

# AJR

# INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

## SUCCESSFUL WORK REVIEWED

### Meeting of AJR Board

This year's well attended Annual Board Meeting, held on January 31 at Hannah Karminski House, reflected not only the achievements of the AJR in its widespread welfare activities, but also the standing it has attained within the wider Jewish community. Mr. A. S. Dresel, Chairman of the AJR, who presided, first welcomed two newly elected honorary officers who were present for the first time at a Board Meeting: Dr. Eric Dux, a member of the Executive, and Mrs. Eva Trent, a member of the Board. He then paid tribute to the memory of the following Board Members who had passed away since the Board last met; Dr. Richard Fuchs, Mr. Julius Lowenthal, Dr. Martin Levy (Leicester) and Mr. Oscar Einstein (Manchester).

In his General Report, Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR, first referred to his recent visit to Berlin on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Berlin Jewish community. Summing up his impressions he expressed the hope, shared by responsible Jewish communal leaders in Germany, that the German Government's policy of detente might help to ease the tension between East and West and thus, in the long run, also benefit the situation in the Middle East. Though the assessment of general political developments is outside our day-to-day activities which are now mainly concentrated on welfare work, the AJR should, in the speaker's view, not lose sight of the fact that, as the representative body of the Jews from Central Europe, it has also to be concerned with the numerous wider issues of present day Jewry.

One recent event in which the involvement of Jews of all political and religious shades became evident anew was the Leningrad Trial. In this country the main political steps were taken by the Board of Deputies. The AJR is one of the 18 major Jewish organisations which, in cases of emergency, are invited by the Board to participate in their deliberations. The speaker paid tribute to the efficiency with which the Board took action after the death sentences (meanwhile commuted) became known on December 24, 1970. The Board in particular succeeded in establishing immediate contacts with leading political and clerical personalities, in spite of the fact that the events coincided with the Christmas holidays.

Referring to another instance in which the AJR had co-operated with Anglo-Jewish organisations, the speaker mentioned the recent completion of Hillel House. A special floor of the beautiful new building has been allocated to the memory of the six million victims of Nazi persecution; it will include a library with holocaust literature. To raise the money for the Memorial Floor a special committee comprising representatives of numerous organisations had been formed under the auspices of the Board of Deputies. However,

with one possible exception, the only organisation which took practical steps by appealing to its members was the AJR, which altogether raised more than £4,000.

A scheme now under close consideration concerns research into the history of the immigration and resettlement of the Jews from Central Europe. This scheme was initiated by the Council of Jews from Germany of which the AJR is the British constituent. The practical work has commenced in France and will start shortly in the United States. The Israeli section of the Council will also fall in. In this country, several exploratory steps have already been taken. The project will comprise the drafting, distributing and perusing of questionnaires, personal interviews, collection of documentary material, and a bibliography of books and other printed material already available. (As soon as the preparatory steps have been completed, the details will be announced in this paper.—The Ed.)

As before, the Council of Jews from Germany was also active in questions of legislation on compensation. In the recent past, it has submitted proposals to the drafts of two new laws which have meanwhile been promulgated; The Lastenausgleichsgesetz for damages sustained in the territory of the DDR and the new Social Insurance Law. (Details are published in this issue.—The Ed.)

The speaker then dealt with the work of the AJR for the Homes, which both in importance and in volume represents the major part of the present AJR activities. Since the Board met last, new Matrons have been appointed at Heinrich Stahl House (after the retirement of Miss M. Goldschmidt) and at Otto Hirsch House. There were also changes in the Chairmanship of several House Committees. At Otto Hirsch House, Dr. Walter Dux has retired as Chairman but agreed to remain a member of the Committee; the new Chairman is Mr. H. C. Mayer. At Otto Schiff House, Mrs. Rose Berlin, who was associated with the Home since its inception, has, to the greatest regret of all concerned, retired; she was succeeded by Mr. C. T. Marx, a member of the AJR Executive. At Heinrich Stahl House, Mr. F. Kolmar had to resign because he took up residence outside London; his successor is Mrs. Ruth Anderman, a member of the AJR Executive and of the House Committee. The speaker paid tribute to all retiring Chairmen for their invaluable services.

At Osmond House the building work has been completed and the capacity has been increased from 37 to 52 residents. As before, Osmond House will admit both new applicants and residents of the other homes who need more care and attention than can be provided for in the ordinary homes.

Osmond House represents by far the largest single financial liability to be borne out of the heirless Jewish property administered by

the Allocations Committee. At present, the gross costs for maintenance (excluding capital interest, depreciation and administration) amount to £35 per week and resident. As the payments received from residents and from local authorities (for residents with very limited means) are considerably lower, the deficit to be expected when 52 residents will have to be cared for is estimated at £50,000 per annum. On the other hand, the Allocations Committee cannot expect further income from recovered Jewish property. Therefore, a policy will have to be laid down to secure the maintenance of Osmond House for as long a period as possible under the circumstances.

The gradual depletion of funds also has its bearing on the other welfare schemes sponsored by the Allocations Committee, as well as on the contributions made by that Committee to the AJR towards its work for the Homes. This year for the first time all grants applied for, including that of the AJR, have been reduced by 10 per cent. This makes it even more important to increase the income from subscriptions and donations, and it is hoped that all members will respond to the appeal for a voluntary increase of their payments.

A report on the Flatlet Home at Avenue Road, Highgate (Eleanor Rathbone House) was given by Dr. E. A. Lomnitz, Deputy General Secretary of the AJR. The residents of the Home, which has now been operating for one year, have developed a genuine community life, and the atmosphere is determined by a readiness for mutual help. The running of the home is a joint responsibility of the Central British Fund (two-thirds) and the AJR Charitable Trust (one-third). At present a high proportion of the tenants pay less than the standard rate. There is a long waiting list.

In his capacity as Secretary of the AJR Charitable Trust, Dr. Lomnitz stated that the assets of the Trust were not only required for running Eleanor Rathbone House and the Communal Centre, Hannah Karminski House, but also for various other charitable activities. As the payments which the Trust received from the Council of Jews from Germany have practically come to an end, it will be highly essential to increase the income from payments under covenant and from donations; it would also be greatly appreciated if our friends, when making their wills, thought of the needs of their fellow refugees and stipulated bequests to the AJR Charitable Trust. The speaker mentioned several examples in which relief, which could not, or not adequately, be obtained from other sources, was provided by the AJR Charitable Trust.

Dr. Lomnitz also reported a number of instances in which assistance, other than monetary, could be given. This especially applied to many younger people who had arrived as visitors or immigrants from Israel, Poland or other countries and who needed guidance and advice on training facilities, accommodation, social contacts, etc.

Continued on page 2, column 1

## SUCCESSFUL WORK REVIEWED

Continued from page 1

The next speaker, Mrs. M. Casson (Secretary of the AJR Employment Agency and of the Social Services Department), reported that the AJR Employment Agency had at present about 150 persons seeking employment on its register. Of these about 100 are 60 years of age or older; about 130 are females. Mrs. Casson stressed that the applicants are fit to work and are not persons who should be given employment for more or less charitable reasons. Some difficulties in finding office positions arise from the fact that most of the applicants want to work only on a part-time basis and in the vicinity of their residence. The AJR Employment Agency was successful in placing a number of applicants as shorthand typists and other clerical workers.

