Volume XXV No. 1

January, 1970.

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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BERLIN TRAVELOGUE

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The Jewish Community has a Centre on the size of the furner Familiendrance Synagogue. The link with the past is symbolized by the use of one of the eld synagogue's pertals as the entrance door to the otherwise modern burklast. The Centre provides large and steall meeting halls and meets for religious tation as well as social facilities in a restaurant and cate. It is in constant use for meetings and feetures and reflects the ensultated status of the Community under its Chairman. Harr Meins Galinall.

As way already mentioned in the "Old Acquisintmes" column of our September, 1955 issue, the Municipality of Berlin has isunched a scheme antending hospitality to former residents of the City who had been tereed to emigrate under the Naul rights. This gesture deserves the greatest approxition because it tailentes the spirit of the responsible Berlin sutherities and their desire to implement the idea of moral mutitution. At the same time we hope that issues in a proper way and that these many them who have become used to spendug thate holitary on the Continent and who with therefore, be able to visit Berlin at their one officer, especially in more distant contribution who have the opportunity of Berlie, usuale moves have the opportunity of

The office in chores of the scheme is Der Registerende Nurrgarmeister von Barlin. Senate handel. 1 Berlin 02.5 hueneburg, John F. Kennedy Plate where we ware given the following particulars : Those shiftle for particpaths are persons who were resident he Boin, independent of whether or not they were bern there. The invitation covers fares and botel accountsponten, theatre and concert televes and pocket money for seven days. The

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While West-Berliners cannot visit their relatives and friends on the other side of the Wall. East Berlin is accessible to West Germans and eithness of other countries. Having crossed the frontier at 3-Schuhnhaf Friedrich arrays one becomes aware of the tremendous prestreas which has been made in rebuilding East flucture which was still in ruther many parts after the end of the war. The "Leader" are again hordered by houses. In its Western part madern office blocks have been created, but the Eastern part books as it did before oparing or meenstrucied (State Library, Oniversity Zoughaus, Hedstgalirche, Opera Bloom, Kronprinzenpalical The Schleis has been dimolished and the site (Marr-Englis Plate) is used as an openalt rallying reater. The Krenigstrasse (new Bathenparate) is in the stage of being rebuilt and the Alexanderpints has become a longe Planer purcounded by large new buildings. The area beyond the Alexanderplain is covided by new office and residential blocks, and the quarter next on the reconstruction programme is the Laipchart Strame.

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W. Rosenstock

BERLIN TRAVELOGUE

As in pre-Nazi Germany, one of the most reliable barometers of the country's political climate is the cabaret. Under this aspect one of the sketches in the enjoyable, witty and critical show of "Die Stachelschweine" is worth being retold. Three notables of a small town sit around the "Stammtisch" playing cards and pondering the results of the Federal elections which had taken place that day. As far as their own town is concerned, they are sure that the result will be as usual : a vast CDU majority with a sprinkle of Social Democrats. Suddenly a waitress bursts in to inform them that according to a radio announcement the NPD has won an overwhelming victory in their constituency. The three men immediately indulge in phrases about the need to restore national honour and other chauvinistic slogans, implying that they had contributed to the party's victory by their own votes. Two minutes later the waitress returns reporting that there had been an error in the announcement. The town had been mixed up with a place of a similar name, and the traditional CDU majority had been retained. The men try to obliterate their pro-NPD utterances of two minutes ago and revert to their card playing.

For the visitor from abroad the lesson is twofold : The sketch confirms that the political opportunism of the man in the street which stifled opposition against Nazism already before the final establishment of the dictatorial system is still alive in our days. At the same time, the self-criticism, as reflected in this sketch and also in other parts of the programme, is certainly a healthy symptom. That the past is still "unbewaeltigt" also became evident in a play by Guenter Grass at present being shown at the Schiller-Theater. Whilst in England the 1939-45 war is now more or less a matter of history which happened a quarter of a century ago, in Germany the period between 1933 and 1945 is still very much in the minds of the people. Mentally, to some extent, they still live in the past.

Yet physically the pre-war appearance of Berlin has definitely been eradicated. Cynical as it may sound, it has turned out to their advantage that the City was in ruins in 1945. By their own efforts, and with the help of Marshall Aid, a new City has been built up and, unlike in victorious England, new buildings are the rule rather than the exception. In some districts the entire topography has changed. Where there were rows of houses there are now free-standing, high-point buildings surrounded by open spaces. This applies above all to the Hansaviertel, but equally to the region between Wittenbergplatz and Luetzowplatz, which is now in a stage of reconstruction. The old "Tiergartenviertel", once a citadel of the Jewish haute bourgeoisie and a symbol of their feeling of unassailable economic and social security, is still in ruins. Yet there are also regions which are comparatively unchanged, e.g., Moabit, the streets between the Tempelhof Airport and Buelowstrasse, and (with the exception of the new university buildings) Dahlem.

The newly built theatres have been tastefully and spaciously designed, and the auditorium of the new "Philharmonie" at the Kemperplatz is architecturally impressive and acoustically highly satisfactory. Opposite the Kaiser Wilhelm-Gedaechtniskirche, the ruined old clock tower of which has been retained (the Berliners have dubbed it "der hohle Zahn"), rises the Europa Center, a multipurpose building with shops, restaurants, offices and an ice rink.

The Jewish Community has a Centre on the site of the former Fasanenstrasse Synagogue. The link with the past is symbolised by the use of one of the old synagogue's portals as the entrance door to the otherwise modern building. The Centre provides large and small meeting halls and rooms for religious tuition as well as social facilities in a restaurant and café. It is in constant use for meetings and lectures and reflects the consolidated status of the Community under its Chairman, Herr Heinz Galinski.

As was already mentioned in the "Old Acquaintances" column of our September, 1969 issue, the Municipality of Berlin has launched a scheme extending hospitality to former residents of the City who had been forced to emigrate under the Nazi régime. This gesture deserves the greatest apprecia-tion because it indicates the spirit of the responsible Berlin authorities and their desire to implement the idea of moral restitution. At the same time we hope that former refugees from Berlin will react to the scheme in a proper way and that those among them who have become used to spending their holidays on the Continent and who might, therefore, be able to visit Berlin at their own expense will keep in mind that there are others, especially in more distant countries who, but for the generosity of Berlin, would never have the opportunity of seeing their home town again.

The office in charge of the scheme is Der Regierende Buergermeister von Berlin, Senatskanzlei, 1 Berlin 62-Schoeneberg, John F. Kennedy-Platz, where we were given the following particulars: Those eligible for participation are persons who were resident in Berlin, independent of whether or not they were born there. The invitation covers fares and hotel accommodation, theatre and concert tickets and pocket money for seven days. The

city has allocated DM. 250,000 per year for the scheme. So far no decisions have been taken on applications received, and the office is engaged in scrutinising the applications. The order of priority in which the applications will be dealt with will depend on the result of this scrutiny. It can, however, now already be stated that preference will be given to very old people. There will be no questionnaires, but each case will be dealt with by individual correspondence. If the office is under the impression that an applicant is not in a very bad financial position he will be asked whether he would contribute towards the costs, because the money saved in this way could be used for the benefit of another applicant. Equally, savings may be made in the case of those applicants who have anyhow to go to Germany in order to take cures covered by the Federal Indemnification Law. The office has already received several thousand applications, and there is a steady influx of new letters. In proportion to the total number of ex-Berliners who are still alive, the number of persons who have expressed their interest in the scheme appears to be fairly large.

Though West Berlin is an island in the territory of the German Democratic Republic, the feeling of claustrophobia hardly arises. One only becomes aware of the situation if one approaches the Wall. It is a ghastly experience to walk through the Charlottenburger Chaussee (now Strasse des 17. Juni), where no-man's-land starts long before the Brandenburger Tor, and it is equally depressing to approach Checkpoint Charlie (Friedrichstrasse corner Kochstrasse) from the Hallesche Tor, an almost unbuilt area with the exception of the high new Axel Springer House immediately next to the Wall.

While West-Berliners cannot visit their relatives and friends on the other side of the Wall, East Berlin is accessible to West Germans and citizens of other countries. Having crossed the frontier at S-Bahnhof Friedrichstrasse, one becomes aware of the tremendous progress which has been made in rebuilding East Berlin which was still in ruins many years after the end of the war. The "Linden" are again bordered by houses. In its Western part modern office blocks have been erected, but the Eastern part looks as it did before, because the old buildings have either been repaired or reconstructed (State Library, University, Zeughaus, Hedwigskirche, Opera House, Kronprinzenpalais). The Schloss has been demolished and the site (Marx-Engels Platz) is used as an open-air rallying centre. The Koenigstrasse (now Rathausstrasse) is in the stage of being rebuilt and the Alexanderplatz has become a huge Piazza surrounded by large new buildings. The area beyond the Alexanderplatz is covered by new office and residential blocks, and the quarter next on the reconstruction programme is the Leipziger Strasse.

Continued on next page, column 1

Berlin Travelogue

Continued from page 1

Compared with the drab appearance of about ten years ago, there has been considerable economic progress. One of the reasons why East Berlin started later than the West was, we were told, that whatever had been left of machinery, rolling stock and other equipment after the war had to be handed over to the Russians. Having thus borne the burden of reparation for the whole of Germany, it was stated, East Germany was not in a position also to make compensation payments to individual Nazi victims abroad. On the other hand, those victims of fascism who live in the GDR are well looked after. Their privileges include pensions of 800 Ostmark per month, independent of whether or not they also have incomes from their employment.

To understand the position of the Jews in East Germany, one must know that membership with the Jewish community is not the rule but the exception. While the Jewish community of Berlin comprises only 650 members (this figure includes whole families) the total number of East Berlin Jews is considerably higher. This discrepancy has its cause in the political set-up of the GDR. Like all Communist States, the GDR does not encourage membership with religious communities, be they churches or synagogues, and, like the non-Jewish Communists, the Jewish Communists are atheists. Among the non-members of the community are quite a few who hold leading positions as high officials, politicians, writers and journalists.

The Jewish community is not only small but also over-aged and without prospects of rejuvenation. It runs a small office in the Oranienburger Strasse, the headquarters of the pre-war Gemeinde. The adjoining syna-gogue is an empty shell. A plaque affixed in 1966 commemorates the centenary of its erection. The reason for which the building has neither been repaired nor demolished is that in several years' time the whole side of the street is to be pulled down to make room for a new thoroughfare. Services are held in Rykestrasse Synagogue, conducted the by Rabbi Dr. Oedon Singer, an Hungarian, who was appointed a few years ago after the death of Rabbi Dr. M. Riesenburger. The Chairman the community is Herr Heinz Schenk, of whose Jewish activities prior to 1933 had commenced in the German-Jewish youth movement. The community is subsidised by the East German authorities. One of its tasks is the administration of the Weissensee cemethe costs for the general maintenance tery. of which are borne out of public funds. But the care of the tombs is a matter for the surviving families, and, according to Herr Schenk, of the 115,000 graves only 2,500 are under special care against payments received from the relatives.

