their resettlement.

Jews had also continued to emigrate from North Africa. The C.B.F. participated in a number of relief efforts on their behalf, such as a religious and educational centre in Marseilles and a community centre in Aix-en-

Provence. The Fund also contributed to relief projects in Morocco and Tunisia and towards the provision of a new Kosher Canteen in Bucharest.

The expenditure during the year 1968 amounted to £131,000, of which more than £83,000 consisted of contributions to relief schemes abroad, whereas the income amounted to £111,000. These figures do not include the income and expenditure administered by the Allocations (J.T.C. Funds) Committee, the assets of which derive from heirless Jewish property in Germany and which are used for the benefit of Nazi victims in this country, especially for the establishment and maintenance of the Homes. In the special Report of the Allocations Committee, tribute is paid to the full support from, and the harmonious co-operation of the AJR.

CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY

Under the auspices of the Board of Deputies, a Conference on Soviet Jewry was held on June 15 at the Piccadilly Hotel. The AJR was among the 70 communal organisations represented at the Conference. A comprehensive assessment of the political and ideological problems involved was given by four expert speakers: Mr. Emanuel Litvinoff, editor of "Jews in Eastern Europe"; Professor Alex Nove, of the Department of Russian Studies at Glasgow University; Mr. Max Hayward, Fellow of St. Anthony's, Oxford, and a translator of Russian literature; and Professor Leonard Schapiro, of London University.

A resolution, adopted by the Conference, called on the Communist leaders at that time assembled in Moscow "to urge the Soviet Government to remedy the grievances of Soviet Jewry", "to permit emigration of those Jews who have applied to settle in Israel and in other countries", and to "order the release" of Jews unjustly imprisoned for "alleged bourgeois-nationalist Zionist propaganda". The resolution describes the three-and-a-half million Jews of the U.S.S.R. as "the most culturally deprived of Soviet nationalities, despite promises that the systematic destruction in 1948 of all their schools, publishing houses, newspapers, theatres and cultural organisations would be remedied".

HOMES FOR THE AGED

The Birmingham United Benevolent Board is making plans for a new Home for the aged in Moseley, and an appeal to raise the necessary finances will shortly be launched. The Home will accommodate 20 residents, mostly in single rooms.

To bridge the gap still needed to build the new Home for the aged at Heathlands, Prestwich, the Manchester Jewish community is being asked to give £150,000 this year. The building will cost £800,000.

Catering with a difference

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

Free consultations—please phone

Mrs. ILLY LIEBERMAN

WESTern 2872

Do you want comfort, security and every convenience

First-Class Accommodation

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

Mrs. A. WOLFF,

3 Hemstal Road, N.W.6
(MAI. 8521)

Hotel Pension ARLET

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

SELECT RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE HOTEL

Exquisite Continental Cuisine

H/c. C/h. Telephone in every room. Large Colour T.V. Lounges. Lovely Large Terrace & Gardens. Very Quiet Position. Eight Minutes by car from Golders Green.

MRS. M. COLDWELL

11 Fenstanton Avenue
London, N.12
Tel.: 01-445 0061/2

A HOME FOR YOU

ROSEMOUNT,
17 Parsifal Road, N.W.6
HAMPstead 5856 & 8565

The Boarding House with Culture

'THE HOUSE ON THE HILL'

Nursery and Kindergarten

5 NETHERHALL GARDENS, N.W.3

Prospectus from the Principal, HAM. 1662

THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine—Licensed

169a Finchley Road, N.W.3

(MAI. 6301)

PARTIES CATERED FOR

BOURNEMOUTH STEVRA HOUSE

Strictly kosher. Close sea. H. & c. TV lounge.

Few vacancies August and Sept.
14 Southern Road, Bournemouth
Bournemouth 45680 and HENDon 0654.

YOUR FIGURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

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

Mme H. LIEBERG

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

SPE. 8673

Newest shades in Hosiery

LUGGAGE

HANDBAGS, UMBRELLAS AND ALL LEATHER GOODS

TRAVEL GOODS

H. FUCHS

267 West End Lane, N.W.6

'Phone HAMPstead 2602

AJR GENERAL MEETING

The large attendance at the AJR general meeting on June 19 at Hannah Karminski House reflected the interest taken by members in the activities of the organisation. The meeting was opened by Mr. A. S. Dresel, chairman of the AJR, who also paid tribute to the memory of those board members, who had passed away during the past year: Mr. Julius Feig, Dr. Fritz Goldschmidt, Mr. Kurt Friedlaender, Mr. H. J. Reifenberg and Dr. Rudolf Friedlaender (Manchester).

In his report about the current activities of the AJR Mr. W. Rosenstock, general secretary, *inter alia*, stated that after the completion of the flatlet home, the number of residents to be looked after in the various homes would amount to 300. The average age of residents at the Old Age Homes had risen considerably, not only because the residents of old standing had gone on in years, but also because there was a general trend among elderly people to retain their personal independence in private accommodation as long as possible. One of the effects of the present position was an increase of those residents who had become senile confused, and the problems arising from this would call for closer consideration in the near future. Special thanks were due to the devoted staff and to the numerous voluntary helpers, especially the members of the house committees.

The case load of the AJR Employment Agency under the management of Dr. Adelheid Levy had amounted to 260 calls by employers and employees between January and May, 1969, and 83 persons could be placed.

As before the AJR Club under the guidance of Mrs. M. Jacoby had rendered invaluable services to members of the community, and the hall of Hannah Karminski House had continued to be a meeting place for a great number of organisations.