The offers of employment include many requests for home help services. In cases of hardship the AJR Social Services Department contributes towards the salaries of the home helps.

The department has also formed a group of voluntary helpers available for various kinds of assistance, e.g., visits to lonely and sick persons, etc. So far, 20 people have put themselves at the disposal of the scheme, but further helpers are needed. The co-operation of the Jewish Youth Voluntary Service has also been enlisted.

In the field of accommodation it has turned out increasingly difficult to find furnished rooms for the type of enquirers who call on the AJR. The reason is that usually persons who offer accommodation prefer tenants who are working whereas most of the applicants are no longer in employment and stay in the house during the major part of the day.

As throughout the years, many lonely people call on the department to discuss their personal problems.

The speaker appealed to all friends of the AJR for their co-operation, especially by informing the AJR Employment Agency of any vacancies they might be able to offer, and by nominating voluntary helpers.

A report on the work of the AJR Club was given by the club's chairman, Mrs. M. Jacoby. She told the board members that the club now has more than 420 members. They enjoy the club's community life, and many bonds of personal friendship have been established. The beautiful club rooms at Hannah Karminski House are constantly well attended, and the monthly functions are greatly appreciated. Thanks to the devoted and understanding co-operation of Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, the annual Chanukah celebrations and Seder evenings have been highlights of the year. A special fund, established in memory of Mrs. Gertrud Schachne, makes it possible to render discreet help to club members in need. To mark the 15th anniversary of the club a bring

and buy sale had been scheduled for February 21.

The reports were followed by a lively discussion in which the following executive and board members participated; Mr. W. M. Behr, Dr. F. E. Falk, Dr. E. Reifenberg (Gabriele Tergit), Dr. Eva Reichmann, Dr. E. Gould, Mrs. M. Schurmann and Mr. J. Strauss. Mr. Behr drew the board members' attention to the fact that the first research fellowship of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund had borne fruit and resulted in the publication of a work by J. Allan Patmore on "Land and Leisure" (reviewed in the February issue of *AJR Information*.—The Ed.). Dr. F. E. Falk appealed to members to make their contributions under Deeds of Covenant, whenever possible. Several speakers welcomed the plan of research work into the History of Immigration and made suggestions about its implementation. Others made proposals with regard to questions of employment and accommodation mentioned in the reports. There was an overall appreciation of the wide range of activities carried out by the AJR.

In his concluding remarks the Chairman thanked the board members for their contributions to the debate and their active interest, which also served as an encouragement to those in charge of the day-to-day work.

## GERMAN NEWS

### WAR CRIMES PROCEEDINGS

#### Wiesenthal Complains to Authorities

Mr. Simon Wiesenthal, the head of the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna, has written to Dr. Gustav Heinemann, the West German President, and Mr. Gerhard Jahn, the Minister of Justice in Bonn. He points out that not one of the Nazis alleged to have been responsible for the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto in 1943 has yet been tried, although judicial proceedings have been pending for ten years.

In particular Mr. Wiesenthal named Dr. Ludwig Hahn, the war-time commander of the Nazi security forces in Warsaw. He told an Israeli TV interviewer that Hahn lives in Hamburg. Mr. Wiesenthal in his letters declared that the Nazis responsible for the war-time Riga Ghetto murders were still at liberty.

A spokesman for the legal authorities in Hamburg has stated that the prosecutor was completing preliminary proceedings against Hahn—the indictment was lodged in 1967. Indictments had also been lodged in respect of other persons named by Mr. Wiesenthal. The spokesman said that 25 city prosecutors were solely employed in investigating 68 cases of Nazi crimes but the inquiries were taking a long time because of the many witnesses being questioned and the large number of documents.

### COMPENSATION NEWS

see page 8

## EAST GERMAN WAR CRIME SENTENCES

In Erfurt, East Germany, Paul Weckmueller was sentenced to life imprisonment for crimes against humanity during the fascist occupation of Poland. Wilhelm Wegner and Max Kuckuck were each sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for war crimes. The three men were found responsible for the murder of at least 30 Polish citizens in Chelminska, the deportation of many women and children to forced labour camps, and other brutal measures against civilians between 1939 and 1940.

## END OF TRIALS

Dr. Adalbert Rueckerly, head of the Central Agency for the Investigation of War Crimes at Ludwigsburg, has stated that the prosecution of Nazi war criminals is becoming more and more difficult. Only in a few cases now is there a chance of the Agency's obtaining a conviction. However, Dr. Rueckerly announced at the same time that the Agency is still inquiring into 618 cases of Nazi crimes.

The agency was established 13 years ago, since when it has opened inquiries into a total of 2,108 cases, of which 1,490 were transferred to public prosecutors in different parts of Germany. The current inquiries are mainly concerned with subordinates in Nazi war crimes, whose crimes can only be proved by the evidence of reliable witnesses, now almost impossible to obtain.

## OBERRAMMERGAU PLAY

In a report on the 95 performances of the Oberammergau passion play in 1970 seen by 530,000 people, the organisers and producers claim that last year's wave of criticism was part of an organised campaign started by the American Jewish Committee. This, the report said, was supported by the German mass media, including above all the news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, as well as by certain Church circles. All people of goodwill had realised the "anti-Church tendency and the hypocritical pathos of the campaign against the play", wrote the Mayor of Oberammergau.

## COMPENSATION FOR ANTI-NAZI

A former Yugoslav citizen, imprisoned in Mauthausen concentration camp by the Nazis during the Second World War for expressing abhorrence of their anti-Jewish measures, was initially refused compensation. The West German lower courts rejected the claim on the grounds that the man's attitude did not amount to political enmity. The West German Supreme Court of Karlsruhe has now upheld his claim.

## BERLIN COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

A co-operative agreement has been signed between the West Berlin Senate and the city's Jewish community. Mr Heinz Galinski the community's chairman, said after the ceremony that this emphasised a development in relations which only a few people believed possible 25 years ago. The agreement is the first of its kind between the West German authorities and a Jewish community.

## HANOVER OLD AGE HOME

### New Wing Opened

In the presence of representatives of the Government and Municipal authorities, a three-storey new wing of the Hanover Jewish Old Age Home was opened recently. The Home which has been in existence since 1953 will now bear the name of the House Committee's Chairman, 82-year-old Theodor Hohenstein. The modern new wing was designed by the architect, Hermann Guttmann (Frankfurt/Main). The building is situated at Freundallee, named after the last rabbi of the pre-war Hanover Jewish community, Dr. Freund.

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# HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

## LORDS ON RUSSIAN EMIGRATION

In the House of Lords the matter of British representations on behalf of Soviet Jewry was raised. In reply to a question by Lord Burntwood, the Marquess of Lothian, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, pointed out that Britain had no formal standing in the matter. He did not believe further approaches at present would be helpful to Soviet Jews. Lord Lothian promised to convey a suggestion by Lord Shinwell to the Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, to indulge in private representation, indicating his sympathy with this subject.

## CHURCH MAGAZINE BIASED

A recent edition of the magazine of Emmanuel Parish Church, Northwood, Middlesex, carried a review of Howard Fast's "The Jews". The reviewer, after remarking about "Jewish misrule within Russia", the activities of the Stern Gang and the "Zionist murder of Count Bernadotte", states that "although it is perfectly true that almost all modern Western nations have at some time unjustly persecuted the Jewish population, this has not always been without provocation."