As a minority not only among the general population, but also among the Jews living in East Berlin, the small community struggles bravely to keep Jewishness alive for those who still cling to the values of Judaism or who, as an expression of solidarity, want to maintain the bonds between those whose lives have been shaped by the common fate they had endured as Jews.

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HOME NEWS

PREJUDICE IN TRADE

Mr. Martin Savitt, vice-chairman of the defence committee of the Board of Deputies, reviewing the committee's work at the annual meeting of the Trades Advisory Council, stated that "the problems of prejudice in trade facing the community today are just as bad as, if not worse than, they were during the Nazi era". The situation, he stated, resulted " from the insidious propaganda put out and paid for by Arab States in the campaign against Israel which is reflected upon all Jews in calumny and hatred".

A resolution was moved reiterating the T.A.C.'s "strongest opposition to the Arab economic boycott", and urging the Board of Trade and associated organisations "to pro-vide clear instructions for British firms to the intimidations of the Arab Boycott Office, to refuse to reply to impertinent questionnaires and to act with firmness when any attempt is made from outside to restrict Britain's export trade

trade". In his report, Mr. Maurice Orbach, M.P., general secretary of the T.A.C., said that al-though the Race Relations Act had been passed, it was disturbing to find that there were 68 reports of alleged discrimination in trade, industry and commerce for the twoyear period which had been investigated.

"SMEAR CAMPAIGN" DEPLORED

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Friends of the Hebrew University, Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, M.P., and Lord Goodman, chairman of the Arts Council, referred to recent press attacks on Israel in this country. Sir Henry said they must not let themselves be misled by the nonsense published in some newspapers. He detected the start of a smear campaign which, perhaps, was not surprising in view of the fact that Arab propaganda is employing competent consultants in public employing competent consultants in public relations and has put considerable funds at their disposal.

Sir Henry proposed the toast of the Hebrew University, coupled with the name of Profes-sor Norman Bentwich, chairman of the British Friends. In seconding the toast, Lord Good-man also deplored the "signs of a deliberate smear campaign against Israel and of growing hostility. much more effective than it ever was in previous years.

PRO-ARAB M.P.s

Referring in Parliament to "the danger of increased Arab terrorist activities throughout the world", Mr. Arnold Shaw asked what pre-cautions were being taken to safeguard per-sons and property in Britain. He wanted to know what thought had been given to the safety of Parliament. One M.P., he said, was reported to be associated with the terrorist El Fatah organisation, and there were certain other Members who held funds subscribed by a foreign government sympathetic towards the terrorist organisations.

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTEST

As part of a protest against the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union, a Chanucah ser-vice was held outside the Soviet Embassy in London, to coincide with international Human Rights Day. The Universities Committee for Soviet Jewry organised the protest, preceded by picketing of hundred students. of the embassy by several

BEARSTED READERSHIP

Dr. Lionel Kochan delivered the inaugural lecture of the Bearsted Readership in Jewish History, at Warwick University. The lecture was entitled "Jewish History-between general and particular". Dr. Kochan said that the study of Jewish history had special rele-vance now, in the shadow of the massacre of European Jewry.

APPOINTMENTS

Parliamentary Private Secretary

Mr. Edward Lyons, M.P., has been appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr. Wil-liam Rogers, Minister of State to the Treasury, and also to Mr. Dick Taverne, Q.C., Financial Secretary to the Treasury. He was recently also appointed a member of the select com-wittee most polytopic and important mittee on race relations and immigration.

Youth at the Helm

Councillor Harold Gould will be Camden's youngest ever mayor when he takes up his office in May. A former Mayor of Holborn, Councillor Gould will also be the first Con-servative Jewish Mayor of the borough, which has had a number of Labour Jewish mayors. The Rev. J. L. Gluck, of Manchester, who is only 21, has been appointed reader of the Marble Arch Synagogue. He succeeds the Rev. S. Lerer who left over a year ago to go to South Africa.

South Africa.

HACKNEY VISIT TO MOSCOW CANCELLED

By 23 votes to 15 Hackney Borough Council decided not to send its mayor and two other members for a week's visit to Moscow, mainly because of Soviet discrimination against Jews. Although the borough has several Jewish coun-cillors, during the debate it was mainly the non-Jewish members who expressed strong feelings about the treatment of Russian Jews. Some Jewish councillors were in favour of the visit. Arguments were put forward that every opportunity to meet the ordinary Muscovite should be taken, to persuade them that the British way of life was good.

RACE BOARD AND DICTIONARIES

A spokesman of the Race Relations Board has confirmed that several complaints have been made about the definition of the word "Jew" in a number of English dictionaries. He explained that it was the function of a dictionary to describe the meaning with which words were used, and that such definition was not covered by any provision of the 1968 Race Relations Act. **Relations** Act

If it could be shown that such definitions incited racial hatred, it would fall under sec-tion six of the 1965 Race Relations Act, and this was a matter for the Attorney-General and the police not the Race Relations Board.

"MILITANT ACTIVITIES" CONDEMNED

At a recent meeting of the Board of Deputies, condemnation was voiced of "mili-tant activities" directed against Arabs, pro-Arabs and British racialists by unnamed Jewish activists.

The defence committee in its report ex-pressed the view that "this type of activity can only damage and bring discredit on the can only damage and bring discredit on the Anglo-Jewish community, serves the interests of neither Israel nor Anglo-Jewry and only assists the propaganda of those against whom such activities are directed ". During the debate it was asserted that this report had given a distorted version of what had been said in the committee and did not reflect the views of most of its members. It was however pointed out that a recent poll

was, however, pointed out that a recent poll had shown that only 4 per cent of the British public were pro-Arab, nearly 50 per cent pro-Israel and the remainder "neutral". The aim of the public relations effort should there-fore be concentrated on attracting to Israel's side the non-committed half of the public.

NATIONAL FRONT MOVEMENT

Two Conservative members of Wandsworth Borough Council. Mrs. A. O'Connel and Mr. P. Mitchell, have left the Tory group in the coun-cil to join the extreme Right-wing National Front Movement. They announced their re-signation at a meeting of the council.

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ELEANOR RATHBONE HOUSE OPENED

On December 7, the Flatlet Home for elderly refugees, Eleanor Rathbone House, was formally opened. Among those present at the ceremony were Baroness Stocks, the friend and biographer of Eleanor Rathbone; Lady Warr; Miss Vera Craig (Mrs. Schaerli), for-merly Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees; and members of the Rathbone family.

In his welcoming address, Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, M.P., Chairman of the Jewish Trust Corporation, recalled the impact made by Eleanor Rathbone on British life and especially referred to her courageous stand in Parliament when the refugees were interned after the fall of France in 1940. He expressed his appreciation to the CBF and the AJR through whose joint efforts the idea of a flatlet home had now materialised.

After the consecration of the Home by Rabbi M. Nemeth, Alderman Ernest Jones, Mayor of Haringey, conveyed the good wishes of the Borough whose various social facilities The speaker expressed the hope that the Ministry would see its way to reconsidering its decision and that the Borough of Haringey would also be prepared to subsidise the scheme. Any additional support would be used for the benefit of the residents by reducing the rents to be charged to them. In conclusion, Mr. Dresel paid tribute to the memory of Eleanor Rathbone who had also lent her help to the AJR and had repeatedly spoken at AJR meetings.

Mr. H. Oscar Joseph, O.B.E., Chairman of the CBF, recalled that the difficulties en-countered in the course of the preparatory work often appeared so great that some of those concerned with the project had become doubtful whether a viable scheme would emerge. "Yet the AJR never wavered," he said. The building, Mr. Joseph stated, was a fitting tribute to the memory of Eleanor Rathbone, whose outstanding services to the refugees he vividly remembered.

Speaking on behalf of the Rathbone family,



From left to right : Mr. A. S. Dresel, Rabbi M. Nemeth, The Mayoress, The Mayor (Ald. E. Jones), Sir Henry d' Avigdor-Goldsmid, M.P., Mr. H. Rossi, M.P., Mr. H. Oscar Joseph, O.B.E., Mr. John F. Rathbone,

would always be at the disposal of the residents. Mr. H. Rossi, Member of Parliament for Hornsey, stated that, as his own parents had been newcomers to this country, he was well aware of the problems of adjustment with which the refugees were faced after their arrival. The new Home, he said, was at the same time a memorial for those who had not been able to escape from the Continent in time

Mr Α. S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR, described the amenities offered by the Home, which comprises 48 self-contained one-room flatlets with kitchen and bath, four two-room flats, one three-room flat and one warden flat. The entire building is centrally heated and there are two lifts. Each flat has an intercom to the warden for use in case of emergency. There are two communal lounges, one with T.V., and a small kitchen where teas, etc., can prepared for social functions. When the building was planned, one of the obstacles arose from the fact that, in the ordinary way, half of the flats would have faced North. This was avoided by the erection of a tower block, and special tribute was due to the architect, Mr. W. Marmorek, F.R.I.B.A., for the ingenious and thoughtful way in which he had designed the building. On the other hand, the need to erect a tower block had unavoidably increased the costs which were considerably above the amount assessed by the Ministry of Housing as the basis for the current subsidies.

Mr. John F. Rathbone said that when asked for the consent to name the Home after his aunt, he had first hesitated, because Eleanor Rathbone had been a very modest personality who had never liked to put her name into the foreground. She was unsentimental and excelled by a strong sense of humility. Yet in the end he had arrived at the conclusion that she would have been pleased to be commemorated in this way, especially as she had felt a great personal affection for the Jews persecuted by the Nazi régime.

