

**AJR****INFORMATION**

ISSUED BY THE

**ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN***Arthur Prinz (Carlisle, Pa., U.S.A.)***CHANGES IN AMERICAN SOCIETY**

The fearful unrest that has gripped the American people for some years and stirred them to their very roots will not disappear with the installation of the new President. The interminable and hopeless war in Vietnam—the only war in American history that has not ended in victory—and an inequitable conscription system urgently due for reform have caused much bitterness, but even the end of the war will not do anything decisive to relieve the inner tension. For the real roots of the present unrest and dissatisfaction lie in the changes in the structure of the American economy and society which started years ago and have been gathering volume ever since.

The most significant of these changes probably lies in the position of the working class. When Franklin D. Roosevelt took over the reigns of government almost 26 years ago, nearly a third of the population was unemployed, under-nourished, inadequately clothed and wretchedly housed. If the great reforms of the New Deal had not provided the people with new hope and also (despite many mistakes) material relief, the capitalist system in America would have been rocked to its foundations. This was the time when the industrial workers, together with the needy farmers who were forced to sell their produce at ridiculously low prices, led the assault which repeatedly gave Roosevelt victory in the elections.

But there have been vast changes since then. Apart from eight years under Eisenhower (1952-60), America has had a continuous run of Democratic presidents. Formerly, it was a country that worshipped virtually unrestrained capitalism, but to a great extent it is now a modern welfare state with consumer protection, care for the aged, trade union rights and recently even a kind of governmental health service for persons over the age of 65. Added to which there have been many laws and administrative measures in the last few years to assure equal rights for racial minorities. All this has naturally led to an enormous increase in State bureaucracy: today there are about two million civilians employed by the Federal Government! The actual growth of bureaucracy and bureaucratic decrees and controls have formed a main plank in the attacks of George Wallace, who has assured his delighted audiences that he would toss the files of the bureaucrats into the ocean. Bureaucratic safeguards are looked upon as something un-American, contrary to the traditional American pioneering spirit; actually they smack in some way of "socialism".

At the same time, the material condition of the working class has improved enormously; today only about 10% of the population can be said to suffer real bitter poverty and hunger. And this 10% is largely composed

of the coloured minorities, i.e., Negroes, Indians, "Latins" (also known as Mexican-Americans), who are mostly of Indian descent—and possibly Puerto Ricans. There is no doubt that there is also hunger and misery amongst the whites, e.g., amongst the mine-workers of West Virginia. But these are small groups. Things are not at all bad for most white industrial workers; a small section of them do very well indeed. Millions of workers earn about \$8,000 a year, naturally only when in full employment, but this has been mostly the case in the past few years. And there are highly qualified and well-organised workers who make as much as \$15,000-\$17,000 a year. One can live very nicely on that, even in America!

With this enormous advance it is not surprising that the attitude of the workers has changed, especially of those who are well paid and well organised. Is it reasonable to expect a worker to have feelings of proletarian class-consciousness if he earns more than many white-collar workers, often more than professors at colleges and universities? Nothing of the sort! On the contrary, they look upon the Negro who has now been admitted to their unions under strong Federal pressure as a hated rival and acclaim George Wallace, who has promised to remove the pressure exercised by Washington so that the unions can continue to refuse to admit black men. Millions of white industrial workers find nothing wrong with the anti-Communist views of Wallace, quite the reverse. Historically, an important element amongst white industrial workers is Catholic and influenced by the strong anti-Communist attitude of their church. Moreover, many families come originally from those parts of Eastern Europe that are now ruled, occupied or threatened by Soviet Russia. This is another factor that contributes to their conservative, even at times reactionary, attitude.

This attitude has not been created by George Wallace; to a considerable extent it is shared by those workers who have remained faithful to the Democratic Party—and it influences the behaviour of dozens of Democratic Senators and Congressmen. It is not going too far to say that in this country, which differs so vastly from Europe, many of the greatest capitalists, men like Henry Ford or David Rockefeller the banker, brother of the New York Governor, are far more liberally inclined than the great mass of workers. And this is not only true of domestic affairs (especially in relation to the coloured minorities), but also of foreign politics and economics, i.e., in relation to protective tariffs, etc.

Thus it is a fact that the link between the intellectuals and the "proletariat" that is to be found in many European countries does

not exist here at all. On the contrary, the "New Left" here is showing itself more and more as a sort of alliance between large sections of the youth, especially students, and the as yet grossly under-privileged minorities. And the youth is in part led, or at least influenced, by Jewish and other intellectuals, amongst whom an important role is played by thousands of professors at colleges and universities. It cannot be denied that there is considerable friction within this coalition, as there is in so many others. For instance, a small but militant Negro element is openly antisemitic today and frequently in general opposition to all whites.

Yet there are important points of agreement. Thus, most coloureds, like the students and intellectuals, are opposed to the war in Vietnam, opposed to the uncontrolled arms race and in favour of using the large sums of money that could be saved from the military budget for solving the vast problems of the big cities, especially slum-clearance. Other important points concern true equality of rights for all and the stopping-up of certain very important loopholes in the tax laws which only benefit the rich. Hope of achieving this programme is at present very unlikely because the country is in the grip of a reactionary wave. This will, however, only increase the unrest and the possibility of serious conflict. For the Negroes and other minorities will no longer be staved off with phrases; if they are not given at least the hope of real amelioration, there is a risk of very much more killing and arson. And today the students are a much more powerful factor than ever before, not only numerically—since an ever-increasing percentage of the population is streaming into the colleges and universities—but more particularly because of their indispensability.

Students all over the world today, from Berkeley (California) to Tokyo and from Mexico City to Prague and Paris, are up in arms, demanding reforms and often getting them; and this is so because there is not a single technically advanced society that can exist without a mass of highly qualified chemists, physicists, engineers, doctors, etc. The police and the army can be used to close universities, professors and students can be thrown into jail, but the only hope of the authorities is to cow the great mass of the student body—they cannot do without them. And certain demands, especially the freedom to teach and to study, and the removal of censorship, arise directly from the nature of the human spirit. Thus, students in dozens of countries are rebelling today against the limitations that fascism, Communism and militarism impose on the universities. Here in the United States they are also specifically rebelling against the efforts of the military authorities to make great scientific institutions serve their ends by offering them vast sums to concentrate their research into fields which will provide the armed forces with new weapons. There is such profound agitation

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## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### MAYOR JOHN LINDSAY'S PLEDGE

New York City's Mayor, Mr. John Lindsay, who is faced with growing hostility towards him by the Jewish community due to the increasingly overt antisemitism among Negroes which has been brought to the surface by the prolonged school strike in that city, gave two pledges when addressing a Jewish audience recently. He said he would not permit the further spread of antisemitic material in the schools and that he would do all in his power to fight antisemitism generally. He termed antisemitism as "a most vicious and contemptible prejudice." Speaking at the Park West Synagogue in New York, Mr. Lindsay said that the city would not permit the teaching of racial and religious hatred in its schools, and that the Board of Education had notified local school boards that such conduct would mean their removal. He also stated that he had appointed a panel to inquire into who had been responsible for spreading the "poison" of antisemitism in the city.

### NEGRO ANTISEMITISM

A warning was issued by the president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews against "rising passions of Negro antisemitism" and "retaliatory feeling among Jews". Dr. Sterling W. Brown issued the warning in his annual report to members of the conference's board at the commencement of the organisation's fortieth anniversary meeting in New York. He said that racialism of any kind would lead us into the wilderness of anarchy. He added that "no Jews or Negroes, other than those who speak up boldly for brotherhood and practise it, will be able to cool the rising passions of Negro antisemitism or lessen the retaliatory feeling among Jews before this needless, senseless prejudice brings incalculable hurt to two American minority groups who can and should be of maximum help to each other".

### NIXON'S AIDE

Professor Henry Kissinger, Mr. Nixon's newly appointed senior aide, was born in Fuerth in 1923 and came to the U.S.A. as a refugee in 1938. He is Jewish, but has not been active in communal affairs. In his books, he has concerned himself with Europe and super-power relations, and not with problems of the Middle East. He has, however, been to Israel as a visitor.

### Changes in American Society

*Continued from page 1*

about the misuse of science, about the war in Vietnam and the possibility of a world war amongst intellectuals and students, who are far better able to assess the practical import of these matters, that class distinctions often disappear completely and sons of well-born Protestant families not infrequently are content to describe themselves as "dedicated Marxists".

Of course, no one can guess where this will all end. The year 1968 has brought an awful lot of surprises, most of them of a tragic nature, and others are bound to follow. But one danger stands out clearly to the best and most serious observers: that the inner tensions and conflicts will become so fierce that it will be hardly possible to govern the country effectively. If that should be the case, the Government's independence in its foreign relations will become much reduced, if not completely crippled, however great its military superiority. And this could well increase the aggressiveness of the other super-power in the world today.

### NEW YORK'S WAR ON SYNAGOGUE VANDALS

The Police and Fire Departments were ordered by the Mayor of New York to open an offensive against vandals responsible for the desecration of ten synagogues and yeshivas in that city during the past three months. The instruction was issued as the Mayor, Mr. John Lindsay, viewed the charred remains of a synagogue in the Bronx which was destroyed by fire. Arson is suspected. Mr. Lindsay, together with police and fire chiefs also inspected the premises of the Hebrew Institute on Bronx University Heights where Swastikas had been found daubed on the walls and where a small fire had also been reported. New York's police have stated that they suspect a mixed Negro and White, but mostly White, gang of youths to be responsible for both incidents.

### FACT-FINDING MISSION

Mr. Richard Nixon has sent the former Governor of Pennsylvania, Mr. William Scranton, on a fact-finding mission to the Middle East. Before his departure Mr. Scranton was briefed by senior State Department officials who included the Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Rusk, who said in Washington that "despite all the travail", a settlement of political issues in the Middle East would come and would in turn lead to American-Soviet talks on limiting arms shipments to the Middle East. Pressure on Mr. Nixon to adopt a less pro-Israeli stand continues.