The Rev. W. W. Simpson, secretary of the Council of Christians and Jews, told the church's vicar that certain phrases in the article could only be regarded as "tendentious and misleading". He asked what instances of provocation the reviewer would regard as being "not without provocation", and refuted a number of other points made in the article.

## UNIVERSITY HONOURS

The honorary degree of D.Sc. is to be conferred by Liverpool University on Sir Ludwig Guttman, the orthopaedic surgeon.

Mr. Mac Goldsmith, of Leicester, is to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Leicester University.

The recipients of the awards have been associated with the AJR for many years, Sir Ludwig Guttman as a member of the Board and Mr. M. Goldsmith as an active supporter.

The honorary fellowship of the Hebrew University has been conferred on Eva Marchioness of Reading, vice-president of the World Jewish Congress and president of its British section. The award was made in recognition of Lady Reading's notable record of service and leadership in the cause of Jewish right throughout the world, and her outstanding contributions to the emergence of the State of Israel and its consolidation.

## WOMAN LORD MAYOR

Alderman Mrs. Helen Bloom is to be Bristol's first Jewish Lord Mayor. She is the third woman to be Lord Mayor of the city, where she was born.

## TRADE WITH ISRAEL

### Appeal by Ambassador Comay

Mr. Comay, Israel's Ambassador in London, addressed a luncheon given in his honour by the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce. Appealing to the British Government to support American policy in the Middle East, he said the American position found expression in firm resistance to Soviet threats, and in economic and military support for Israel, as a deterrent to Arab hostility and as a major obstacle to Soviet domination. He hoped that Anglo-Israeli trade would be allowed to develop on its merits and "without political obstruction". Mr. Comay emphasised that the Israelis welcomed British trade with Arabs, since trade relations fostered international good will.

With acknowledgements to the news service of the *Jewish Chronicle*

## RELIGIOUS SLUMP

The findings of a National Opinion Poll on religion and superstition reveal that 49 per cent of British Jews interviewed agree that their coreligionists should be allowed to marry outside the faith. Only 28 per cent stated that they never ate non-kosher food, although 67 per cent kept a kosher home. Almost 80 per cent admitted to working on Shabbat. Eight in ten support the idea of a Jewish State, comparing with 30 per cent among Reform and Liberal Jews.

## WOUK AT LUBAVITCH DINNER

Herman Wouk, the well-known American novelist, addressed the annual dinner of the Lubavitch Foundation in London. In the free world, said Mr Wouk, society respected more those who stood up to be counted as Jews.

The three main features of Lubavitch, said Mr Wouk, were intensity, integrity and a joy in being Jewish. "This is what attracts the young, and this is what made me—as a man and a writer—a follower of Lubavitch."

## ILFORD "YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL"

The Jewish Agency is prepared to assist in financing the establishment of a Jewish secondary school in Ilford based on the American "yeshiva high school" system. They would also supply Jewish studies teachers. Dr. Haim Chamiel, director of the Jewish Agency's Torah department in Jerusalem, discussed this project whilst on a short visit to Britain.

Stating that he was particularly anxious to overcome the acute shortage of teachers and to raise standards among existing staff, Dr. Chamiel proposed the establishment of vacation courses for Jewish studies teachers. Teachers' salaries should be raised as an incentive for staff to attend such courses. Dr. Chamiel expressed concern at the insufficient interest of parents and communal leaders in Jewish education. Of the estimated 1,700,000 Jewish children in Western Europe, excluding Israel, about one million received no Jewish education of any sort.

## BRITISH JEWISH DEFENCE LEAGUE

Mr. Leslie Feller, vice-chairman of the British branch of the international Jewish Defence League, told the *Jewish Chronicle* that, unlike its American counterpart, the British JDL will not initiate violence but is prepared to use it in retaliation. Similar methods to those in the U.S. could not be used in this country, said Mr. Feller, since they would antagonise both Anglo-Jewry and the British public.

In Britain the League has 190 members, but claims it can call on more than 300 people. Most members are under 40, they come from all walks of life, with almost half women. Mr. Feller said that money was provided by "financial backers" and by sympathisers, and that some Jewish organisations also provided funds.

## TRAGIC PLIGHT IN EAST END

The *Jewish Chronicle* investigated the situation of elderly Jews living in London's East End. They found scores of elderly men and women living in broken-down buildings, with dampness rotting everything. Some of the houses belong to Jewish landlords.

The buildings are due to be demolished for playing fields. Some have been vacated and boarded up but in others people still exist in miserable conditions. The residents are to be moved by the Tower Hamlets Council, but many may have to wait for two years.

## NEW LIBERAL JEWISH CONGREGATION

51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

### SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

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

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

## J.P.A. Director

The Joint Palestine Appeal has appointed Mr. Michael Barzilay as its new director. Unlike the late Mr. Lavy Bakstansky, Mr. Barzilay will not also be general secretary of the Zionist Federation.

## Hampstead Garden Suburb Rabbi

Rabbi Isaac Joel Bernstein, formerly of Dublin, has been inducted as minister of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue. The Chief Rabbi in his address said he rejoiced that Rabbi Bernstein would be able to use his great talents and erudition at a time when it was rare for men of academic brilliance and extraordinary human capacity to come forward to serve their people. In his sermon Rabbi Bernstein declared that his programme was one of education—he wanted to bring to his congregation a Judaism showing people how relevant it was for our age.

## Progressives Teachers' Course

The Progressive movement at Borough Road Polytechnic, Isleworth, is to establish a full-time course in Jewish studies, leading to a State-recognised certificate of education. The three-year course, the second of its kind in Britain, opens in September. An Orthodox equivalent has just been started at Trent Park College of Education, Cockfosters, sponsored by the Jewish Agency, Jews' College and the London Board.

The Borough Road course syllabus is being arranged by the Leo Baeck College and it is estimated will initially cost £20,000 a year, considerably less than the Trent Park scheme. Twelve to 15 students are expected to enroll for the course as a start.

## Anti-Tuberculosis League

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim, Parliament's first Jewish woman Conservative M.P., helped to raise £8,000 at a Dorchester Hotel dinner for the Friends of the Anti-Tuberculosis League, at which she was guest of honour. The funds will convert two pavilions in the grounds of the Beer Yaacov T.B. hospital for use as a chest clinic.

Mrs. Oppenheim in her speech emphasised that despite the preventive work being carried out in Israel, the State still had a major T.B. problem. Many immigrants arrived in Israel suffering from this disease and the Anti-Tuberculosis League had to treat 1,000 new cases each year.

## German Scrolls Buried

The charred remains of twelve sifrei Torah were recovered from Schweinfurt, Germany, by Rabbi Dr. M. Koehler, rav of the Adath Yisroel's chevra kadisha, who was rabbi of the city from 1934 to 1939. The Schweinfurt authorities gave the Adath permission to bring the scrolls to Britain. Dr. Koehler discovered the sifrei Torah, burned in November, 1938, in the Schweinfurt local museum last June. The scrolls were buried at the Adath's cemetery at Cheshunt.

