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INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

UNITY IN DISPERSION

Wherever Jews from Central Europe settled after their emigration, they founded organisations which acted as their representative bodies and safeguarded the interests of their communities.

To take up those questions which are their common concern they founded the world-wide Council of Jews from Germany in 1945. The three founder organisations were the AJR, the Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa in Israel and the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe. The first President was Dr. Leo Baeck who, after his death in 1956, was succeeded by Dr. Siegfried Moses (Jerusalem).

Council of Jews from Germany Meets

The Council's undiminished strength was reaffirmed at its conference held in London on May 9 under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Moses. The delegates from abroad included representatives of the affiliates in Israel (Mr. S. Adler-Rudel, Mr. H. Gerling and Dr. H. Tramer), U.S.A. (Dr. M. Gruenewald), South America, "Centra" (Mr. R. Hirschfeld, Montevideo, and Mr. W. Siebner, Sao Paulo), and France (Mrs. R. Fabian) as well as Dr. M. Kreutzberger and Dr. E. G. Lowenthal. Among the guests was Dr. B. Karlsberg (Amsterdam).

At the beginning of the conference, Dr. W. Breslauer (London) paid tribute to the memory of Professor Norman Bentwich, by whose death the refugees have lost one of their closest friends.

The reports given by the delegates of the member organisations revealed that in most countries the care for the aged plays a predominant part. The Homes for the Aged and Flatlet Homes, established in U.S.A., Israel and France, were initially financed out of that part of the recovered heirless Jewish property in Germany which the Council received from the so-called successor organisations, JRSO and Jewish Trust Corporation. The AJR's share in these assets was mainly used for the establishment of Hannah Karminski House and towards the building costs of the Flatlet Home (Eleanor Rathbone House), a joint venture of the AJR and the Central British Fund. It transpired at the conference that in most countries the Old Age Homes are now faced with special problems arising from the physical deterioration of many of their residents. All affiliated organisations also maintain and expand advisory and social services for those who are not accommodated in Homes.

In the Netherlands, where there is no special refugee organisation because the number of survivors of the Nazi occupation is, unfortunately, very small, the refugees benefit from the work of the general Jewish welfare organisations, and are, as Dr. B. Karlsberg reported, closely integrated into the wider community.

The presence of two delegates from as far away as South America gave the participants at the conference an opportunity of obtaining

some first-hand information of the situation on this Sub-Continent and its current political upheavals. Though there are no manifestations of rising antisemitism in these countries, the Jews are, according to the South American delegates, indirectly affected by the Left-wing trends and their anti-Israeli implications. This anti-Israeli attitude, they said, may easily develop into an anti-Jewish attitude among the non-Jewish Left-wingers and also result in the dissociation of Jewish Left-wingers, especially at the universities, from the Jewish community. As members of the middle-class, Jews are affected by the economic changes which have taken place in Chile and which may also occur in other countries.

As far as the organisational set-up in South America is concerned, the Jewish immigrants from Central Europe have built up strong congregations in most cities of resettlement which, by their constructive work, have become the backbone of the wider Jewish community. The work of these Central European communities is co-ordinated by "Centra", which in turn is an affiliate of the Council. One of Centra's tasks is the maintenance of contacts with the isolated smaller communities, many of which have no permanent spiritual guidance. The other predominant task is the sponsoring of youth activities. In so far the work of Centra differs from that of the Council's affiliates in other countries. Whilst in most other countries, members of the young generation are being absorbed by the wider Jewish community, the Central European Jewish communities in South America have created facilities for youth organisations which not only keep the next generation within the Jewish fold, but also preserve the specific values of our German-Jewish heritage.

A report on developments in the field of restitution and compensation was given by Dr. W. Breslauer. Since its inception, the Council has safeguarded the interests of the persecutees in this vital matter. The establishment of the United Restitution Organisation in 1948 for the benefit of claimants who were indigent at that time was due to the Council's initiative, and throughout the years, the Council has acted as the spokesman of the victims in questions of legislation and jurisdiction. Dr. Breslauer dealt with several problems which had come up during the recent past. He reported that the original draft of the Lastenausgleichsgesetz for damages sustained in that part of Germany which is now the territory of the German Democratic Republic would have excluded claims by most Jews from Germany; efforts, in which the Council took a very active part, have resulted in the elimination of these restrictive clauses. The Council also submitted proposals to the draft of the Social Insurance Law which has meanwhile been enacted and was engaged in various efforts concerning new implementary orders to the Federal Indemnification Law (BEG). These examples, Dr. Breslauer con-

cluded, showed that even at this late stage the activities of the Council in matters of restitution and compensation have not yet come to an end.

In his financial report Dr. W. Rosenstock (Hon. Secretary of the Council) stated that last year altogether DM 450,000 had been distributed of which, in accordance with the Council's resolution of 1967, 50 per cent went to the Leo Baeck Institutes and the other 50 per cent to the Council's affiliates in Israel, U.S.A., Britain, France and South America. The speaker stressed that amounts still to be expected from the successor organisations out of the heirless property were very limited and that, therefore, the Council's affiliates would have to become self-supporting in the implementation of their welfare schemes.

A further item under discussion was the future work of the Wiener Library whose unique collection of books, periodicals and archives is indispensable for research work on German-Jewish history. Dr. S. Moses reported that to secure the continuity of the Institute's work in London, the Council has agreed to contribute towards its expenditure. Conversely, the Council will be represented on the Board of the Wiener Library.

The last part of the conference was devoted to reports on an important new scheme sponsored by the Council. It concerns the history of the Jews from Central Europe in their countries of immigration from their arrival to their final resettlement. This scheme had been proposed by the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, through its Executive Director, Professor Herbert Strauss, at the Council Conference of August, 1969. Since then, various preparatory steps have been taken. It is envisaged that the work will be co-ordinated and guided by Professor Strauss, an historian by profession. The implementation will, however, differ from country to country according to the particular circumstances. In France the Council's affiliate (La Solidarité) sent out questionnaires to its members. It has also started to interview personalities who, in one way or another, were connected with the work for the refugees, and is collecting documents and periodicals for scrutinisation. In the United States, interviews will commence shortly, and a bibliographer will compile the relevant literature already in existence. In South America, steps are being taken to secure the files of the organisations built up for or by refugees. Discussions and consultations with experts have also taken place in Israel. In Great Britain several experts have already indicated their active interest in the work, and as soon as a detailed plan can be presented, readers of this paper will be informed.

It testifies to the strength of the Council that it does not confine its activities to the completion of its long-standing tasks, but also embarks on new ventures. At the same time the atmosphere at the conference reflected the strong feeling of solidarity between the Jews from Germany wherever they may now live.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

EXTREME LEFT-WING AND RIGHT-WING GROUPS

According to a statement by the Federal German Ministry of the Interior, there are altogether about 250 extreme left-wing groups with a total membership of 84,000 in West Germany and West Berlin. Of these, 130 are orthodox Communist groups with a membership of altogether 81,000. The others are Trotskyites, Maoists or Anarchists. As some members are enrolled with several organisations, the total number of extreme leftists is estimated at 65,000.

The number of organised extreme rightists is estimated at 30,000. Of these, 21,000 are members of the National Democratic Party (NPD), which is the centre of extreme right-wing activities. The Party, it is stated, lost 7,000 members in 1970. It is thoroughly organised in regional sections and local groups. The Party weekly, *Deutsche Nachrichten*, has a circulation of 38,000 copies. However, the largest right-wing weekly is the *Deutsche National-Zeitung*, with a circulation of 117,000.

The report also states that since the conclusion of the treaties of Moscow and Warsaw most extreme right-wing organisations have intensified their hate campaign against the policy of the Federal Government.

"APEAL TO ANTI-SEMITIC RESENTMENTS"

"Zentralrat" Protests

In a resolution, passed on May 9, the Directorate of the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany took exception to a number of recent press publications in which editors or writers expressly refer to the Jewish origin of personalities with whose views they disagree. This, the "Zentralrat" states, represents an appeal to anti-semitic resentments of the public, which is both out of place and against the law. Authors and commentators should be able to express their views without having to face references to their descent or religion. Conversely, it is a misuse if journalists who agree with the particular standpoint of a Jewish personality specially refer to his Jewish origin thus implying that he expresses the views of the whole Jewish community. This, the resolution states, was done by some critics of the Federal Government's present Eastern policy and might easily give the impression that the Jewish community advocates the Cold War. Jewish authors, the resolution stresses, only express their personal views, and their origin is irrelevant.

GRANT TO L.B.I.

The Volkswagenwerke Foundation has made a grant of DM 214,000 to the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. The grant will enable the Institute to continue cataloguing its comprehensive special collections. The V.W. Foundation had also rendered its support towards the production costs of the first volume of the Institute's catalogue which was published last year by J. C. Mohr/Paul Siebeck (Tuebingen).

NEW AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL

The new German Ambassador—the third since diplomatic relations have been established—Jesco von Puttkammer, presented his credentials to President Shazar. In his address, the Ambassador said: "The Federal German Government is happy to know that it has been possible to maintain fruitful co-operation between our two countries. My Government is, however, aware that much effort is still needed to restore the image of the German people in the consciousness of the Israelis. Our new generation has now assumed responsibility for our nation, and it is prepared to share in such efforts". In his reply, President Shazar said: "What happened to our people in the darkest era of our history can never be erased from memory. But I do share your aspiration that good will may now be promoted and a new leaf may be turned over in our relations. I attach special importance to your reference to the younger generation. We are also aware of the constant progress in the positive relations between our two countries and peoples and we welcome it. It is my hope that this trend will continue".

The Ambassador told the JTA correspondent after the ceremony: "I was deeply moved by the greatness of the moment".

The Ambassador spoke in German and the President in Hebrew. During the informal part which followed, the Ambassador and the President conversed in German. (JTA)

PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT JERUSALEM

Relations between Israel and West Germany were the subject of a speech by Professor Carlo Schmidt, Deputy President of the Federal German Parliament, who headed a delegation of seven parliamentarians to Israel. At a luncheon in the Knesset building, Professor Schmidt stated: "The entire Bundestag is united in its determination that the Federal German Republic shall take no action in advancing and furthering its political interests at the expense of Israel". Statements in a similar vein were made by Federal Foreign Minister, Herr Walter Scheel, when he was interviewed by *Deutschlandfunk* and by the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung*.

ACQUITTALS

In Koblenz, Dr. Friedrich Karl Vialon, a former State Secretary at the West German Ministry of Economic Co-operation, was acquitted of a perjury charge. When appearing as a witness in a Koblenz war crimes trial in 1963, Dr. Vialon claimed that while heading the financial section of the Nazi commissioner's office in Riga from 1942-43, he had heard "nothing reliable" about the mass execution of Jews in Eastern Europe.