### IDA KAMINSKA IN NEW YORK

After her arrival in New York, Miss Ida Kaminska, the former first lady of the Yiddish State Theatre in Warsaw, said that she was seriously considering the possibility of establishing a Yiddish theatre in New York. She explained that she had decided to leave Poland because of the demonstrations against Zionism and against Israel following the Six-Day War. She will make a ten-week tour of nine major cities in the U.S.A. and Canada where she and her entourage will perform "Mirele Efros".

### CANADA

#### Top Job for Woman

Miss Silvia Gelber, a civil servant with 18 years' experience in social research and welfare administration, has been appointed director of the Canadian Labour Department's Women's bureau. Miss Gelber is a member of a Canadian-Jewish family, well known for its leading communal and Zionist activities. She spent 16 years in Palestine as a probation officer during the British mandate.

### FRANCE

#### Chief Rabbi Honoured

Rabbi Jacob Kaplan, the Chief Rabbi of France, has been made a member of the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, the first rabbi to be given this honour.

### JEWES IN ARAB COUNTRIES

#### Memorandum to U Thant

A memorandum has been presented to the U.N. Secretary-General, U Thant, by the International League for the Rights of Man, accusing Egypt, Syria and Iraq of violating the human rights of Jews living in those countries. The letter, signed by the League's honorary president, Mr. Roger N. Baldwin, and attached to a five-page document, requests U Thant to use his good offices with the three Governments in order to alleviate the sufferings of their Jewish minorities and restore their rights.

#### Plight in Egypt and Iraq

Between 225 and 250 Jewish men have been imprisoned without charge in Egypt since the Six-Day War, and, in an apparent reversal of policy, all Jewish emigration has been prohibited since September.

The situation has become progressively worse in Iraq since the ousting of the Kassem régime in 1963 and especially since the Six-Day War. Before the war Jews were forbidden to travel and their internal movements and business activities were very restricted, their letters censored and their children denied admission to Government schools. After the Six-Day War all Jews were subjected to a house-to-house search and 100 persons were arrested, of whom one-quarter are still in prison.

#### LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS TO ISRAEL

Lufthansa's inaugural flight to Tel Aviv took place on November 19 from Frankfurt via Munich. Amongst the many prominent travellers on this flight were the Israeli Ambassador to Germany, Mr. Asher Ben-Nathan, the Prime Minister of Hesse, Georg August Zinn, the Minister of Justice for North-Rhine-Westphalia, Dr. Josef Neuberger, Pater Janarius Grewe, of the Kommissariat des Heiligen Landes, and Federal Minister of Transport, Mr. Georg Leber, who met his Israeli counterpart, Mr. Moshe Carmel, in Tel Aviv. Also on board were Intendant Harry Buckwitz, Frau Lilo Pauls, the wife of the former German Ambassador to Israel, Direktor Walter Hesselbach, of the German-Israeli Society, as well as Professor Herbert Lewin, Dr. Hendrik van Dam and Mr. Heinz Galinski, of the Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland.

Asked at a press conference in London whether Lufthansa expected this new line to be boycotted by some Arab countries, Herr Eilers, the company's regional director for Europe, said that they had been flying to many Arab countries and there had not been the slightest reaction in these countries. Neither was there a negative reaction in Israel because they were also flying to these countries. "Thus, as far as I could find out, both sides accept the fact that we are flying to the other side as well", Herr Eilers stated.

#### VATICAN WINDOW BY CHAGALL

Marc Chagall has designed a stained-glass panel for the large audience hall now being constructed in the Vatican close to the Basilica of St. Peter. This is believed to be the first time a Jewish artist has been commissioned to provide a work for the Vatican.

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# HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

## SHECHITA BILL DEFEATED

A motion by Mr. David Ensor (Lab.) seeking to amend the Slaughter of Animals Acts "for the purposes of abolishing the exemptions in favour of ritual slaughter" was rejected by 219 votes to 69, a majority of 150. The Bill was to provide for the stunning of all animals before they have their throats cut. Opposing the motion, Mr. Peter Archer (Lab.) said that he recognised the deep sincerity of Mr. Ensor's motives. However, while no one would pretend that slaughter by any method "adds to the visual beauty of the world", according to the testimony of the scientists a clean cut with a sharp instrument (the ritual method) does not produce pain. "It would be a tragedy", Mr. Archer concluded, "if this House, with its tradition of fairness and tolerance, were from the most humanitarian motives to take a decision which would be interpreted as both intolerant and unfair."

## ENOCH POWELL

A sharp clash on immigration occurred between Miss Marghanita Laski and Mr. Enoch Powell, M.P., during a recent "Any Questions?" radio programme. The panel, which included Lord Wigg and Mr. Auberon Waugh, were asked whether they thought that immigrants damaged the country's traditional way of life. Mr. Powell stated his praise of the tolerance of the British people in areas where there had been a great amount of coloured immigration and added that there was a danger of tolerance giving way to violence if there was an increasing concentration of unassimilated immigrants in certain areas.

Miss Laski, emphasizing that she was a Jewess, asked Mr. Powell: "Would you call Orthodox Jews who stay in their own communities and practise their own ways of life 'unassimilated immigrants'?" In his reply, Mr. Powell said that the numbers were relatively small when compared with those of Commonwealth immigrants, and added that he repeated again and again the fact that it is a matter of numbers. "Almost any unassimilated element can be tolerated and can live in the community if it is sufficiently small in proportion both generally and in a particular area." Miss Laski retorted that large blocks of immigrants had arrived in the past and stated that she herself was a descendant of immigrants. She stated that if we had a country in which Mr. Powell and people who agree with him attacked and exacerbated that traditional liberal decency and changed it into a dislike of the stranger and foreigner who has always added in contribution "it is not a traditional way of life that I myself would care to share any more".

## RACE RELATIONS BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Louis Freedman, chairman of a property company, is one of the ten newly appointed members of the recently enlarged Race Relations Board. He was appointed by the Home Secretary, Mr. James Callaghan, because of his knowledge and experience of property, as discrimination in the field of housing is now an offence under the new Act.

## JEW HONOURED BY POPE

Alderman Leslie Lever, M.P., has been awarded the Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Gregory, the highest order of the Roman Catholic Church. Alderman Lever is only the second person in this country to receive this award and the only non-Catholic to be so honoured. The other British holder is Mr. Douglas Woodruff, former editor of the Catholic paper, "The Tablet". Mr. Lever played an important role in assisting in the establishment of a Catholic school when he was chairman of the education committee of the Manchester City Council, and also drafted the 1953 Education Act which gave further help to denominational schools.

## AWARD FOR PROFESSOR BENTWICH

On December 6, the German Federal Grand Cross of Merit was conferred on Professor Norman Bentwich. When handing over the award at the Embassy, the Ambassador, Herr H. Blankenhorn, paid special tribute to Professor Bentwich's outstanding share in the work for the rescue of the Nazi victims and his constructive work as Chairman of the United Restitution Organisation, which just completed 20 years of its activities. He also recalled Professor Bentwich's advisory work in the legislative field when the first restitution laws were drafted, and described him as one of those personalities who did not subscribe to the conception of a collective guilt of the German people for the crimes of Nazi Germany.

In his reply, Professor Bentwich stated that twenty years ago he might have been reluctant to accept a German award, but that, in the course of time, the Federal German Republic had tried to heal the wounds inflicted upon the Nazi victims. He especially referred to the work done in this sphere by the late Senator Joachim Lipschitz and by Professor Franz Boehm and Rechtsanwalt Otto Kuester.

Professor Bentwich was accompanied by Mrs. Bentwich, and the ceremony was also attended by several senior officials of the Embassy as well as by Dr. Erna Goldschmidt (widow of the late Dr. F. Goldschmidt), Dr. Eva Reichmann, Mr. A. G. Brotman (Vice-Chairman of U.R.O.) and Dr. W. Rosenstock.

## CRITICISM FOR BBC OVER MOSLEY TV PROGRAMME

Speaking at a rally in Hammersmith following the Ajax parade in memory of the Jews who died in the service of their country, the national chairman of Ajax, Lieutenant-Commander Stanley Brilliant, stated that the manipulations of fact by Mosley in an attempt to whitewash himself in later years was a monstrous insult to the memory of those who fell in the service of their king and country. Referring to recent publicity concerning Mosley's biography, he said that he was sure the British public who remembered the events of 30 years ago were not deceived by "these doubtless inadvertent misrepresentations of history" on television.

Commander Brilliant also referred to the spectacle of Baldur von Schirach, a top Hitler aide, who appeared on the television screen as a benign old gentleman who really had been quite detached from the crimes against humanity for which he had been convicted.

## ARSON ATTEMPT ON SYNAGOGUE

An ignited paraffin-filled bottle was thrown at the back door of the Shaare Shomayim Synagogue, Lea Bridge Road, Clapton. Firemen arrived as the flames were spreading under the steel-lined door, however, little damage was cause.

## SILVER JUBILEE OF "CLUB 1943"

To mark the 25th anniversary of its foundation, the "Club 1943" published a report which testifies to its signal services now rendered for a quarter of a century. Founded in the middle of the war, the Club has held its weekly meetings with implacable regularity. This in itself is a major achievement, mainly due to the untiring services of its Chairman, Hans Jaeger. The variety of subjects dealt with is reflected in the list of functions, covering politics, literature, the arts, Jewish questions, history, life in England and travelogues, to quote only some examples. In spite of natural losses, the membership has been stable, an indication of the Club's constant regeneration.

After many migrations during the past years, the Club has now again found a permanent venue in the hall of Hannah Karminski House, and the report compliments the AJR for having erected this beautiful community centre.

## Rabbis Split on Heart Transplants

The Chief Rabbi, speaking at a meeting on "The Ethics of Transplant Surgery" at Jews' College, said that, after having attended two conferences on the ethical and moral aspects of transplant surgery convened by the Ministry of Health, he had written a rabbinic inquiry on the matter and had sent copies to leading halachic sages in Israel, America and Britain. He had received extensive replies which were widely divergent and often wildly contradictory, including a paper by the Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi I. J. Unterman.