The opening ceremony was followed the next evening by a most enjoyable informal housewarming party for the residents and their relatives and friends, Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger kindled the Chanukah lights and linked the historical meaning of the "Consecration" at the time of the Maccabees with the consecration of the new Home. Mr. E. A. Lomnitz, Deputy General Secretary of the AJR, extended a cordial welcome to all residents and expressed the hope that they would develop a happy community life at Eleanor Rathbone House. He also thanked the members of the Ad hoc Committee who had lent a hand to the residents when they moved in, Mrs. R. Anderman, Mr. H. Hirschfeld, Mrs. M. Mautner and Mrs. E. Trent, and the wardens, Mr. and Mrs. Hendry. Mr. Walter Sachs expressed the gratitude of the residents to the organisations and personalities through whose efforts the Home had come into being.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

United Synagogue Salary Increases

The United Synagogue has agreed to a 10 per cent salary increase for ministers, readers, secretaries and part-time officials at district synagogues. Ministers in the highest grade will now receive from £2,120-£2,665, and in the synagogues. Ministers in the highest grade will now receive from £2,120-£2,665, and in the lowest grade between £1,595 and £1,980. Readers will receive between £1,755 and £2,120, and £1,635-£1,935 in the lowest scale, secretaries between £1,335 and £1,455. The joint treasurer of the council stated that the present arrears at synagogues were reaching "alarming proportions", and urged financial representatives to remedy the situa-tion.

tion.

Dissatisfaction at Jews' College

There has been dissatisfaction among Jews'

There has been dissatisfaction among Jews' College lecturers at the discrepancy in sala-ries. It is believed that Rabbi Dr. Nachum Rabinovitch, of Canada, suggested as the next principal, has been offered £6,000 a year plus generous benefits. The two senior lecturers at the college receive £2,350 and £2,500 respec-tively, without any benefits. Dr. N. Wieder, who heads the college's recently established department for post-graduate studies, leaves his post shortly to take up an appointment as lecturer in Hebrew and Jewish Studies at University College, London. Not only is he dissatisfied about sala-ries, but he is said to feel that his place is not in an institution which will probably be turned into a veshiva. Dr. Rabinovitch, in an interview with the "Jewish Chronicle", has said that he would like to see greater empha-sis in the college on Talmudic and rabbinic studies, "in fact, learning for its own sake."

Teachers Strike

Teachers at the J.F.S. Comprehensive School, the Hasmonean Grammar School and other Jewish schools in London and the pro-vinces took part in a one-day strike in support of their pay claims. At the King David School, Manchester, teachers held a half-day strike.

Welfare Board's Stand Against Outside Pressure

At the Board Meeting of the Jewish Welfare Board, Mr. M. Carlowe, the Chief Welfare Officer, stated : "Unfortunately there is a small Officer, stated : "Unfortunately there is a small element in the community which feels that because they have made some contribution— either financial or in direct service—the cases they advocate or nominate should receive priority. It would be totally unacceptable to allow these cases who have articulate influ-ential members of the community to succeed in pushing them to the top of the queue. This would be detrimental to the balance who make up the vast majority of our waiting list and would bring the Board and what it stands for into disrepute." into disrepute.'

Leo Baeck Lecture

The twelfth Leo Baeck memorial lecture was liberal Synagogue, Belsize Park, on the theme of "Story-telling in Genesis". The Leo Baeck Lodge of B'nai B'rith and the Society for Jewish Study organised the lecture.

London Girls' Hostel

London Girls' Hostel Helen Lucas House, Willesden, a girls' hostel originally planned nearly 40 years ago by the late Frederick Lucas, has been conse-crated. The late Mr. Lucas left a sum of money to be administrated by the Union of Jewish Women for a convalescent home for Jewish girls in memory of his mother. The project became obsolete with the advent of the Wel-fare State, but a recent nation-wide survey confirmed the need for a hostel for girls wish-ing to work or study in London. and the Government allowed the work to proceed.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

done.

NETHERLANDS

Martyrs Remembered

During a State visit to Holland, Germany's President, Dr. Gustav Heinemann, paid hom.ge to the 100,000 Dutch Jewish victims of the Nazis. He laid a wreath on the memorial in the Dutch Theatre, the place where Amster-dam's Jews were herded before being sent off

to the concentration camps. The President later told the rabbis who represented the three Jewish communities in Holland that he regarded their welcome and

his placing of the weath as a landmark in relations between West Germany and Dutch Jews. Not only the Jewish people but he him-self would never forget what the Nazis had

Anti-Israel Newspaper A radio commentator, Dr. G. B. J. Hilter-

A radio commentator, Dr. G. B. J. Hiter-man, was taken to court by the Amsterdam Catholic morning "People's Daily" for call-ing it "bluntly antisemitic, or at least anti-Israel", during a political survey. The court ruled in Dr. Hilterman's favour, and ordered the paper to pay the £100 costs of the action.

DAUBINGS IN FERRARA

Anti-Jewish slogans appeared twice within a few weeks on the walls of Ferrara Syna-gogue, as well as anti-Israel slogans next to

the memorial stones to the Jewish victims of Nazi concentration camps. FAR EAST FEDERATION

A conference organised by the Executive

A conference organised by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry has set up a Federation of Jewish Communities of South-East Asia and the Far East. The aim is to strengthen the ties between the scattered com-munities, and to exchange information and establish mutual co-operation in religion, cul-ture, youth, education, welfare and Israel. The new federation will be made a regional asso-ciate of the World Jewish Congress, so forging closer links with the rest of world Jewry.

closer links with the rest of world Jewry. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the W.J.C., said that the newly established federa-

tion would be the key to greater Jewish in-volvement by the smaller communities, thus helping to safeguard the status and rights of

Jews everywhere. Communal representatives from Australia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand make up the executive of the federation.

YUGOSLAV FOR "JOINT"

It has been announced that Dr. Zdenko Levental, a professor in Belgrade University's medical faculty, has joined the overseas staff of the American Joint Distribution Committee as deputy medical director. Dr. Levental has.

since 1951, served on the executive committee of the Federation of Yugoslav Jewish Commu-nities, and helped to found the Jewish Museum

in Belgrade. He established the first Yugoslav

State medical publication company in 1947, has edited several medical journals and was secretary of the World Union of the Medical Press for four years.

UNITED STATES

Compassionate Identification Urged

Addressing the national leadership confer-ence of the Union of Orthodox Congregations of America in Chicago, Chief Rabbi Jakobo-vits declared that Jews must manifest more clearly sensitivity to the humanitarian aspects of the Arab refugee problem. One reason was the necessity to re-establish "the classic, authentic image of the Jew, whose hallmark has always been compassionate identification with the weak, the needy, the suffering and the persecuted."

The persective." The present image of Israel was not fulfill-ing "the moral quest and yearning of many of our young people," continued the Chief Rabbi. They felt a void when confronted with the present harsh image of self-reliance which Israel presents to the world.

Santiago Bombing

bomb explosion occurred outside the A Santiago Synagogue, causing some damage. A bomb which had failed to go off was also found at the Jewish cemetery. Most of the 32,000 Jews in Santiago are newcomers to South America since 1945.

Antisemitic Bias in Luxury Apartments

The Human Rights Commission and the American Jewish Committee have been investigating antisemitic bias among the occupants of luxury co-operative apartment blocks in New York. Recently the partners in one co-operative were fined \$1,000 for excluding a Jew

The American-Jewish actress and singer. Barbra Streisand, has alleged that antisemi-tism might have played a part in her not obtaining a lease on a vacant £100,000 flat in a Park Avenue co-operative apartment house. She said she was considering a complaint to the New York Commission on Human Rights, and revealed that estate agents had eliminated some buildings from her house-hunting list "presumably because of my religious back-ground or occupation."

U.N. RESOLUTION ON NAZISM

In New York the Third (Social, Humani-tarian and Cultural) Committee of the United Nations unanimously approved a draft resolu-tion calling on all States which have not done so to take immediate and effective measures for the "complete prohibition of Nazi, neo-Nazi and racist organisations and groups and for their prosecution in the courts." for their prosecution in the courts.

All States and international organisations are also called upon to set aside a day each year in memory of the "victims of the struggle against Nazism and similar ideologies and practices based on terror and racial intolerance.

TORONTO JUDGES

The Attorney-General of Ontario has appointed Mr. Sidney Roebuck among the three new provincial judges, formerly known as magistrates, in the Toronto area. Four other Jewish judges also sit in the area courts.

AJR INFORMATION January, 1970

EAST EUROPEAN JEWRY Soviet State Prizes

Last year saw a decrease in the number of Last year saw a decrease in the number of Jews receiving Soviet State prizes, given annually on the anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Twenty-two awards were made to Jews, compared with 32 the year before. There was only one Jew, a film cameraman, among the literature, art and technology prizewinners.

Confrontation at U.N.

In the United Nations General Assembly's Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee, the American representative, Mrs Rita Hauser, charged that Russian Jews "suffer from discrimination in employment and concertuities in dischilitics in public life and opportunities ; disabilities in public life and, most important of all, are deprived of the cultural ingredients needed to preserve

the cultural ingredients needed to preserve their separate identity." During a Human Rights debate a formal pro-test was lodged by Mr. E. N. Nasinovsky against the introduction by Israel of the plea by the heads of 18 Jewish families in Soviet Georgia for aid in obtaining permission to emigrate to Israel.

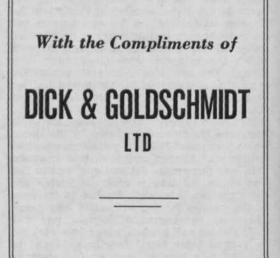
Three Indictments

Three bitter indictments of the Soviet Union are cited by the "Jewish Chronicle" correspondent in New York. Two of them are open letters demanding the right to emigrate to Israel. The third is a statement from Boris Kochubievsky, imprisoned for demanding the same rights. Grigory Solomonovich Vertlib, of Leningrad, made his protest to leading Soviet bodies; Vulf Gordin of Riga wrote "To the World Public!" Kochubievsky's statement "Why I am a

world Public!" Kochubievsky's statement, "Why I am a Zionist", says that pride in their national identity of Jewish boys and girls who know nothing about Jewish culture and language and are atheists in their majority, can be put down to antisemitism—the new brand called anti-Zionism and "the old antisemitism still alive among the more backward sectors of Soviet society."

Anti-Zionist Articles

A booklet of twelve anti-Zionist articles by Yuri Ivanov has been published in Moscow by the Pravda Publishing House. "Whom Do They Serve?" is priced at under 6d., with 100,500 copies printed.





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A PEER FROM MUNICH

On January 1, the largest company of Britain's electrical industry celebrated the seventieth anniversary of its official existence : the General Electric, with a quarter of a million employees in England and overseas, and an annual turnover of about £1,000 million. But as it is usual in such giant firms—only very few of the older employees remember the name of its founder, still fewer can recall something about his personality, and the modest beginnings of the enterprise are shrouded in nineteenth-century business legend. All the more reason why we should tell the whole story on this anniversary occasion, for its hero was a German Jew by the name of Hugo Hirsch, later to become Lord Hirst.