Ludwig Zind, a former West German teacher, was sentenced in 1958 to a year's imprisonment for making antisemitic statements. The Supreme Court in Karlsruhe has now ruled that the eight months he spent in an Italian prison after fleeing from West Germany should be deducted from his sentence.

BUNDESENTSCHAEDIGUNGSGESETZ

Haerteausgleich nach Par. 165

In einer im April stattgefundenen Konferenz der Entschädigungsämter ist beschlossen worden, die Beihilfen, welche für Einzelpersonen bisher nur DM 100.—monatlich und für ein Ehepaar DM 150.—monatlich betragen, auf monatlich DM 130.—bzw. für Ehepaare auf DM 195.—zu erhöhen. Die Entschädigungsbehörden werden entsprechende Anweisungen erhalten und die Erhöhung ohne Antrag durchführen.

Vertriebene deutscher Volkszugehörigkeit

Das am 18.9.1965 in Kraft getretene Schlussgesetz zum Bundesentschädigungsgesetz hatte den Par. 150 BEG betr. die Verfolgten aus den Vertreibungsgebieten durch Einfügung einer neuen Bestimmung (Abs. 2 zu Par. 150) dahin eingeschränkt, dass nach diesen Vorschriften ein Verfolgter nur dann Entschädigung verlangen könne, wenn er die Vertreibungsgebiete vor Inkrafttreten des Entschädigungsgesetzes, d.h. vor dem 1.10.1953, endgültig verlassen hätte. Der Zweite Senat des Bundesverfassungsgerichts hat in einem Beschluss vom 23.3.1971 die nachträgliche Einführung dieses Stichtages insoweit für verfassungswidrig und nichtig erklärt, als es sich um Vertriebene handelt, die vor Inkrafttreten des Schlussgesetzes die Vertreibungsgebiete verlassen haben.

Die vielfach ruhenden Verfahren betr. Entschädigung von Vertriebenen die nach dem 1.10.1953 aber vor dem 18.9.1965 aus ihrem Heimatland ausgewandert sind, können also jetzt wieder aufgenommen und durchgeführt werden. Für die Gruppe der sogenannten politischen Flüchtlinge, welche nicht zum deutschen Sprach- und Kulturkreis gehörten, verbleibt es dagegen bei dem schon im BEG vorgesehenen Stichtag des 1.10.1953 für die Aufgabe ihres Wohnsitzes im Heimatland und Begründung der Flüchtlingseigenschaft.

GOLDMANN ON RUSSIAN EMIGRATION

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, was in London for meetings of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and the Conference of Jewish Organisations, over which he presides.

In a statement issued in the name of the 60 Jewish communities affiliated to the W.J.C., Dr. Goldmann declared that the Soviet Government's policy of persuading Jews to refrain from expressing their desire to emigrate to Israel was both "miscalculated and misdirected". Such a policy "creates a climate of fear among Soviet Jews, encourages discrimination against them and alienates world public opinion from the Soviet Union".

UNRWA

New High Commissioner

Sir John Shaw Rennie has been appointed Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Arab refugees. He succeeds Mr. Laurence Michelmore. Educated at Glasgow and Oxford Universities, Sir John was appointed deputy Commissioner-General in October, 1968. He was formerly Deputy Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, Governor-General of the island and British Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides.

Dr. Nuri Eren, the Turkish representative at the United Nations, announced after a visit to overseas countries in support of Unrwa, that Soviet block countries have, for the first time, promised to contribute money to Unrwa, whose deficit stands at £2½ million.

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Award for AJR's Vice-Chairman

Mr. Werner M. Behr, Vice-Chairman of the AJR, was appointed an O.B.E. for charitable and other services to the British Academy. As our readers know, the British Academy received and administers the "Thank-You Britain" Fund, raised under the auspices of the AJR in co-operation with other organisations of former refugees. Mr. Behr was the Chairman of the Appeals Committee and also presided at the memorable ceremony in 1965, at which Fund, amounting to over £90,000, was handed over by Sir Hans A. Krebs to Lord Robbins, President of the British Academy. Since then, Mr. Behr has been a member of the British Academy's committee, which awards the research fellowships and selects the speakers for the annual "Thank-You Britain" Fund lectures. The honour bestowed on Mr. Behr is, at the same time, a recognition of the venture by which the victims of Nazi persecution expressed their collective gratitude to the country which gave them refuge. We extend our sincerest congratulations to Mr. Behr.

The Birthday Honours List also includes a C.B.E. for Lady Rose L. Henriques for services to the community in East London. After the Second World War, Lady Henriques was Chairman of the Germany Department of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad and, in this capacity, rendered signal services to the remnants of the Jewish communities in Germany. Born in this country, but of German-Jewish ancestry, Lady Henriques has always been a particularly understanding friend of the AJR and shown a great interest in its efforts. We cordially congratulate Lady Henriques on her well-deserved award.

The high distinction of a C.B. was bestowed on Mr. Henry Peter Rowe, Parliamentary Counsel, who was born in Vienna in 1916 as the son of Dr. Richard Roehr and came to this country as a refugee.

SIR ISAIAH BERLIN, O.M.

The Order of Merit has been bestowed by the Queen on Professor Sir Isaiah Berlin. The honour is limited to 24 members and is awarded to outstanding men and women.

Sir Isaiah, who has just celebrated his 62nd birthday, was born in Riga. He is the president of Wolfson College, Oxford, and was formerly Chichele professor of social and political philosophy at Oxford University.

ALDERMAN SIR SAMUEL FISHER

Sir Samuel Fisher, first Mayor of the Borough of Camden (1965/6), has been appointed an alderman of the Borough. He has also been elected chairman of the Camden Community Relations Committee.

FREEDOM OF GLASGOW

Sir Isaac Wolfson

Sir Isaac Wolfson received the Freedom of Glasgow from the city where he was born and educated. At a ceremony attended by many distinguished guests, the honour was conferred in recognition of Sir Isaac's "outstanding achievements in the commercial world and the opportunities which those have provided for employment, of the unstinted practical and financial support given by him to numerous charitable, educational and scientific bodies, of his deep sense of social responsibility and generosity . . . and of his many other actions and attainments which have brought benefit and distinction to Glasgow."

In accepting the honour, Sir Isaac said that he felt that he owed his personal success equally to his Scottish birth and Jewish heritage.

RADIO JEWRY

The first regular Jewish programme in the history of British broadcasting has been launched on Radio London. The 20-minute programmes are broadcast fortnightly at 10.15 a.m. on Sundays, and repeated at 1.45 p.m. on the following Mondays. Broadcasts can, however, only be received on VHF wavelengths. The opening programme included an introduction by Mr. Victor Mishcon, chairman of the Board of Deputies' radio and television committee. The Chief Rabbi was interviewed on his experiences after four years in office. People were asked what they expected from a Jewish radio programme and children talked about what being Jewish meant to them. The programme closed on an interview on Jewish humour with Jack Benny, the American comedian.

SOVIET CONSULATE INCIDENT

In Parliament Mr. Clinton Davies, M.P., asked why the Foreign Secretary sent an apology to the Soviet Government after the recent incident involving Jewish demonstrators in a scuffle at the Soviet Consulate.

A number of British citizens, said Mr. Davies, had been assaulted by Soviet officials. Mr. Anthony Royle, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replied that the British Government had a special duty under international law to protect consulates against disturbances of the peace. The Foreign Office expressed regret to the Soviet Embassy "when it became clear from evidence supplied by the police that the presence and activities at the Soviet Consulate of some of the demonstrators had led to such a disturbance".

The Israeli Embassy in London has denied a Russian claim that Israeli diplomats were in any way involved in the incident at the Soviet consulate.

DEMONSTRATORS AT MARX'S TOMB

A party of 300 Russian tourists visiting Karl Marx's tomb at Highgate Cemetery were confronted by demonstrators protesting against the persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union. Placards demanded an end to the trials and arrests of Jews in the Soviet Union, and loudhailers proclaimed that Karl Marx was also Jewish. Leaflets were also distributed among the tourists.

The demonstrators were university students and Jewish housewives who have espoused the cause of Jewish women imprisoned in Russia. The women held a further demonstration outside the cemetery the following day, and also at the Book Bang in Bedford Square, London.

Cemetery Vandalism

Vandals overturned more than 20 tombstones and damaged the tahara house at the Riddrie Park Cemetery, attached to the Great Central Synagogue, Glasgow. The repairs and a protective fence were paid for by individual members of the synagogue. The senior warden expressed his conviction that the vandalism could not be attributed to anti-Jewish motives as similar damage had occurred at an adjoining non-Jewish cemetery.

Carmel College

Mr. R. Lewis Evans has been appointed acting head of Carmel College. A non-Jew and head of the college's mathematics department for 17 years, Mr. Evans has taken over the post until Rabbi Jeremy Rosen comes in September.

When Mr. David Stamler retired last September Mr. Joshua Gabay was appointed acting headmaster, but resigned shortly after the controversial appointment of Rabbi Rosen, which has been opposed by some students and parents.

Ajex Pilgrimage

The Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen held its annual pilgrimage to the Jewish National War Memorial at Willesden Jewish Cemetery, to pay homage to the fallen in the two world wars. The service was conducted by the Rev. L. H. Hardman, assisted by the Rev. M. M. Korn. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded.

Hebrew Seminars

Hebrew seminars have been held under the sponsorship of the Jewish Agency Education Department, the Zionist Federation and the World Hebrew Union. A Japanese scholar, Dr. T. Moraoka, who lectured at the Blackpool seminar, delighted everyone with his idiomatic Hebrew. Dr. Menashe Har-El lectured at the Bournemouth seminar. He had been a shepherd, lived with Beduin, and is now a senior lecturer at the Hebrew University. Other lecturers and speakers were Dr. Meir Gertner, Mr. S. J. Goldsmith, Mr. S. S. Levin, Dr. George Webber, Mr. Janus Cohen, and Mr. Levi Gertner, the organiser of the seminars and a leader in Hebrew education in this country.

Attack on Deputies

A meeting at Mamlock House, Manchester, on "Soviet Jewry — the way to freedom", was addressed by Mr. Ralph de Groot, president of the Manchester Zionist Central Council.

Mr. de Groot expressed his disappointment at the fact that only 30 people were present. He claimed that Alderman Michael Fidler, M.P., the Board of Deputies president, was failing to give a lead in the Soviet Jewry issue, that he was "too concerned at looking over his shoulder . . . at the British Foreign Office", and that he was showing signs of "political schizophrenia over the Race Relations Bill". The Zionist Council, said Mr. de Groot, was a disciplined organisation and saw the struggle for Soviet Jewry as one which was properly the province of all Jewry. "Therefore, in a disciplined way, we have said up to now that we shall follow the lead of the representative body of the community". They were still waiting for this lead. Was it not possible that because no energetic lead had been given the Jewish community as a whole had no strong sense of urgency and continued in a state of slothful apathy?