## Flats for Elderly

The Jewish Welfare Board has completed its project for homes and flatlets for the Jewish aged with the opening of the £300,000 Maitland and Joseph House at Hemel Hempstead. This building of a hostel for 31 and flats for 35 brings the total number of units provided by the Board to 218.

## Orthodox Boycott Memorial Service

A memorial service to Rumanian Jews who perished during the war, arranged by the British-Rumanian Association, was boycotted by Chief Rabbi Jakobovits and other Orthodox leaders. The service, held to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the pogroms in Bucharest, was dedicated to the many thousands of Jews killed by Rumanians and Nazis.

The Orthodox view was that practically all the Jewish victims who suffered at the hands of the fascists in Rumania belonged to Orthodox communities.

# NEWS FROM ABROAD

## UNITED STATES

### Defence League Condemned

Responsible Jewish leaders, headed by the Israeli Cabinet, have condemned the activities of Rabbi Meir Kahane's American Jewish Defence League. The Israeli Foreign Ministry condemned the bomb outrage against the Egyptian mission to the United Nations, stating that Israel firmly adhered to the principle of the immunity of all diplomatic missions.

Rabbi Kahane announced that his group would halt its harassment of Soviet personnel for the time being, as Jewish organisations had asked him to cease these activities. On the day of his announcement the formation was announced of the Jewish Survival League, a breakaway from the J.D.L., whose object it is to continue the fight for Soviet Jews "within the law."

In an interview published in the Hamburg weekly, *Der Spiegel*, Rabbi Kahane said the J.D.L. was about to set up an international body with headquarters in Israel, where he proposed to go to take over its leadership. He claimed J.D.L. branches existed in Britain and France and that he had had approaches from West Germany, Holland, Belgium and Latin America.

### J.D.L. Soviet Boycott

The Jewish Defence League has called on Jews not to buy the products of American firms doing business with the Soviet Union. A telephone answering service has been set up to advise callers on the firms to be boycotted.

The Histadrut has temporarily suspended a grant to the Israeli Students' Association because the Association's chairman sent a cable to Rabbi Kahane supporting the J.D.L.'s activities.

The J.D.L. claims a membership varying between 8,000 and 15,000 but *Time* magazine has put the figure of paid-up members at about 1,000, adding that the League "probably stirs more covert sympathy among individual Jews than many leaders care to admit."

### Woman Rabbi

A 24-year-old woman is to be ordained as the first woman rabbi in the United States. Next year Miss Sally Preisand, a student of the Liberal Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, will take up a rabbinical post for 200 families in Kansas City. She will carry out the full functions of a rabbi.

### 4,000 Yiddish Records

A unique collection of about 4,000 Yiddish gramophone records has been given to the Rodgers and Hammerstein archives of recorded sound, which is part of the New York Public Library. The gift comprises musical and spoken recordings made over a period of 60 years by more than 400 performers and groups, and includes a recording by Sholem Aleichem reading from his own works. Synagogue music is also well represented with recordings by leading cantors.

### U THANT'S SUCCESSOR ?

If U Thant does not reconsider his decision not to serve for another term after the end of this year, the next UN Secretary-General may be Mr Max Jakobson, aged 47, Finland's UN representative. He is the son of a retired Jewish lawyer and a non-Jewish mother. "I consider myself Jewish," he said. His wife comes of an Anglo-Jewish family. Mr. Jakobson is acceptable to both the Russians and the Americans at the UN.

Mr. Jakobson and his Government have achieved the respect of both sides in the Middle East situation and, in two years on the Security Council, Mr. Jakobson has become known for his ability to work out compromises between East and West and to put them across.

## BRAZIL

### Jewish Terrorists

Among the 70 terrorists released from prison by the Brazilian Government and flown to asylum in Chile was a Jewish girl, Delci Fenster-Seifer. This was part of a deal for the release of a Swiss diplomat held hostage by the Vanguardia Popular Revolucionaria.

Three other Jewish members of the VPR are still in prison, having refused the chance for freedom. One is a 23-year-old girl and the others are a husband and wife called Bergel, both Sao Paulo doctors. The Bergels, members of the Brazilian Communist Party, were among the founders of the VPR.

### Awards

Brazil's best actor and actress awards for 1970 were made to Yosef Pilcher and Berta Zemel, both Jewish. "The Investigation" by the Jewish playwright, Peter Weiss, was chosen as the best play of 1970.

A Rio Jewish publisher, Mr Avraham Koogan, has been awarded the Brazilian Literary Academy's Machado de Assis medal for his services to Brazilian literature.

### CHRISTIAN B'NAI B'RITH DIRECTOR

The new director of the Ontario B'nai B'rith League for Human Rights, formerly the Anti-Defamation League, is the Rev. Roland De Corneille, a 43-year-old Episcopalian minister.

## AUSTRALIA

### Support for Immigration Bar

Sir Asher Joel, a recently knighted member of the New South Wales Legislative Council, while on a visit to Britain explained Australia's coloured immigration policy to the *Jewish Chronicle*. He said that the Australian Government's immigration policy was intended to avoid racial tension. Australian Jews supported it in the belief that they could well become early victims of racial intolerance resulting from an influx of coloured immigration.

Sir Asher asserted that this restricted immigration was partly responsible for the lack of organised pro-Arab activities in the country, although there was a considerable Arab colony. Both the Australian public and Government were favourably disposed towards Israel and the little anti-Israeli propaganda that did exist originated mainly from Britain.

### Nazi Rally Prevented

Police were forced by a crowd of 2,000, mainly Jewish, to prevent a planned Australian National Socialist Party rally in Melbourne. An angry mob also besieged and stoned the local Nazi headquarters, ripping down signs bearing party slogans and swastikas. "Hell's Angels" motor cycle riders wearing German helmets and Iron Crosses were thrown into the river and their motor cycles trampled into the mud.

## VATICAN

### Inter-Religious Consultation

A Catholic-Moslem encounter took place at the Vatican recently, followed by one with the International Jewish Committee on Inter-Religious Relations. The consultations took place to discuss plans to improve relations in the spirit of "mutual respect and collaboration" as expressed by the Ecumenical Council.

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## ITALIAN COMMUNIST'S CRITICISM

Senator Umberto Terracini, the president of the Communist group in the Italian Senate and a member of a prominent Italian-Jewish family, spoke at a meeting in Rome sponsored by the International Association of Jewish Jurists. He criticised the Leningrad trial as violating the "fundamental norms of the Soviet Constitution". Describing the Soviet Union's attitude towards Israel as a "grave error", Senator Terracini took the Soviet leaders to task for failing to foresee and accept the outcome of their support for the creation of a Jewish State.

The Senator thought that the Soviet Union should have allowed the departure to Israel of Jewish citizens requesting it without obstacles. He did not believe that more than a few hundred thousand would have left.

## SWISS OFFICIAL REHABILITATED

### Helped Jews During the War

Before the Second World War Mr. Paul Grueninger, a St. Gall police captain, allowed Jewish refugees to enter Switzerland illegally. As a result he was tried and summarily dismissed from his post.

Last May MPs in the St. Gall Parliament requested the formal rehabilitation and vindication of the former police officer, aged 79 and living in poverty. The cantonal government has now said that, although it could not change the decision reached 30 years ago, it was fully conscious of the conflict between the civic duties and Mr. Grueninger's humanitarian sentiments.