The Hirschs were an old Jewish middleclass family in Munich and had a small schnapps distillery in a not very fashionable suburb called die Au. The family lived, for reasons of economy and convenience, "above the shop", and it was here that Hugo was born in 1863. After passing his Einjaehriges he entered the firm and also attended evening classes in chemistry, which he believed to be a useful branch of science for running a distillery.

But at the age of 18 he seems to have been seized by a sudden attack of *Wanderlust*, and left Munich for London. Hirsch senior was probably not very enthusiastic about his son's escapade, for he did not furnish him with any money—at least Hugo was almost penniless when he arrived in the British capital. But he knew what he wanted.

The year was 1881. an historical one in the development of electricity. For the first time in Europe, Edison was demonstrating electric lighting at the Paris World Fair. In Germany, Siemens had succeeded in coupling an electric generator directly to a steam engine. England got its first generator, also in the same year, in Godalming, Surrey—an Edison machine of 1 h.p. Electricity was the wonder of the age, and everybody was talking about the electric light.

Hugo Hirsch was fascinated by it, and decided that this was to be his future career. He wandered through the City of London looking for some firm connected with this electrical business. He found one in a small lane near the Thames; it called itself "Electric Power Storage Company". In fact, it was no more than a warehouse for imported goods connected with electricity, for there was practically no manufacture in England itself. Young Hirsch was given a junior job, but soon he had his own department for supplying contractors and shops with bulbs and flexes and fittings.

At the age of 20 he decided to Anglicise his surname to Hirst, just as the brothers Binswanger—also from Munich—had done; they were now calling themselves Byng. These two he joined in 1885 to set up the "General Electric Apparatus Company" in Great St. Thomas Apostle, also in the City, but still without its own production. Hugo Hirst seems to have been the salesman of the little firm, as one gathers from the diary notes and memoranda still in existence. However, what he wanted was to start manufacturing, and this he achieved from 1889 when the firm's name was changed to "General Electric Company". Byng was the first chairman and 26-year-old Hirst got the title of managing director. Another man from Munich joined them : Max Railing, who had

no need to Anglicise his name; he was given the post of administrator (and, many years later, a knighthood). Hirst became related to the Railings by marrying a cousin from Munich.

When the G.E.C. was officially registered in January, 1900, with Hugo Hirst as its director, it already had 3,000 employees and sales branches all over the world. Yet it still seems to have been a kind of gemuetliche German enclave ruled by jovial, charming, but shrewd Mr. Hirst; each year, for instance, the whole firm was taken on an outing to Epping Forest or Surrey by horse-coach ; only the boss himself went by motor-car-he was an enthusiastic supporter of the new means of transport, and generally fond of sports. At all major horse-racing events he turned up in his grey top hat and tailcoat, trying to look as English as possible. In fact, he identified him-self very much with the British community in which he had begun to play an increasingly important part. Thus the outbreak of the First World War did not create any problems of loyalty for him and his family. The company—with its substantial research organisation, Hirst's favourite "baby"— contributed enormously to the British and Allied war effort in the military conflict which, for the first time in history, made special demands on scientists and technicians.

Success and prestige came to Hugo Hirst he rose to the position of one of the leading British industrialists; but so came tragedy and pain. At the end of the First World War, his only son was killed in the British Army; his only grandson died, as an R.A.F. pilot, in the Battle of Britain in 1940. In 1925, Hugo Hirst was knighted, and nine years later Sir Hugo was raised into the peerage as Lord Hirst of Witton, still chairman of the G.E.C. He was one of the very few German-born peers who ever entered the House of Lords. He was frequently called upon to advise the Board of Trade, to sit on the National Science Committee, to join economic missions to Commonwealth countries But these activities grew less and less frequent as time went on. Eventually, plagued by gout, he had to stay at home in his mansion at Fox Hill, near Reading, still conducting scientific experiments on his farm, still working on welfare projects for his thousands of employees. Here he died, nearly 80 years old, in January, 1943. His daughter, Mrs. Gamage, survived him; she was killed some months ago in a car crash. With her died the last descendant of the Hirsch family which had contributed so much to Britain's national life.



Old Acquaintances

Obituary: Leopold Biberti, the Berlin-born actor, has died near Basle while he was on tour, at the age of 75. When the Nazis came to power he voluntarily left Germany for Switzerland.—The Bavarian actress, Gabriele Reismueller, committed suicide in Munich. She was 49 years of age.—Anna Exel, actress and founder member of "Exel-Buehne", has died in Innsbruck at the age of 87.

Milestones: Dr. Hans Hirschfeld, who survived the war years in the United States, has attained the age of 75 in Berlin. Before 1933 he was Public Relations Officer at the Prussian Ministry of the Interior; he held the same post after 1945 under the Lord Mayor, Ernst Reuter.—Paul Mayer has celebrated his 80th birthday in Zurich. He was chief Lector of Rowohlt for more than 20 years and survived the Hitler régime in Mexico.—Hannah Hoesch, who influenced the Dada movement with her paintings, has also attained 80 years. —Count Coudenhove-Kalergi, founder of the "Paneuropa" movement, has celebrated his 75th birthday in Switzerland.

75th birthday in Switzerland. Germany: P. Walter Jacob appeared in Kafka's "Trial" in Frankfurt. He returned to Germany several years ago from Buenos Aires.—O. E. Hasse read from works by Fontane at Berlin's Urania.—A musical version of "Charley's Tante" has been staged in ten German theatres. It was adapted by Robert Gilbert and Max Colpet with music by R. M. Siegel.—Richard Muench is to take over the directorship of the Frankfurt Theatre.— Harry Buckwitz has produced "Mahagonny", by Brecht and Weill, in Munich.—Curt Juergens starred in "Millionen nach Mass", by Maria Matray and A. Kreuger, on television.—Camilla Horn and Werner Finck appear in the film "Wer weint denn schon im Freudenhaus".—Erich Kaestner's "Die 13 Monate" is to be produced for television by D. Haugk.—In Osnabruck, Herbert Maisch has directed "Zauberfloete".—"Lanzelot", a new opera by Paul Dessau, will have its première in East Berlin.—Eighty-three-year-old Ferdinand Friedensburg, Berlin's former Chief of Police, has published his memoirs.

News from Everywhere : The former dancer and choreographer, Ernst Matray, has been invited to Hamburg from Hollywood to negotiate the publication of his autobiography with Axel Springer.—Eric Charell is adapting his famous film, "Der Kongress tanzt", which he will direct himself for both the Berlin and London stage.—Dr. Budzislawski, who succeeded Willi Schlamm as editor of the Neue Weltbuehne in exile before the war and who returned from the U.S. to East Germany after 1945, was a member of the first East German Parliamentary delegation to be invited to London.

Austria: Helen Thimig, widow of Max Reinhardt, who is the great old lady of the Vienna stage, has received the "honorary ring" of that city.—Gustav Froehlich, who lives in partial retirement in Brissago, will play Ustinov's part of "Endspurt" in Salzburg.— Robert Gilbert's adaptation of the musical "Cabaret" is to be staged at Theater an der Wien, where Josef Meinrad is also to star in a Viennese version of "My Fair Lady". The original version, two years ago, was a flop.—Peter Loos will direct "Plaza Suite" at Josefstadt.—Dr. Gottfried Heindl, who is director of New York's Austrian Kulturinstitut, has been appointed head of Vienna's State Theatres.

Hans Jaeger

DANGEROUS HALF-TRUTHS

The author of this book,* an Australian, is Reader in History at Adelaide University. He was a prisoner-of-war in German hands and, following an escape attempt and involvement with French Resistance workers, he spent some time in concentration camps. The work of an author who combines the proficiency of a historian with the personal experience of a camp inmate naturally arouses expectations. However, these are only partly fulfilled. The author has certainly an admirable knowledge of history; he is even erudite. He piles up a lot of detail and at times succeeds in treating it with discernment. Yet when he tries to evaluate the events, he arrives at statements which, to say the least, are highly controversial, if not careless and challenging to the point of being dangerous. His conclusions are sometimes contradictory, sometimes even half-baked, though undoubtedly prompted by good intentions.

One can agree with the author's contention that hatred is sterile, especially if it is based on generalisations or extended to future generations; but this claim should not be made for hatred of ideas, movements and behaviour.

The author says that he sympathises not only with Germany but even with the Nazis. This sympathy, he says, is not tantamount to approval, for he abhors many things the Germans did and abominates the atrocities of the Nazi régime. Rather it is "the sympathy of understanding " for " human beings caught up in human situations"; it is "the kind of sympathy which feels for the most debased". Hence the author makes clear that he goes much further than just showing understanding for those who slid into the Party because they were ignorant or hoped for a miracle, particularly in the field of unemployment, or acted for reasons of expediency, or out of fear or in blindness, or were guided by nationalism, fanaticism and dreams of world domination. No, he included "the most debased". It is at this juncture that one is compelled to contradict emphatically. For

* Peter Phillips : The Tragedy of Nazi Germany. London. Routledge & Kegan Paul. 241 pp. £1 15s.



instance, in the context of "Human Behaviour in the Concentration Camp", a Dutch camp inmate is quoted as stating that "given similar circumstances most people would have behaved as did the Germans"; and citing such statements without comment amounts to identifying oneself with their contents.

Of course the author is right in his doubts about the conception of a "national charac-ter" of the Germans. He refutes many generalisations and in this respect he will please his German readers. The simplifications and half-truths which he attacks, certainly apply only to a certain percentage. They are, however, not entirely invalid; and by discarding them altogether he throws out the baby with the bath water. By trying to show that in fact nations do not differ so very much since human reactions are more or less the same everywhere, he whitewashes the whole nation. This is going to the same extreme as blaming the entire nation. Although he is a historian, the author thus deprives himself of certain historical explanations which contributed towards elucidating, perhaps not "the national character", but at least some national characteristics which apply to a certain percentage of the population.

The theory that Nazism was simply "an accident" is unacceptable and unscientific. One of the points which he discards is militarism because he regards it as a general phenomenon. He does not understand its essential manifestation and form in Germany where the General Staff was active as a kind of collateral government for decades. The author also dismisses the explanation that Hitler was put into the saddle by certain sections of the people. To him this conception is one of the imaginary conspiracies. He regards Nazism as a phenomenon of the mass age, the attitude of the people "below the top ranks" who were "human beings caught in the grip of human emotions, desires, fears, predicaments and dilemmas ". This excursion into the field of psychology is superficial.

