To say that contemporary events are the continuation of the past, having evolved from conditions created in the past, is a platitude; but a glimpse at the world of yesterday also makes us conscious how radically circumstances have changed during our lifetime. The comparison often helps to a better understanding of our own situation. That is why autobiographies and memoirs written by men who took part in public life, or for that purpose, even by simple men of open mind, often make us understand both the past and our present position better than scholarly treatises do. A simple man, often makes us reflect upon the vicissitudes in the orientation of Jewish thought and attitudes after half a century.

The author came from the Jewish upper-middle-class of the turn of the century, and for many readers the first chapters, the story of his family with its particular, but also typical facets, may have a special attraction. That a young man from this milieu should join the Zionist ranks was, in the eyes of his social class, something exceptional, even slightly shocking. Zionism was regarded as a curious sect, a youthful aberration perhaps, but without wider importance except to scandalise people of vested interests. The comfortable life went on more or less undisturbed, at least until the outbreak of war in 1914, which was a caesura in many respects.

Later, the movement gathered momentum and during the 'twenties the Jewish world was still firmly divided into Zionists and anti-Zionists. This controversy dominated Jewish life for a generation also in Germany. Today these differences have lost their relevance because the whole Jewish establishment the world over is now supporting Israel—and an attitude which formerly would have been described as Zionist or pro-Zionist. There are only very few remnants of anti-Zionism of the original type. Moreover, this support for Israel is—or was until a short time ago—almost uncritical, and negotiable. Peabody, in a regrettable fact, because constructive criticism would have helped Israel much more than the echo of a conformist (Gleichgeschaltet) public which did not care to get to the bottom of the real problems but was generous in financial contributions. Dissent from, or at least criticism of, Israel's policy in many fields and especially in the political sphere, was and is much more frequently forthcoming from "old" Zionists, or, for that matter, from Israelis, than from the former "assimilationists".

The vocal criticism of the so-called New Left is motivated by reasoning quite beyond the purely Jewish orbit, from a concept of global revolution rather than clear ideas of present or future reality.

The disputations about the validity of the Zionist diagnosis of the Jewish situation which occupied Jewish public life 60 years ago appear somehow ephemeral in retrospect. Very rarely were they concerned with the realities of Palestine, which were mostly unknown to the speakers. Their characteristic feature was the matching of wits in the assembly hall, and the aim was to conquer the adversary by better argumentation or more impressive oratory. It was, as Lichtheim says, a purely intellectual debate, mainly concerned with the question whether the Jews should regard themselves as a separate group, or whether their sole aim should be to merge ("assimilate") in the general life of society even if the latter hesitated to accept them. Paradoxically enough, the younger Zionist generation, men like Lichtheim and Kurt Blumenfeld, had personally gone through the whole process of assimilation, which gave them full command of the intellectual resources of modern European thought. This faculty they had acquired not from Jewish sources or from the arsenal of traditional Jewish education, but through identification with European culture and from contemporary literature. Quite locally they called themselves "post-assimilatory" Zionists.

Switching the debate from the field of objective inquiries to the analysis of the struggles within the human soul and restoring personal pride, Zionism appeared mainly as a problem of personality (Persönlichkeitsproblem). Needless to say that in this context the Arabs of Palestine had no particular part to play. The whole interest was focused elsewhere.

Today, all this is very different. The State of Israel is now not only one of the main concerns of the whole of world Jewry, but also a bone of contention in world politics, making headlines almost every day. The inner-Jewish differences of approach, which aroused strong passions, have almost completely disappeared. The conflict is no longer to be understood in the old sense, to see the Jews divided into a few warring camps. The majority once seemed a marginal issue or only an academic problem.

The first part of Lichtheim's book is headed "The Story of a Conversion." It is a masterpiece of characterisation, a genuine mirror of the twentieth-century German upper class Jewry. His paternal grandfather, whose own father went to America in 1830 and disappeared there, grew up in Königsberg in the house of his uncle Dr. Johann Jacoby (1805-1877), a famous liberal politician. Königsberg—now the Russian town of Kaliningrad—was at that time a centre of the Old Prussian intelligentsia, and also a centre of Jewish enlightenment. Ludwig Lichtheim, a cousin of the author's grandfather, was a respected professor of medicine in Königsberg to whom hundreds of Jews came for consultation from neighbouring Russia; in order to get his chair he had converted to Christianity together with his three daughters. Jacoby was also a physician, but in addition he was a philosopher, a writer and a courageous liberal. One of the most interesting figures of the Vorwärts and the Bismarck era. Often quoted is his appeal to King Frederick William II of Prussia, when in November 1848, a delegation, of which Jacoby was a member, submitted a suggestion for political reforms: "It is the misfortune of kings that they refuse to listen to the truth." A few years earlier, when a Berlin Court had absolved Jacoby of the charge of high treason, the King had said: The faithful East Prussians will have to choose between their King and Israel (meaning Jacoby).