As a result of his action by which between 2,000 and 3,000 Jews were saved, Mr. Grueninger lost his salary and pension and was unable to earn more than a meagre living. Although the St. Gall Government has vindicated him, Mr. Grueninger has not been compensated for his losses, and considerable public opinion has demanded greater satisfaction. Mr. Grueninger's name occupies a place of honour in Israel, and is engraved on the Jewish memorial in Washington.

## NETHERLANDS

### Amsterdam Walk Out

At a reception at Amsterdam town hall the Mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. Ivor Samkalden, a Jew, referred in his speech to cultural discrimination against and persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union. Thereupon a Russian cultural delegation, led by Dr. Alexei Surkov, secretary of the Union of Soviet Writers, left the town hall, taking with them a present they had brought for the mayor.

### Chief Rabbi of Rotterdam

Rabbi Daniel Kahn has just been appointed Chief Rabbi of Rotterdam. This 28-year-old minister of a small Copenhagen congregation succeeds Chief Rabbi Leon Vorst. He studied at the Talmudical College in Manchester between 1961 and 1963.

## DENMARK'S HOSPITALITY

### Refuge for Jews from Poland

According to a report, recently published in *The Times*, Denmark has admitted about 2,000 Polish Jewish refugees. Arrivals are first accommodated in the luxury hotel ship, *St. Lawrence*, taken over by the Danish Government. Despite a critical housing shortage, they are later provided with flats, rent paid for six months, the period allowed for acclimatisation. They also get allowances of the equivalent of £1 6s. 8d. a day a person which is for food adequate even in high-cost Copenhagen. Within weeks of arrival, they receive Danish passports as well as full protection of Danish Law. Language lessons are provided for, and after six months the refugees are minimally equipped with the language and able to seek employment. Grants for university and technical school training are generously awarded by the Danish Red Cross. One refugee, the report states, asked a Danish official: "Why do you do this for us?" The official replied: "It is our debt to democracy. We must pay for democracy". He added that "in the Danish church at every mass they say, 'God help our brother Israel'. It is traditional."

E. G. Lowenthal

## GERTRUD KOLMAR'S LETTERS

### Documents of Sorrowful Times

It is only since the end of the war that Gertrud Kolmar (her real name was Gertrud Chodziesner) has become known to a wider public as a lyric poet and writer. To characterize her mastery as a poet we refer to the postscript to her "Lyrisches Werk", the sixth publication of the German Academy for Language and Poetry at Darmstadt (Heidelberg, 1956), in which the poet Jacob Picard (1883-1967) pointed out that compared with her even Else Lasker-Schueler appears to be a minor talent. Picard hastens to add that "this is not being stressed in order to belittle Else Lasker-Schueler, but only to demonstrate Gertrud Kolmar's importance by measuring her against a well-known figure". In the same year she was awarded posthumously the 1955-56 Literature Prize of the Association of German Critics. Some appreciative statements made during her lifetime have been preserved, among them one made in the *C.V.-Zeitung* by the literary critic, Dr. Hugo Lachmanski. As late as in November, 1938, shortly before the November pogrom, he wrote: "The small volume of poems now at hand affords a welcome opportunity to survey the entire opus so far of a poetess who does not lose her way in the arid wastes of conventional lyricism but who treads a lonely path . . . equipped with the gift of a quite exceptional diction. . . . These sentences refer to the book "Die Frau und die Tiere" (Juedischer Buchverlag Erwin Loewe, Berlin, 1938). In 1934 her "Preussische Wappen" was brought out by "Rabenpresse", Berlin, and earlier still, in 1917, her first slender volume of poems was published by Egon Fleischel & Co. in Berlin (proprietor Fritz Th. Cohn, the husband of the well-known German writer, Clara Viebig, 1860-1952).

Apart from "Lyrisches Werk" the following books of hers came out in the post-war period: "Welten", a cycle of poems (1947 and 1960); the short-story "Susanna" (1959); a selection of poems entitled "Tag und Tiertraeume" (1963); the novel "Eine Mutter" (1965) and the essay "Das Bildnis Robespierre" (also in 1965). In June, 1963, the West German Radio acquainted the public for the first time with her so far unpublished novel, "Der Verfolgte", in a transmission produced by Karl and Ellen Otten.

#### Years of Degradation

A short while ago the Koesel Publishing House in Munich brought out a slim volume, tastefully produced, of private letters, edited by Johanna Zeitler. Gertrud Kolmar wrote these letters in the time from the end of 1938 until her deportation to an unknown destination in the East in 1943 to her "little" sister, Hilde Wenzel, who had escaped to Switzerland. The majority of these letters were undoubtedly subjected to censorship. They constitute a conversation permeated by love, anxiety and disquiet, with her beloved sister. They do not contain a single complaint; rather they recall their own untroubled childhood and at times include stories intended for her little niece. But this private information contains here and there remarks, encoded as they were, which at least hint at the increasingly difficult situation of the Jews in Berlin; compulsory measures in general, special houses for Jews, transport restrictions, the atmosphere in the factories in which the writer, then a woman in her fifties, was doing forced labour.

Yet this volume enshrines much more than the roughly 90 letters—one of them in facsimile—written during the hardest times experienced by German Jewry which was faced with annihilation. At times the atmosphere in which the approximately 150,000 Jews in Germany were held prisoner, seems to be depicted more graphically in these letters than in many a later treatise however systematically compiled. In this way the Kolmar letters constitute a contemporary historical document, and this all the more as they are lavishly and interestingly annotated. The editor's postscript is knowledgeable and intelligent.

Gertrud Kolmar, always concerned about her aged widowed father, had not made any serious efforts to emigrate. She was the eldest daughter of Justizrat Ludwig Chodziesner, a Berlin lawyer. She was educated at a private secondary school for girls, attended a domestic science college, then a teachers' training seminary and obtained a foreign language diploma. This enabled her to work for a time as a censor in the Doeberitz prisoner-of-war camp during the 1914-18 war. Later on she did educational work in Berlin, Hamburg and Peine. From 1928 onwards she lived at home and was able to pursue her own interests. Her pseudonym "Kolmar" is in no way connected with the Alsatian town of the same name, but derives from the fact that her forebears on her father's side hailed from the Posen locality "Kolmar" (south of Schneidmühl), the Polish name for which is Chodziesen. From 1941 to 1943 she had to do forced labour in Berlin factories and was deported in the spring of 1943. Since then nothing was heard of her. . . .

Gertrud's father came from Obersitzko in the Posen region, her mother, Elise, née Schoenflies, from the Neumark. Her mother's close relatives included the Benjamin family. Walter Benjamin, the literary critic and sociologist who committed suicide in the South of France when fleeing from the Gestapo in 1940, was Gertrud Kolmar's cousin. He was almost the same age as she and thought much of her lyric work.