To be fair, the chapters of the book that deal with "Power", "Absolute Power" and "Absolute Corruption" are incomparably better. The author speaks about industrialisation and its consequences, about the position of the middle classes which were in a state of demoralisation. The Versailles Treaty, which had already become eroded before Hitler came to power, is discussed in old clichés.

There is no doubt about the author's good intentions, his anti-Nazism, his condemnation of the camps, the massacres and persecutions. However, it is somewhat out of proportion for the author to say: "If we recognise, in part, our own self, when we study other times and other places, we may understand the realities and sadness of German human beings yesterday." By this approach he lumps together the victims and those torn by inner conflicts with the culprits and the indifferent. What he had in mind was an attack on complacency,

NEW LIBERAL JEWISH CONGREGATION 51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3 SYNAGOGUE SERVICES are held regularly on the Eve of Sabbath and Festivals at 6.30 p.m. and on the day at 11 a.m. ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED hypocrisy and the assumption that "it could never happen to us", the feeling that "everything in the free world is all right". He could have expressed this in a different way. As things are, he may give the Nazis cause for satisfaction and malicious joy and provide them with ammunition. They may say that they are not unique in history and that after all they cannot have been so bad.

In conclusion the author writes : "We have the Lebensraum and what we have, we hold. We are white members of a Herrenvolk in a world where most whites are relatively rich and all the non-white rest are poor. We make elaborate protestations of respect for our coloured brethren. We say we want them to develop, but we leave them to starve and suffer just as surely as Nazis did subjects in occupied Eastern Europe. We have our equivalent of Nazi ideology. We attend to our master-racism." This is the kind of halftruth against which Alfred Adler fought throughout his life. It contains a grain of truth, but omits that, with very few exceptions, colonialism in its old form has been eliminated though new forms are taking shape. To claim that all the whites are rich and all the black poor is a gross exaggeration which opens the door to racialism.

The author goes on to say: "The same attitude prevailed in Nazi Germany. They were human like us. They succumbed to circumstances, fear, temptation, necessity just as we are doing, a white Herrenvolk in a wider world." This is just the equation which the author promised to eschew.

The author's last sentence is simply shocking. He may not have seen its implication but this does not absolve him from responsibility, He states : "It is just possible that we have a last chance to avoid the culmination of our tragedy with the roles reversed so that we play the Jews while coloured people play the S.S. It is just possible that we have this last chance, not because of any difference between our humanity and German humanity, but because their tragedy is a lesson we still may learn."

This is it. Obviously Hitler, Himmler and the S.S. are included in this "tragedy" and the argument against the Nazis is demolished. As if all whites wanted to play the role of master race and Herrenvolk, as if the best among them were not fighting against such aspiration ! In fact, the fronts have been confused.



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Dr. Rudolf R. Levy (Holon, Israel)

THE FIRST WORLD CONGRESS OF JEWISH JURISTS IN JERUSALEM

The first World Congress of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists has been held in Jerusalem. Apart from 500 Israeli jurists, 350 representatives from 20 countries met at the Binjanej Ha'uma. The impressive opening session was chaired by Dr. Josuah Rotenstreich, president of the Israeli Bar and welcoming addresses were delivered i.a., by Jacob S. Schapiro, Israeli Minister of Justice, the aged Nobel Prize winner Professor René Cassin, president of the European Human Rights Court, and Bernard G. Segal, president of the American Bar Association.

The most important outcome of the Congress was the foundation of the World Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists which is to have its headquarters in Jerusalem. Dr. J. Rotenstreich who proposed the motion for the establishment of the World Association, pointed out that membership of the Association was open not only to all Jewish lawyers and jurists but also to organisation of jurists and individual jurists who identified themselves with its aims regardless of their race, faith and colour. He described it as the task of the World Association to examine and solve above all the legal issues which are common to Jews throughout the world and also to bring into the orbit of investigation the legal problems which concern the State of Israel, Another task was to promote research into the influence of Jewish legal thinking on modern international law in general.

national law in general. Mr. Arthur Goldberg, former U.S. Supreme Court Judge and erstwhile U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, was unanimously elected president of the World Association of Jewish Jurists. Apart from him, there are four deputy and twelve vice-presidents. The Executive Committee consists of 16 Israeli members of 25 representatives from other countries.

The Congress deliberations centred on the Struggle for human rights. Professor René Cassin, the 82-year-old proven champion of human rights and author of the draft of the Human Right Declaration, spoke about the failure of the peace efforts of the League of Nations in which he had represented France for 14 years. He referred to the conviction held at the outbreak of the Second World War, namely that the war must be won in order to safeguard human rights. It had taken centuries to attain the Proclamation of Human Rights of the French Revolution and now the need was to ensure justice on a universal plane.

Professor Cassin differentiated between three stages in the struggle for human rights. The Second World War was the first stage. Apart from the efforts to bring about peace, the safeguarding of human rights had to be ensured; this led to the drawing up of the General Declaration of Human Rights which was approved by the United Nations in 1948. The second stage was the transformation of the Declaration into conventions binding on the nations. Cassin regretted that only a few countries, among them Israel, have so far signed the general Human Rights Convention which came into being after long drawn-out efforts at the end of 1966. He emphatically called for effecting the third stage, i.e., for ensuring the protection of human rights by ratification of the Convention and its implementation by the nations.

The second speaker on the subject of the

struggle for Human Rights was Professor V. Zeltner, president of the Tel Aviv District Court and Israeli representative in the U.N. Human Rights Commission. He gave a critical assessment of the effectiveness of the United Nations in the sphere of Human Rights pointing out that the Convention on civil and politirights-the most important one for pracical purposes—was passed in December 1966 with 32 abstentions. In order to come into force it required ratification by 34 States, but so far only three States have in fact ratified it. Professor Zeltner explains this reluctance by the fact that Human Rights are based on Natural Law which has been overshadowed by Positivism. He quoted Professor G. Schwarzenberger, who described Human Rights as secularised religion. Zeltner stressed the Jewish identification with Human Rights referring to the first chapter of the Bible, the Prophets, Hillel and he Talmud and he pointed to the merits of Jewish scholars such as Sir Hersch Lauterpacht and particularly Professor Cassin.

The debate was ushered in by Haim H. Cohen, Israeli Supreme Court judge, who sharply criticised the attitude of the United Nations, and particularly of the Security Council. Another speaker in the discussion was Dr. J. Lador of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who dealt with the role of the governmental organisations in the struggle for Human Rights. He proceeded from the foundation of the Alliance Israélite Universelle in 1860, a pioneering achievement, and explained how in the course of time international organisations such as the Zionist Organisation and the World Jewish Congress as well as (after the First World War) the Comité des Délégations Juives and the World Aid Conference proved to be important factors for the protection of the rights of Jewry. This point was illustrated by Edward Knoll who spoke about



the Alliance Israélite Universelle (whose president is Professor R. Cassin) and its part in the struggle for the position of Jews throughout the world.

While the deliberations on the struggle for Human Rights were of great interest to the public at large, it is perhaps right to say that the reports and the discussion during the last day of the Congress on the contribution of Jewish Law to modern Law were chiefly addressed to the Congress participants themselves—the jurists. Hence it suffices to state here that the paper read by Lawyer N. Lipschütz on the equality of the citizen before the law and the profound investigation into Jewish legal principles in the legal system of the State of Israel by Professor M. Elon of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem constituted valuable contributions to the subject.

J. D. Thieme of the Max Planck Institute for foreign and international Private Law in Hamburg emphasised the need to clarify the relations between the religious laws and the principles of private international law, particularly in the field of family law.

At the end of the Congress the distinguished British jurist, Professor A. L. Goodhart of University College, Oxford, read a paper, received with much applause, on the Jews' natural right to Israel. After a fundamental exposition on the nature of State sovereignty, with special reference to Human Rights, he dealt convincingly with the most important topical problems which constitute the bone of contention between Israel and the Arabs. He elucidated the difference between the French Maquis and the Arab terrorists and the problem of the control over the Holy places and the Old City of Jerusalem; nor did he refrain from well-founded criticism of the Security Council and U.N. Secretary-General U Thant.

After the conclusion of the Congress proper in Jerusalem a tutorial lasting several days was held at Beth Hepraklit in Tel Aviv which dealt with the Israeli legal system, the Law governing the Ingathering of Exiles, the Laws relating to Personal Status and problems relating to private international law.

Receptions given in honour of the Congress participants by Premier Mrs. Golda Meir, Minister of Justice J. S. Schapiro and by Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem, offered opportunities for personal contacts between the Jewish jurists from many countries. Thus the Congress was a great success both as regards the level of deliberations and overall organisation for which Moshe Szatmary, executive director of the Jerusalem Bar, was responsible. It may be assumed, therefore, that the contact between the jurists from all over the world as well as the deliberations themselves will bear fruit.

SCHOLAR FINDS 'TWO ISAIAHS'

Dr. Assa Kasher, an expert in applied mathematics on the staff of Bar-Han University, an Orthodox institution in Jerusalem, announced that his research has established that the Biblical Book of Isaiah was written by at least two people. This seems to provide some confirmation of the long-standing theory, rejected by the Orthodox, that there were two Isaiahs.

by the Orthodox, that there were two Isaiahs. Kasher told a conference of the Information Processing Association in Jerusalem that, through research using electronic computers, he had established—on purely stylistic and linguistic ground only—that the first 39 chapters of the Book of Isaiah were written by a different author from the rest. Moreover, from chapter 56 onward, either both authors had collaborated, or else a third man was involved.

Kasher noted that his studies and conclusions were restricted to matters of linguistic style and had nothing to do with religious or philosophical content. He could not give any suggested dates for the two Isaiahs.

Rabbi Dr. I. Maybaum

JEWS IN THE NEW ERA

Tucholsky's writings are widely read and appreciated in the Germany of today. The rich output of his pen has been republished. In one of these now post-humous best-sellers Tucholsky asks the question : Wer ist das eigentlich-Gott? (God-who is He?) Hans Jürgen Schultz puts this question, asked with the irony and in the seriousness of Heine, to nineteen theologians, scholars and writers, and their answers were given over the Süddeutsche Rundfunk

"The Book of the Nineteen", as it is called,¹ is a most successful literary venture. Seventeen thousand copies have so far been sold. Tucholsky's down-to-earth question forces men used to write for an academic public, to speak in a way in which non-specialists and laymen have to be spoken to. The challenge of irony has good results. It proved, like in the case of Socrates, to be "a mid-wife" delivering profound wisdom. The present historical situation is surveyed, the past is divested of its apocalyptic horror, and the future with its potential dangers and hopes is investigated. These three themes receive an introduction by Karl Rahner, a theologian who has made his impact on both Protestants and Catholics. A postcript by the editor sums up what the "Nineteen", each one from the viewpoint of his special camp, have to say. The result is this most gratifying and informative book. It will bring hope to those terrified by the

Wer ist das eigentlich-Gott? (Nineteen contribu-tors) (280 pp.) DM. 12.80.
Joseph Ratzinger: Einführung in das Christentum; 300 pp. DM. 24.80.
Piacidus Jordan: Antwort auf das Wort? 248 pp. DM. 28.