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

J.D.L. and the Mafia

To fight what they call harassment by the Government, Rabbi Meir Kahane's Jewish Defence League has joined forces with New York's Joseph A. Colombo, snr. Mr. Colombo is reputed to be an underworld leader and to be connected with the Mafia. He has been convicted of perjury, indicted as head of a gambling ring and is awaiting trial on charges of tax evasion and of grand larceny and conspiracy.

Rabbi Kahane and six of his followers were indicted on charges of conspiring to transport weapons and explosives across State lines, and were released on bail. Mr. Colombo and some of his followers were in the Brooklyn court when Rabbi Kahane was arraigned. After the proceedings he said he was helping Rabbi Kahane because "he is a man of God and his cause is just".

Pope Praises B'nai B'rith

The Pope addressed New York members of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in Rome after his weekly general audience. He reiterated the Second Vatican Council's call for "mutual understanding and respect which are the fruit above all of Biblical and theological studies and brotherly dialogue". Stressing his own concern at all forms of discrimination on grounds of race, origin, colour culture and sex, the Pope invoked God's blessing on the efforts of the League for creating a better climate between Christians and Jews.

Prejudice amongst Clergy

A study, "Wayward Shepherds: Prejudice and the Protestant Clergy", has been issued by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. This is the sixth volume in its series, "Patterns of American Prejudice".

Four behavioural scientists prepared the study which follows up an earlier one, "Christian Beliefs and Antisemitism", based on interviews with Protestant churchgoers. While Protestant clergymen are a good deal less antisemitic than their Church members, the study found that they are "a good deal more antisemitic than they ought to be". Their general basis for ill-will was hostility to Judaism as a religion, stemming from an unwavering commitment to traditional Christian teachings—blame for the crucifixion of Jesus.

Human Rights Institute

The family of the late Mr. Jacob Blaustein, the philanthropist and industrialist, provided \$1 million to the American Jewish Committee. This will be used to establish an institute to advance the cause of human rights everywhere. Mr. Blaustein, who was president of the A.J.C., died last November at the age of 78.

HEAD OF CANADIAN PARTY

The first Jew to head a political party in Canada is Mr. David Lewis, Q.C., leader of the New Democratic Party in the Canadian House of Commons. He was elected the N.D.P.'s national leader at the party's national convention in Ottawa, defeating Mr. Jim Laxer, also a Jew. Mr. Lewis, who is an excellent Yiddish orator, came to Montreal from Byelorussia with his parents as a boy. He was a Rhodes scholar at Oxford University and a former president of the Oxford Union.

The new Chief Justice of the Province of Manitoba is Mr. Justice Samuel Freedman, a former Chancellor of Manitoba University. Born in Zhitomir, Russia, Mr. Freedman was brought to Winnipeg by his parents at the age of three.

SOUTH AMERICA

Unfriendly Argentine Press

The present economic difficulties in Argentina are causing many firms to go bankrupt. The Argentine daily newspapers, which have never been antisemitic, are giving wide publicity to the bankruptcy of Jewish firms involved. A popular Peronista daily, Cronica, said that the State of Israel was providing a refuge for bankrupt Argentine Jews, who were fleeing there with large sums of money after draining the local economy.

No extradition agreement exists between Israel and Argentina, due largely to the fact that Buenos Aires does not want to accept Israel's request that Nazi war criminals living in Argentina should be handed over.

Rio "Protocols"

A bookshop in Rio de Janeiro is selling copies of the notorious forgery, "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," purporting to give details of an alleged plot by Jews to dominate the world. The book does not bear any publisher's imprint.

In the centre of Rio a home-made time bomb exploded against the wall of the Jewish National Fund offices. Little damage was caused and the police are investigating the incident.

DUTCH HERO'S PROTEST

In protest against the campaign conducted by Jews in different countries against the Soviet Union, Mr. Pieter Nak has returned to the Israeli Ambassador at The Hague the medal received by him.

Mr. Nak was awarded the medal of "the just" by Yad Vashem, the Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem, for his part in organising the Dutch workers' strike in February, 1941, against the deportation of Jews by the German occupying forces in Holland. In 1969 he was one of the founders of the Palestine Committee in Holland.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

The first European conference of the International Council of Jewish Women, on the theme "Facing ourselves as Jews", has been held in Basle. Britain, Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland sent delegates, and observers came from Austria, Portugal and Yugoslavia. Mrs. Vera Braynis, chairman of the standing joint committee of the League and Union of Jewish Women, led the British delegation.

The conference addressed a resolution to the Soviet Ambassador to Switzerland, expressing "deep distress" at the sentences imposed on Soviet Jews in the current trials, and asking that all Jews who wished to leave the Soviet Union should be allowed to do so.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister Condemns Israel's Contribution to O.A.U.

Condemning Israel's undertaking at the U.N. to contribute ten thousand Israeli pounds to the fund of the Organisation of African Unity for liberation movements in Africa, the Prime Minister of South Africa, Mr. B. J. Vorster, stated: "I wish to express my strongest dissatisfaction with Israel's decision. I do not understand how Israel, who has herself a terrorist problem, can justify a contribution to help other terrorists". The Prime Minister's statement followed an explanation by the Israeli Consul-General in South Africa, Mr. Yitzchak Unna, who stated that Israel's donation must be viewed in the context of the country's position in the world. "Her decision was made in response to a request, addressed to all member-States by the Secretary-General of the U.N. Naturally, Israel could not expect South Africa's approval, but she hopes that her reasons would be understood, especially as it is apparent that every support given to the O.A.U. by Western countries tends to weaken the impact of Communist infiltration in Africa".

The South African Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation issued a joint statement voicing their dismay at Israel's action.

Mr. Gershon Avner, Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Ministry of Israel, who was on a visit to South Africa, stated that it was a misinterpretation to say that the money would aid terrorists, as Israel would be able to control the uses her money would be put to.

Retaliating against Israel's action, the South African Government has suspended the transfer to Israel of funds collected by South African Jewry.

God and the "Heathens"

In an article in a recent issue of Die Kerkbode, a Dutch Reform Church magazine, Dr. N. Lee, a Church minister, stated that God was the father only of the Christians and that Jews, Hindus and heathens "have the devil as their father". Many Dutch reformed clergymen have been upset by the article.

Magazine Lauds Hitler

Brandwag, an Afrikaans magazine published in Cape Town, carried a lengthy article admiring Adolf Hitler and denigrating the Jews. The article said that "liberal, Jewish and American powers" had invented the crimes attributed to Hitler. It was impossible that six million Jews had died during the Second World War, because there were more Jews in Western Europe after the war than before.

RELIEF WORK IN BOMBAY

With the financial assistance of the Central British Fund and O.S.E., two clinics are teaching expectant and nursing mothers and the mothers of children up to five, preventive medicine. Each of the clinics provides accommodation for 30 babies. The social services sponsored by the two organisations also include an Old Age Day Care Centre, which offers facilities for bathing, rest, meals and snacks. Another 20 old people who are house-bound receive meals on wheels and are regularly visited by a trained nurse.

IRAQI RELEASES

The arrest of some 120 Iraqi Jews aroused widespread protests, and the Iraqi Government seems to have shown sensitivity to international reaction. A note to the United Nations denied allegations that Iraqi Jews were being persecuted. Using "evidence" by Iraqi's aged Chief Rabbi, Baghdad charged Israel with conducting Zionist propaganda.

Most of those arrested have now been released.

Albert H. Friedlander

ASSESSMENT OF A CONFRONTATION

Jewish Thinkers in Germany

This study* is the 23rd volume in the series of scholarly publications issued by the Leo Baeck Institute; and it should be noted that volume 17 in that series, *Das Judentum im deutschen Geschichtsbild von Hegel bis Max Weber* by Hans Liebeschütz stands in close relation to it. The praise and scholarly appreciation which the earlier volume received is an indication of the esteem rightly accorded to Professor Liebeschütz by his colleagues. His latest work clearly establishes him in the forefront of those working creatively in the field of intellectual history. The book itself is the first of an intended series of studies examining the role and fate of the Jews of Europe in modern times with an emphasis upon the relationship between Jewish thought and the European spirit. Its publication was made possible through the help of Martin Buber, who designated the proceeds of his 1963 Erasmus Prize towards this series of studies which the Leo Baeck Institute is undertaking with the co-operation of the Erasmus Foundation in Holland. In a number of ways, Liebeschütz's exploration of German Jewish thought also becomes a proper tribute to Martin Buber whose contributions in this area are at least tangentially examined by the author.

The readers of AJR Information, in general acquainted with the figures and intellectual trends described in Professor Liebeschütz's work, will at once note the differences separating the two protagonists named in the title. It is the author's intention to indicate through these names the large dimensions contained in this chapter of cultural history. Nevertheless, a specific limitation is noted: Simmel, Rosenzweig, Cohen, Baeck and Wiener were all open to the impact of the German culture in which they lived. There did exist Jewish enclaves—and Frankfurt is not the only one which comes to mind—where the relationship to the past was stressed to the exclusion of much of contemporary thought. But Professor Liebeschütz notes that the figures he has selected were all examples of a synthesis between Jewish and German thought. In his introduction, he indicates their struggle to preserve a Jewish identity within the framework of a generation which had ceased being outsiders and had become part of the German communal structure. Recognition of the special nature of their Jewish heritage leads to a chain of interpretations which the author traces from Cohen and Baeck to Rosenzweig and Wiener. Simmel stands over against the others, recognised as Jew by friend and foe but totally alienated from the synagogue. It is in fact the juxtaposition of two totally different life styles and attitudes—Georg Simmel against Franz Rosenzweig—which brings the author to his most perceptive presentations of the era and its problems.

The first major section of this work is a study of Hermann Cohen's philosophy. This is essential to a clear understanding of this constellation of personalities, since Baeck, Rosenzweig and Wiener, in different ways, are based upon Cohen's work. In fact, Liebeschütz rightly justifies the exclusion of Martin Buber from his work—as mentioned, his impact is noted but more in a peripheral sense—since Buber had his decisive encounter with Chas-

sidism and the Galician Jewish milieu which moved him along a different path than that walked by those who found Hermann Cohen's synthesis of German and Jewish thought their central challenge or point of origin.