## M.P.s Act as Auctioneers

The Labour M.P.s, Ian Mikardo and Maurice Orbach, acted as auctioneers at the Chanukah bazaar of Pioneer Women which was held recently at Woburn House and attended by about 1,000 people. £2,000 was raised towards the maintenance of children's homes run by the Council of Working Women in Israel.

## St. George's Settlement Synagogue's New Minister

Rabbi Michael Standfield was inducted as minister of the St. George's Settlement Synagogue in Henriques Street, Whitechapel. Rabbi Standfield is the first rabbi to be appointed spiritual leader of the synagogue since the death of its founder, Sir Basil Henriques.

## "Story-Telling Genius"

David Kossoff, the actor and broadcaster, was the guest of honour at a Foyles luncheon to mark the recent publication of his new book "Bible Stories Retold". Malcolm Muggeridge paid tribute to Mr. Kossoff's "story-telling genius". Amongst the guests at the luncheon were the Ambassadors of Israel and Ethiopia, Baroness Asquith, Dame Sybil Thorndyke, the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Southwark, the Dean of St. Paul's, the cricketer Colin Cowdrey and the singer Adam Faith.

## State Aid for Zionist Schools

Mr. Edward Short, Secretary of State for Education and Science, speaking at the annual dinner of the Friends of the Zionist Federation Educational Trust, stated that more Zionist day schools may be given State aid, and referred to the fact that he himself had already granted State aid to the Rosh Pinah Jewish day school in Edgware.

## SELF AID CONCERT

Nearly £7,000 was raised at the concert given in aid of Self Aid of Refugees on November 12 last, with the London Soloists' Ensemble (directed by Nicholas Roth), Marisa Robles (harp) and Yoko Koubo (violin) as the artists. As in 1967, the function took place in the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

The undiminished requirements of Self Aid are reflected in the latest annual report, according to which, during the year ended February, 1968, almost £25,000 was distributed among former refugees by way of grants and weekly allowances. The report mentions, *inter alia*, that assistance had to be rendered not only to the old and lonely, but also to persons who had arrived in England with children's transports before the war, and who are now middle-aged. "Mental instability is still the greatest of many problems", the report states. Although Self Aid receives considerable support from the Allocations Committee of the Central British Fund out of the heirless property of Jewish Nazi victims in Germany, the scope of its activities highly depends on the contributions and donations raised among the former refugees.

## THE GERMAN SCENE

### ELECTION FUND SUBSIDY FOR N.P.D.

Under the Federal German electoral law, parties which won more than 2.5 per cent of the vote in the 1965 elections are entitled to the equivalent of 5s. 3d. per voter towards the expenses for the 1969 elections. The Supreme Court decided, however, that the 2.5 per cent qualification "violated the right of parties to equal chances" and lowered the percentage to 0.5. Therefore, the N.P.D., which won 2 per cent in 1965, qualifies for subsidies to the tune of £167,000 from public funds.

Interior Minister Benda stated that the reduction of the percentage, decided by the Supreme Court, had to be respected. He also expects that, in spite of the general view that the N.P.D. was on the decline, the party will surpass the 5 per cent vote required for entry into the next Bundestag.

### STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

At a seminar in Bonn between Israeli and West German journalists, the Federal Minister of Justice, Dr. Gustav Heinemann, said he saw no sense in limiting the period of time in respect to murder. Austria, Italy and the Anglo-Saxon countries had no statutes of limitations. He expressed the fear that if the Statute went into effect, even those Nazis who had already been sentenced could possibly receive an amnesty. At present, 50 State Prosecutors were engaged at the Ludwigsburg Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Criminals, and another 300 throughout the Federal Republic. It was not possible for Ludwigsburg, the Minister stated, to complete its investigations by 1969.

### JEWS HELP GERMAN "SCARLET PIMPERNEL"

As the result of interventions by Jews, a German, Willi Friedrichs, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1950 because a bank messenger he attacked had died in the struggle, was released from prison. During the war Friedrichs had hidden a number of Jews at the risk of his life. He did not mention this when the trial was on. Only several years later, one of the rescued persons, Lea Ben-Khorin, who now lives in a kibbutz, described at a memorial meeting how Friedrichs had obtained Polish papers for her. Hearing about the story, Mr. Israel Shiloni tried to trace Friedrichs. At about the same time, Friedrichs' counsel, Dr. Jeans, was obtaining information about his client's wartime record. A petition was drawn up and there was lobbying in Israel, West Germany and other countries. Now the sentence has been commuted by President Luebke and Friedrichs has been freed from the prison at Celle.

### PEOPLE'S COURT JUDGE ACQUITTED

Hans-Joachim Rehse, a former judge of the People's Court who had passed some 250 death sentences for alleged minor offences against the Nazi régime, was acquitted by the Berlin Court. West Berlin Mayor K. Schuetz expressed the hope that the prosecution's appeal against the verdict would be successful, and that another court would administer justice. There have been numerous protests against the acquittal.

### BABI YAR CRIMINALS SENTENCED

Seven former members of the S.S. Special Task Force whose crimes included complicity in the slaughter of more than 33,000 Jews in the Babi Yar ravine outside Kiev in September, 1941, were sentenced by the Darmstadt Law Court. Kuno Callsen, a former captain, now a sales clerk, was sentenced to 15 years' hard labour. The other defendants were sentenced to hard labour from eleven to four years.

### KIESINGER ON MIDDLE EAST

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Bonn, Federal German Chancellor Kiesinger said that any normalisation of relations between Germany and any Arab State would not be at the expense of Israel. He went on to say: "It seems to me that it would be premature for Germany to offer herself as a mediator between Israel and the Arabs but we would not miss a chance to mediate if it offered itself to us. That would be a mission which we would gladly accept". The Chancellor also said that relations between the two countries had been undergoing a welcome revolution. In this respect, the Six-Day War, where the German people displayed a real sense of participation, had been a turning point.

### MEMORIAL PLAQUE IN COLOGNE

A memorial plaque was unveiled at Cologne's new opera house, which stands on the site of a synagogue which was destroyed in November, 1938. Plaques were also unveiled at the anniversary of the November pogroms by the Minister of Justice of North Rhine-Westphalia at Langenberg, near Duesseldorf, and by the Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Asher Ben-Natan, in Speyer.

### JEWS IN EASTERN GERMANY

Fewer than 2,000 Jews now live in East Germany, in seven towns and cities which once had a Jewish population of approximately 40,000.

In an interview with the West German newspaper, "Die Welt", the chairman of the East Berlin Jewish community, Herr Heinz Schenk, stated that 90 per cent of East Berlin Jewry are between 55 and 90 years of age. Only 18 out of 700 are under 21. Most have married non-Jews and their children have done the same. According to Herr Schenk, there are hardly any Jewish marriages or births.

Apart from the 2,000 who are Jews by religion, there are about 2,500 "biological" Jews, those of Jewish origin with no ties with Jewish life. Included in these are the East German Government's propagandist, Albert Norden, and the author, Alex Abusch. Arnold Zweig was a member of the community as are a number of other intellectuals and especially scientists.

Like other victims of Nazism, Jews receive a Government pension of about £60 a month (men at 60 and women at 55). Those whose health was impaired because of persecution receive the pension before reaching the age limit, plus three weeks' paid holiday every other year. The erection of memorials and the maintenance of synagogues and other communal buildings is subsidised by the Communist Party.

### EX-NAZIS IN EAST GERMAN PRESS

At a press conference in Vienna, Mr. Simon Wiesenthal produced a list of 39 persons who held influential positions in the Nazi press and propaganda machinery and who are now taking a leading part in the anti-Israel campaign of Eastern Germany. Mr. Wiesenthal's list of former Nazis includes, *inter alia*, the press officer of the Eastern German Government, Kurt Blecha; and the deputy chief editors of "Neues Deutschland", Guenther Kertzsch, and of the "Nationalzeitung", Otto Zander. Mr. Wiesenthal compared the recent heading of "Neues Deutschland", reading "Prague is governed by the Zionists", with the headline of the "Voelkische Beobachter" before the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia, "Prague is governed by the Jews."

## JEWRY IN THE EAST

### LADY GAITSKELL'S PLEA

Addressing the U.N.'s Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee, Lady Gaitskell, a member of the British delegation to the Committee, condemned religious persecution in the Soviet Union and Poland and also attacked Poland for "the regrettable resurgence of antisemitism". "The Nazis used to cloak their antisemitism by speaking about a threat from international Jewish financiers. It is ironic that this kind of conspiratorial formula can still be put forward seriously," Lady Gaitskell concluded.

### POLISH PURGES

The last remaining Jew on the Politburo, Mr. Eugeniusz Szyr, has been eliminated. There have also been numerous dismissals at Warsaw University; their number is estimated at more than 125, but reliable sources put the figure at over 300.—(J.C.)

### ANTI-ZIONIST "BLACK BOOKS"

A booklet making accusations against "World Zionism" and the "Bonn-Tel Aviv" axis has been published in Katowice. It is the seventh of a series, written by Tadeusz Walichnowski, who has headed the "Zionist" affairs department of the Polish Ministry of the Interior since the Six-Day War.

### MOSCOW AWARDS

There are 32 Jews among the 185 winners of this year's Soviet State Prize (formerly the Stalin Prize). The largest number of awards to Jews was in technology (24 out of a total of 133).

### ODESSA SYNAGOGUE BURNT DOWN

Odessa's last synagogue was burnt to the ground on November 26. An official news agency report attributed the fire to a short circuit in the electric wiring.

### YUGOSLAVIA

#### Tito Awards for Doctors

To mark the 25th anniversary of the decision to found the State in its present form, President Tito decorated twelve Yugoslavs for their services to that country. One of the twelve is Dr. Isidor Papo, member of a Bosnian Sephardi family. Dr. Papo, who was born in Herzegovina in 1913, is a heart surgeon. He fought with the partisans during the Second World War and now heads the surgical department of the Yugoslav Military Medical Academy, with the rank of colonel-general.

Three other Jewish doctors also received awards. They are: Professor Lavoslav Glesinger, Dr. Simcha-Cilli Albahari and Dr. Tea Schick-Oberhofer, all of whom are from Zagreb.