Jacoby never left the Jewish community, but most of the other branches of the Lichtheim family did. His maternal relations were also Jewish. Among his maternal brothers, Eugen and Hugo, well-known figures in the financial aristocracy of Berlin to whose magnificent and somewhat snobbish dinners and dances the author as a young man was often invited. One maternal uncle, Bernard Pollack, was a music lover in whose salon the virtuosi of the period assembled. He sometimes functioned as anonymous accompanist to Fritz Kreisler, and later he was for a short time married to Fritz Massary before she married Max Pallenberg. I still remember that once at a party we used to call the Massary jokingly as "Lichtheim's aunt." Anyhow, Lichtheim's mother and her relations had some kind of Jewish pride which expressed itself in a contempt for those who sought social advantages through conversion.

It seems a long way for a young man of this origin, completely alienated from all things Jewish as he was, to join the Zionist movement. Yet, his case, though particularly striking, was by no means exceptional. It was one of the ways in which the revolt of sons expressed itself at that time, and many of the prominent Western Zionists had a similar background. But as soon as Lichtheim became a Zionist, it was obvious that a man of his education and talents would not play a secondary role. He soon assumed a leading position, and his book gives an account of his work until 1921. The Zionist Executive which at that time resided in Berlin appointed him in 1911 as diplomatic representative in Constantinople. One has to recall that Palestine was then part of the Ottoman Empire, and the Young Turkish revolution of 1908 seemed to have opened a new chapter full of prospects. During the war Lichtheim was instrumental in saving the Jewish community in Palestine.
made by various groups to convince the Zionist authorities of the necessity of concessions and of the sporadic attempts at actual negotiations. He does not mention, or does not know, that during the twenties and thirties German Zionists were in the forefront of this discussion, warning official Zionism not to ignore the Arabs and advocating a policy of reconciliation. In this internal dispute Lichtheim was on the side of the political extremists; consequently he later joined Jabotinsky's "revisionist" faction. But that was a long time after the story told in his book had ended. Aharon Cohen's reliance on the uniting power of socialism which would overcome nationalist differences is, alas, unconvincing, especially in view of actual developments. It is based on an error of judgement very widespread in the Zionist labour movement. But otherwise Cohen's book, although diffuse and not without contradictions, deserves attention as a chronicle of omissions and errors, the consequences of which are felt in the predicament of our own days in which all world Jewry now take part.

After the shattering events of the past 50 years it is not always appreciated what a fundamental turning point 1914 was for the world and for the Jewish people. Lichtheim still came from a comparatively undisputed world. The next generation had to start their quest for identity under more sinister conditions. Therefore, to round up this fragmentary historical tour d'horizon, a short reference may be allowed to another recent autobiography, written by the Governor of the Bank of Israel, David Horowitz. Leaving aside the details of this amazing career, the case in point is the emergence of a generation which for the first time experienced hardships completely unknown before, and became aware of the instability of a way of life which they had taken for granted. Masses of Jews became refugees; one of the momentous consequences was the meeting of East and West, which not only left its stamp on the form and content of the youth movement, but also contributed much to the evolution of a modern type of Jew. David Horowitz and many of his friends came from wealthy bourgeois assimilated families; in Galicia there was even a double assimilation, German (Austrian) and Polish. The Zionist youth of 1914 was nationalist and Hebraised than the youth in Utopia. The Russian revolution with its slogans of a better and juster world seemed to have shown the way. Jewish youth was in revolt and eager to create something new. For the sake of constructive socialism as the basis of a new nation they were prepared to accept an austere and burdensome life. But, Israel, many perplexments and sufferings, and the experiments of new community life in Palestine in a rather monotonic atmosphere engendered tension and neuroses. Moreover, the Jewish youth movements in general shared the fate of the confused socialist camp which abounded in hair-splitting ideological discussions, in doubts about personal commitments, and which led to many divisions. Some Jewish youth who joined the Communist movement met a miserable fate in the Stalinist hell two or three decades later.

In the course of time, Horowitz's comrades like him came to terms with reality; quite a few of them later developed in a direction far away from their original ideas. The author had to pass through many stages before arriving at his present position. As a non-conformist within the Kibbutz and inclined to indecision and critical thinking, he soon sensed the paradox of the early romanticism and the paradox of the young émigré generation. In his description of the adventurous road which brought him after years to one of the leading economic positions in Israel, one feels that the youth movement had to come to terms with reality, and that the experiments of new community life in Palestine in a rather monotonic atmosphere engendered tension and neuroses. Moreover, the Jewish youth movements in general shared the fate of the confused socialist camp which abounded in hair-splitting ideological discussions, in doubts about personal commitments, and which led to many divisions. Some Jewish youth who joined the Communist movement met a miserable fate in the Stalinist hell two or three decades later.

People who were the "youth in revolt" at the beginning of the century are now part of the establishment. Already we can perceive the shadows of a new youth in revolt which will rattle at the door.