The second section deals with Leo Baeck; and it may be considered the best short study of that great teacher in print. The various influences coming together in Baeck, Cohen, Dilthey, Breslau and Berlin, rabbinic teachings, Baeck's own role as a preacher and religious leader—all are placed into proper focus. Baeck's personality with its contradictions, combining humility with an aristocracy of learning, is not overlooked. Perhaps Professor Liebeschütz views Baeck as a more time-bound figure, the expression of a certain time and place, than some other scholars in this field might choose to do. Yet all of his judgements, in this chapter and in the next, central, section which deals with Georg Simmel and Franz Rosenzweig, are built on characteristically careful scholarly research.

More could be said about this work, including mention of the creation of an atmosphere in which the Jewish and non-Jewish culture of that time is fully realised, including also the thoughtful postscript of Robert Weltsch, and much else. What matters is that this is a book which belongs into every library, which will be read and read again by all those interested in the relationship between Jew and non-Jew and the interplay of cultures. It is an important contribution to intellectual history; and it makes fascinating reading.

IN THE AGE OF HIJACKING

Erich Lueth's New Book on Piracy

In his latest book "Seerauber und Geraubte" (Verlagshaus Christian Wolff, Flensburg), Erich Lueth, well known by his manifold campaigns for Christian-Jewish and German-Jewish understanding, also deals with the life and work of the Jewish lawyer and politician, Dr. Moritz Heckscher (1897 Hamburg—1865 Wien). Like Eduard von Simson, Gabriel Riesser and Dr. Heinrich Simon, Heckscher was one of the leading deputies of Jewish descent at the Frankfurt National Assembly. He was also a Minister for a short period and, at the end of his life, Minister Resident in Vienna. These political activities overshadowed Heckscher's achievements as a successful lawyer. Lueth describes Heckscher's role as the defending lawyer of a Hamburg captain who was indicted for slave traffic. Due to Heckscher's expert legal knowledge and forensic qualities, the captain was cleared of the charge and acquitted. E.G.L.

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Old Acquaintances

News from Everywhere: Lili Darvas, Molnar's widow, took the lead in the Hungarian film, "Love", which was successfully screened at Cannes.—Eighty-five-year-old Kurt Pinthus presented his library of 9,000 books to the German Literaturarchiv in Marbach.—Erwin Leiser, of "Mein Kampf" fame, scripted his memoirs of a Jewish youth in Berlin for TV.—Michael Rittermann, who until a few years ago lived in London, took the Gielgud part in "Kirschgarten" in Basle.—Peter Barnes, the gifted British playwright, adapted Wedekind's "Erdegeist" and "Buechse der Pandora" into one play under the title "Lulu" for the English stage; now Martin Esslin, a former Austrian living in London, is translating Barnes's version for the German theatre.

Germany: A touch of nostalgia—Kaisers Kaffeegeschaeft and Tengelmann have merged.—Hungarian Ivan Nagel, dramatic critic of Munich's Sueddeutsche Zeitung, has been appointed director of Hamburg's State Theatre.—*twen*, the German monthly, has closed down; part of the shares of Munich's Abendzeitung were sold to A. Neven DuMont of Cologne.—Marianne Hoppe and Maria Nicklisch will take part in Storey's "Home", directed by Dieter Giesing, at Munich's Kammerspiele.

Late Honour: At this year's Berlin Film Festival the "Golden Filmband" was awarded to Guiseppe Becce, the conductor and composer now over 90; Willy Haas; Hans Richter, the eternal *avantgardist* of the screen; Guenther Stapenhorst, the 80-year-old film producer; Richard Angst, the well-known cameraman; actress Grete Mosheim; film director Robert Siodmak; Kurt Bois, just 70; film star Jenny Jugo, now retired and living in Bad Toelz; and dramatic critic Herbert Ihering, over 80, who is honoured both in East and West Berlin.

Multi-national Metropolis: West Berlin is still the German city with the biggest population and 128,897 foreign citizens, or over six per cent, mostly "Gastarbeiter", live there more or less permanently. The latest count shows that the Turks, with 39,134 are leading, followed by 30,008 Yugoslavs, 8,534 Greeks, 5,798 Italians, 4,735 Austrians, 2,985 Czechs, 2,928 Frenchmen, 2,848 Britons, 2,183 Poles, 1,439 Swiss, 603 Swedes, 600 Finns, 589 Hungarians, and also, from outside Europe, 4,772 Americans, 631 Israelis and 586 Indians. Additionally 2,500 foreigners study at the universities and technical schools in West Berlin.

Obituary: Hubert von Meyerinck, the well-known actor, died in Hamburg at the age of 74.—Karl Farkas, co-author of "The Wonder Bar" and other operettas, and cabaret star, died in Vienna aged 77; he survived the war in the States.—The well-known actress and director of the famous Berliner Ensemble, Helene Weigel, widow of Bertolt Brecht, has died in East Berlin.—Milly Zirker, who was, together with Carl von Ossietzky, a founder member of the "Nie wieder Krieg" movement, has died in Florida at the age of 83.

Books and Authors: Hilde Spiel, who married Hans Flesch-Bruningen in Vienna, edited "Wien: Spektrum einer Stadt" for Biederstein-Verlag.—An anthology of Robert Gilbert's poems will be published by Lothar Blauvalet in Berlin under the title "Durch Berlin fließt immer noch die Spree", one of his father's hit songs.—Leo Mathias committed suicide; his completed autobiography about his life in South America, "Es hing an einem Faden", will be published by Rowohlt.

PEM

* Hans Liebeschütz: Von Georg Simmel zu Franz Rosenzweig: Studien zum Juedischen Denken im deutschen Kulturbereich. J. C. B. Mohr, Tübingen, 1970. 258 pp. DM 37.50.

H. W. Freyhan

A RECORD OF BERLIN JEWRY

The new Jewish Congregation in West Berlin, founded after the war, recently celebrated its 25th anniversary (AJR Information February 1971). Although the present Jewish community in the former German capital is relatively small it derives a particular significance from its links with the past existence of one of Europe's foremost Jewish centres. This link is the keynote of *Gegenwart im Rueckblick, Festgabe fuer die Juedische Gemeinde zu Berlin 25 Jahre nach dem Neubeginn*. Editors: Herbert A. Strauss and Kurt R. Grossmann. (Lothar Stiehm Verlag, Heidelberg, 1970. DM42).

A publication of this kind is faced with obvious problems. Its subject matter lends itself to almost unlimited expansion even if nothing more is contemplated than an historical survey, a course which the editors have not adopted, although a certain amount of historical research has been included.

Naturally, account had to be taken of the impact of the Nazi era and the Holocaust on the potential readers of the book; Jews in present-day Berlin, Jewish refugees from Berlin, now dispersed all over the world; finally, the general German public.

The contributors are all Jewish emigrants who had strong links with Berlin, including a few who were able to make their escape after 1939. Some have chosen to write in English, perhaps out of consideration for the "second generation" of refugees.

It must be welcomed that the many contributions should between them represent all those diversities in outlook which were characteristic of German Jewry. This applies to internal as well as external matters, i.e. the attitude to Judaism and to the non-Jewish world. The book covers the full range: from the uncompromising Orthodoxy of the *Adass Jisroel* to the extreme liberalism of the *Reformgemeinde*, and from committed pre-1933 Zionism to radical assimilation and even to the Jewish self-hatred of which Tucholsky was by no means the only representative (Kurt R. Grossmann quotes a letter which Tucholsky wrote to Arnold Zweig shortly before committing suicide).

The majority of Berlin Jews, like the rest of German Jewry, steered a middle course: they worshipped at the large *Gemeindesynagogen*, and when the events of 1933 had shaken their sense of belonging to the German community they had retained sufficient Jewishness to fall back on Jewish values and develop their cultural life accordingly.

Obviously, too much generalisation is out of place, and there were many who found themselves unable to come to terms with a situation which, in spite of all forebodings, caught them unawares.

No one could be more qualified to personify the link with the past than the book's first contributor, *Walter Breslauer*. He had been the old Congregation's executive director from 1931 till 1936, and he has since given invaluable service to Jewish refugees as Vice-President of the Council of Jews from Germany.

His preface is followed by an introduction

by *Kurt Grossmann* who, as co-editor, surveys the whole field covered by the *Festschrift*. He states that some 26,000 Jews now live in the Federal Republic while in 1933, Berlin alone numbered 172,000 Jews. He is on more controversial ground when he concedes A. Leschnitzer's claim that a German-Jewish symbiosis existed from 1850 till about 1920 but takes a strongly pessimistic view of the Jewish situation under the Weimar Republic. As Secretary-General of the *Deutsche Liga fuer Menschenrechte*, he was bound to become aware of every ominous incident.

While the first part of the book contains historical studies, especially of the leading Jewish organisations, the second deals with individual personalities and includes a number of valuable personal reminiscences. Both sections offer a few contributions which, although of scholarly standard, show little connection with the book's main subject. Even so, one would not grudge them their place were it not for some glaring omissions of more relevant matter, such as the pioneer work of the Congregation's day schools and of the *Kulturbund*. Admittedly, this has been covered in other publications, but the picture seems sadly incomplete without at least a brief survey of these achievements even though the editors make it quite clear that they did not aim at comprehensiveness.

The series of historical studies covers over a century. It may be coincidence, but it is still significant that the first and last of these articles both examine the actions of officialdom versus the Jews. In 1834, the reactionary Prussian authorities took a firm stand against anti-semitic riots (we know from another source that King Friedrich Wilhelm III had acted likewise on an earlier occasion). From 1941-45, the leading official of the Berlin Gestapo organised the deportations of Berlin Jews to the extermination camps in the East. *Robert Kempner* (before 1933 himself a high-ranking Prussian official) gives an account of these events in his report on the current trial of the responsible Gestapo functionaries.

The remainder of the first section focuses various aspects in the history of Berlin Jewry. *Ernest Hamburger* (now an octogenarian) traces the Jewish members of the *Reichstag* and of other parliamentary bodies. *Kurt Grossmann* discusses the share of Jews in left-wing politics. He makes no secret of the controversial implications which arise here: he refers to the critical attitude of men like Gershom Scholem and Walter Laqueur and quotes from the memoirs of *Reichswehrminister Otto Gessler*, who was considered a Democrat but ascribed the growth of antisemitism to the literary activities of those prominent Jews and their "cynical" treatment of patriotic ideals. Grossmann accepts neither of these criticisms. Present and future historians will probably continue to differ in their assessment of the impact which these Jewish radicals had on the particular virulence of German antisemitism. The whole tragic development becomes evident in the utterances of Tucholsky who, no doubt with burning sincerity, directed his vitriolic sarcasm against Germans and Jews alike.

An old Zionist like *S. Adler-Rudel* (member of the AJR Executive before his emigration to Israel), on the other hand, devoted his efforts to the welfare of Berlin's underprivileged Jews and reports on the relevant organisations and their considerable achievements.