President Tito also decorated Dr. Leo Rotter, a member of the Zagreb community board, and other lawyers to mark the centenary of the legal profession in Croatia.

#### Country without Rabbi

Rabbi Menahem Avram Romano died in Sarajevo at the age of 87. He was Yugoslavia's last remaining rabbi, and came from a distinguished rabbinical family. The esteem in which the late Rabbi Romano was held was in evidence at his funeral which was attended by representatives of the Federation of Yugoslav Jewish Communities and of all the larger individual communities, Government representatives, public figures, members of all the Christian and other non-Jewish denominations in that country as well as by many ordinary Jews and non-Jews. His death poses a number of problems for the Yugoslav community, as there is now no authority in the country to deal with religious questions. Jewry of that country had been trying for some time to find a younger rabbi to lighten Rabbi Romano's burden and to eventually succeed him as its spiritual head. The need is now urgent.

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

## AN ISRAELI'S VIEW OF LONDON

I had some business at the British Consulate in Jerusalem and mentioned by mere chance that I was going to England in a few days time. The clerk said: "You better bring your passport here; you may have trouble getting in." I stared at him, and he added: "There are some new regulations."

The stamp "Exempt", which now adorns one of the pages in my passport, seemed to be the magic word the immigration officers at Heathrow were looking for. I was waved along as in the times before the new immigration laws were passed. However, for only a few steps. At the health control I had to admit that my travel agent in Jerusalem had not reminded me of the obligatory vaccination against smallpox. Though the smart and polite young hostesses regretted very much the inconvenience, I was led to the airport's health centre.

A long queue of people waited there—from Pakistan, the West Indies, Malta, India, large families with children of all ages and sizes. Was it because of the colour of my skin or because I fell into a different category? I was dealt with out of turn and free to enter England.

I hadn't been to England for five years and from what I had read and heard, and seen at the airport, I expected London to be more "colourful"—I mean the coloured people to have a greater impact on the street scene. After all, according to the statistics, there are one million of them in the country, with 60,000 each year flocking in, but—at least in London—they seem to be swallowed up by the multitudes thronging the streets. True, the services in the Tube, on buses and in some of the teashops have become the privilege of the new immigrants who otherwise form only a tiny fragment of the cosmopolitan city.

The greatest change has come over London's gastronomy which seems to have been turned into a monopoly of Greeks, Italians, Turks, Spaniards, Cypriots, with a sprinkle of Hungarians and Asians. The days of the Yorkshire pudding, prunes and nondescript vegetables boiled in water have gone, and so have some of the old renowned teashop chains like "ABC". Also Lyons seem to have lost their prominence. I was shocked when I was looking for the Lyons Corner House at Tottenham Court Road, remembering its "Vienna Café", the meeting-place of many Continentals, its theatre-ticket agency, its public telephones, its sale of fruit and sweets in the big entrance lobby. All that is left is a little teashop surrounded by gambling places.

Yet some of the landmarks still stand, apart from Marks & Spencer and Big Ben. Take, e.g., the Bakerloo Line from Piccadilly Circus. Emerging at Swiss Cottage and escaping the shattering noise of a pneumatic drill in the midst of some rubble which used to be the station building, I was confronted by a wide, six-lane highway which appeared to be good old Finchley Road. In vain I was looking for the grey, little, quiet houses in one of which the "Blue Danube Club" had its domicile and which had given way to impersonal apartment buildings.

But something did remain. I went into a familiar restaurant—the cuisine was still Continental and nourishing, and on my left and right elderly gentlemen in heavily accented English or in accentless German were having a conversation from table to table.

It was still the same clientele which I knew so well—only that they, too, had grown older. Across the street, Fairfax Mansions seemed to be untouched by the passing years. One enters the gateway, away from the noisy road—and there, time has stood still. The same door which one is asked to close, the same subtle dust settling about the entrance hall. Perhaps the creaking of the stairs has grown louder, or only my ears have become more sensitive to it. The same offices and, more important than all, the same old beloved faces. . . .

Questioned in a proper journalistic fashion what impressed me most in London, I would answer unhesitatingly: the fact that some minor amendments in the Hire Purchase Scheme caught the headlines for days and aroused public excitement seemed to me, coming from Israel, like the rustle of wind in Gan Eden. I only said to myself: "Wenn die keine anderen Sorgen haben. . . ." Another impression: the way in which the London Bobbies handled an anti-Vietnam demonstration of some 25,000. Considering the clashes between the police and demonstrators in the U.S.A., in Mexico, France and West Germany, the British have set an example of "understanding" a critical situation, if only by not arming their police, not even with truncheons. A joke here and there and a piece of cockney humour did more to quieten the crowd than water hoses and tear gas in other countries. And "swinging" London? There is an odd cleavage between the overdressed youngsters of Carnaby Street and the petty bourgeois who still make up the majority (although many of the young rebels come from such homes). Something is missing to knit the two together, a link, an in-between. Looking at a musical in the West End, I pitied the costumier—how much more daring were the "minis" in the streets than the dresses of the chorus girls on the stage.

Of course, coming from Israel on a Zionist mission, the Jewish scene takes priority. I have always had a special liking for the quiet, secluded green square of Bloomsbury, the streets lined with front gardens, bookshops and shops with antiques reflecting the neighbourhood of the British Museum and the University. The Zionist headquarters used to be there, in Great Russell Street, extending down to Southampton Row.

Their move to Piccadilly has only emphasised their change from a centre of a movement into the head office of an organisation. In Rex House everything is more streamlined, functional, businesslike, "efficient" in a bureaucratic manner. The warmth is missing, the atmosphere has gone, certain qualities have disappeared which differentiate leadership from management. Naturally, it is not only the fault of the place. Probably nowhere else in the Jewish world is Zionist fund-raising proportionately as successful as in Britain, but it has transformed the Zionist movement into an organisation of donors, led by a "Society of Big Givers", as it has once been called.

Under the circumstances, this is perhaps a logical and salutary development among members of the older generation. Anglo-Jewish youth will not find its inspiration from the local Jewish scene, even at its best. If such an inspiration has to have a Jewish content, it can draw only from Israel with her challenges, problems and prospects.

## Old Acquaintances

**Milestones:** The composer, Mischa Spoliansky, who started his musical career as a pianist in Dr. Guiseppe Becce's cinema orchestra where Marlene Dietrich played the violin, has turned 70. He has lived in London since 1933. He first achieved success as the composer of "Morphium" which became a popular hit. He also composed music for the "Schall und Rauch" cabaret, several Max Reinhardt productions, revues such as "Es liegt in der Luft", "Zwei Krawatten", and many films. His operetta "Rufen Sie Herrn Plim" is still remembered. Spoliansky has recently composed musicals based on Zuckmayer's "Katharina Knie" and "School for Scandal".

**News from Everywhere:** George F. Salmony, the British-born journalist who worked for "B.Z. am Mittag" until 1933 and for the "Soldatensender" during the war, and who is now drama critic for Munich's "Abendzeitung", has been awarded part of the Theodor Wolff Prize given annually by the publisher, Axel Springer.—Andrew Lieven, son of Tatjana and Albert Lieven, is now working in Uganda on television programmes.

**Austria:** Fritz Kortner appeared on Viennese TV as Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice".—Ernst Haeussermann, former director of Burgtheater, directed Pirandello's "Sechs Personen suchen einen Autor" at Josefstadt.—Stella Kadmon, who manages the Vienna Theater der Courage, received the Vienna Silver "Ehrenmedaille".—Curd Juergens is to appear in Martin Walsers' "Zimmerschlacht", together with Susi Nicoletti, at Josefstadt.

**Germany:** Frida Leider, the opera singer, has been made an honorary member of Berlin's State Opera.—Edward Rothe, who during the war worked for London-BBC, is to produce Bruno Frank's "Sturm im Wasserglas" at Hamburg's Kammerspiele, starring Ida Ehre.—Berlin-born Hans Lietzau, who began his career as a journalist, has succeeded Egon Monk as director of Hamburg's Schauspielhaus.—Ludwig Berger delivered a lecture at Berlin's Urania on the past and future of the theatre.—Peter Ustinov directed the Hamburg production of "Zauberfloete".—Dorst's "Toller" was produced in Stuttgart by Peter Palitzsch and in Cologne by Hansguenther Heyme. The play concerns the writer who committed suicide in New York.—Valerie von Martens is to produce her deceased husband's "Haus in Montevideo" at Hamburg's Thalia-Theater.

**Obituary:** Richard Katz, the Prague-born journalist and writer, has died in Locarno at the age of 80. He was the original editor of Ullstein's weekly, "Gruene Post", surviving the war years in South America.—Wilhelm Lehmann, the 86-year-old German poet, has died in Eckersfoerde.—The 89-year-old publisher, Julius Springer (not related to the publisher, Axel Springer) has died in Berlin. His firm mainly published academic and technical works.

**Home News:** The BBC celebrated Ludwig Koch's 87th birthday by a radio programme: "The Best of Ludwig Koch".—As from January 6 the German Institute will present an exhibition of the life and work of five German authors. The Institute also recently showed an exhibition to commemorate Theodor Heuss.—Tom Kempinski appeared in "I Wonder" by Henri and Kustow at the I.C.A. Theatre.—Marlene Dietrich is to visit London again soon to re-appear in her solo performance.