CLAIMED BY SIEGFRIED BERNFELD, THE OUTSTANDING LEADER AND PHILOSOPHER OF YOUTH CULTURE, WHO IN MAY, 1918, CONVENED THE JÜDISCHE JUGENDTAG IN VIENNA, AN EVENT QUITE UNEXPECTED AT THE TIME. THE GALICIAN YOUTH WAS FAR MORE NATIONALIST AND HEBAISED THAN THE YOUTH IN VIENNA, BUT COHEN DESCRIBES HOW THEY ACQUIRED THEIR ATTACHMENT TO NATURE AND COMRADESHIP IN THE WOODS AND VALLEYS OF THE WIENER WALTZ. THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WERE DISTINGUISHED BY THEIR SENSE OF TRADITION AND THEIR INHERENT DESIRE TO CREATE SOMETHING NEW.
SOVIET JEWRY APPEAL

The Board of Deputies has made public an appeal signed by 82 Jews, brought to London by a tourist. Most of the signatories are professional people, some representing whole firms. They are scared of various ages and professions, of different character and outlook, but united by anxiety for the fate of the Jews and of Israel. They ask for their appeal to be made public in the British press and universities, as well as in the Jewish press of the entire world. The Moscow Jews describe the persecution, which has increased in intensity, most if not all Jewish communities outside Israel must be regarded as a disaster area. Young Jews, he said, expected that something concrete is said from the Jewish angle about the needs of today.—hunger and unequality, war and peace.

GROMYKO'S VISIT

To coincide with the visit to London by Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Prime Minister, three days were held of almost constant discussion by leaders of the Board, of all sections of the religious community, of Ajex and university students, tried unsuccessfully to present a protest letter to Mr. Gromyko. The Union for Soviet Jewry arranged a demonstration during Simchat Torah, to show solidarity of Anglo-Jewish Youth with the Russian Jews, which was condemned by the British delegation. A delegation consisting of leaders of the Board, of all sections of the religious community, of Ajex and university students, tried unsuccessfully to present a protest letter to Mr. Gromyko.

LIBERALS AND ISRAEL

A resolution by the British Young Liberals supporting the creation of a secular Palestinian State was defeated at the congress of the World Federation of Liberal and Radical Youth held in Belgium. Congress was presided over by Lord Greenwood. Whilst as Mr. Anthony Greenwood, he was Labour's candidate in the Marylebone constituency, Great Cumberland Place, in the West End, was renamed "Arkhievna Street" for the occasion — the street where the Russian delegation was lodged and where every Simchat Torah in recent years Soviet-Jewish students have manifested their allegiance to solidarity with, world Jewry and the Jewish State.

NAZI DIVORCE INVALID

A divorce granted in Germany in 1939 has been declared invalid by an English judge. Mr. Justice Bagnall ruled that Mrs. Gertrud Bertha Hedwig Meyer, of Bristol, was still the wife of Mr. Isaac Loeil Kurt Meyer when he died five years ago. The decree granted to her in 1940 had been given in the course of divorcing her husband or losing her job. As a result of the ruling, Mrs. Meyer can claim a proportion of the £1,400 a year pension granted by Germany in compensation to her late husband. Her claim was rejected by German courts, and she asked for a ruling from the English courts, it having been indicated that the German courts would accept the English ruling.

CONFERENCE OF WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

The two-day Biennial Conference of the World Jewish Congress, British Section, was opened by a "keynote address" delivered on October 31 by Rabbi Dr. Josephin Prinz, chairman of the WJC Governing Council. Dr. Prinz expressed the view that "in terms of a meaningful Jewish continuity, most if not all Jewish communities outside Israel must be regarded as a disaster area". Young Jews, he said, expected that something concrete is said from the Jewish angle about the needs of today—hunger and inequality, war and peace.

The pessimistic views expressed by Dr. Prinz were contested by several speakers on the second day of the conference, at which under "Orders in the interest of security were suspended by the British delegation. The recognition of Israel, the declaration of her 1967 borders in the security area, the handling of the problem of the Palestinian refugees, the opening of the Middle East to a "far too hastily handing over of the Palestine mandate and the U.N.'s initial sentence of "New Approach to Foreign Policy"? He at tacked "such actions as we have seen over the past twelve months."
NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Jewish Governors and Congressmen

Mr. Milton J. Shapp is the first Jew to have been elected Governor of Pennsylvania. Mr. Maurice H. Tobin, also elected, has retained the Governorship of Maryland. Mr. Louis Lefkowitz was returned as State Attorney-General and Seminary Teachers' Institute.

Election to Congress is that of Mrs. Bella S. doyon of the House of Representatives. A new including Congressman Emanuel Celler, the executive director, Mr. Arthur Levitt as Controller. All the Jewish detaine and charged with planning to hijack University's hall of fame for great Americans. Said the two were taking the four revolvers if Jewish hostages held by Arab hijackers were harned.

Avraham Herskovich had worked as an office manager for the JDL, and his wife Nancy Joan as a secretary. The organization is trying to raise 5 million dollars for the Rabbi Meir Kahane, the executive director, said the two were taking the four revolvers and a hand grenade to Israel where "every single gun helps". Herskovich was born in Auschwitz concentration camp and had served in the Israeli Army.