The extreme wings of religious life are

focused in the next two articles. Rabbi *Michael Munk*, son of the last *Rav* of the Berlin *Adass Jisroel*, gives a clear definition of its ideology and a comprehensive account of its history, including that of its schools, which were able to grant the *Abitur* till 1939. (The last *Abitur*, at the *Wilsnackerstrasse* Jewish Grammar School, was held as late as 1941.) During the Nazi period, old conflicts were cast aside and gave way to harmonious co-operation with the main Congregation, and the *Adass* schools were thrown open to all Jewish children, whatever their religious or social background, thus becoming truly "comprehensive".

The *Reformgemeinde* had been established long before the *Adass*. *W. Hamburger* demonstrates how its rigid anti-Zionism left its members in a particularly hopeless position after 1933: clinging to the notion that Judaism was exclusively a religious denomination they grasped the need to leave their homeland with the greatest reluctance.

H. E. Fabian traces the development of the *Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland*, which eventually was to swallow up all remaining Jewish organisations. He emphasises that this step was taken before the Gestapo enforced it, and he also points out that the *Reichsvereinigung* was founded several years before extermination became the official policy, at a time when much was still to be done for the remnant of German Jewry. The writer strongly refutes the charge that the Jewish authorities meekly assisted the Gestapo.

With even more emphasis, this charge, made by "some brilliant analysts . . . from the safety of their couches or their lecterns" is denied by Rabbi *Max Nussbaum*, who, like some of his colleagues, recalls the "Ministry under Stress" (1935-40) in the second section of the book. He and Rabbi *Joachim Prinz* vividly describe the special challenge which faced the preacher at that time—the challenge which resulted from unique opportunities and unique risks. It was a time when Services were attended, and sermons listened to, by crowds which extended far beyond the circles of regular worshippers, with one or two Gestapo officials representing the risks!

Happier times are recalled in the reminiscences of Rabbi *Georg Salzberger*, who studied at the *Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums* at the beginning of the century. Later officiating in Frankfurt and, after his emigration, as the first Rabbi of London's *New Liberal Jewish Congregation*, he has since his retirement regularly returned to Berlin to preach to its post-war community, establishing a vital link with the past.

Rabbi *Manfred Swarsensky's* tribute to Rabbi *Leo Baeck* concentrates, above all, on the great teacher of whose work and impact he writes as a fervent disciple. Rabbi *Harris Hirschberg* honours the memory of Rabbi *Julius Galliner*.

Another Berlin Rabbi, Dr. *Julius Lewkowitz* (of the *Levetzowstrasse* Synagogue), who shared the fate of the deportees, is commemorated in *Werner Rosenstock's* "Erinnerungen an das Hansaviertel". This little study combines in an exemplary way the author's vivid personal memories with a lucid sociological analysis of that particular sector of Berlin Jewry.

Continued on page 7, column 3

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DAS WARBURG-INSTITUT

Aby Warburg und sein Lebenswerk

Es ist unlängst ein kunsthistorisches Werk erschienen, das auch für die Leser der AJR Information von höchstem Interesse ist. Es heisst "Aby Warburg" und hat den Untertitel "An Intellectual Biography", ist also vor allem eine Darstellung von dem geistigen Werdegang des bedeutenden Kunstforschers Aby Warburg (1866-1929). Er war bekanntlich der Begründer der kulturwissenschaftlichen Privatbibliothek, aus der dann in den 20er Jahren das Warburg-Institut, die kunst- und kulturgeschichtliche Forschungsstätte an der Universität Hamburg hervorging. Der Verfasser dieses grossangelegten Werkes über Aby Warburg ist Professor E. H. Gombrich, der heutige Leiter des Warburg-Instituts, das 1933 von Hamburg nach London emigrierte und kurz nach dem Krieg das kunst- und kulturgeschichtliche Institut der Universität London wurde.

Aus einer unseligen zeitgeschichtlichen Konstellation, aus der durch die nationalsozialistische Machtergreifung herbeigeführten Auswanderung des Warburg-Instituts ist nun etwas geistesgeschichtlich höchst Bemerkenswertes hervorgegangen. Als im Jahr 1933 ein Schiff mit dem gesamten Bücherbestand und Mobiliar des Warburg-Instituts im Londoner Hafen anlegte, wurde mit seiner Fracht etwas ausgeladen, was es in England damals noch nicht gab: die Lehre und Wissenschaft der Kunstgeschichte. Zu dieser Zeit gab es an keiner englischen Universität Lehrstühle für Kunstgeschichte, sie war kein selbständiges, sondern ein der Archäologie beigeordnetes Lehrfach.

So wurde denn das Warburg-Institut zunächst mit Hilfe englischer Gönner und den durch die Zeitverhältnisse sehr reduzierten Mitteln der Familie Warburg in der Etage eines Londoner Bürohauses in Millbank untergebracht. Hier nahmen sein damaliger Direktor Fritz Saxl, dessen Weitsicht die rechtzeitige Evakuierung des Instituts von Hamburg nach London zu verdanken war, gemeinsam mit seiner Mitarbeiterin Gertrud Bing—beide sind seither verstorben—und mit einer Handvoll von Kollegen ihre Arbeit unter anfänglich sehr erschwerten Umständen wieder auf. Sie drang aber dennoch allmählich so tief ins englische Geistesleben ein, dass es heute keine englische Universität mehr gibt, an der nicht auch Kunstgeschichte gelehrt wird, und zwar von einer jüngeren Generation englischer Kunsthistoriker, die als Doktoranden am Warburg-Institut arbeiteten und nun als Dozenten zu seinen Mitarbeitern gehören.

Was ermöglichte dem Warburg-Institut nicht nur sein Fortleben, sondern sein befruchtendes Wirken in England? Es war die besondere geistesgeschichtliche Anschauungsweise, die Aby Warburg an seinem Institut herangebildet und ausgeprägt hatte. Sie besteht, kurz und vereinfacht gesagt, darin, Kunstgeschichte als Lebensgeschichte zu betrachten und erforschen. Auf diesem Weg war ihm Jacob Burckhardt, den Aby Warburg zeitlebens als seinen Lehrer und Meister verehrte, vorangegangen. Aber Warburg ertastete und erarbeitete sich seine eigenen Methoden, mit denen er die Kunstwerke der Vergangenheit mit der sozialen Umwelt zu verknüpfen suchte, aus der sie hervorgegangen waren, die Fäden aufzuzeigen suchte, die von ihnen zu den Menschen der Vergangenheit, ihrer Gefühlswelt und Denkungsart führten.

Dieses Bestreben kam nun aber englischem Geschichtsdenken in hohem Mass entgegen. Was man hierzulande "Social History" nennt, entspricht zwar ungefähr dem, was wir "Kulturgeschichte" nennen, ist aber doch durch seine stark betonte Hervorhebung des Sozialen im Kulturgeschichtlichen zu einer spezifisch englischen Wissenschaft geworden. Kunstgeschichte galt ihr dabei als etwas Sekundäres, eine Sache von Form- und Stilfragen. Dass sie sich darin nicht erschöpfte, dass auch sie sich in den Kreis des Sozialgeschichtlichen einbeziehen liess, ja dass man gerade aus dem Kunstschaffen der Vergangenheit noch vielfältigere und vertieftere Einsichten auch in die Lebensgeschichte der Menschheit gewinnen konnte,—das war es, was Aby Warburgs Anschauungsweise und die Forschungsarbeiten seines Instituts der englischen Geisteswissenschaft als fruchtbare Bereicherung zutragen.

Professor Gombrich ist den subtil verästelten Gedankengängen Aby Warburgs, die das Kunstgeschichtliche mit der Anthropologie, Religion und Philosophie, mit Sprache und Literatur verknüpfen, aufs genaueste, feinfühligste und bei aller Vielfalt der behandelten Themen aufs klarste und übersichtlichste nachgegangen. Dabei treten dann auch einige charakteristische Züge von Warburgs eigener Lebensgeschichte, seiner eigenartig grossen, starken und komplizierten Persönlichkeit ans Licht.

Er war der Älteste von sechs Brüdern, und sein Entschluss, nicht ins väterliche Bankhaus einzutreten, bedeutete einen Bruch mit der Familientradition, aber doch auf anderer Ebene auch wieder eine Fortsetzung dieser Tradition. Denn der Abkömmling einer alten hanseatischen Kaufmanns- und Bankiersfamilie wandte sich mit seinen ersten Studien dem Fortleben einer Ueberlieferung, dem der Antike in der italienischen Frührenaissance zu, wie sie in Florenz unter der Schutz- und Schirmherrschaft einer anderen Bankiers- und Kaufmannsfamilie, der Medicis, entstanden war. Bei der Anschaffung mehr und mehr kostspieliger Bücher, die er für seine Arbeit brauchte und mit denen er den Grundstein zu der späteren, einzigartigen Bibliothek des Warburg-Instituts legte, unterstützte seine Familie ihn zeitlebens aufs grosszügigste und verständnisvollste,—auch damit wieder einer deutschjüdisch-patrizischen Familientradition folgend, der Aufgeschlossenheit für alles Geistige, der Verpflichtung, es zu fördern.

Fühlte sich das Haus Warburg gelegentlich zu stark durch seinen Ältesten in Anspruch genommen, appellierte er mit seinem ironisch-besorgten Sinn für Humor an den seiner Familie: "Ich habe", schrieb er einmal seinem Bruder Paul, "516 neue Bücher im vorigen Jahr angeschafft . . . allerdings dabei auch mindestens 516 graue Haare bekommen." Gab man ihm zu bedenken, dass er sich mit seiner Arbeit zu viel zumute, seine Kräfte dabei verzettelte, so meinte er ein andermal, das könne nicht anders sein, denn er leiste ja nur "Trüffelschweindienste". Dieses eigentümliche, humoristisch resignierte, bescheiden-stolze und auch von jüdischem Witz getönte Wort enthält den Schlüssel zu Aby Warburgs menschlicher und geistiger Natur, in der sich das Ahnungsvermögen, der geduldige Spürsinn des Künstlers mit der umsichtigen Gewissenhaftigkeit des Gelehrten verband.

Es war ihm, dem es in seinem eigenen Schaffen stets um die Kontinuität des geistigen und künstlerischen Schaffens in der Menschengeschichte zu tun war, nicht mehr vergönnt, das Fortleben seines Werkes in dem schönen neuen Haus am Woburn Square zu erleben, das die Universität London dem Warburg-Institut nach dem Krieg erbaut hat. Er starb, noch nicht 65 Jahre alt, 1929 in Hamburg. Freilich blieb es ihm so auch erspart, den Leidensweg zu gehen, den die Menschheit antreten musste, als die Schreckensjahre des Nationalsozialismus über sie hereinbrachen.