The speaker also reported on the editorial work connected with the production of "AJR Information," the fellowships and lectures of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund (see special report on page 11) and the appeal for the memorial for the victims of Nazism (the outcome of the appeal, which is still proceeding, will be announced in one of the next issues—Ed.).

There had been a close and friendly co-operation with the local Camden authorities as well as with Jewish organisations, especially the Central British Fund, Self-Aid and the Jewish Welfare Board. Beyond this, the standing of the AJR in Anglo-Jewish life was also reflected in the desire of the representative Jewish bodies in this country to enlist the co-operation of the AJR.

The response to a membership drive had

resulted in a considerable increase in members during the year under review. This showed that the essential services rendered by the AJR were also recognised by many who so far had not personally been associated with the organisation. Whilst this upgrade trend was gratifying, there were, however, still too many who kept aloof, and the speaker appealed to the audience for names and addresses of friends of theirs who could be approached by headquarters, if they are not yet members.

A progress report on the erection of the flatlet home (Eleanor Rathbone House) was given by Mr. A. S. Dresel. He stated that the building work would probably be completed in autumn and that the interviewing of applicants had started. Of the total building costs of £340,000, £120,000 had been contributed free of interest by the C.B.F. (§) and the AJR Charitable Trust (§), and £220,000 was to be covered by a 60-year mortgage from the Borough of Harringey. In view of the substantially increased interest rates, the service on the mortgage would present a heavy current liability. On the other hand, the subsidies to be contributed to the running costs had been based by the Ministry on a "yardstick" figure which was considerably below the actual building costs. That these building costs were, however, justified was confirmed by the fact that the structure was recently approved by the borough surveyor in the light of the very strict new requirements for high buildings. Therefore, efforts at obtaining an increase of the yardstick figure were being made at present. Under the circumstances it was not yet possible to assess the rents to be charged. As far as financial resources permitted, assistance would be given to tenants who could not afford the full rent. In any case, after many years of consistent labour in the face of many difficulties the flatlet scheme had now materialised, thus completing the building programme and covering the housing requirements on a comprehensive scale: flatlets for those who could still manage their own households, ordinary old age homes for those who needed care and attention, and Osmond House for those who had become infirm.

Dr. W. Breslauer, vice-president of the Council of Jews from Germany, reported on current questions of restitution and compensation. Whilst no further major legislation was to be expected, there were three special laws under consideration which had some bearing on the position of the Jews from Germany. The first concerns the new Social Insurance Law, the second is an amendment to the Federal Restitution Law (Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz), regulating the treat-

ment of those restitution claims which had been erroneously submitted under the Federal Compensation Law (Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz), and the third deals with the application of the Equalisation of Burdens Law (Lastenausgleichsgesetz) to assets in East Germany and East Berlin. In all three cases the Council, of which the AJR is the British constituent, had received the drafts of the laws and submitted its proposals. (After the general meeting it transpired that the Social Insurance Law was not finalised by the present Parliament. As far as the two other laws are concerned, details may be seen from the article on page 3).

The financial report was given by Dr. F. E. Falk, hon. treasurer of the AJR. He stated that the income from donations and subscriptions had risen from £10,340 in 1967 to £12,450 in 1968, and the expenditure from £18,000 to £20,000. The balance was covered by payments of the Allocations Committee of the Central British Fund which administers that part of the heirless former Jewish property in Germany which is to be used for the relief to Nazi victims in this country. Whilst it was certainly gratifying, the speaker stated, that the income had risen, it had to be kept in mind that the expenses, e.g., for the production and despatch of "AJR Information," were constantly growing and that the funds of the Allocations Committee were limited. It was therefore essential to aim at a further increase of income. Dr. Falk also appealed to members to make payments under covenant to the AJR Charitable Fund in lieu of part of their contributions as well as to support the AJR Charitable Trust by donations and bequests in their wills.

After a discussion of the reports, the members of the executive and board were elected as listed in the June issue of "AJR Information." On behalf of those present and in the name of the vice-chairman, Mr. W. M. Behr, who was abroad, Dr. Falk expressed special thanks to the re-elected chairman, Mr. Dresel, for his continuous untiring work.

EXHIBITION ON ARAB REFUGEES

Lady Astor opened an exhibition in London depicting the situation of Arab refugees, arranged by the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding. She appealed for public opinion to be increased in order to urge the British Government to take an active responsibility "for a situation that was entirely our responsibility in 1917". Her political sympathies, she said, were on both sides but, where there was suffering of such magnitude, such duration, it was inhuman to do nothing. It was furthermore the holy land where such things were happening—"holy land to the Jew, the Moslem and the Christian".

JEWISH BOOKS

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

M. SULZBACHER

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

For English and German Books

HANS PREISS

International Booksellers
LIMITED

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

LIBRIS

Wir interessieren uns auch für
Ihre mitgebrachten deutschen
Bücher und Autographen

LIBRIS (LONDON) LTD.

38a Boundary Rd., London, N.W.8

Director: Dr. J. Suschitzky
'Phone: MAI. 3030

PHOTOCOPIES

QUICK and RELIABLE

GOLDERSTAT

25 DOWNHAM ROAD, N.1
'Phone: CLissold 5484 (5 lines)
54 GOLDERS GARDENS, N.W.11
'Phone: SPeedwell 5643

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL LTD.

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

Electrical Contractors & Stockists
of all Electrical Appliances

OFFICIALLY APPOINTED HOOVER
SERVICE DEALERS

Do You Need a
CLEANER or a DAILY HELP?
Let London's largest Domestic Agency
help you.

'Phone: 01-624 7319
or 01-624 0913

Annually Licensed by the
Borough of Camden

HIGHEST PRICES

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

WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME

S. DIENSTAG
(HAMpstead 0748)