Race Bias in Books

A study published by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Brith, "Minorities in Text-books", finds that it is impossible to flow "a reasonably complete and undistorted picture" of American Negroes, Jews and other minorities from any existing American text-book on social studies. The report states that a significant number of texts published today continue to present a principally White, Protestant, Anglo-Saxon view of American past and present, with the nature and problems of minority groups going largely neglected. Although the image of the Jews is no longer negative, the major emphasis is still on the ancient past, neglecting modern Judaism and their contributions to America. About 45 per cent of the texts examined inadequately treated or completely ignored the Nazi persecution of Jews and other minorities. According to the study, the idea of Jewish guilt for the death of Jesus is inadequately dispelled.

France

Nazi Emblems Banned

In Paris the police prefect has banned the sales of Nazi uniforms, caps, badges and similar souvenirs. For some time an increasing influence of Nazi doctrines among young people has been noticed. There has so far been no explanation that this is a belief that it could be a reaction to the Left-wing influence which has been dominant in the universities since 1968.

Jews in Grenoble Fire

Among the 144 people killed in the dance-hall fire at Grenoble were two young Jewish pop musicians, both from Paris. Michel Goldblum and Alain Starmann were members of a five-piece pop group called "Storm".

SPANISH DICTIONARY

Following consultations between the Royal Academy of the Spanish Language and Mr. Isaac Levy, head of Sephardi Jewry in Jerusalem, the new nineteenth edition of the official Spanish dictionary has been purged of expressions offensive to Jews. The definition of Jew as a usurer or miser has been deleted. Derogatory references to Jews from Catholic textbooks have already been erased by Spain.

DUTCH PENTATEUCH TRANSLATIONS

Dr. Itzhak Dasberg, who recently retired after 16 years as chairman of the Ashkenazi Orthodox organisation representing 45 Dutch congregations, has spent seven years of spare-time work on religious translations. The new Dutch translation of the Books of Genesis and Exodus have already appeared in one volume in Holland, to be followed in January by trans­lations of the remaining Books of the Penta­tech in one volume, with the Haftarah added.

VENEZUELAN COMMUNITY

The 15,000-strong Venezuelan community last year opened the first stages of a modern Jewish school in Caracas, and restored its oldest monument, the Sephardi cemetery in Coro. The restoration was supervised by Mr. Jose Koreyevo is a typical White Russian name chosen by Soviet Jews.

Jewish Chronicle

AWARD FOR JEWISH MINISTER

To mark his 60th birthday the Order of Lenin has been awarded to Mr. Benyamin Dzymshitz for his pro-Zionist activities. He is a Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, the chairman of the USSR State Committee for material and technical supplies.

PRO-ZIONIST SPEECH

A former resident of Kiev who recently emigrated has given to the Jewish Chronicle the first full account of what was probably the most pro-Zionist speech made in the Soviet Union since the 1920s.

RIGA ARRESTS

The Association of East European Jews made public in Paris reports of a new wave of arrests in Riga. A leaflet distributed by the Latvia Jewish National Council said that 23-year-old Jewish student, was arrested on October 7 and charged with anti-Soviet activities. She was urged but refused to give evidence at the trial of 34 Soviet Jews, alleging to have been in an attempted hijacking of a Soviet airliner in Leningrad in June.

The Jews Discovered America?

In 1885 the Smithsonian Institution found a stone inscribed with Canaanite letters in a burial mound in Tennessee. Only in August of this year were the letters recognised as Semitic, Dr. Itzhak Dasberg, an acknowledged expert on Mediterranean peoples and languages who was consulted, said that "there is now a new Hebrew school in Caracas, and restored its oldest monument, the Sephardi cemetery in Coro. The restoration was supervised by Mr. Jose

HISTORY OF POLAND

The High Holy-days in Poland this year were observed only by some elderly men in homes for the aged in Warsaw and Lodz, who organised services on Rosh Hashana and the Day of Atonement. According to reports reaching London from Warsaw, this is apparently the first time in the history of Polish Jewry that the High Holy-days have been so sparsely observed. The services in the old people's homes were formerly also attended by other Jews, including young people, but there are few left now.

HUNGARIAN PEN CLUB MEDAL

The Hungarian PEN Club has awarded Mordecai Avi-Shaul, an Hungarian-born Israeli writer, a memorial medal for his Hebrew translations of Yiddish authors. He is a Left-wing writer who has translated a number of outstanding poetry and prose works.

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A BRIDGE OF CHILDREN’S BOOKS

Jella Lepman’s Dream

She was not what one might call an attractive woman. Her body was angular, her movements were awkward, her voice shrill; she lacked female gracefulness. Her colleagues often found her exacting, those working under her were constantly kept on their toes; her friends were sometimes exasperated by her nervous energy. Yet Jella Lepman was one of the very few remigrant women who, by their achievements, have left a lasting mark in post-war Germany.