A RECORD OF BERLIN JEWRY

Continued from page 6, column 3

Curt Wilk provides a welcome survey of all the synagogues of the main Congregation and their history, beginning with the *Alte Synagogue* (*Heidereutergasse*) which dates from 1714 and received a curtain for its Thora shrine from Friedrich Wilhelm I. The most beautiful building among them all, the *Neue Synagogue* (*Oranienburgerstrasse*), which held some 3,000 people, was opened in 1866 in the presence of Wilhelm I and Bismarck. Facts like these must not be overlooked when the situation of the Jews in Prussia is considered.

Other contributors draw attention to some prominent families or to individual personalities like Sigmund Feist, Director of the Reichenheim Orphanage, and a much respected scholar in the field of German philology, and to Wilfrid Israel, of the famous firm N. Israel, who later continued his work for his fellow-Jews from war-time Britain until his plane was shot down during a return flight from Portugal.

Gerd Ehrlich's memoirs present the surprising reactions of one who made his escape to Switzerland as late as 1943, during the height of the deportations, but can yet write with nothing but sheer joy about his first post-war return visit to Berlin. Nor is this joy caused merely by the sight of a few familiar old places: it is based on a view which tends to exempt all Berliners from any Nazi allegiance to such an extent that the Editor has felt obliged to insert a cautionary footnote. Nevertheless, one has to respect such an attitude in one who had witnessed the final stage of Berlin Jewry.

This last period is also described by *Dr. Herman Pineas*, who was able to survive by spending 2½ years in an "underground" existence.

In a final article, *Hans Steinitz*, the Editor of "Aufbau", pays tribute to the courageous men who took the responsibility for the rebirth of the Berlin Congregation after the war, in spite of all obstacles.

An appendix of illustrations presents "people, places and documents". The numerous pictures of the main Berlin synagogues will evoke nostalgic memories in many a reader.

Herbert Strauss's excellent postscript, the work of a professional scholar, defines the historic role of Berlin Jewry in terms which cover the basic trends in the midst of so much diversity: "Berlin Jews owed their dynamic qualities precisely to the fact that already emancipated and saturated Jewish strata were perennially replenished by migrants to the metropolis who re-tread the road from folk culture to cosmopolitan rationality and, with the energy engendered by the frictions of the process, fuelled Berlin's cultural life. . . . It may well have been inherent in the unique character of its Jewish community, the combination of East and West, universal religion and communal cohesion, parochial origin and cosmopolitan freedom that Berlin Jewry illuminated the short historic hour of Jewish life in Germany".

* The Warburg Institute, University of London. £6.

J. Raphael (Ramat Gan)

THE STORY OF EDITH BAKER AND HER FAMILY

In the "Blitz" of September, 1940, the house of the Jewish family, Percy Paul Baker, in Willesden was hit by a bomb and destroyed. Seven people lost their lives, among them Mr. Baker himself, his wife, Edith, their son, Cecil, and their cousin, Rabbi Dr. Felix Salomon, who, as a refugee from Germany, had arrived in Britain only the year before. The Bakers were closely connected with Zionist work in London. There is, however, a special reason for remembering this tragic incident: Mrs. Edith Baker, née Salomon, born 1885 in Berlin, was a great-granddaughter of Charlotte Embden, Hamburg, the only sister of the famous poet, Heinrich Heine.*

Descendant of Heine's Sister

Edith's mother, Mathilde Hirsch, married to Heinrich Salomon in Berlin 1884, kept her home on strict Jewish-traditional lines. Her husband came from a very religious family of a small place, Santomischel, in what was then the province of Posen. Edith was their first child. Together with her sister Leonie (born 1892) and brother Walter (born 1893), she received a modern general secondary school and a well directed Hebrew and religious education. This was supported by the cultured atmosphere in their home, with its many interests in art and literature and its comfortable background of all matters and aspects concerning Jewish affairs. The years of the closing century created an unexpectedly unpleasant antisemitism. Its rather alarming

* A reference to the author's essay on the descendants of Charlotte Embden was published in the March, 1971, issue of "AJR Information".

signs were thoroughly discussed and watched, frequently leading to answers and reactions offered by Theodor Herzl's new ideology. So it happened that Heinrich Salomon became an early member of a Berlin Zionist association, immensely interested in obtaining all news about the developments of Jewish work in Palestine, and these were the first encounters by young Edith with Zionism.

As representative of manufacturers of fancy leather goods, Heinrich Salomon regularly visited his London branch. On his journey in 1906 he was accompanied by his daughter Edith, who at once decided to settle in Britain and, most of all, to join the wide range of Zionist activities. Here, enthusiastic Edith found opportunities, people, problems, events. London, 1906: still uncertain about the future of the movement after Herzl's recent death, still in the grip of disputes with the newly formed Jewish Territorial Organisation (Ito), and Chaim Weizmann had just arrived ready for his first talk with James Balfour. Edith soon met her partner for life: Percy Paul Baker, founder of the first Zionist society in Glasgow, a delegate to quite a number of Zionist Congresses since 1900, in London, Basle, The Hague, witness of the sharp controversy about the Uganda project on the Sixth Congress, and for a time, under Sir Frances Montefiore's chairmanship, Hon. Secretary of the British Zionist Federation. Such a partnership greatly stimulated Edith Baker's own activities. Soon after the setting up in London 1920 of the Federation of Women's Zionists, she joined the group, became a member of its Council, and assisted, two years later, the

formation of a social circle for the amelioration of the legal position of the Jewish woman. Percy Baker's work meanwhile was highly appreciated by Weizmann himself who once called him "a trusted and devoted servant to Zionism."

Three children were born to the Bakers: Ruth (1907), Grace (1909) and Cecil (1911). Cecil, actively participating in the Maccabi Sport Organisation, acted for a time as private secretary to Lord Melchett, and—as has already been said at the beginning of this story—died very young in the September 1940 air raid. Ruth Baker married one Louis Chissik, and her sister Grace married a man from Natanya. Both daughters died in Israel. In 1939, Edith Baker managed to obtain entry visas to Britain for a cousin of the family, Rabbi Dr. Felix Salomon, his wife, Erna, née Engel (incidentally, related to Hermann Struck) and for their niece Erna Lowenthal. Dr. Salomon's wife, Erna, was with relatives in Leeds when the catastrophe occurred in Willesden. Later, the widow settled in Israel where she died several years ago.

As a manufacturer of brushes, Percy Baker was exhibiting in the British pavilion of the 1932 Levant Fair in Tel Aviv, and on this occasion with his wife visited what was then Palestine. Plans for their "Aliya", although under consideration for quite some time, were never realised. This was particularly regretted by Edith's sister, Leonie who, with her family, was already living in Palestine, and who has now told me the details of the story. The basic facts have also been kindly confirmed and supplemented by Joseph Fraenkel, the well-known Zionist historian.

LETTERS BY IVAN GOLL

The Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur (Mainz POB 1220) intends to publish a collection of letters by the writer Ivan Goll (1891-1950) and asks for any correspondence referring to the period of Goll's exile in America (1939-1947).

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Glueckwunsch fuer Richard Friedenthal

Wie wir bereits kurz berichteten, beging der Autor Dr. Richard Friedenthal (London), Ehrenpräsident des PEN-Zentrums der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, am 9. Juni seinen 75. Geburtstag. Dr. Friedenthal ist mit zahlreichen Menschen unseres Kreises persönlich verbunden. Zu seinen weit beachteten Veröffentlichungen gehört auch der Roman "Die Welt in der Nussschale", in dem das Leben im Internierungslager auf der Isle of Man mit seinen ersten und tragikomischen Seiten geschildert wird. Es ist uns eine besondere Ehre, den folgenden Glückwunsch, den Erich Kästner der "AJR Information" zur Verfügung gestellt hat, der aber erst nach Drucklegung der vorigen Nummer einging, zu veröffentlichen.—Red.

Lieber Richard,

es ist wieder einmal so weit: Die Gratulanten kommen! Und weil es sich um keinen "krummen", sondern um einen einprägsam runden, um Ihren 75. Geburtstag handelt, werden die Briefträger und die Depeschboten über Beschäftigungsmangel nicht klagen können. Auch nicht in England, nun sich dort das Dezimalsystem ums Bürgerrecht bewirbt.

Wenn ich mich frage, was ich Ihnen wünschen soll, wüsste ich zuvor gerne, was Sie sich selber wünschen. Doch da sich solche Neugierde unter Männern, auch unter guten Freunden, nicht schickt, ziehe ich die vorlaute Frage zurück. Wünsche, ja, komplette Wunschlisten besonnener Kameraden darf man unbesehen mitwünschen. Dixi.

Doch nein, ich habe noch etwas anderes auf dem Herzen. Als ich vorhin in meinem Regal die Reihe mit Ihren Büchern musterte, stellte ich neben dem "Goethe" und dem "Luther" genug Platz für einen ebenso wichtigen und gewichtigen Band fest: für einen "Heinrich Heine" von Richard Friedenthal.

'Das nenn ich mir einen feinen Gratulanten', werden Sie denken. 'Statt mir einen versilberten und vergoldeten Lebensabend zu wünschen und es dabei bewenden zu lassen, mimt er den Onkel vom literarischen Arbeitsnachweis, und so was nennt sich 'alter, guter Freund'!

Nun, Richard, Sie wissen schon, wie ich's meine. Sollten Unklarheiten bestehen, werden wir sie zu Ihrer Geburtstagsfeier in München mit einem Teelöffel Sekt hinunterspülen.

Herzlichst wie immer,
Ihr Erich.

QUEEN WILHELMINA FOREST

The inauguration has taken place of the forest planted in the Nazareth hills in memory of the late Queen Wilhelmina, who was a friend of Israel.

Queen Juliana of Holland sent a telegram in Hebrew expressing her gratitude "for the honour sacred to my mother's memory". Together with Princess Beatrix and Prince Claus, she bought trees for the forest, and the inauguration in Israel was attended by her secretary.

AUSTRIA

Burgenland Archives

Burgenland, Austria's second smallest province, was a stronghold of Orthodoxy before the advent of the Nazis. The community of Eisenstadt, the provincial capital, had a long history spanning many centuries, as did the other six Burgenland communities. Dr. Sandor Wolf, an industrialist of the province, in 1931 collected all the communal documents and arranged them into an archive. The documents passed into the hands of the local authorities after the Nazis took over Austria in 1938.

The Jewish historical archives in Jerusalem were handed over other archives, including those of the Vienna community, because most of the Austrian community had either perished or dispersed. The authorities, however, retained the Burgenland archives and refuse to hand them over to Jerusalem intending, they say, to establish a museum in Eisenstadt where the archives will be displayed. Dr. Kurt Schubert, professor of Judaism and Semitics at Vienna University, is an enthusiastic proponent of the projected museum.