PEM

Robert Weltsch

## ARNOLD ZWEIG—IN MEMORIAM

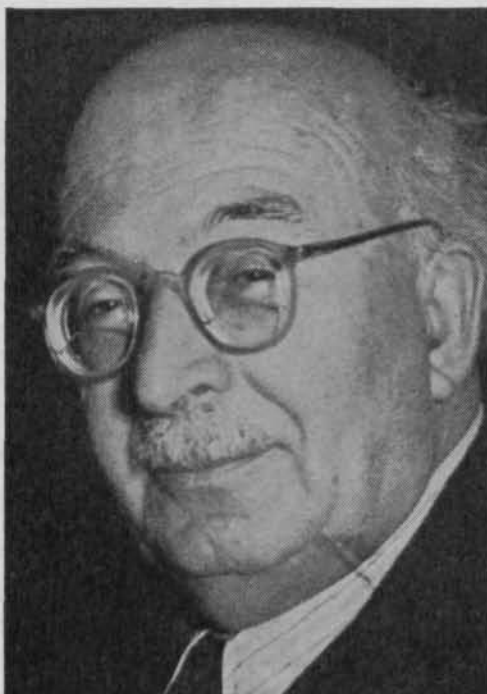
### His Correspondence with Sigmund Freud

A year ago, Arnold Zweig was the centre of elaborate celebrations in the German Democratic Republic on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. Pompous newspaper stories told how representatives of the communist State and of the ruling party assembled in order to congratulate him. Over fifty delegations of cultural and political organisations were enumerated, he was hailed as the Grand Old Man of socialist literature and a favourite of the people. But at the solemn dinner party where the Soviet representative, Boris Polevoi, made the main speech, Zweig could not be present owing to ill health. Now he has died after a prolonged illness, only a few days after reaching his eighty-first anniversary. He was honoured by a State funeral, and laudatory obituaries appeared in the East German press, among them a lengthy appreciation by Professor Heinz Kamnitzer "Das Leben eines grossen kämpferischen Menschen", where the vacillating phases of Zweig's political creed are described—though not quite accurately—until the final apotheosis.

But to do justice to a great German Jewish writer we should beware of simplifications. It is true that the despair over the failures of humanity in this century, with two world wars and all the brutalities of Nazism, led Arnold Zweig into a psychological quandary; ultimately he believed to have found in Communist society the chance of realisation of true humanism. He even went so far as to use the outworn clichés of propaganda jargon and often indulged in self-illusion, but it is doubtful whether he really had found his peace of mind. Fundamentally, he was an idealist. He desired a humanist kind of socialism—nearer to Dubcek than to Ulbricht—and he can hardly have accepted the Soviet reality as fulfilment. The decisive impulse of his political thought after the First World War, for which he had enlisted as a volunteer, and which brought to him, as to many others, such a grave disappointment, was an uncompromising hatred of war. He had experienced

the unspeakable horrors of Verdun, to which he later devoted one of his most moving books. Even in his last years he still insisted that Communism had abolished war and militarism! Can he really have believed that?

From his very beginning, the young Zweig regarded his ethical and social ideas as part of his Jewish heritage. Already before the First World War, he was an enthusiastic Jew, a fervent Zionist, a resolute fighter against all forms of antisemitism. His first book, "Novellen um Claudia" (1912), made him very popular with the younger generation, but its predecessor, "Familie Klopfer" (1911),



was devoted to a Jewish theme. During the war he was deeply impressed by the encounter with East European Jewry; he wrote the words to Hermann Struck's drawings of "Das Ostjüdische Antlitz", later coupled with his Zionist manifesto "Das Neue Kanaan" (1925) in a book with the significant title "Herkunft und Zukunft". His drama "Ritualmord in Ungarn", later renamed "Die Sendung Semaels", was produced in Vienna in 1918 with Elisabeth Bergner in the leading role of the boy Moritz Scharf. (It was her first appearance on the stage if I am not mistaken); in the Max Reinhardt production in Berlin the part was played by Ernst Deutsch.

For some time during the 'twenties, Zweig was an assistant editor of *Jüdische Rundschau*. When he decided to dedicate his notable treatise on antisemitism—"Caliban oder Politik und Leidenschaft, Versuch über die menschlichen Gruppenaffekte, dargestellt am Antisemitismus" (1927)—to Sigmund Freud, this started a remarkable personal friendship between the two men who were separated by thirty years. It also resulted in a fascinating correspondence extending over twelve crowded years, which was published a few weeks ago\* and allows a thrilling insight into the ups and downs of Zweig's creative life and into the intellectual attitudes of the two men to topical

issues. It ends with the outbreak of the Second World War, which roughly coincided with Freud's death on September 23, 1939.

Today we can see that this book, of course, belongs to an earlier period. Zweig was still in his pre-Communist stage. Occasionally, he agreed with Freud's critique of Communism, dissociating himself from "Stalinist Russia" (1930). The letters not only give us a glance behind the scene into the intimate non-public relationship of two well-known personalities of the first half of this century, but are also of great significance for the understanding of the all-pervading Jewish background. Although many personal matters as well as literary and even medical interests are discussed, the Jewishness of the two men is, so to say, the axis round which the reasoning rotates. Freud does not seem to be particularly elated by Zweig's endeavours to analyse the phenomenon of antisemitism in an objective way. Although he accepts the dedication of "Caliban", he seems more impatient with antisemitism for which he has only hatred and contempt, while Zweig is trying to apply Freudian science also to this deviation of the human mind.

Zweig had undergone psychoanalytical treatment during the 'twenties and believed that this had restored his creative faculties so that he was able to complete his masterpiece, the "Sergeant Grisha", and to proceed with the conception of the intended great cycle of novels. For this he remained exuberantly grateful to the master. Questions connected with psychoanalysis are frankly discussed; Freud apparently believes that Zweig underwent only a "partial" and "superficial" analysis, but even that, he says, is fruitful and beneficial. To Zweig, Freud became a subject of gushing adoration and also a kind of father confessor, while Freud shows himself very kind-hearted and indulgent—though not

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\* Sigmund Freud-Arnold Zweig: *Briefwechsel*. Herausgegeben von Ernst L. Freud. S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt, 1968. 203 pp. DM.20.

## ARNOLD ZWEIG—IN MEMORIAM

Continued

always uncritical—to the younger man. From the end of 1932 on they address each other as "Vater Freud" and "Meister Arnold". Zweig's relation to Freud is expressed in verses sent to Freud from Haifa on June 4, 1938, the very day of Freud's emigration from Nazi-occupied Vienna, to 39 Elsworth Road, London, N.W.3. They are printed as a Motto to this book:

Dem Vater Freud:

Was ich war, bevor ich  
Dir begegnet,  
Steht in diesen Seiten  
mannigfalt.  
Welches Leben war wie  
Deins gesegnet?  
Welches Wissen hat wie  
Deins Gewalt?

Naturally the intricacies and anxieties of the situation crop up in the correspondence when the danger of victorious Nazism became apparent. Zweig was convinced that Hitler's rule would be short-lived. At a certain moment, when he felt forlorn in his Hebrew-speaking surroundings in Palestine, he even contemplated—in 1937!—moving to Vienna. Freud, of course, dissuaded him; living in Vienna, he was much more pessimistic about Austria's fate.

Many of Zweig's letters are written from Palestine where he had found refuge in 1934. From the very beginning he confessed that he no longer held "Zionist illusions"; but he tried to settle down. The adventure turned out very badly because Zweig, proud of being a German writer, found neither an echo nor a living in Palestine. Especially the economic difficulties lasting for many years (no royalties from abroad reached him during the war and sometimes he was dependent on disguised support from friends) were frightening and humiliating; they added to his intention—which he had already temporarily reached in 1939—to leave the country. Nevertheless, he stayed for fourteen years. Various factors contributed to his decision to return to Germany, and in

1948 he apparently regarded what was then the Soviet Zone as the lesser evil. He was welcomed there with great honours, and we shall probably never know whether he stayed on out of honest conviction, out of gratitude, out of inertia, or simply because he saw no acceptable alternative.

In any case, it is noteworthy that Zweig gave his approval to the publication of the correspondence with Freud at this juncture when in the Communist camp men like Freud are regarded as symbols of decadence and possibly of "counter-revolution". His adamant attitude with regard to Freud and—under the circumstances—his courage, had already been shown in 1963, when he published his novel "Traum ist teuer", where tribute is paid not only to Freud, but also to the British war effort in the Middle East which saved Palestine. That Freud is again taboo in the German Democratic Republic one may conclude from the outburst by Walter Ulbricht at the Communist Central Committee meeting in October, 1968, when, commenting on events in Czechoslovakia, he accused the West of psychological warfare against communist states by importing western decadence. He exemplified this by saying that "the discussion about Kafka [sc. at the Liblice Conference near Prague] reflected the offensive of the anti-socialist forces in Czechoslovakia. This is not a question of the literary assessment of Kafka, but of the speech held by Goldstücker at the Kafka Conference aimed against socialist culture" (quoted from "Democratic German Report", the English language news sheet published in East Berlin). As to "decadence", Kafka and Freud are usually coupled together in Communist cultural pronouncements.

Arnold Zweig had planned to publish a collection of his writings on Jews and the Jewish problem; some years ago he asked me to supply him with Photostat copies of his contributions to *Jüdische Rundschau*. He has also written many important essays for *Der Jude* and other Jewish periodicals, starting with the symposium "Vom Judentum" in 1913. I do not know whether he pursued this plan further; after all, he was very ill during the last years and almost completely blind. But the idea shows that he had not entirely broken with his own past; he also occasionally expressed his longing for the beauties of the Carmel.

A leading West German paper remarked that Arnold Zweig, nearly unknown to the younger generation, remains to be discovered anew as "his series on the (First) World War was a unique event in German literature". Even admitting his occasional pomposity and mannerism, there is no question that he was a great writer and that in his novels he unravelled the psychological and intellectual riddles of individuals as well as the great shifting of social and ideological forces in an epoch pregnant with revolution. He upheld the highest ideals of justice and humanity and the hope that out of the innumerable conflicts and paradoxes of a perplexed generation a better future for mankind would evolve. This will be the legacy of his literary work after all the abhorrent simplifications of political controversy are forgotten.

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### A TRAGEDY OF ASSIMILATION

#### The Case of Karl Landsteiner

The Austrian postal authorities have just issued a stamp bearing the picture of the former Viennese bacteriologist Professor Karl Landsteiner to mark the centenary of his birth.

Landsteiner was a superb scientist who in 1901 discovered blood groups, so removing the danger from blood transfusions. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for this in 1930.

Karl Landsteiner was born in Vienna in 1868 as a Jew; he became a professor at the University of Vienna in 1911 and emigrated to the United States during the First World War. In 1922 he became a member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. From the external circumstances of his life it would appear that Landsteiner was a happy man. Quite the contrary! Landsteiner was deeply unhappy, bluntly—a tragic figure. He suffered immeasurably from his Jewishness.