When she died in Zürich a few weeks ago, the obituaries were full of details about her work, but strangely lacking in personal data; all the reader was told was that she had completed her 79th year—quite a surprise for those who had come to look upon her as rather ageless. In fact, Jella Lepman had never disclosed how old she was. Asked to supply some biographical details for the brochure to be published when she was awarded the Goethe Medal in Frankfurt last year, she wrote: “It seems to me that I have lived not one life but many... Born at Stuttgart. A happy childhood, understanding parents. Father: a democrat in Uhland’s tradition. School: the Royal Katharinaschool, where Mürckie had taught literature.”

And then a clue to what was to grow into the great dream of her later years: as a teenager she founded an “international reading-room” for the children of foreign workers in a Stuttgart cigarette factory. That was before the First World War. After the war she married and had two children. “End of my first life”, she wrote, “when my husband died suddenly.”

Jella Lepman threw herself into an intensive professional life as a journalist, and became the first female editor with the Stuttgarter Neues Tagblatt, running its pink-coloured women’s supplement. In the 1930s she launched herself into politics, rising to the post of chairman of the Wurttemberg Deutsche Demokratische Partei; she also stood as a Social Democratic candidate together with Theodor Heuss.

Her “third life” began with her emigration to London in 1936. The years in exile were—as some of her friends recall—much harder for her than her brief data in the Frankfurt brochure suggested. She was never happy in England, although she had the advantages of a comfortable home in Hampstead Garden Suburb, put at her disposal by friends, and all kinds of jobs where her talents and experience proved useful: editing Arthur Schnitzler’s unpublished papers for Cambridge University, working as adviser on youth questions for the BBC and Foreign Office, compiling a modern reader for German-language classes in English schools (still being reprinted). She also took British citizenship. But her frequent spells of unemployment in those years frustrated this intent, energy-charged woman very deeply; where others might have resigned and blamed world history, her thoughts were racing around in her brain, trying to find an escape from the wastefulness of weeks and months, like animals seeking a holt in their cages. Eventually, she got a permanent job—at least “for the duration”—with ABSIE, the American Broadcasting Station in Europe.

That “third life” ended, and her fourth began, in October, 1945, when she stepped on board a U.S. military aircraft bound for Frankfurt. The American occupation authorities had asked her to work at their headquarters in Bad Homburg, again as adviser on youth questions; in other words, on the re-education of a woman’s attack. She cornered him in some uniform—he tried to escape, but in vain: “I was looking into the most candid and friendly eyes that ever defied a uniform.” In that moment I realized that what I was to hear came out in such genuine, never-to-be-shed Schwindel as perhaps only Theodor Heuss could surmise it. It was a Swabian avalanche of words, of entrancing and imploring. She asked for help, understanding, agreement, for gifts, gifts—of books wherever they could be found, children’s books, fairy-tales, picture-books, school-books, German, foreign-language; exercise-books, drawing-paper, crayons, paint-boxes—and one understood that this woman was a fountain of goodness, of sympathy, of the will to help and also of helplessness, walking about in an olive-green uniform.”

Needless to say that the exhibition materialised, and it did so in record time. Publishers of 14 countries had responded to Jella Lepman’s requests; some parted with their remaining file copies for the purpose, which

Continued on next page
to her seemed the most important project in Germany at the time.

It took her three more years, working against heavy odds, to complete the logical next step: the creation of an International Youth Library—a great window of the mind through which the children of occupation soldiers, who make themselves understood, can make themselves understood in funny German. They read books of all kinds and from all countries, they have acquired a naive imagination, ordinary ink and watercolours, games and teaching-aids, and they have what children need: confidence, serenity, peace. That was the beginning of Jella Lepman’s work... A work of genuine humanity and great heart.

Today, 21 years later, the IYL contains 110,000 books in fifty languages, a reference and historical section for the study of inter-national youth literature, with another 5,000 volumes, and there are IYL grants for up to eight foreign specialists per year to study at the library. One of the offshoots of Jella Lepman’s endeavors are the International Board on Books for Young People, which she founded in 1951, and the Hans Christian Andersen Award—some call it the “Junior Nobel Prize”—for children’s book authors and illustrators from all countries. Jella Lepman succeeded in roping the Communist countries in for all these activities: she made many personal contacts across the Iron Curtain, and UNESCO, which adopted it as an “associated project”, and from the Rockefeller Foundation; again the children’s book publishers inside and outside Germany responded magnificently by putting the IYL on their mailing lists for free copies, and many also sent money.

A nice big house in Munich’s Kaulbachstrasse, near the English Garden, was found. As a kind of christening present Jella Lepman had asked Erich Kästner to write a new children’s book, “Die Konferenz der Tiere”, a pacifist fairy-tale: the animals force mankind, and especially the pig-headed politicians and generals, to bring permanent peace to the world. It was the last of Kästner’s volumes illustrated by Walter Trier.