Prize for Hungarian

The Herder Prize, established with money provided by Herr von Stein, a Hamburg philanthropist, is awarded annually to prominent East European scientists, artists and authors. The fund is administered by Dr. Richard Bieble, the rector of Vienna University.

One of the seven recipients of the 1971 Prize, at a ceremony in Vienna attended by President Franz Jonas, was a Jew, Dr. Bence Szabocsi, a 72-year-old professor at the Budapest Academy of Music. He is the translator into Hungarian of Simon Dubnow's abridged History of the Jews, the rector of the Bartok archives and museum in Budapest and a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.



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Round and About

MRS. LOLA HAHN-WARBURG 70

Mrs. Lola Hahn-Warburg recently celebrated her 70th birthday. Among her manifold Jewish activities the work for Jewish children has played a particularly great part. In Germany she was—together with Einstein, Buber, Wilfrid Israel and others—a member of the Presidium of the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft fuer Kinder-und Jugendliljah", which was founded in 1933 as a merger of "Juedische Jugendhilfe", "Juedische Waisenhilfe" and "Ahava". In those years of emergency she devoted all her time to the rescue work carried out by Jugendliljah. After her emigration to this country, she put herself at the disposal of the "Movement for the Care of Children". She held a responsible position with the Movement's Jewish Department both during the war and afterwards. At the same time she continued her activities for Youth Aliyah and took a leading part in the work of the Central British Fund and the Jewish Refugees Committee. Her charm and energy and her personal interest in the well-being of those under her care have endeared her to all those who co-operated with her or benefited from her unflinching services. She has also retained deep feelings of loyalty to those whom she knew from her Berlin days and who had been near to her former fellow workers Wilfrid and Ludwig Tietz.

Lola Hahn-Warburg is the eldest daughter of the late Max M. Warburg and the widow of the industrialist Rudolf Hahn (Birmingham), who died in 1964. E.G.L.

MR. MAX FREYHAN 90

On July 28, Dr. Max Freyhan will celebrate his 90th birthday. A lawyer by profession, he has always been mainly interested in literature. In former years, many in our midst have benefited from the talks he gave under the auspices of refugee organisations. Like his wife, Mrs. Clara Freyhan, he has been an interested member of the AJR since its inception and a personal friend of several of its honorary officers. We extend our sincerest congratulations to the nonagenarian.

FESTSCHRIFT FOR PROF. RICHARD RADO

On the occasion of his 65th birthday, the mathematician, Professor Richard Rado, was presented by the University of Reading with a Festschrift to which 30 English scientists had contributed. Professor Rado obtained his doctorate *summa cum laude* at the University of his home town, Berlin, in 1931. At the beginning of 1933, he was designated for a research fellowship of the Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft. The political changes in Germany nullified his chances of obtaining an academic position and, at the suggestion of Professors Issai Schur (died 1941 in Tel Aviv) and Erhard Schmidt, Rado emigrated to this country. E.G.L.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthdays

Feingold.—The A.J.R. Club conveys its very best wishes to one of its first members, Mrs. Helene Feingold, on the occasion of her 80th birthday on July 1st.

Golden Wedding

Dux.—Dr. Walter and Mrs. Marga Dux of 18 St. George's Road, Twickenham, Middx., will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their marriage which was solemnised in Hanover on July 20, 1921. Their children, Dr. Eric Dux and Mrs. Eva Beaumont, together with their children-in-law and six grandchildren, express to them their warmest congratulations.

Diamond Wedding

Kallay.—Rudolph and Paula (née Hayek) of 82 Fidas Road, Llani-shen, Cardiff, announce the 60th anniversary of their marriage which was solemnised in Vienna on June 18, 1911.

APPOINTMENTS FOR WOMEN

The next Mayor of the London Borough of Hackney is to be Miss Lilian Karpin, a private secretary to a Jewish-owned import/export firm. A member of the Labour Party for 25 years and a council member since 1956, Miss Karpin is the secretary of the Stoke Newington and district committee of Children and Youth Aliyah.

The New London Synagogue, whose minister is Rabbi Dr. Louis Jacobs, has elected a woman as an honorary officer for what is believed to be the first time in Orthodox synagogue administration. Miss Ethel Wix, a solicitor, was elected as the synagogue's treasurer at the annual meeting held in the synagogue hall, St. John's Wood, London.

FAREWELL TO "HOUSE ON THE HILL"

An institution of long standing in the N.W.3 area, the "House on the Hill" nursery school and kindergarten in Netherhall Gardens, is due to close its doors for the last time on its children this month. The kindergarten, which was founded by Miss Barbara Bowler very many years ago, will continue on a smaller scale at 33 Hoop Lane, N.W.11.

Miss Bowler, who is not Jewish, has always been a champion of Jewish causes. Her special interest has been the John F. Kennedy Center for cerebral palsied, retarded children in Jaffa, which is run under the auspices of the Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children (Ilan). After the Second World War, Miss Bowler helped to bring to this country many of the children who had survived the horrors of the concentration camps. Among the present-day institutions which are very near to her heart are the Save the Children Fund and the Society for the Mentally Handicapped. Throughout the years Miss Bowler has lent her support to the work of the AJR.

The reduction of her kindergarten work will now enable Miss Bowler to carry out lecture tours of both Japan and the U.S.A. in order to raise funds for the Israeli John F. Kennedy Center. Many of our members whose children or grandchildren have attended the House on the Hill will be very sorry to see the Netherhall Gardens branch close but join us in wishing Miss Bowler every success and happiness in her new venture.

PAUL-EHRLICH-STRASSE IN HAMBURG

A path adjoining the Altona Hospital in the Othmarschen district has been renamed Paul-Ehrlich-Strasse. At the renaming ceremony, tributes to Paul Ehrlich (1854-1915), the founder of modern chemotherapy and discoverer of Salvarsan, were paid by Bezirksamtsleiter, Dr. Werner Mascheck, and the Medical Director of the Hospital, Professor Dr. Reinhard Aschenbrenner.

Death

Baruch.—Mr. Manfred Baruch of 6 Vernon Drive, Prestwich, Manchester (formerly Stettin), died on June 5th. Deeply mourned by his beloved wife Hilde, sister Edith Beer, sister-in-law Gerda Holzinger, mother-in-law Emmy Rosenthal, nephews and nieces.

Sekkel.—Mrs. Elsa Sekkel (née Rosenberg) of 26 Holly Road, Birmingham 16, died peacefully in her sleep aged 89 on June 15. Sadly missed by her sons Archie and family, California, Werner and family, Argentina, and her sister Erica Heinrich.

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SOVIET TRIALS

The trial in Riga of a woman and three men charged with "anti-Soviet Activities" has ended with the conviction of the four accused, who were given sentences of from one to three years. The accused were Ruth Alexandrovich, 23; Mikhail Shepshelovich, 27; Arkady Shpilberg, 32; and Boris Maftsier, 24.

The mother of Ruth, Mrs. Rikva Alexandrovich, recently stopped over in London on her way from Israel to the United States, where she went to campaign on behalf of her daughter and the three others. Mrs. Alexandrovich had a meeting with Cardinal Heenan and a representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury in London. She and her 18-year-old son were urged by Ruth herself to avail themselves of their exit visas for Israel, where they arrived on April 28.

The continuing series of trials of Soviet Jews has met with world-wide protests by Jewish groups and some non-Jews all over the world. Senator Pietro Nenni, the veteran Italian Socialist leader, in a letter to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR expressed his "astonishment, bitterness and indignation".

In Russia itself the three founders of the Human Rights Committee in the Soviet Union have written to the presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. They plead for the pardon of Soviet Jews sentenced in Riga and in the two trials in Leningrad. The signatories also ask that no proceedings should be taken against the Jews awaiting trial in Kishinev and elsewhere in Russia.

Mr. Anthony Royle, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in a Commons answer said that while the British Government are concerned about the plight of Soviet Jewry, they are unable to intervene. The non-admission of the press to the trials in question was deplored, but the British Government had no control over the practice of Soviet courts.

In London, Jewish housewives clad in black, calling themselves the 35-Year-Old Women of Britain, have been constantly demonstrating against the secret trials. Protests have also been made by members of the Stop the Leningrad Trials Committee and by the Emergency Committee for Soviet Jewry.

RUSSIAN VISA COMMISSION

A declaration signed by 60 Moscow Jews, addressed to President Podgorny, was circulated in the Soviet capital. It expressed fear that the winding-up of the visa commission, set up on March 1, would mean a return to the slow visa-issuing procedure in force before March. The document complained that "extra-judicial persecution is continuing against citizens who have made requests to leave" and that the authorities are "uttering completely absurd and unfounded reasons for refusing departures".

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IN MEMORIAM

MR. HEINZ SCHENK

Mr. Heinz Schenk, Chairman of the East Berlin Jewish community, passed away in his 61st year. He spent his formative years in the Jewish youth movement as a member of the "Deutsch-Juedische Jugend-Gemeinschaft" (DJJG). In 1933, he became an instructor in carpentry at a training centre, established by the Jewish community for young would-be emigrants. He survived the Nazi regime on the Continent in forced labour and concentration camps and the years of persecution left their mark on his health. When the remnants of East Berlin's Jewry re-established the community after the war, Heinz Schenk put himself at their disposal. He soon became the chairman of the community and also a member of the Federation of Jewish communities in the German Democratic Republic. Only a few months ago, he was host to a number of former Berlin Jews who paid a visit to that city on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebration of the West Berlin community.

The work which Heinz Schenk conducted from his small office in the Oranienburger Strasse was not easy, especially as the community of the few hundred members is highly over-aged and constantly shrinking. He unflinchingly looked after the spiritual and material welfare of those in his charge, and he also acted as their spokesman vis-à-vis the State and municipal authorities. Jews no longer living in Berlin also benefited from his work because his activities included the administration of the cemeteries, where their nearest ones were laid to rest.

It is difficult to envisage how the work for the East Berlin Jewish community will be continued after his untimely death. We express our sincerest sympathy to his wife and his family. He will be remembered with gratitude and affection not only by his community but also by many others who knew him from their pre-war days and to whom he always remained a loyal friend.

W.R.

DR. PAUL ABEL

The lawyer, Dr. Paul Abel, recently died in London. He was an authority on patent law and, prior to his emigration, Vice-President of the Rechtsanwaltskammer in Vienna. Dr. Abel joined the AJR almost immediately after its inception. He soon became a member of the AJR Board and, for a great number of years, took an active part in the deliberations at the Board Meetings. When his health started to fail, he offered his resignation but he withdrew it at our request, because we felt that it was a great asset for the AJR that its Board included a personality of his standing and reputation. All those who had the privilege of knowing Dr. Abel will remember him with gratitude and respect.