(4) Die geistige Gestalt des heutigen Judentums (five contributors); 165 pp. DM. 9.80. All published by Kösel Verlag, Munich.



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prophets of doom who speak of "the end of the modern era". It courageously proclaims "the legitimacy of the modern era".

Einführung in das Christentum by Joseph Ratzinger²-of which 20,000 copies were sold in the first five months after its publication-Antwort auf das Wort by Placidus Jordan,3 Die geistige Gestalt des heutigen Judentums by various authors,4 among them Professor Ernst Simon (Jerusalem), and last but not least "The Book of the Nineteen" prove one important point: we have to move towards theological thinking and away from too much and too one-sided sociology and psychology. To the phrase "the German economic To the phrase "the German economic miracle" the phrase "the German theological miracle" could be added. After the silence of German Christendom during the Nazi-period a new generation comes forward which investigates the creeds of believers and unbelievers and demands self-criticism and commitment. Marx and Freud are analysed and, behold ! they are-unknown to themselves-proved to be rooted in Jewish faith and therefore of importance to Christianity and mankind.

Most successful in this new approach is the Viennese historian Friedrich Heer with his contribution to Die geistige Gestalt des heutigen Judentums. He addresses the Jewish Marxists and humanists with Nietzsche's : "You do not know, how pious you are". In the same book Professor Ernst Simon brings the Frankfurt of Samson Raphael Hirsch and Nehemias Nobel to life and arouses nostalgic memories. "There is much singing in the Jewish home on Shabbat", he says. There is—in Ernst Simon's home. I was privileged to experience it, as his guest. But in North-West London a very high percentage of Jews are not affiliated to a synagogue. Shall one call them and the many Jewish students at British universities who identify themselves with a humanism contradicting Judaism-atheists? One can learn from the Modernist Roman Catholic Heer and discover the often true Jewish messianism in these Jewish " atheists "

Simon disagrees with Jochanan Bloch's contribution to the same publication "The irrevocable (Jewish) Retreat to Zion". He does not share Bloch's radical negation of a future Jewish existence under the conditions of the diaspora. The platform for this discussion, introduced by Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich, Switzerland, was arranged by the Katholische Akademie of Bavaria.

It is worth noting that all the Christian authors reviewed here use the term "Jewish-Christian civilisation", "Jewish-Christian Christian civilisation", Jewish was not culture", "Jewish-Christian monotheism". In by-gone days the attribute Jewish was not added to the attribute Christian. A new era has begun. The Kösel-Verlag makes mighty strides towards it.

Martin Heidegger belongs to Germany's new When, in 1928 he had a dialogue with Ernst Cassirer at a convention in Davos, Franz Rosenzweig expressed his agreement with Heidegger. Rosenzweig did not live to hear of Heidegger's lecture as Chancellor of Freiburg University in 1933, which he delivered, donned not in his acedemic robes, but in S.A. uniform. Heidegger later deplored this outrage but never recanted it publicly. Today he is the thinker who has influenced Catholic and Protestant theologians alike, men like Karl Rahner and Rudolf Bultmann. They all emancipate their Christian faith from myth: they "demythologise" Christianity. They also move away from Plato and Aristotle, who

strongly directed the thinking of the fathers of the Early Church: Christianity is dehellenised.

A demythologised and dehellenised Christianity is-Judaism. Today is the great hour of Judaism and Jews must not be entirely concerned with what will later prove to be a side-Ernst Simon's southern German pietshow. ism-he will correct me and call it Eastern European Chasidism-is not the Judaism of the Hebrew Bible, nor of the classical rabbis. Pietism, or to oblige Ernst Simon, Chasidism is not classical Judaism, the Judaism of the Prophets. The Prophets were concerned with the goal of history; their faith was messian-ism, they did not let world and mankind slip away from their faith.

Ratzinger is influenced by Heidegger, who once said to somebody, who used his (Heidegger's) own terminology : "You have read too much Heidegger. Say, what you mean". This book makes exciting reading. Placidus Jordan, on the other hand, always remains close to his subject, Christian faith, and gives the reader solid information about it.

Leo Baeck repeatedly said to his students : "Judaism and Christianity can walk 'side by side."" He left us this admonition in his book about Paul, which he published in London after his imprisonment in Theresienstadt. The Berlin rabbi, a north-German humanist and yet thoroughly Jewish, nearly literally quotes a Christian nobleman, the Romantic Novalis : "Where do we go?

we all go home.

Wer ist das eigentlich—Gott? the "Book of the Nineteen", can be summarised by quoting a saying of the rabbi of Kotzk: "God dwells, where man lets him in". I wish to amend the word of this Russian Jew in the following way: God dwells where man lets him in, and he dwells where man does not let him in, and where man cannot reach him.

The New Era has been called the Brave New World. In 1923 Buber translated "eheye asher eheye" (Exodus 3, 14) in the way of the usual Christian translation : "I am that I am". Franz Rosenzweig, nine years younger than Buber, was ahead of Buber by translating in the Stern der Erlösung III, 16 (second edition) Ich werde da sein, als der ich da sein werde (I shall be there, as I shall be there) in har-mony with Rashi's commentary: "I shall be with you, as I was with your fathers". To quote Rosenzweig again : "For God future is duote Rosenzweig again : "For God future is not an anticipation, He is eternal, the only Eternal, the unique Eternal, as it is meant by the word echad, One, in the 'Hear, O Israel' I am' in His mouth the same, as 'I shall be'" (ibid.).

Jews in the New Era-there is no need for a question mark after these words, although Tucholsky puts one after the word God. We can give Rashi's answer: "God will be with the Jew in the New Era, as he was with their fathers in the past".



Kurt Grunwald (Jerusalem)

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FRANKFURT'S JEWISH BANKERS

A plethora of volumes have been published over the past 25 years, in various languages, dedicated to the memory of Jewish communities in Central and Eastern Europe which were destroyed under the Hitler régime. The present, slender but well illustrated booklet,* is dedicated not to the memory of a community that disappeared, but to a rather unique group which had held a special position in the economic history of Germany, viz., the Jewish merchant banking houses of Frankfurt a.M. Like many memorial volumes, the present one too is to be valued primarily as an act of piety. The author, a grandson of Karl Sulzbach and heir to one of these distinguished houses, seems to have felt the urge to save this fascinating chapter of history from oblivion.

While the name of Frankfurt as a banking centre is popularly associated with the picture of the "Five Frankfurters," i.e., the Rothschild brothers who settled in the various centres of Europe, the present publication reminds us of the other important houses, of the Dreyfus, the Erlangers, Koenigswarters, Ladenburg, Seligmans, Speyers, Sterns and Sulzbachs who, too, had spread from Frankfurt over the Continent and over the Atlantic. Some of these branches survived the founder firms which had to close down between 1933 and 1938.

The author attempts to record some of the historical background which explains the eminence of Jews in the banking trade. But the economic historian will want to know more about the geo-political, historical and economic forces which favoured Frankfurt's rise as a "Hans-Dieter Kirchholtes: Juedische Privatbanken in Frankfurt s.M. Verlag W. Kramer, 1969. pp. 76, ill. banking centre in competition with, say, Amsterdam or Cologne. He will want to see the activities of the Frankfurt bankers in a wider context, as they appear, e.g., in Paul H. Emden's "Money Powers of Europe in the XIX-XX Centuries" (an out-of-print classic that deserves an early reprint) or as in the present reviewer's essay on "Europe's Railways and Jewish Enterprise" (Leo Baeck Year Book, 1967). And an evaluation of the group's activities within the framework of German banking history would be a valuable chapter in the hitherto unwritten economic history of the Jews in Germany.

Following the admonition of the Hebrew sages on the obligation of completing a good deed once started, the author of the present volume would put us in his debt by continuing his work along the lines suggested here.

"THERE SHALL BE LIGHT"

There are several aspects to everything. Which is the most important, the most astonishing, the most moving one? I was wondering about this question when I visited the exhibition, "Illuminated Glass Mosaics", by Wolfgang Meyer-Michael (Proscenium Galleries). The first impression was the unusual kind of exhibits. There were glass mosaics in a wooden frame or box illuminated from within by electric light. A hundred different colours were gleaming, glowing, writhing, dancing from the walls. The subjects varied considerably: apes in a deep jungle, just deep dark colours contrasting vigorously with light greens and yellows expressing different woods. Particularly moving "In Memoriam": one half of a Menorah surrounded, threatened by flickering flames and yet the Jewish emblem standing out and somehow overcoming the ordeal. This mosaic was specially made for an exhibition in Bielefeld three years ago.

The artist was born 79 years ago in Berlin. He studied sculpture at the Berlin Academy of Art with, among others, Professor Tuaillon. In 1913 he published Tierstudien, Originalradierungen. He emigrated to Palestine in 1936 and came to London in 1963. And there, at the age of 73, he turned to glass mosaics. In its present form this is a new medium which developed within the last 20 years. Before that, pieces of glass could only be joined by lead, now a plastic glue makes it possible to join them invisibly. How remarkable that a man of that age has the courage and versatility to enter a new field of artistic creativity. At the moment Wolfgang Meyer-Michael is full of new ideas to be executed in new techniques. His work is probably too new to have found its most deserved place, e.g., in synagogues.

Mr. Meyer-Michael is also an accomplished musician. He says: "My mosaics must be seen as if listening to music."

A. ROSENBERG.

FRITZ NAPHTALI FACULTY IN TEL AVIV

On November 12, 1969, the nine-storey building of the Faculty of Social Science of Tel Aviv University was formally opened. It has been named after the late Perez (Fritz) Naphtali who played a leading part in the Labour Movement, first in Germany and later in Israel, where he also was a Minister of Social Welfare. Half of the If 6.5-million costs was contributed by the German, Austrian and Swiss trade unions which were also represented at the dedication ceremony.



IN MEMORIAM

DR. F. PESTA

Another great friend of the victims of Nazi persecution has passed away; in declining health for some time and finally succumbing to a serious illness, Dr. F. Pesta died on December 10, 1969, at the age of 81.