“Munich was still lying in ruins and rubbish”, Carl Zuckmayer wrote in his introduction to “A Bridge of Children’s Books”. “But there was a former villa, perhaps spared by the bombs or recently patched up, with a large garden which was again being weedeed and planted. The house resounds with children’s voices, loud, un inhibited, laughing, singing; or it’s very quiet, and in some rooms, with colourful drawings and paintings on the walls, created by a naive imagination, children are sitting around, young people of every age, small or nearly grown-up ones, often in poor, mended clothes, speaking in many languages and dialects, next to better-dressed ones, the children of occupation soldiers, who make themselves understood in funny German. They read books of all kinds and from all countries, they have acquired a naive imagination, ordinary ink and watercolours, games and teaching-aids, and they have what children need: confidence, serenity, peace. That was the beginning of Jella Lepman’s work... A work of genuine humanity and great heart.

For many of us it is with a sigh of relief that we enter the world of Hans Feibusch; our earth still stands, stable and firm, basically unharmed by the storms and upheavals of despair, war, persecution, rebellion and violence of all kinds. It is easily apparent that Feibusch gets his inspiration from those masters of our century who sought to construct their paintings like architecture: Cézanne, Picasso in his cubistic period, and Feibusch’s teacher André Lhote. But Feibusch, born in Frankfurt a.M. in 1888, received his training mainly in Germany—in Munich and at the Berlin Academy—and afterwards in Paris. Since 1933 he has lived in England, where he is one of our foremost mural painters. More than 30 churches, among them Chichester Cathedral, contain his frescoes.

The exhibition, held last month at the Ben Uri Art Gallery, confirms that his art is nothing if not monumental. He is a painter of events, taken from either classical antiquity or the Bible. With equal ease he represents the Greek Gods and the Sacrifice of Isaac. But this has its dangers. There is sometimes an impression that he does not give to his art that profound spiritual life which communicates emotion. And yet some of his paintings have a powerful significance. At times he relaxes and produces almost lyrical views of corners in a garden with delicately painted beds of flowers. The lasting value of his drawings comes from the expressive and precise draughtsmanship.

The collection of books, periodicals, manuscripts and pictures concentrated in the New York building of the Leo Baeck Institute has personal contacts across the whole of the spiritual heritage of German Jewry. This is reflected in the first volume of the catalogue, edited by the Institute’s co-founder and first director, Dr. Max Kreutzberger, with the assistance of Ingrid Foerst. The 600-page book comprises three sections of the collection: the history of Jewish communities in German-speaking countries (3,015 items); press publications (850 items); and memoirs, including unpublished manuscripts and private prints. The collection includes publications, such as almanacs and calendars, copies of which are probably not available at any other place, and the personal memoirs of many German-Jewish history since 1812 and all strata of German Jewry. The catalogue (Schriftenreihe wissenschaftlicher Akademiker des L.B.I., Nr. 22, Verlag J. B. C. Mohr/Paul Siebeck, Tübingen, DM 143.—) was published with the assistance of “Bamberger” and is dedicated to Dr. Max Grunenwald, President of the New York L.B.I., on the occasion of his 70th birthday.
DEUTSCH-JUEDISCHE LYRIK
Zu den Dichtungen von Vera Lachmann und Paul Muhams

DAYAN DR. I. GRUNFELD, 70

Dayan Dr. I. Grunfeld, who recently celebrated his 70th birthday, is one of those former German Jews who by their standing in Anglo-Jewish life have added lustre to our community. Originating from Wuerzburg, where he practised as a lawyer, Dayan Grunfeld’s writings have also contributed to the preservation and adequate assessment of our spiritual heritage. He has been an interested member of the AJR for many years and also lent the prestige of his name to the “Thank You Britain” Fund as a sponsor. We extend our sincerest birthday wishes to our friend Dayan Grunfeld.

MR. FRITZ ROSEN, 80

The designer, Mr. Fritz Rosen, recently celebrated his 80th birthday in Crowborough (Sussex) where he now lives in retirement. In the twenties and early thirties he was recognised as one of the leading graphic designers in Germany. He was, inter alia, commissioned to design a number of posters against the rising Nazi party. In this country, his clients included leading refugee firms in the textile, chocolate and chemical industries. Mr. Rosen’s professional services were also of great benefit to Jewish refugee relief organisations in this country as well as to the Jewish National Fund. A birthday tribute, published in the leading German magazine “Gebrauchsgraphik”, bears witness that his achievements are still well remembered by his former colleagues in Germany. Mr. Rosen has been a member of the AJR since its inception. We extend our sincerest birthday wishes to him.

BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

PROF. WILHELM FELDBERG, 70

Professor Wilhelm Feldberg, C.B.E., F.R.S., recently celebrated his 70th birthday. Born in Hamburg, he was, prior to his emigration in 1933, a lecturer of physiology at Berlin University. In this country, Professor Feldberg was until his retirement Head of the Laboratory of Neuropharmacology at the National Institute for Medical Research. In 1961, he created a Trust out of the German compensation payments made to him, which is to be used for the promotion of Anglo-German scientific exchange. We extend our best wishes to Professor Feldberg, who has been an interested member of the AJR for many years.