MR. LEONARD COHEN

With the death of Leonard Cohen there has passed a stalwart of the Old Guard who were concerned with assisting victims of Nazi oppression, and readers of this journal have lost a good friend. Leonard Cohen was a native of Manchester and became the head of a family group of stores. He participated in local affairs and his views invariably commanded respect.

Very early on he associated himself with the refugee problem and he worked actively on the Manchester Refugee Committee. At a later date he took an active interest in the Morris Feinmann Homes and had an important share in promoting the scheme that resulted in the present Home being built.

His most notable contribution, however, was in connection with relief and rehabilitation overseas. In 1943 it was foreseen that at the end of the war there was likely to be a remnant of Jewish survivors on the Continent. The Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad was founded of which Leonard Cohen throughout was the principal driving force and eventually also its Chairman. No one could then imagine the situation in which these survivors would be found and readers will need no reminder of the terrible conditions that were then uncovered. The J.C.R.A., financed by the Central British Fund, sent out teams of volunteers and at one time there were well over 100 Jewish Relief Unit workers in Germany, Austria, Italy and Greece; some of them such as doctors and nurses had professional skills whilst many of the remainder had little experience but were fired with the wish to be of service. The success of the operation owed much to Leonard Cohen's wisdom and devotion and as head of the organisation he had to deal with many complicated problems. He was a valuable member of the Council of the C.B.F. until his retirement to Cyprus some two years ago at which time he was appointed an Honorary President of the Fund.

He had returned to England only a few days before his death with the intention of spending the summer here. He leaves a widow and son. He will be greatly missed by his many friends.

H. OSCAR JOSEPH.

DR. RAPHAEL STRAUSS

The lawyer, Dr. Raphael Strauss (Karlsruhe), died at the age of 80. He was born in Karlsruhe, where in 1919 he joined the law practice of the well-known politician Dr. Ludwig Haas. In 1935, he emigrated to Palestine. After the war, he returned to Germany to take up a leading position with the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation (JRSO). From then onwards he also closely co-operated with URO. His thoroughly founded legal knowledge and his forensic capability earned him the recognition of both his colleagues and the judiciary. It was also of direct and indirect benefit to the victims of Nazi persecution in the settlement of their claims. Dr. Strauss was a deeply religious man and the embodiment of the best qualities of Jewry in South West Germany.

IN MEMORY OF RABBI DR. S. WEISSE

25th Anniversary of his Death

Last month, marked the 25th year since Rabbi Dr. Samson Weisse died in London. He is still vividly remembered by the elder generation of Berlin's pre-war Jewry.

Dr. Weisse was the senior rabbi of the Berlin Jewish community. Born in Hungary as the son of a great scholar, he devoted his rabbinical activities to Jewish communities in Germany. He first held office in Dessau and received a "call" to Berlin in 1903. All those who knew him were bound to be inspired by his vigour as a fighter for the values of Judaism. He continued his work until 1939, when he had already reached a great age, because he felt he had to serve his community as long as Providence would enable him to do so.

He often represented the Jewish community at big public functions. Thus, he was the main speaker, when the new Jewish Hospital in Berlin was consecrated during the First World War.

Dr. Weisse officiated at the New Synagogue (Oranienburger Strasse) and at the Luetzowstrasse Synagogue, where he was also the principal of the religion school. Later, he also preached at the Fasanenstrasse Synagogue. He was one of the main initiators of special youth services. There are innumerable couples and b'ne mitsva for whom he evoked the blessing of the Almighty.

Together with his wife and his daughter, he found refuge in this country shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War. In 1943, he lost his beloved wife. The funeral service was conducted by the late Oberkantor Magnus Davidsohn, and Dr. Weisse himself delivered a moving memorial address. He lived to almost 90 years and was laid to rest in the Willesden cemetery of the United Synagogue.

The name of Rabbi Dr. Samson Weisse is inseparably linked with the history of the Berlin Jewish community.

K. STEIN

DEATH OF COURAGEOUS LAWYER

The former Hildesheim lawyer, Franz Nuelzen, died in Bad Toelz in his 70th year. When the Nazis were in power, he courageously helped and protected his persecuted Jewish friends at great risk to himself. After the war, he resumed contacts with Jews from Hildesheim and assisted them in safeguarding their rights.

E.G.L.

ATONEMENT IN AUSCHWITZ

Before leaving for Israel to work for a year in kibbutzim or social institutions to help survivors of Nazism, 22 West German boys and girls spent a few days at the site of Auschwitz concentration camp.

The youngsters are members of the Christian Sign of Atonement Action movement which, since 1961, has sent groups of between 30 and 40 young Germans to Israel each year for twelve months' work. The Auschwitz visit was the first organised by the movement as a preparatory course for the volunteers, to gain an idea of the extent of Nazi brutality.

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Herbert Freedman

ROME AND JERUSALEM

"Times have changed. The predecessors of Pope Paul VI tried with the help of Christian knights to free Jerusalem from the infidel Moslems. Now, the Vatican defends Moslem claims on the city and, in co-operation with the Islam, denies Jewish rights", writes the German-language daily in Tel Aviv, "Yediot Hadashot". The first sign of a new move on the part of the Holy See was seen in an unsigned editorial in the official newspaper "L'Osservatore Romano" to which we briefly referred in a previous edition: "The tendency to extend Israeli sovereignty to the Arab part . . . has been giving Jerusalem an increasingly particularist character, to the detriment of the non-Jewish population—Moslem and Christian. . . . Land has been expropriated to build Jewish housing in Jerusalem and there is a plan to evict 6,000 Arabs from the Old City."

These accusations came as a jolt to observers in Jerusalem. While the Government was not rushing to react to the charges, Golda Meir called these utterances "surprising". For 19 years the world was silent when the Old City was under Moslem-Jordanian rule, when its Jewish inhabitants were killed or expelled and the Jews denied access to their holiest places. Why this concern now? Is it because Jerusalem is now under Jewish rule? the Prime Minister asked.

The allegations to evict 6,000 Arabs were described by informed circles as "unfounded". Had they first been submitted to the churchman best informed on the situation, the Vatican's Apostolic Delegate in Jerusalem, they would have been deleted, observers say. In their opinion, the original source of the accusation was not in Rome but in Beirut, Amman and East Jerusalem. The line of the "Judaisation of Jerusalem" had first been broached at the "International Conference of Christian Churches Concerned With Palestine", held in Beirut last year. The theme has since been taken up with special eagerness by Bishop Samaan of Amman who managed to enlist in his campaign a number of Arab officials of the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem, known as being not particularly friendly to Israel.

The story of the eviction of 6,000 Arabs from the Old City is based on the following facts: since 1967, 3,500 Arabs who had been living in the Jewish quarter, in houses which had to be abandoned by the Jews in 1948, have been evacuated after separate negotia-

tions with each family and the payment of compensation. These payments today average £3,500 per room plus £200—for each member of the family. Another 2,200 remain to be evacuated as construction work in the Jewish quarter reaches their present homes. The final plans for the quarter from which the Jewish inhabitants were forcefully driven, calls for 600 Jewish families (2,500-3,000 souls) plus 2,500 Yeshivah students in dormitories.

That the line taken by "L'Osservatore Romano" was part of a concerted action appears from the support which it received from one of Britain's most influential Catholic papers, "The Tablet", in an attack on "jealous Israeli nationalism". "If Israel is allowed to consolidate its hold on Arab Jerusalem", the article reads, "then all patient efforts of the peace makers will be in vain . . . nor can there be any legitimate reason for Jews to disregard the feelings of others."

Since 1844, the Jews have formed the largest cohesive unit within the city, and since 1896 the majority of Jerusalem's population. The 12,000 Christian Jerusalemites belong to 24 denominations, the numerically largest being the Greek Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Syrian Orthodox, the Maronites, Armenians, Copts, Ethiopians and Protestants who, on their part, are subdivided into Anglicans, Presbyterians, Baptists and Lutherians. "It should be recalled", writes "Jerusalem Post", "that in 1947 the representatives of the Palestine Jews accepted in full the UNSCOP recommendations, later approved by the United Nations which included the internationalisation of Jerusalem. The Arab States, on the other hand, rejected the plan . . . by bombarding the Holy City and then occupying the Eastern part of it."

True, during the fighting in 1948, the UN Commission which was to carry out the internationalisation, was sitting in the cellar of the Papal Biblical Institute in Jerusalem, and the only achievement they could boast of, was their own safe evacuation. The conquest of East Jerusalem and the savage destruction of the Jewish quarter by the Arab Legion of Jordan put an end to the idea of internationalisation.

"The Vatican newspaper also implies that the immense development plans for Jerusalem are 'unfortunately not works of peace'. Do the gentlemen of 'L'Osservatore Romano' consider that the Holy City, partitioned by barbed

wire and surrounded by machine-gun nests, as was the case from 1948 to 1967, constituted 'works of peace?'" "Jerusalem Post" continues. Joseph Raya, head of the Greek Catholic Community, said in an interview on the Israel radio: "You must understand that we don't say we are persecuted here. The attitude of the Israel Government towards us is blameless. On the other hand, there are cases of injustice and they embitter us so that we forget the good things your Government does for us."

Pope Paul VI prefers to point to the "pluralistic and universal character" of Jerusalem rather than to reiterate the Old Vatican demand for internationalisation. Yet in his Easter message he could not help expressing his "deep concern" about the Christians in the city and their "tribulations". Whoever saw the Christians in Jerusalem joyfully celebrate their Easter holiday in colourful displays and picturesque processions, thronging the streets singing and in festive dress, could hardly share this concern.

"It should be noted with satisfaction that since 1967 arrangements have been made in practice giving complete security to Christian and Moslem religious interests in this city", said Golda Meir. "We are prepared at any time for an agreement with the religious authorities of Islam and Christendom on this subject."

SCENE FROM ISRAEL

LAW OF THE RETURN

The Knesset has passed an amendment to the Nationality Law. This makes it possible for Jews qualifying for admission to Israel under the Law of the Return to apply for citizenship while still resident in countries which forbid them emigrating to the Jewish State. The amendment is primarily a gesture to Soviet Jews making it possible for them, if they renounce Soviet nationality, to become Israeli citizens while still in the Soviet Union.

IMMIGRANTS

A joint survey conducted by Israel's Absorption Ministry and Central Bureau of Statistics, states that 5 per cent of all immigrants to Israel during 1970 left the country within six months of their arrival.

The Jewish Agency's settlement department has received many requests from young Americans for help in establishing communal settlements in Israel where they can fully use their academic qualifications. These Americans are disillusioned with the materialistic American life, and wish to leave environmental pollution and the violence in American cities.

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