As Legal Adviser in the London office of U.R.O. from 1955 to 1965, he became a highly respected and efficient lawyer to his clients who owe the settlement of their restitution and compensation claims to his legal experience, wide knowledge and tireless efforts. Full of human understanding and passionately devoted to his work, he dealt with intricate problems and difficult cases with expert

ability. Dr. Pesta was born in Koeslin and prac-tised as a well-known lawyer in Halberstadt until Nazism put an end to this work. After his immigration to this country he met with his immigration to this country he met with courage the obstacles of a new and humble life, earning his modest living as a manual worker and railway clerk. It was only after the war that he could again put his legal mind at the disposal of his fellow persecu-tees: he became a Regional Director of the Jewish Trust Corporation in 1950 and, until 1955 contributed to the success of that 1955, contributed to the success of that organisation in recovering the heirless and unclaimed property of Jewish citizens for the benefit of many, especially old and handi-capped, refugees.

capped, refugees. Dr. Pesta was not only a friendly and loyal colleague at the J.T.C. and at U.R.O., but also a worthy member of B'nai B'rith. Presi-dent designate of the Berend Lehmann Lodge at Halberstadt when the lodges in Germany were closed by the Gestapo, he became an active brother in the Leo Baeck (London) Lodge, not seeking office, honours or lime-light, but creating, through regular attend-ance and untiring committee work, the spiri-tual atmosphere which traditionally leads to harmony and brotherly love. He was always harmony and brotherly love. He was always willing to assist the needy, to visit the sick, and to protect the aged.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

The AJR Club expresses its very best wishes to its member Miss Anna Wollner, of 105 Jacqueline House, 52 Regent's Park Road, London, N.W.1, who celebrated her 75th birthday on 12th December, 1969

Löw-Mrs. Anna Löw (née Holzer, Eger) of 44 The Ridge, Orpington, Kent, will celebrate her 85th birthday on January 19.

Treitel.—Dr. Theodor Treitel, of 14 Dunstan Road, London, N.W.11 (formerly Berlin) will celebrate his 85th birthday on 3rd January.

Thanks for Congratulations

Lewin .- Mr. Arnold Lewin, of Leo 3s. for five words. Baeck House, The Bishop's Ave-nue, London, N.2, wishes to exsincerest thanks press his and appreciation for the good wishes extended to him on the occasion of his recent 85th birthday.

Deaths

Bein.—Mrs. Therese Bein, of 33 Aldridge Road Villas, London, W.11, passed away peacefully on December 7th 1969, aged 88. Deeply mourned and always remembered by her children, great-grandchildren, sister, sister-in-law, nieces and nephews and all her friends friends.

During his undergraduate years he had joined the F.W.V., and as soon as the surviv-ing remnants of this fraternity could assemble nig remained a faithful member, ready to strengthen old friendships and to conclude new ones.

He was happily married for more than 45 years to Herta, née Karger, whose devotion to him was boundless in love and admirable to him was boundless in love and admirable unselfishness. It was particularly tragic that as a result of an unfortunate accident she was prevented from sharing with him the last days and hours of their family life, a life which she has borne with courage and with-out self-pity in hard times, and with good humour and loving kindness in good days. His friends, clients and colleagues will grieve with his widow, and extend to her their sincerest condolences, together with their very best wishes for her own speedy and perma-nent recovery.

nent recovery.

R.A.B.

MISS LAURA M. LIVINGSTONE

It is learned with regret that Miss Laura M. Livingstone died on November 2, 1969, as the result of a road accident. She was 80 years old. Miss Livingstone's life-long humanitarian activities included rescue and relief work for the Jewish and "non-Aryan" victims of Nazi per-secution. She was a leading member of the Church of England Committee for Refugees. In this capacity she paid several visits to Ger-many before the war in order to help in organthe emigration of persecutees. This also ising brought her into personal contact with the Jewish organisations in charge whose officials greatly appreciated her feelings of compassion and effective share in the rescue work. After the war, she extended her help to survivors of the catastrophe and especially fought for the alleviation of the hardships encountered by refugees from Poland. She will be grate-fully remembered by all those who, directly or indirectly, benefited from her outstanding convices. services

GABRIELE SPEYER

Gabriele Speyer, the former German singer, died on November 4, at the age of 71. Born in Cologne, she studied piano at the Cologne Conservatoire and singing with Lili Lehmann in Berlin. She was an accomplished lieder singer, a fine pianist and a brilliant teacher of singing in Germany. She continued teaching in Britain with great success. She was also a painter of considerable talent.

AN AUTHORESS BETWEEN TWO WORLDS Poems by Lene Herrmann

In July 1967, this paper reviewed a selec-tion of poems by Lene Herrmann, who had been killed in a motor accident in 1965. The been killed in a motor accident in 1965. The book was then published as a private print by her husband, Dr. Robert Herrmann. At the recommendation of the Deutsche Akademie fuer Sprache und Dichtung, a slightly different selection has now been published by the Peter-Holstein Verlag in Germany The poems excel by their sincerity and their beautiful style and the edition has met with wide ap-proval in the German press. For us the book is of additional interest because its contents is of additional interest because its contents reflect the experiences of the former refugees whose lives, like that of Lene Herrmann, were shaped by the formative forces of their youth on the Continent and their environment in this country.

*Lene Herrmann: Wozu die Fluegel-Eine Autoblo-graphie in Gedichten. Verlag J. P. Peter, Gebr. Holstein (Rothenburg ob der Tauber). DM 7.80. Copies may be obtained in this country from Dillon's University Bookshop, German Dept., 1 Malet Street, London, W.C.1 (£1).

Letter to the Editor

GERTRUD SCHACHNE FUND

Sir,-May we through your columns express our sincere thanks to all those who by their generosity have contributed so much to sup-port the activities for which, in memory of our mother, the Gertud Schachne Fund had our mother, the U. our mother, the U. been established. Yours, etc., EVA WOODMAN, UCIE KAYE.

Goldstaub.-On 5th December Goldstaub.—On 5th December 1969, Helene Goldstaub, of 7 Hollybush Close, Wanstead, Lon-don, E.11. A dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grand-mother. Funeral took place pri-vately on 8th December, 1969.

Speyer.—Mrs. Gabriele Speyer, of St. John's Wood, widow of the late Dr. Walter Speyer, passed away on 4th November, 1969, aged 71. Con-dolences and correspondence to: Harold Hodson, 70 Carlton Hill, London NW8 London, N.W.8.

Witton.—Mrs. Hedwig Witton (Witkowski), née Mosse, died peacefully in Sydney, Australia, on 9th November, 1969. For the family, Mrs. Lore Lilien, 53 Swains Lane, London, N.6.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is

Situations Vacant

Women

COOK WANTED—general—for 3-bedroomed house in Cricklewood. One lady only (80, but healthv) and small dog. Apply: Mrs. W. H. Duveen, 344 Lucas Court, Alex-andra Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex.

LADY WANTED to assist elderly couple with housekeeping in contrally heated modern flat in N.W. London. Other help kept. 'Phone: 01-455 0971.

RESIDENT OR NON-RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER required in East HOUSEKEEPER requires elderly Finchley area for active, elderly Jewish (non-Orthodox) gentleman with part-time occupation. Knowledge of German or Yiddish essential. Offers, giving particulars and salary required to Box 115.

EXPERIENCED LADY required for baking and cooking, living in Golders Green or near. 'Phone: SPEedwell 4851, early morning or after 6 p.m.

WOMAN WANTED for sewing, mending and repairs. 'Phone: SPEedwell 4851.

Accommodation Vacant

FURNISHED ROOM TO LET to business lady, in comfortable, mod-ern flat, near West End Lane; close to buses and tube. 'Phone 01-624 5847

Accommodation Wanted

RETIRED COMPANY DIRECTOR requires one or two well-furnished rooms with central heating and full board or breakfast and one meal. Swiss Cottage (not Hampstead or Golders Green). Box 114.

Miscellaneous

BEAUTY TREATMENT by quali-fied beautician. Body massage, spot reducing, facials, skin care, etc. For appointment 'phone Mrs. Edith Friedmann, 3 Hurstwood Road, Henlys Corner, Golders Green, London, N.W.11. 01-455 6606.

OLD GRAMOPHONE RECORDS, photographs and other souvenirs, of opera and concert singers of the past wanted. Liff, 3 Kingetown Street, London, N.W.1. 'Phone 01-722 2833.

EXCLUSIVE FUR REPAIRS AND RE-STYLING. All kinds of fur work undertaken by first-class work undertaken by first-class renovator and stylist, many years' experience and best references. 'Phone 452 5867 after 5 p.m. for appointments. Mrs. F. Philipp, 44 Ellesmere Road, Dollis Hill, London, N.W.10.

SMALL ORIENTAL RUGS expertly repaired. HAM. 9806.

Personal

CONTINENTAL LADY, happy dis-position, slightly disabled, secks friendship with gentleman. Box 113

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Frank.--Will David and his son, Albert Frank, who em'grated from Nuernberg, Germany, to England between 1933 and 1936, or any person knowing their whereabouts, get in touch with Mrs. A. Scott, 9 Rylands Terrace, St. Breward, Bodmin, Cornwall.

Robert Weltsch

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MAX KREUTZBERGER 70

To the present generation Max Kreutz-berger, who will celebrate his 70th birthday on January 30, is known primarily as the architect of the Leo Baeck Institute in America, in which he has invested the best of his creative forces and his unceasing energy during the past fifteen years. When I say generation I follow the example of Dr. Rolf Pauls, the German Ambassador to the United States, and formerly Germany's first Ambassador to Israel, whom I heard last month in Washington saying that in his turbulent epoch, and because of the breathtaking speed in which new discoveries and inventions are made, one must now think of one generation in terms of ten years rather than thirty as we used to do. In this sense, members of the "older" generation, or people with a longer memory, are well aware of the fact that Kreutzberger filled a number of important posts in Jewish life before the Leo Baeck Institute was even thought of.