## Old Acquaintances

**Milestones:** Novelist Hans Habe who has been elected to the Board of Governors of the Haifa University, and who has just finished a book about Israel, turned 60 in Ascona. Born in Vienna, he started as the editor of three dailies at the age of 22. Shortly afterwards he wrote his first novel, "Drei ueber die Grenze". He joined the French army, was taken prisoner by the Germans in 1940 and escaped to the States. There he wrote the best seller, "Thousands Shall Fall". After the war, in his capacity as an officer of the U.S. army, he became the founder of the new German press and editor of the *Neue Zeitung*. He remained in Europe, writing a dozen successful novels and regular columns for the German papers.—Kurt Jooss, founder of the "Folkwang School" in Essen and choreographer of the famous ballet, "The Green Table", who survived the war in Britain, is 70 years of age.—Else Wohlgemuth, a member of the Burgtheater for 60 years, turned 90 in Vienna.

**Obituary:** Alexander Granach's widow, Martha, died in Jerusalem, where their son, Gad, is director of the Hebrew Union College.—The first wife of Stefan Zweig, Friderike Maria Zweig, has died in Connecticut at the age of 88.—The 83-year-old former baritone, Hanns Heinz Wunderlich, has died in Berlin.

**Germany:** Blandine Ebinger appeared in Kurt Tucholsky's "Die Zeit schreit nach Satire" on TV.—A vain attempt was made by Valerie von Martens, the widow of Curt Goetz, to revive her husband's comedy, "Menagerie", at Berlin's Renaissance Theater.—On the 25th anniversary of his appointment as Intendant of the Schiller and Schlosspark Theatres in Berlin, Barlog was awarded the Otto Brahm Medal.—Berlin's film critics have awarded the 1970 Ernst Lubitsch Prize to Sabine Sinjen.

**Curtain Up:** Like Topol in London, the Israeli actor, Shmuel Rodenski, made a name for himself in West Germany in the musical, "Fiddler on the Roof" ("Anatevka"). He turned down an offer to repeat his performance at East Berlin's Komische Oper because of the East German Government's anti-Zionist attitude. The musical is now being staged with the Russian-Jewish actors, Valeri Lewenthal and Marina Sokolowa, in the lead.

**News from Everywhere:** The Jerusalem Medal was awarded to 90-year-old Robert Stolz by the Israeli Consul in Vienna.—Elisabeth Bergner will be in Visconti's "Kurier des Zaren" to be shot in Rome, with co-producer Arthur Brauner.—Anton Diffring, who until a few years ago lived in London, appeared on a stage again for the first time in six years in Norman Krasna's "Blue Hour" in Stuttgart.—An invitation to attend the Film Festival in Pola (Yugoslavia) as a guest of honour was accepted by 80-year-old Fritz Lang.—Actress Hanna Maron, who lost a leg when Arab terrorists attacked an Israeli aircraft in Munich last year, gave a Shakespeare recital in Jerusalem.

**This and That:** W. Felsenstein's Komische Oper of East Berlin had to cancel its spring visit to London because its Government will not subsidise the tour.—Berlin-Schoeneberg celebrated the 60th anniversary of the inauguration of the subway between Innsbrucker Strasse and Nollendorfplatz, the cost of which was 14 million Gold-Mark.—Next month the visit to Israel is expected of Hamburg's Schauspielhaus, which will present Sophocles' "Philoctet" adapted by Heiner Mueller and directed by H. Lietzau.

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## FROM ONE EMIGRATION TO ANOTHER

### The Huguenots and the Refugees from Germany

In the summer of 1943 a few Nazi officers carried out a search of the Paris Library of the Society for the History of French Protestantism on behalf of the "Rassen-und Siedlungshauptamt" in Berlin. After a search of several days they vanished again taking with them, among other things, the family trees of Huguenot families who left France in the 17th century, particularly after the repeal under Louis XIV of the Edict of Nantes which protected the Protestants, and later escaped to territories belonging to the German Reich.

The reasons of this search operation remain obscure to this day. Nevertheless, it is worth considering two motives which might have prompted the Nazi operation.

First, the explanation given by the then Director of the Library: Hitler allegedly had ordered the preparation of a definite peace treaty with France and, it was learned in Paris, the Nazis intended to demand through the descendants of the Huguenots living in Germany the restoration of their French family estates confiscated in the 17th century. In certain provinces of the "ancien régime" this would have amounted to about two-thirds of the entire land. About 120 years after the expropriation of the Protestants, France had made a provision in law for a kind of restoration, and this could be used as a basis for the Nazi plan.

Secondly—and this is our theory—there were among the Nazi leadership stratum a number of Huguenot descendants who had preserved, on the basis of a law dating from the early years of the 19th century, their French nationality which they were in a position to claim. In view of a possible collapse of the Third Reich, highly predictable at that time, Nazis in responsible positions who had to fear indictments for war crimes on the part of the Allies, might have availed themselves of the opportunity to flee the Reich with the help of a French passport.

In the introduction to his History of the Jewish Trust Corporation "Reclaiming the Nazi Loot", published in 1962, Dr. C. Kapralik pointed out that the case of the French Protestants afforded a remarkable example of expropriation of the property of a group of citizens and its subsequent restoration to them. This is not the only comparison that comes to mind when scrutinising more closely the history of the emigration of the Huguenots at the end of the 17th century and of ours in the years from 1933 to 1939.

There is the example of the charge made by the Government of Louis XIV and then again by Goebbels in 1933 to the effect that the emigrés slandered their fatherland, disseminated "atrocious stories" about the nature of the persecution and engaged in incitement in the countries of asylum against the state they had left. This applies also to the efforts made by the persecuted to prompt the governments of the countries of asylum to intervene with the persecuting governments on behalf of the persecuted persons still at home, i.e. to put an end to the discrimination against them. When this remained unsuccessful and hostilities broke out, though for other reasons, the Huguenot emigrés tried to persuade the governments of the countries of asylum to raise the question of the return of the Huguenots as well as the restoration of their pro-

perty in France during the forthcoming peace negotiations with the French King. These negotiations followed the two wars which Louis XIV waged against the whole of Europe after the repeal of the Edict of Nantes: The war against the Augsburg Coalition (1686 to 1697) and the War of the Spanish Succession (1701 to 1713). In the corresponding peace treaties of Rykswick (1697) and Utrecht (1713), no concessions whatsoever were obtained from Louis XIV with regard to the problem of the Huguenots as they would have contradicted the principle of sovereignty in an absolute monarchy. In the same way the Nazis asserted that the Jewish problem was an "internal" affair of the Third Reich in which no interference on the part of foreign countries could be tolerated.

Louis XIV also practised a "double persecution" of the emigrés—as Hitler did later on in his campaigns—that is to say, he forced the governments of the countries occupied by him which had given asylum to the Huguenots, to expel the refugees, for instance in the Palatinate and in Savoy.

As during our own emigration, the refugees of those days also brought innovations into the countries of refuge, above all relating to the textile industry, at that time the only mass production in a modern sense. Switzerland as well as France's northern and other western neighbours owe the development and expansion of their clothing industries to the specialists among the Huguenots.

Another point of comparison with the German-Jewish emigration is the relatively large number of doctors, scientists, engineers and architects among the Huguenots which benefited the recipient countries. During the first years of the Hitler régime, Holland was temporarily the country in which the emigré literature was published; in the same way, partly owing to the emigration of a large number of Huguenot typographers, but mainly due to political censorship in the France of Louis XIV, the publication of new books in the French language in the Netherlands increased considerably and in the 18th century reached such proportions that the Dutch publications exceeded those published in France.