In 1937 an encyclopedia was published in America entitled "Who is Who in American Jewry". Landsteiner had already previously objected to being included in this volume that contained biographies of famous American personalities of Jewish origin. Despite his protests, the book, when published, included his biography, whereupon Landsteiner sued the publishers, claiming 100,000 dollars damages.

In the evidence presented to the court by his advocate, Landsteiner, then aged 69, admitted that he was the son of Jewish parents. But he had been Catholic since the year 1890 and had married a Christian. For the past fifty years he had lived in a purely Christian environment, he continued in his evidence, and had always attempted to conceal any connection with his former faith. Since an individual had the right to a private life, the law was obliged to protect that right.

"My son", the evidence continued, "is now aged 19 and has no idea that one of his ancestors was Jewish. If he should now see this book, he would, I am sure, be dreadfully upset. The book could cause him considerable mortification. His Christian friends would probably shun him and might say things to him that would hurt his feelings."

The court dismissed the claim for damages. Landsteiner died six years later at the age of 75.

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J. Maitlis

## JEWISH LIFE AND THOUGHT IN EASTERN EUROPE

In their struggle for a Jewish identity nothing is perhaps more important for the present generation of estranged Jews than to get to know where they stem from, where their roots lie. Very few of the Anglo-Jewish descendants of the immigrants from Eastern Europe to the West are aware of the inner light and spiritual climate, of the life and thoughts, except for the sufferings and disabilities, of the Jews in Eastern Europe, of their learning and institutions, their struggles and achievements, and on the whole of their momentous contribution to Jewish culture in the last two hundred years.

It is for this reason that we greatly appreciate a recently published book edited by Lucy S. Dawidowicz\* which should help to shed considerable light on events and conditions in many spheres of life among East European Jews, on some outstanding religious and secular movements and on the self-reliance and social dynamism in particular in the last 150 years. Indeed, Lucy Dawidowicz has crowded into her Anthology a great deal of interesting and instructive material covering a period from the inception of Hassidism and of the Enlightenment down to our present time, and drawn from the various writings of the contemporary militant *maskilim* and the works of some prominent thinkers and writers of the time, as well as stories, maxims and apothegms of hassidic rabbis. It is a book which mirrors the vigorous contacts between East and West and elaborates on the spiritual impact of the West upon the Jewish traditional society. It is, as the writer states in her Introduction, "a book about East European Jews in crisis, challenge and creativity from the end of the 18th century until their cataclysmic destruction in the Second World War". Thus, in her concise and well-written historical introduction to the Anthology, Lucy Dawidowicz gives us a very colourful and vivid picture of the broad social and political background of East European Jews, their intellectual forces and mental set-up, new trends and ideas and the turbulent changes which shaped life fundamentally in the last hundred years or so. Although on the threshold of the new era still a secluded, static and traditional society, the rigid adherence to tradition was somehow mitigated by an unparalleled creativity, such as of Hassidism which caused a burst of the

pent-up forces of the masses and thus helped to reshape and rejuvenate the spiritual resources of the nation.

Eastern Europe was not only the home of the majority of the Jewish people (up to 80% and more in the second half of the 19th century), but also the centre of Jewish life, the cradle of many important cultural, national, religious and social movements of our time. The era of the great national Renaissance of the second half of the 19th century was ushered in by the two great formative movements in Jewish history of modern times. It was Hassidism on one hand and Haskalah (Enlightenment) on the other. While the Haskalah was a product of the outside, Western World, of rationalism and progress, Hassidism had its deep roots in the old way of Jewish life, in the traditionalism of the past which it helped to invigorate. Although fundamentally so different in their outlook and philosophy, both movements set out to improve and ameliorate conditions, and both were didactic in their purpose. But while the approach of the Haskalah was pragmatic and utilitarian, rational and critical in spirit, Hassidism, with its intensity of belief and feeling, was irrational, emotional and mystical, trying to attain communion with God. The Haskalah, as formulated by Buber, wanted to educate, while Hassidism aimed to liberate and ennoble the soul of man. Indeed, in the course of a century or so, Hassidism succeeded in rejuvenating some dormant forces inside the Jewish people and helping to break up new, fertile ground for renewed creativity. Hassidism as well as Haskalah made their indelible imprint on Jewish life, its thinking and cultural aspirations and thus heralded the beginning of a new era of national and political revival which led to the creation of the Jewish State in our days.

In her admirable historical review, Lucy Dawidowicz, while attempting to assess the various forces operating inside Jewish life in Eastern Europe, stresses the tension between the forces of survival and those of assimilation as well as the challenge by the modern world to the traditional society and cultural tendencies, a phenomenon which is not only typical of the Jewish people, but can be seen among all modern nations. She also describes some social, political and economic currents which caused considerable changes in the edifice of Eastern European Jews; all this is illustrated

and carefully documented by selected evidence.

As we know, the Jewish world in Eastern Europe was for a long time a static, secluded and practically stagnate society, underpinned by a sanctified tradition and a strong will for survival and continuity. The first marked signs of a change became visible in the early part of the 19th century, when economic and social factors and not least the influence of cultural tendencies from outside started the long-drawn process of transformation and adjustment to the newly awakened needs and requirements. Under strong pressure of liberal and progressive currents, the internal traditionalism gave way to a radical cosmopolitanism, rebellious in its conception, defying accepted views and authority.

The "Springtime", as Mendele Mocher Seforim ironically called the epoch of great hopes of emancipation and reforms in Russia, did not last very long. Soon reaction set in and the short-lived political freedom was banished. The progress of the past was followed by a wave of persecution and bloody pogroms of the '80s. The ideas of enlightenment and emancipation seemed to be undermined by the tragic events. Many members of the Jewish intelligentsia were deceived in their high hopes and aspirations, and the quest for a new Jewish identity started. For many young Jews in those days it was a return home, a return to the shining past, to the world of "The golden tradition" and to Jewish self-reliance. It was a return to the people and its cultural values, to its language and literature, so that in their disillusionment and despair the young Jews could find courage and comfort in the Jewish way of life and its great heritage. What followed now is the revolutionary upsurge and the great national revival with a flourishing literature and the two great political movements, Zionism and Jewish socialism, with their deep humanitarian ideals of a free world and a redeemed Jewish people.

After many trials and errors, East European Jews, in the words of Lucy Dawidowicz, turned and returned to a more intense form of Jewish identity and a passionate reaffirmation. For many estranged, rebellious anti-traditionalists and iconoclasts it was a momentous return to the sources of Judaism in all its manifestations, and its great cultural past. If we ask ourselves today what is the lesson so many of us can derive from Lucy Dawidowicz's pensive, well-written and well-edited book, I could do no better than to answer with the words she herself uses in a concluding passage: "East European Jewry was cruelly cut down. But vital elements of its culture survive. Perhaps we, heirs of that culture, can continue its tradition of conserving Jewish identity by fusing the old with the new."

\* The Golden Tradition, edited with an historical introduction by Lucy S. Dawidowicz. Vallentine, Mitchell, London. 55/-.

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Erich Gottgetreu (Jerusalem)

## BETWEEN WAR AND PEACE

When we asked the secretary of Geshet how often the alarm was sounded each week in his settlement, he replied: "Last week we had to take cover ten times." The "we" referred to those settlers, men and women of the kibbutz, apart from children, who were not employed in defence. In another kibbutz, Kfar Ruppin, we were told: "Since October last year there have been twenty cases of attempted or actual sabotage by mines. We have been subjected to mortar-fire on thirty occasions." Many of the settlement's gabled roofs, which give the place a familiar Central European appearance despite the tropical vegetation, have been damaged by mortars; since then the roofs have been replaced by more resistant concrete material.

"No one has left the settlement and no one can drive us hence", added Mosheh from Kfar Ruppin in a matter-of-fact and unassuming way. "And we will cultivate all the land available to us, right up to the border, up to the river bank—provided that the Jewish National Fund advances us the means."

The Government bears the lion's share of the defence costs. From the termination of the Six-Day War last June to the end of the present financial year next March, almost 34 million Israeli pounds have been set aside in the budget for this purpose. Part of this has already been spent, mainly on road construction, the building of underground shelters and other defence works, on the repair and reroofing of houses damaged by mortar-fire, and on communications and telephone equipment. The cost of constructing the security

fence is not included in the 34 millions.

The frequently repeated phrase, "life goes on", here acquires a deep and special significance. There are many additional problems to be solved. Yardenia is a settlement of Jewish immigrants from Kurdistan which has very frequently been attacked and damaged in recent times, and now there is considerable concern that the market gardens will be ruined if they cannot be irrigated regularly. The settlers have appealed to the Jewish Agency for additional facilities to allow them to go in for chicken and cattle production as well. And what is going to happen if the cattle-sheds are shot up, as happened in Kfar Ruppin, where fifty cows were killed by "enemy action" and a further twenty panicked and stampeded?

"Life goes on", but what sort of life is it that keeps on having to be started afresh? It was also in Kfar Ruppin that a large fire broke out during one of the attacks on the settlement and destroyed hundreds of fruit trees. "You know it takes seven years for a tree to bear fruit", the nurseryman told us. But he immediately added: "Replacement trees have already been planted—and even more than before."

"Life goes on", but what terrible concern it must cause parents each time they hear the sound of mortar-fire—perhaps still in the distance, but danger is approaching and the alarm bells are sounding. In most Jordan valley settlements they have neither let their children sleep in the children's houses nor with them in their own quarters for the past seven months, but in air-raid shelters, in order

to spare them and themselves from the constantly recurring shock of having to take shelter when the alarm goes off. In some settlements modern shelters are already air-conditioned and provide sleeping accommodation for up to a hundred people. The foldaway bunks are similar to those on Israeli naval vessels (and are a gift of the shipbuilders who equipped the Israeli navy). On the other hand, there are places where the shelters are still small and fusty, but plans are afoot to modernise them as quickly as possible in order to make them habitable and in some cases to equip one of them as an emergency hospital for urgent cases.