One of the pioneers of modern social work and social science in German Jewry, he was for many years the director of the Zentralwohlfahrtstelle der Deutschen Juden and editor of its monthly magazine. This pre-destined him to playing a major role at the critical hour when the advent of the Nazi régime made upon German Jews new and unforeseen demands in the field of social welfare. After his emigration to Palestine, Kreutzberger was the driving force of the efforts to help the new immigrants from Germany find an occupation in Palestine. Many people who had enjoyed a good middle-class standard of living had to accommodate themselves to extremely modest conditions, and to accept work often very different from any they had done before. The organisation of immigrants from Germany, Hitachduth Olej Germania (extended in 1938 to Austria), under Kreutzberger's guidance became a rallying point for men and women striving to adapt themselves to their new environment. It provided an employment agency, facilities for learning Hebrew, as well as lectures and other cultural activities. It also published a German-langu-age bulletin, the Mitteilungsblatt der HOG, which later developed into a respected mouthpiece of the group. Kreutzberger was its first editor. All the social services installed by the Organisation in those days of trial and error were inspired by Kreutzberger's imaginative initiative and sustained by his invaluable experience.

He had the advantage of being able to rely on the help of Georg Landauer who was head of the Jewish Agency's "German Department", the principal agency for integrating the new immigrants into the life of the Jewish Yishuy of Palestine. After the war, at a time of uncertainty and unsettled conditions, Kreutzberger was sent to Germany as a special envoy of the Jewish Agency, in order to help in registering and claiming heirless Jewish property. For this purpose a special institution had been set up in what was then the American Zone of Germany, with its headquarters in Munich. In this capacity he rendered outstanding services, not least to the Jewish authorities in Palestine, by securing certain deliveries of goods urgently needed, such as prefabricated houses. He remained the Jewish Agency's representative in Germany for several years, until his emigration to the United States.

During all those years in Germany, in Jerusalem, again in Germany, and then in the United States, his personal hobby was collecting books and rare editions. His private libraries have provided practical proof of the wide scope of his interests, as well as of his knowledge, versatility and taste. So when he was entrusted with the directorship of the New York branch of the Leo Baeck Institute after its foundation in 1954, his main idea and unrelenting ambition was to gather to-gether all available books, periodicals and documents relating to German-Jewish history of the last 150 years. At that time many of his colleagues doubted whether such a plan was feasible, but Max Kreutzberger found ways and means to complete the task he had set himself in a comparatively short time. He had the foresight to seize the opportunity of acquiring the remnants of Jewish libraries and documentation immediately after the war, realising that it would become increasingly difficult to assemble the widely scattered records and manuscripts, as well as the printed material. He ransacked all secondhand bookshops in Europe and sent offers to public sales at a time when prices were still reasonable. He also obtained gifts from the libraries of deceased persons, and from people who understood the importance of the goal he had set himself. In this way he built up the unique collection of books, documents, pictures, autographs, letters, etc., which now form the Archives and the Library of the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. It is hardly necessary to say what an extraordinary measure of organisational skill and judgment were required to achieve all this. Kreutzberger has made the Leo Baeck Institute of New York an important centre of studies, indeed one of the great Jewish institutions in New York.

This appreciation of Kreutzberger's manifold activities would be incomplete, however, without at least a brief reference to his position in the conflicts of our time. Kreutzberger has always been a socialist of a kind rarely

found today, viz., in the liberal tradition of the nineteenth century. A supporter of a humanist Zionism, he—like some others — believed in the possibility of peaceful coexistence of Jews and Arabs in Palestine on the basis of equal rights. As most Zionists of earlier days, he had never envisaged the possibility of an armed conflict, still less the evacuation of the inhabitants of Palestine. He was horrified by Jewish acts of terrorism. A policy of constructive collaboration was the programme of the short-lived party which consisted mainly of German immigrants and called itself Aliyah Hadasha. The party was dissolved when the State came into being in 1948. To its leader Georg Landauer, who died in New York in 1954, Kreutzberger created a monument by editing the latter's writings, published in Tel Aviv in 1957. For many years Kreutzberger had been Landauer's second in command. The account of Landauer's political conception and principles, which Kreutzberger gives in the Introduction to the book, can certainly also be taken as Kreutzberger's own profession of faith.

Another of Kreutzberger's programmatic pronouncements is the essay, "Meaning and Purpose of German-Jewish Historiography in our Time", a contribution to the collection of essays dedicated to Siegfried Moses on the occasion of his 75th birthday (Tel Aviv, 1962). In a lucid and comprehensive way it expounds the ideas on which the work of the Leo Baeck Institute has to be based. We need historical research in order to understand ourselves and our situation. Otherwise we may be lost in the chaos of conflicting values.

It seems incredible that this man of youthful elan, of wit, charm and humanity should be 70. Many people in all continents, who owe him a debt of gratitude will join us when we offer him our warm wishes for many years of health and productive work.

101st BIRTHDAY OF OTTO HIRSCH HOUSE RESIDENT

Mrs. Henriette Loew

On December 17, 1969, Mrs. Henriette Loew, one the most popular residents of Otto Hirsch House, 2 Priory Road, Kew, Surrey, celebrated her 101st birthday. Born in Moravia, she lived in Vienna until 1938 and fled to Czechoslovakia when the Nazis occupied Austria. She survived the Theresienstadt concentration camp and came to this country in 1953. Mrs. Loew is the oldest resident of the Homes, jointly administered by the CBF and the AJR. We extend our sincerest congratulations to her.

APPOINTMENT

Professor Werner J. Cahnmann who, prior to his emigration to the U.S., was "Syndikus" of the Bavarian district of the Central-Verein, has been appointed Fulbright Guest Professor at the Soziologische Institut of Munich University for the current academic year. He is also lecturing at the Hochschule fuer Politische Wissenschaften.



ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

CHANUCAH CELEBRATIONS

CHANUCAH CELEBRATIONS Throughout the Chanucah week, lights were kindled in all five Homes (Otto Schiff House, Otto Hirsch House, Leo Baeck House, Hein-rich Stahl House and Osmond House) by resi-dents, their children and grandchildren, mem-bers of the staff, House Committee members and other friends. Special thanks are due to those who paid one or several visits to the Homes to celebrate Chanucah with the resi-dents, viz: Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, Rabbi Kokotek, Rev. Dollinger, Mr. G. Moses, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Norton, Mr. S. Somper, Dr. W. Dux, Mr. Wertheim, Mr. Brager, Mr. Sender, Mr. Baum, Mr. Jacobsohn, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. Buckley and Mr. Smith.

On December 7, the AJR Club held its Chanucah celebration at Hannah Karminski House. The large audience was welcomed by Mrs. Margaret Jacoby, Chairman of the Club. Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger kindled the lights Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger kindled the lights and gave an impressive talk about the mean-ing of the feast. The members were enter-tained by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Horwell, who introduced and played a selection of their collection of records. The recitals, conclud-ing with a record of the speech by the Home Secretary, Mr. J. Callaghan, delivered on the occasion of the Guildhall Dinner of the Leo Baeck Lodge in 1968, were greatly enjoyed by all present. all present.

To the list of Committee members of the AJR Club, published in the previous issue, the name of Mrs. R. Abels has to be added.

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

The AJR Employment Agency (registered annually with the Borough of Camden) would like to extend its field of activity and would welcome to hear from employers who can offer full-time and part-time work to people of both sexes aged 50 years and over.

At the same time we invite everybody who is looking for employment to call at our office, preferably between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Mon-days to Fridays, for the purpose of registration.

HILLEL HOUSE PERMANENT MEMORIAL **TO NAZI VICTIMS**

Successful Appeal by AJR

In response to the appeal sent to AJR mem-In response to the appeal sent to AJR mem-bers a few months ago, more than £4,000 was raised for the Permanent Memorial to the Jewish Victims of Nazism which is to be established as an integral part of London's new Hillel House at Endsleigh Street. This result is particularly gratifying because it consists of contributions from a rather high proportion of our members. Donations from any members who so far have not contributed will be greatly welcomed. will be greatly welcomed.

The effective way in which the AJR has handled the appeal and the generosity and sense of solidarity of our members have also added to the high reputation that the AJR enjoys among the Jewish organisations in this country. The building work at Hillel House is making good progress and as soon as it has been completed the details of the layout of the Memorial Floor will be worked out in consultation with the AJR and the other sponsoring organisations.

SELF AID CONCERT

The annual concert of Self Aid of Refugees took place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on December 1 and, as every year, proved the main social event of the season for our com-munity. The large hall was completely sold out. During the first part of the function, Mr. Ricardo Odnoposoff (violin) and Mr. Eduard Mrazek (piano) gave an excellent rendering of the Devil's Trill Sonata by Tartini and the Kreutzer Sonata by Beethoven, two works Kreutzer Sonata by Beethoven, two works which demand the highest technical skill and which were executed to perfection.

The second part consisted of a moving reading of "Fraeulein Else" by Elisabeth Bergner which, although read in English, must have brought back nostalgic memories to a large part of the audience who remember the artist as an outstanding actress from the time before their emigration time before their emigration.

AJR INFORMATION January, 1970

ZION HOUSE LECTURES

ZION HOUSE LECTURES As in previous years, the Herzl Society, in conjunction with the University of London (Extra Mural Department), will hold a series of lectures during the forthcoming term. The details are given in the programme which is enclosed in this issue for readers in London. The lectures are held on Tuesdays at fort-nightly intervals at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, London, N.W.3, under the general heading "Israel's Neighbours—Historical and Cultural Centres." The series will be opened on Jordan, to be given by S. K. Garret, Ph.D., University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies. All readers and their friends are cordially invited.

CENTRAL BRITISH FUND

At its recent Council Meeting the Central British Fund allocated a total of £36,000 for various relief schemes. The largest single grant (£12,500) was earmarked for relief of Jewish emigrants in transit through Central Europe, and £3,000 was contributed to the World University Service to assist students from Crachesburghia from Czechoslovakia.

It was also announced that the C.B.F. has been admitted to membership of the Inter-national Council of Voluntary Organisations (Geneva), a world forum of organisations working in the field of assistance to people in need.

POLISH REFUGEES IN ROME

Miss Joan Stiebel, Joint Secretary of the Central British Fund, recently paid a brief visit to Rome, where she saw some of the hun-dreds of Jewish refugees from Poland waiting dreds of Jewish refugees from Poland waiting for visas to enable them to join families in the Western Hemisphere or elsewhere. On their arrival, the refugees are given a short memo-randum in Polish, containing information about medical care, English classes and ac-commodation facilities. They are looked after until they can proceed to their countries of destination. However, it now takes about five to six months until the formalities for admis-sion to the United States and Canada are com-pleted. During the waiting period the liability pleted. During the waiting period, the liability for their maintenance rests with the Jewish relief organisations, including the Central British Fund.



Published by the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3. 'Phone: MAIda Vale 9096 (General Office and Administration of Homes); MAIda Vale 4449 (Employment Agency and Social Services Department). Printed at the Sharon Press, 31 Furnival Street, E.C.4.