HANS LESCHNITZER, 60

Mr. Hans Leschnitzer (Montevideo) will be 60 on December 2. As Executive Vice-President of “Centra”, the federation of communities established by Central European immigrants in South America, he is also well known to the Hon. Officers of the Council of Jews from Germany and he attended several Council conferences as representative of his organisation. It is to a high extent due to his efforts that the contacts between the member congregations of “Centra” could be maintained and strengthened. Last, but not least, Mr Leschnitzer plays a leading part in the activities of the “Nueva Congregacion Israelita de Montevideo” of which he is the Vice-President. We extend our sincerest congratulations to our friend Leschnitzer.

TONI STOLPER, 80

Toni Stolper, widow of the publicist Gustav Stolper and an authoress in her own right, celebrated her 80th birthday on November 22 in the United States. Her works include a biography of her late husband, “Ein Leben im Brennpunkt unserer Zeit: Wien, Berlin, New York” (Tübingen 1960) and numerous contributions to the “Deutsche Rundschau” and the “Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung”. Gustav and Toni Stolper were close friends of the late German Federal President Theodor Heuss and his wife, and their names frequently appear among the addressees of the recently published letters of the late President.

DR. HARRY ABT, 70

Dr Harry Abt (Johannesburg) recently celebrated his 70th birthday. Prior to his emigration in 1939, he was Studienrat at the Reallgymnasium of the Adass Jisroel congregation in Berlin and, from 1950, Director of the Jewish Reformrealgymnasium in Breslau. As head of the cultural department of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, Dr. Abt was in charge of Jewish adult education. From 1956-1964, he was Rabbi at the Oxford Synagogue (Johannesburg).

CENTENARIAN

Justizrat Dr. Leo Cohn-Biedermann (former head of Berlin) recently celebrated his 100th birthday. He is a resident of the New York Jewish Home for the Aged. Congratulations on behalf of Mayor Lindsay were conveyed to him by the Deputy Commissioner for Public Events of the City of New York, Mr. Helmut Kohn, who is also Chairman of the Board of the “Aufbau”. In the name of the German Federal Government and of the Mayor of Berlin, Dr. Harald Graf von Posadowsky-Wehner, the German Consul General in New York, presented to Justizrat Cohn-Biedermann a reproduction of the Medieval Machsor Lipsiae.

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IN MEMORIAM

SUSAN MARKUS

The banker, Gert Whitman, died in Frankfurt. A son of the late State Secretary Weisssmann, he was in pre-war Germany an authority on the implications of the Bank of Young Loans. He emigrated to the United States, where he anglicised his name and returned to Germany after the war as an adviser to the American High Commissioner John McCloy. Until he went into semi-retirement last year, Mr. Whitman was associated with the firm of S. W. Garburg. "He was an international banker in the classic sense," wrote The Times.

LUDWIG LAZARUS

Mr. Ludwig Lazarus died in Hanover at the age of 70. He had dedicated the last years of his life to Jewish research work on Jerusalem and one of the fruits of his labours in this field was a unique and most interesting work about the family von Hamelin, a sister-in-law of Glueckel von Hamelin. So far, this family tree has, unfortunately, only been partially made available. We readily put his knowledge and his huge collection of books and documents at the disposal of many students of life and the history of the Broadcasting Company, the Press and students. Born in Berlin as the son of a partner of the well-known second-hand booksellers A. Asher & Co., he opened a bookshop of his own which he had to close due to his studies at the University in 1933. He was arrested in 1935 because of his contacts with his fellow Socialists and spent three years in prison, and in Dachau and Buchenwald. In 1940, Lazarus managed to emigrate to Shanghai but he returned to Germany in 1949 and took residence in Hanover.

JOHANNES URZIDIL

The poet and writer, Johannes Urzidil, (New York), who originated a circle around Kafka, Werfel and Brod, died at the age of 74 in Rome. He was on a lecture tour in the course of which he also planned to give a talk at the Club 1943 in London. In 1965, Urzidil delivered the 11th Leo Baeck Lecture at the New York L.B.I. His subject was the contribution of Jewish Prague and German literature. Urzidil's works include a number of volumes of poetry as well as the novel on America "Das Große Halle­ lujah" (1939).

FAMILY EVENTS

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

BIRTHDAYS

Chaim.—The family and friends wish Miss Jenny Chaim, of 15 Lytton Close, London, N.2, all the best for her 90th birthday on December 21.

SUSAN MARKUS

Margaret Jacoby

Mr. Gert Whitman

The death occurred suddenly, in his 81st year, on November 10, at Osmond House, of Bruino Tassius. He had been a resident of the house for many years.

Mr. Bruno Tassius

Despite the fact that he had no close relatives his room was often full of visitors from among the many friends he had. Although he will not be remembered because of any specific achievements his memory will remain with the resident and staff of Osmond House through his cheerful acceptance of the loss of both his legs. His fortitude was a shining example to all who came in contact with him.