"Life goes on", but to keep it going every settlement needs far more man-power than the normal peace-time complement of a kibbutz or a co-operative. And, in fact, assistance is volunteered from all quarters despite the danger. Young volunteers from abroad are adopted by the settler families on whom they are billeted for their several months' stay in a border settlement. In addition, Israeli frontier volunteers come from all over the country, especially building workers, craftsmen and other experts, who are actively developing a sort of "Peace Corps" here in order to repair damage and help to construct defence installations. Some of them come during their vacations and others as emissaries of the trade union factories who release their experts for this purpose.

"Life goes on" also in the cultural centres of the kibbutzim. After the day's work they listen to lectures and chamber music, provided that machine-gun and artillery fire do not disturb the evening calm. The kibbutz libraries, in Hebrew and other languages, are growing continuously and the librarians need have no fear that their budgets will not be approved.



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## Birthday Tributes

### HERBERT FREEDEN 60

When two years after the war and still in London, he changed his name from "Friedenthal" to "Freeden", I sent him a little note just saying "Peace be with you!", and when thanking me for my wishes on his 50th, celebrated in Jerusalem on January 22, 1959, he replied: "Next time in 2009 in order to evade melancholic feelings of age and retirement."

Teasing each other upholds, amongst colleagues, a natural atmosphere of friendship. This encourages me, even despite his warning, to disclose the completion of his sixth decennium, the exact date of which can easily be "computed" from what has been said above. For Herbert Freeden, author and journalist of long standing, is no longer a private person and as such cannot avoid being publicly honoured, at least in the Jewish world, if and when a proper occasion arises.

To write both essays and books used to be a sideline-hobby of his and has developed into a profession. Freeden is made for it. That he is a gifted observer and narrator, is proved by his manifold and substantiated reports and stories, mainly on Israeli affairs, which appear in the Jewish press all over the world, both in German and English, last but not least in "AJR Information", of which, together with the present writer, he was a co-founder and a co-editor in 1946. However, this freelancing is only a minor part of Herbert Freeden's activities: his principal and responsible job ever since 1950 has been that of publicity director of the Jewish National Fund Head Office in Jerusalem. In a somewhat similar capacity he had worked in London from his demobilisation from H.M. Forces right up to his emigration to Israel.

During the period 1936 to 1947, he wrote a number of plays and novels, the first of which ("Die unsichtbare Kette") was published in the Berlin "Juedische Rundschau" in 1936. That was the hectic, unstable time when Freeden, using his versatility, worked in Berlin with the Zionist Organisation of Germany and, later on, with the Juedischer Kulturbund. His experience in the latter field enabled him to compose the most informative contemporary history book, "Juedisches Theater in Nazideutschland" (1964), for which he was commissioned by the Leo Baeck Institute.

Herbert Freeden likes to be en route—this apparently keeps him fit and young—and to witness what is going on in the world at large. In concluding an enthusiastically written feature about New York which he visited a couple of years ago, he spoke of the "man-made mad Manhattan". A man of such flexibility and vitality can safely rely on his physical and intellectual strength, even if he will be, numerically, a sexagenarian by the end of the month.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

### DR. L. G. T. KING 70

Dr. L. G. T. King celebrated his 70th birthday on December 17. After the completion of his studies, which were interrupted by service in the German Army, he practised as a lawyer in Berlin from 1924 onwards. When the Nazis came to power he emigrated to this country where, for a number of years, he worked in the commercial field. He also served with the British Forces during the war. In 1955 he opened a practice as a consultant for restitution and indemnification claims

which, due to his outstanding knowledge and the endless trouble he has taken for his clients, has grown into one of the most important of its kind.

He is well known to readers of this journal for his contributions especially in the field of German Social Security legislation. In view of his wide legal experience, he was recently co-opted to the London Executive of the Council of Jews from Germany and its Legal Sub-Committee.

Dr. King has also been a Board member of the AJR for many years, and has always taken an active interest in our efforts. In particular, the old-age homes have greatly benefited from his generosity. We wish Dr. King many further years of happy and useful activities.

### LITERARY AWARD FOR ELIE WIESEL

The Prix de Medicis, awarded annually by the leading literary critics, has gone to Elie Wiesel for his book "Mendiant de Jerusalem" ("The Jerusalem Beggar"). Born in Hungary and a survivor of Auschwitz, Wiesel grew up in a French-Jewish environment. Although he now lives in New York, he continues to use French as a working language and is a much sought-after contributor to French-Jewish periodicals.

### GERMAN BOOK EXHIBITION DONATED TO ISRAEL

The West German book exhibition of some 4,000 volumes which has recently been touring Israel (see December issue of *AJR Information*) will be presented to the country's libraries. The total value is estimated at about £26,000. The exhibition, which closed in Haifa, exceeded all expectations of the sponsoring publishers. It was attended by about 7,000 people in Tel Aviv and 4,000 in Jerusalem, of whom about one-third were under the age of 30.

### FAMILY EVENTS

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

#### Birthdays

**Bernheim.**—Mr. Heinrich Bernheim, of 17 Parsifal Road, London, N.W.6, will celebrate his 90th birthday on January 17th.

**Kaumheimer.**—Mrs. Mina Kaumheimer (née Goldschmidt), of 17 Parsifal Road, London, N.W.6 (formerly Nuernberg), celebrated her 90th birthday on December 14, 1968. Her daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, niece and nephew extend their sincerest congratulations to her.

The AJR Club wishes to extend its very best birthday wishes to: **Mrs. Th. Pick**, of 7 Canfield Gardens, London, N.W.6, who celebrates her 70th birthday on January 25, and **Mrs. L. Merksamer**, of Flat 29, 6 Westbourne Grove Terrace, London, W.2, who celebrates her 75th birthday on January 31.

#### Marriage

**Gumprich-Mach.**—The marriage took place on November 12, 1968, between Erich Gumprich and Eugenie Mach, 21 Grosvenor Court, 75 Christchurch Avenue, London, N.W.6.

### Deaths

**Aschenberg.**—Dr. Hugo Aschenberg, of 1921 Spellwell Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223, U.S.A., passed away on December 12th, 1968. Deeply mourned by his wife Gertrud (née Gottgetreu), children, grandchild, relatives and friends.

**Friedenstein.**—Our beloved sister, Erna Friedenstein, passed away suddenly at the age of 63. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by her sisters, Thea and Rosa, her cousins and friends. 12 Terregles Avenue, Glasgow, S.1.

**Rosenberg.**—Mr. David Rosenberg (formerly Mähr-Ostrau), of 145 Ellesmere Road, London, N.W.10, beloved husband of Gitta Rosenberg (née Lewy), passed away suddenly on December 4, 1968. He will always be remembered by his wife, relatives and friends.

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**MY SISTER**, widow, independent, would like to meet gentleman between 60 and 70. Object companionship/matrimony. Box 005.

### MISSING PERSONS

#### Personal Enquiries

**Furst or Fürst.**—Information sought of: Ernst Furst, sometime of 16 Lebanon Street, Tel Aviv; Werner Furst, sometime of 1 Prag Street, Tel Aviv; Eva Mendelsohn (formerly Furst), sometime of Wauchope, St. Stakleffhouse, Jerusalem. Wanted for their benefit. Knight & Co., 23 College Hill, London, E.C.4.

**Rosenzweig.**—Will Hans Rosenzweig, son of Leopold Rosenzweig who came to this country from Austria in April, 1938, or anyone knowing his whereabouts or kin, please communicate with Alfred A. Smith & Son, 49 Knightsbridge Court, Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.

**Weinberg.**—Aron Weinberg, son of Yeve and Chaja, of Poland and brother of the late ? ? Rosa. Sought by his half-brother, Hirsh Rubin, Yehuda Levi 39, Mispara Eli, Tel Aviv, Israel.

## IN MEMORIAM

### DR. RUDOLF FALK FRIEDLAENDER

On November 19 the Manchester community suffered an irreplaceable loss by the sudden death of Dr. Rudolf Friedlaender, one of the leading physicians in the city.

Rudi Friedlaender, as he was known to his many patients, colleagues and friends, was born in 1906, the eldest son of Dr. Moses Friedlaender, the General Secretary of the Jewish community in Berlin. His father, who was an officer in the German army during the First World War, was killed in France in 1917, leaving a widow and five children. A friend of the family, who was then the Director of the Jewish Orphanage in Berlin, offered assistance to the widow by providing free accommodation for one of the children in his Orphanage and it was Rudi who, during his formative years, lived at the Orphanage, attending the Sophien-Gymnasium. He left school at the age of about 16 and took a job in a store in Gleiwitz in order to earn some money, continuing his studies at the same time. After about two years in business, having saved sufficient money, he returned to school and, after matriculating in 1925, studied medicine at the University of Berlin, supporting himself by coaching pupils for matriculation and occasionally driving taxis at night. He also became an active member of the F.W.V., where he made friends who, years later, became his patients in Manchester.

After he had obtained his medical qualifications he decided to specialise in surgery and eventually became Senior Assistant to Professor Frey at the Medical Academy in Düsseldorf, from which post he was, despite the protest by his Professor, dismissed by the Nazis on April 1, 1933. By the end of the same month he had left Germany for Manchester, where he had connections through his relationship with the Laski family. Shortly afterwards he started work as House Surgeon at the Jewish Hospital (Manchester Victoria Memorial) and, the following year, obtained his British qualifications in medicine as well as in surgery at the University of Edinburgh. After almost four years at the Manchester Jewish Hospital he set up in practice in Didsbury, South Manchester, remaining, at the same time, Medical Registrar at the Jewish Hospital. In July, 1936, he married Eva Stern. They had already known each other in Berlin.

In February, 1943, he volunteered for the R.A.M.C., attaining the rank of Lt-Colonel in 1945. After his demobilisation, he resumed his practice in Didsbury.