Both emigrations, the Huguenot as well as the German-Jewish, were characterised by the strong international solidarity of the religious communities dispersed throughout the world, a fact which in both cases was described by their persecutors as a "cosmopolitan conspiracy". At the end of the 17th century and later, the more affluent among the Huguenots who had emigrated to Britain and Switzerland collected money for their poorer brethren, particularly in the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation. Queen Anne trebled the moneys raised by the Huguenots themselves. These funds were used, at least in Prussia, exclusively for social purposes (old age homes, orphanages and other social welfare).

On the Continent of Europe the Huguenot emigrés from France, owing to the wars waged by the Bourbons, found themselves in a situation which brought the problem of their identification with the population of the asylum countries to the fore; as, for instance, in Prussia during the Seven Years' War when French troops occupied parts of Prussia and later on during the Napoleonic Wars. Their

attitude was the same as that of the German-Jewish emigrants in the countries of asylum occupied by the Nazis. The Huguenots ceased to speak French in order not to be identified by the indigenous population with the French aggressors, just as the German Jews stopped talking German among themselves when this became the "accursed language" of the aggressors and oppressors in their countries of asylum. Then, as during the first years of naturalisation of the Jewish emigrants from Germany, the refugees changed their names, and in Prussia Monsieur Cuisinier became Herr Koch and Mademoiselle Meunier turned into Fraulein Mueller. It was mainly the members of the third estate who changed their names. The aristocrats remained proud of theirs and changed only, if at all, the particles; thus, for instance, "de la Chevalerie" became "von La Chevalerie" or "von der Chevalerie". Bourgeois Huguenots, too, clung frequently to their original names, above all when these were not difficult for the Germans to pronounce. It is well known that Theodor Fontane, probably the most outstanding Huguenot descendant and Germany's greatest 19th century novelist, got angry when the "e" at the end of his name was fully enunciated in the German manner.

The Huguenots ceased to regard and describe themselves as members of "la nation française" and east of the Rhine they became "Teutsche". In the course of the French Revolution an end was put by law to the discrimination against the Huguenots—during the years when also the Jews in France were granted equality of rights—and later on provision was made in law for the restoration of their estates and their French citizenship. Yet only in very rare cases was there a return to France which over a century before had persecuted the Huguenots. In the second and third generation of the Nazi persecuted there will also be hardly any who will return.

Notwithstanding the many traits which the two emigrations had in common, it must not be forgotten that the Huguenot emigration fundamentally differed from ours owing to the fact that the former set out from an immeasurably higher level of civilisation and mainly poured into culturally comparatively "underdeveloped" countries—and this in a century when the whole of Europe spoke, thought and wrote French.

At the end of this survey we may perhaps add that the Jewish communities in Germany, in the course of the Age of Enlightenment and in practical application of the ideas of the French Revolution, frequently experienced a development which ran parallel with that of the Huguenot colonies in Germany. The Great Elector who called the Huguenots into his country had permitted, a few years earlier, 50 Jewish families to settle in Berlin. Equality of political rights of Jews and Huguenots in the 19th century was granted simultaneously also in certain particularly conservative German states, for instance in Hamburg.

At any rate both religious communities retained their consciousness of persecution up to the present day as was expressed in so admirably clear and strong a manner in the courageous letter which the French pastor Marc Boegner, President of the French Reformed Church, addressed to the Grand Rabbinate of France, at the time when the persecution of Jews in occupied France began: "Our Church which once experienced all the sufferings of persecution, feels burning sympathy with your communities whose freedom of worship is already threatened in certain localities and whose faithful have been exposed so suddenly and unexpectedly to misfortune...".

Michael Rosenstock (Toronto)

## A JEWISH DREIGROSCHENOPER

Pre-emancipation Jewry, we tend to assume, lived strictly regulated lives in communities which were culturally segregated from their environment. Jewish "drop-outs", if they existed at all, were presumably absorbed by the surrounding population.

A recent book\* suggests that this picture is altogether too tidy and too restricted. The author maintains that official Jewish history is essentially the history of the economically active—those who, as taxpayers, were able to maintain the historical basis of Jewish existence. Those whom circumstances excluded from the economic order are rarely given more than a footnote in the history books even though they were a fact of Central European Jewish life from a very early date and eventually grew to become a problem of major dimensions. Rudolf Glanz traces the development of this Jewish underworld and the criminal element which grew out of it, from the "Schalantjuden" of the Middle Ages to the highly organised "Gaunderbanden" of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Even if we allow for the possibility of overstatement in what is, after all, a pioneer work and recognise the fact that others may not always draw the same conclusions from the rather scanty evidence available, we are still left with a new type of Jewish history which challenges many of our preconceptions and may have a radical effect on Jewish historiography in the future.

The dispossessed element which forms the subject of Glanz's book naturally grew in size and importance in the late Middle Ages, as expulsions became more and more frequent and the area of economic activity permitted to Jews grew progressively narrower, but it seems to have remained within controllable

\* Rudolf Glanz: Geschichte des niederen Juedischen Volkes in Deutschland; eine Studie ueber historisches Gaunertum, Bettelwesen und Vagantentum. New York, 1968.

bounds until the seventeenth century. Though the author does not mention the fact, it is surely not unreasonable to conjecture that, up to this time, economic opportunities further East acted as something of a safety valve. This movement from West to East presumably ceased when an impoverished and economically stagnant Poland lost its attractiveness and was actually reversed after the Chmielnicki massacres. We are accustomed to think of this period, with its Court Jews, merchants and bankers, as one which offered Jews unprecedented opportunities, but it is clear that the beginnings of capitalism only benefited a small upper class which formed itself into a communal plutocracy. The majority of Germany's Jews were still confined to a few marginal occupations in a largely static economic environment which could not absorb their increasing numbers. The communities were already faced with a growing internal proletariat whose members retained a precarious right of residence as minor community officials, domestic servants or teachers. They were quite unable to cope with the small armies of beggars which moved from place to place and, therefore, did all they could to keep them at arm's length.

While most of these "sub-subsistence" groups simply lived in destitution, a more active and enterprising element found an outlet in crime. It is interesting and a little ironical to see that, in this area as in so many others, the peculiar disabilities of Jewish life did much to force Jews into the role of innovators. Thus, while Jewish-Gentile co-operation in crime was not uncommon in the Middle Ages and Jews were often a substantial minority in the predominantly Gentile robber bands of the period following the Thirty Years' War, the eighteenth century saw the growth of independent Jewish bands whose organisation and methods of operation were a considerable advance on anything which had gone before. The Jewish *Chawrusse* became something of an underworld pace-setter and its Hebrew-based argot grew to become the most important single element in German thieves' slang.

Glanz's analysis of these developments is interesting enough, but its implications are even more fascinating. We see that, even in the pre-emancipation period, it was possible to create and maintain a marginal Jewish sub-culture which, because it was "beyond the pale," was largely free to modify its Jewishness to suit itself and to establish its own type of relationship to its Gentile environment. The casualness of this relationship is often striking. "Mauschle Welsch . . . 5 mal getauft

und doch noch ein Jud" and "Pafke, ein Jud . . . gebe sich vor einen Christen aus, seye aber nichts getauft, habe auch eine Christin geheyrathet" are probably not untypical. Nor are the Gentile members of predominantly Jewish gangs who assimilated the culture and religion of the majority. In a period in which Jews could usually be easily identified by their appearance and speech, Jewish thieves often had no difficulty in passing themselves off as Gentiles and mastering either High German or local German dialects. On the other hand, when not actually at work they generally lived the lives of observant Jews, preferring to confine their activities to the middle of the week in order to be home for the Sabbath. Interestingly but not surprisingly, there was little danger of their being denounced to the authorities so long as their fellow-Jews continued to regard them as Jews.