MARTIN BUBER FOREST IN HAZOREA

A Martin Buber Forest will be planted at Kibbutz Hazorea whose founder members originated from the German-Jewish emigration movement, "Die Werkleute" and include many former disciples of Martin Buber. Among the guests at the opening ceremony was Mr. Ger­ trud Luckner (Freiburg i.B.) who courageously helped the Jews in Germany when the Nazis were in power and who has taken a leading part in the work for German-Jewish understand­ ing since the end of the war. Mr. Jacob Tsur, Director of the Keren Kayemet, read a urgent telegram from German Federal President, Mr. G. Heinemann, in which he spoke of the planting of the Forest were raised among friends and followers of Martin Buber in Israel and Germany.
UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES BILL

A $929-million defence procurement Bill has been passed by the United States Senate. This includes authority for the Administration to grant Israel unlimited credit to buy American weapons on easy terms. The Bill, which implies that the arms sales are to “restore and maintain the military balance in the Middle East”, is considered the most liberal measure for buying arms granted by America to any country.

AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS

The American Jewish community has this year provided the largest national group of immigrants to Israel. In the first eight months nearly 5,000 Americans arrived, with the intention of settling in Israel. The Jewish Agency predicts that the total will reach 9,000 or 9,500 by the end of the year, with more than 10,000 in 1971. There has been a considerable increase in the flow of immigrants from the smaller urban communities in the United States.

This year altogether about 42,000 new settlers are expected to arrive. French Jews are second in the number of immigrants. Last year's total of about 1,600 British immigrants is not expected to be much exceeded.

HIGH LIFE EXPECTANCY

The Israeli Statistical Yearbook states that men in Israel have a longer life expectancy than those in the U.S., France or Japan. Last year the average life expectancy of the Israeli population was 66.7 years for men and 73.8 years for women; in France 67.8 and 75 years respectively; in Japan 67.7 and 73.6 years respectively.

BERLIN ENDOWMENT

The Land Berlin made a donation of DM 500,000 to the Negev University for the building of a reading room in the Agnon Library.

DENMARK SCHOOL IN JERUSALEM

The Danish School has been opened in Jerusalem, built with money largely contributed by a group of ten American Jews in honour of the Danish people who saved their coreligionists from Nazi persecution. During the Second World War the Danes rescued 7,000 Jews. The 150 Danish visitors at the opening of the school included members of the wartime Danish Resistance.

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KARL ABRAHAM INSTITUT

In memory of its founder the “Berliner Psychoanalytische Institut” changed its name to “Karl Abraham Institut”. The decision was taken on the occasion of the Institute’s 50th anniversary celebration which was also attended by Hilde Abraham (London), the daughter of the late Karl Abraham.

OBERAMMERSFURG PLAY

The organisers of the Oberammergau’s passion play have announced that an opinion poll among this year’s performance showed that the overwhelming majority do not support charges that it is antisemitic.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

UNITED NATIONS
UNJUSTIFIED CRITICISM

Sir,—I was interested to read Dr. Brassloff’s assessment of the United Nations after 35 years’ existence, but on reflection feel that by trying to cover the entire and vast range of U.N. activities, political, economic and social, the end result turns out to be, perhaps necessarily, rather shallow.

Some of the accusations contained in the article, however, need refuting as so little appears to be known or understood about the U.N. “The U.N. has failed to show genuine concern at such grave issues as the tragedy of Biafra.” Actually 40 per cent of all the medical and nutritional aid supplied was channelled through U.N.I.C.E.F. not to mention the negotiators or the attempted mediation. Dr. Brassloff further writes that the U.N. appears uninterested in “the denial of elementary human rights in so-called Socialist countries.” The Soviet action in Czechoslovakia was almost universally condemned in the General Assembly. It is difficult to assess the effect of the U.N. in such situations, but it is probably highly significant. Of course it is hampered by the continued reluctance of member States to forgo any of their national sovereignty and their insistence on no outside interference in what they consider to be internal matters.

But perhaps the most regrettable accusation in the article refers to “the frequently equivocal behaviour of the Secretary-General, U Thant”, especially it seems alleged, in the case of Israel. It has been my privilege to be chairman of the Streatham branch of the U.N. and to be critical. It deserves first and foremost committed support which, if it is thus, can rightly be critical. It has enough of the other kind already.

Yours, etc.,
HANS G. WOYDA.
12a Telford Parade, Streatham Hill, S.W.2.

SELF AID CONCERT

As every year, the concert of Self Aid of Refugees in the Queen Elizabeth Hall on November 10th proved a great social and artistic success. The artists were the violinist Ysrayn Goldberg, well known to former Berliners as the leader of the Berlin Philharmonic under Furtwangler, and Radu Lupu, the 23-year-old pianist who won the 1969 Leeds Piano Competition’s first prize unanimously. It was, therefore, no surprise that the artistic level was of the highest possible standard. It ranged from Beethoven to Debussy.

The concert also proved an outstanding financial success and yielded £6,700 towards Self Aid’s funds which will help them to continue their urgently needed work for former refugees.