Rudi Friedlaender excelled as a doctor not only by his wide knowledge and great experience, but by his outstanding humane qualities. He became the friend and confidant of all his patients. Being a doctor was, to Rudi, more than a profession; it was a service to humanity. He worked endless hours and nothing was ever too much for him. Perhaps his outstanding qualities and achievements as a doctor were due to the fact that he also pursued many other activities. He found time to keep up his interest in literature, in the arts and in music; he also had a great know-

ledge and deep understanding of Judaism and was an accomplished skier. Keenly interested in social work, he was a founder and trustee of the Morris Feinmann Homes for aged and lonely refugees in Manchester, the oldest established Home of its kind in Britain. He also served the residents of this Home as its Senior Medical Officer, attending the Home daily.

His wife Eva supported him to the full in all his work and his leisure activities in one of the most active households ever known. His son Michael has followed his father's profession, his daughter Ruth is a teacher, Martin, too, is now a doctor, and Erica a social worker.

Rudi Friedlaender's passing leaves a great void over a wide area of the North-West. No doctor could ever have been more trusted and loved by his patients. F.H.K.

### SIDDY WRONSKY COMMEMORATED

Relatives, friends, colleagues and pupils of the late Sidy Wronsky (1884-1947) met at her graveside at the Mount of Olives cemetery near Jerusalem, when her tombstone was consecrated on October 20, 1968. At the time of her death, fighting was going on in Jerusalem and only few people could attend the funeral. After the Six-Day War, the cemetery, which was on Jordan territory, again became accessible and her grave was identified.

Until 1934, Sidy Wronsky lived in Berlin, where she was well-known as a constructive pioneer in the field of social welfare. She built up the "Archiv fuer Wohlfahrtspflege", originally a department of the "Zentrale fuer private Fuersorge" and lectured at the "Dr. Alice-Salomon-Schule", the "Akademie fuer soziale und paedagogische Frauenarbeit" and several other training institutes for welfare workers. She also founded and edited the "Deutsche Zeitschrift fuer Wohlfahrtspflege".

A Zionist of long standing, she took a leading part in Jewish activities. She was a Board member of the "Juedische Arbeits- und Wanderfuersorge" and of the "Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der deutschen Juden", a member of the "Preussische Landesverband juedischer Gemeinden", and a founder of the "Juedische Kinderhilfe fuer Waisenkinder". Her prolific literary production includes several standard works on welfare problems and the introduction to the German translation of Sidney and Beatrice Webb's "The Problem of Poverty" (Jena 1929).

In Palestine, Sidy Wronsky became a close co-worker of Henrietta Szold. Her main achievement was the establishment of the Institute for Training of Social Workers, which she built up from small beginnings. She was also instrumental in bringing hundreds of young children from Germany to Palestine and placing them in homes or families.

At the consecration ceremony, the life and work of Sidy Wronsky was recalled in a cordial and moving speech by Dr. Miriam Itzkowitz, a former fellow worker of hers. Those present included representatives of the Israeli welfare authorities as well as Dr. Siegfried Moses, Mr. S. Adler-Rudel and Sidy Wronsky's brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. H. Neufeld (London). Her memory is kept alive in Israel by a Wronsky scholarship, awarded annually to students of social sciences, The Library for Social Sciences, which she founded and the nucleus of which consists of her own collection of books, also bears her name.

### DR. HERMAN MULLER

Dr. Herman Muller, Executive Director and Honorary Vice-President of the American Federation of Jews from Germany, died in New York shortly after his 75th birthday. He was born in Muellheim (Baden), the son of a Jewish teacher (later in Heidelberg) who was well known all over Germany as the author of school books on Jewish subjects. After completion of his legal studies, Herman Muller became a civil servant and, later, a lawyer in Heidelberg. He also rendered services to the Oberrat der Israeliten in Baden.

In the U.S.A. his active work for the American Federation covered more than two decades, until his health forced him to retire a few years ago. When the American office of the United Restitution Organisation was established in 1948, he also became head of that organisation. He did much legislative spadework in the field of restitution and also wrote the first commentary on the restitution laws. At the same time, he was in charge of the administration of the American section of the Council of Jews from Germany. All these activities involved a constant close co-operation with the corresponding organisations in London. His loss is therefore also deeply mourned by his friends at the AJR and at the British sections of U.R.O. and the Council.

Herman Muller was a reticent man. He would never force himself to the foreground. He preferred quiet persuasion to those forceful methods met with more frequently in American than in European public life. Whoever had the privilege of getting to know Herman Muller and working with him was bound to be impressed by his human kindness, his expert knowledge, his deep roots in Judaism and his devotion to the cause of the former German Jews. His memory will be kept alive with gratitude and affection.

### SALOMON WININGER

The editor of the seven-volume "Grosse juedische Nationalbiographie" (Czernowitz 1927-36), Salomon Wininger, died in Ramat Gan (Israel) at the age of 90. He single-handedly compiled more than 11,000 biographies of Jews of all periods and countries in this standard work, so far the only comprehensive Jewish National Biography ever published. Together with his wife, Wininger survived the war in Nazi-occupied Czernowitz. After the war, the couple settled in Israel.

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## TWO ANNIVERSARIES

### DR. WALTER DUX 80

Chairman of the Otto Hirsch House Committee

When, last July, Otto Hirsch House at Kew Gardens celebrated the tenth anniversary of its foundation as an Old Age Home, the day marked another achievement in the life of Walter Dux. A man of many parts—scientist, businessman, philosopher, art connoisseur—and himself a resident of Richmond since the 1930's, he was a natural choice when in 1958 the first chairman of the house committee had to be appointed. His intimate knowledge of the district and his friendly relations with the local authorities and other organisations have been of great value throughout the years.

His 80th birthday on January 8 provides a happy opportunity to look back over the first decade of the Home's history. A community of old people, wherever it may exist, tends to create its special problems; it is not unnatural, therefore, that such problems are multiplied when the community consists of people whose lives have been uprooted, who have gone through much personal suffering and who are often left alone in the world or without close relations nearby. If one adds to these circumstances a domestic staff which at times is like a miniature replica of the United (not infrequently, dis-United) Nations, it becomes evident how much such a Home depends on the guiding hand of a man of Dr. Dux's calibre.

Starting with first principles, he always sees to it that the house itself is well maintained and equipped so as to provide warm and comfortable surroundings: here on more than one occasion his own technical experience has proved superior to that of other "experts"! But above all it is the personal well-being of the residents, their daily care, nursing and medical attention in which he takes the closest interest.

The happiest occasions for him are perhaps those Sunday afternoons when residents, friends, staff and committee members gather to enjoy an hour or two of good music—"sweet honey" as he likes to describe it in the words of the poet. These occasions seem to epitomise Dr. Dux's main objective: the creation of a genuine family atmosphere in the Home. Without doubt, Walter Dux's own personality—with its combination of good judgement and unsentimental compassion, a strong character and an all-pervading sense of humour—has become an integral part of the Home's life and success.

In saluting him on his birthday, it is our sincere wish that, in the company of his beloved wife Marga, he may see many happy returns of the day as alert in mind and as active in body as he is now, and that Otto Hirsch House may continue to benefit from his wise guidance and counsel for a long time to come.

H. C. MAYER.

### Greetings from the K.C.

The *homo sapiens* of the second half of the twentieth century often stands accused of lacking in breadth of culture, of having lost the identity of a truly educated man in the welter of technological jargon. To some considerable extent this is true. We obviously know a lot more of some highly specialised aspects of human endeavour than did previous generations, but, for all this, we have become more superficial and less knowledgeable, less cultured in the classical sense.

But by no means all of us. A paladin of the old order of the knights of universal culture is Walter Dux. If I were to describe him as a physio-chemical, philhellenic balloonist, I would still do scant justice to his manifold interests and variegated activities. He describes his hobbies as "astronomy, history, in particular classical history, music, visual arts" and traces his love for the world of the antique to the old fashioned, classical education which he enjoyed at the Andreanum Gymnasium in Hildesheim, a town in which his forebears had been settled for centuries.

He studied physics and chemistry in Darmstadt, Hanover and Breslau. In 1913, together with Professor Bodenstein, he published a basic paper concerning photo-gas kinetics, then a completely uncharted field of physical chemistry. It was then, that they first coined the term "chain-reaction", which has now become a household word in the physical sciences.

After active service during the First World War, Dr. Dux joined the Sichelwerke in Hanover and in 1936 founded Sichel Adhesives in Richmond (Surrey), which he successfully built up until his retirement in 1965.

But the words "Walter Dux" and "retirement" seem to be contradictions in terms.

Quite apart from his many charitable activities he has often delighted his audiences with his witty as well as profound discourses on one or the other of the many topics in which he is interested. He joined the KC student fraternity in 1907—over 60 years ago—and we, in our little group of Londoner KCers, have had the good fortune of being edified and amused by him on more than one occasion.

Had Walter Dux lived in classical times as a member of Plato's ideal polis, he would no doubt have been a member of the Nocturnal Council, that council of wise elders watching over the affairs of the community. Our days are more turbulent, but watching the turbulence of the market place from his own little Mount Olympus, Walter Dux still partakes in everything that goes on around him. May he long be able to continue to do so.

R. W. STENT.

### A CENTENARIAN—HENRIETTE LOEW

For the first time since the Old Age Homes were opened well over twelve years ago, one of our residents has reached the venerable age of 100. Mrs. Henriette Loew, resident of Otto Hirsch House, celebrated her 100th birthday on December 17.

Mrs. Loew, who was born in Moravia, descends from a highly cultured family and is related to the internationally known legal experts, Professor Dr. Arnim and Dr. Albert Ehrenzweig. She lived in Vienna until 1938 and fled to Czechoslovakia when the Nazis occupied Austria.

After having survived more than two years in Theresienstadt, she stayed in Prague until she came to this country in 1953 to join one of her daughters. In December, 1960, she was admitted to Otto Hirsch House, where she has been one of the most popular residents. In spite of her years, Mrs. Loew is still mentally and physically remarkably fit and takes part in the community life of the Home.

The happy event was celebrated with a tea party in the Home at which the Mayor of Richmond, Alderman Nation, and the Mayoress were present. Congratulatory messages from Her Majesty the Queen and from the Mayor of Vienna were read out. Dr. Dux, chairman of the House Committee and Alderman Nation addressed the large gathering, and Mrs. Loew, whose three daughters were present, expressed her thanks by a poem which she had herself composed and which she recited by heart.

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