After reading Glanz's book, more conventional history books which take the official community as their central point of reference seem undeniably flat and lacking in perspective. By portraying the darker underside of Jewish history the author adds a new and very human dimension to the picture. His work is a refreshing antidote to the type of Jewish history which tends to claim that adversity usually strengthened but rarely demoralised Jewish life and that Jews always bore their fate passively and bravely. This rather defensive self-image is natural enough in an "upwardly mobile" group anxious to establish its credentials as a respectable component of society, but it hardly does full justice to the richness and complexity of its past. When we read about the German Maskilim, we should not forget that Mauschle Welsch also found a way of combining his Jewish identity with the culture of his environment. When we read about the soul-searching of Jewish intellectuals before and after baptism, we should not forget the destitute Jewish girls for whom baptism was the prerequisite for a prostitute's licence. Their reactions are not recorded.

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# WIEDERGUTMACHUNG

## VERBESSERUNGEN IN DER OESTERREICHISCHEN SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Die jüngst vom österreichischen Parlament verabschiedete 25. Novelle zum Allgemeinen Sozialversicherungsgesetz und die gleichzeitig beschlossene 19. Novelle zum Gewerblichen Selbständigen Pensions-Versicherungsgesetz bringen Bestimmungen, die für die Emigration von Interesse sind.

(1) Bekanntlich ruht ein Teil der Pension, wenn Pensionisten noch ein Erwerbseinkommen haben und das auf den Monat entfallende Einkommen einen gewissen im Gesetz festgelegten Freibetrag übersteigt. Diese Freigrenze wurde nunmehr recht erheblich erhöht, so dass in Zukunft Pensionisten, die nur ein bescheidenes Einkommen aufzuweisen haben, ihre Pension entweder ganz ungekürzt, oder geringer gekürzt als bisher, erhalten werden. Dies dürfte insbesondere bei Pensionisten zutreffen, die nicht mehr in Vollbeschäftigung stehen.

Das Ruhen eines Teiles der Pension wird zur Gänze entfallen, sobald der Pensionist das 65. Lebensjahr erreicht hat und wenigstens 540 Beitragsmonate aufzuweisen hat. Die Zahl von 540 Beitragsmonaten wird jedoch nur in sehr seltenen Fällen aufzuweisen sein, sodass diese Bestimmung in Praxis von geringer Bedeutung sein wird und von uns nur der Vollständigkeit wegen erwähnt wird.

(2) Schul- und Ausbildungszeiten wurden schon nach der bisherigen Gesetzgebung als Ersatzzeiten anerkannt. Sofern zwischen dem Verlassen der Schule (Berufs [Fach]-schule, Mittel- bzw. Hochschule) und dem Zeitpunkt der Emigration nicht mehr als drei Jahre verflossen waren, konnte diese Ersatzzeit an die, als volle Beitragszeit bis zum 31.3.1959 geltende, Emigrationszeit (s. unseren diesbezüglichen Artikel in der Ausgabe vom März 1967) angeschlossen werden, was in sehr vielen Fällen zu einer entscheidenden Verbesserung der Pensionsanwartschaften geführt hat.

Die betreffenden Gesetzesbestimmungen wurden nunmehr neuformuliert. Es wurde nicht nur die höchstanrechenbare Studienzzeit an einer Hochschule von vier auf sechs Jahre erweitert, sondern es werden nunmehr auch Zeiten berücksichtigt, während derer nach dem Hochschulstudium eine vorgeschriebene Ausbildung für den künftigen Beruf erfolgte. Diese neuen Bestimmungen finden allerdings nur auf diejenigen Anwendung, die nach dem 1. Januar 1971 das pensionsfähige Alter erreicht haben, bzw. die an diesem Stichtag wegen Krankheit etc. berufsunfähig sind. Sie werden also nur auf die relativ jüngeren Jahrgänge Anwendung finden können. Aber auch diese "jüngeren" Jahrgänge sind heute an die sechzig (oder darüber hinaus), und das Gesetz in seiner neuen Fassung wird Ärzten, die in Hospitälern als Hilfs- bzw. Sekundärärzte tätig waren, zu Gute kommen können. Desgleichen kann diese neue Bestimmung für Juristen von Interesse sein, die als Konzipienten aus irgend einem Grunde (z.B. weil sie in der Kanzlei ihres Vaters tätig waren) nicht zur Sozialversicherung angemeldet waren. Diesen Berufsgruppen wird Einholung fachkundigen Rates dringend empfohlen.

(3) Witwenpensionen werden ab 1. Juli 1971 60% der Pension betragen, auf die der verstorbene Gatte Anspruch hatte. Ein Sechstel der Pension ruht, wenn das sonstige monatliche Einkommen der Witwe Oest. Schilling 1340 (ca US Dollars 52, bzw. £22) übersteigt. Als solche sonstigen Einkünfte gelten alle Bezüge in Geld und Geldeswert, insbesondere auch Pensionen, die die Witwe kraft eigenen

Rechtes bezieht (z.B. weil sie selber als solche sozialversichert war), hingegen nicht

Hinterbliebenenleistungen, die auf Grund zwischenstaatlicher Verträge über soziale Sicherheit gewährt werden, ferner alle Bezüge der Witwe, die sie in Hinblick auf die Witwenschaft von Versicherungsunternehmen oder gesetzlichen Versorgungseinrichtungen erhält oder die ihr vom Dienstgeber des verstorbenen Gatten oder von Einrichtungen, welche der Dienstgeber allein oder gemeinsam mit anderen Dienstgebern oder mit den Beschäftigten unterhält, freiwillig zugewendet werden.

In dem Vereinigten Königreich werden demzufolge nicht anzurechnen sein: National Insurance Witwenrenten und Zuwendungen des Ministry of Social Security, die die Witwe als solche erhält, Witwen-Leibrenten und Pensionen von Contributory and Non-Contributory Pension Schemes.

(4) Wie unseren aus Oesterreich stammenden Lesern bekannt, folgt seit 1965 das Ausmass der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsrenten dem allgemeinen Lohn- bzw. Gehaltsniveau (sogenanntes dynamisches Prinzip). Die Pensionen wurden demzufolge seit 1965 von Jahr zu Jahr erhöht, z.B. seit 1.1.1971 um 7.1%, u.zw. unter Anwendung einer recht komplizierten mathematischen Formel. Diese Formel wurde nunmehr noch weiter verfeinert, um sicherzustellen, dass die Pensionen in Zukunft noch genauer dem Steigen der österreichischen Löhne und Gehälter folgen.

DR. C. I. KAPRALIK  
Anspruchsberechtigte, die Informationen über weitere Einzelheiten benötigen, können sich an das United Restitution Office (Austrian Desk), 183 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. (Tel.: 328 0021), wenden.

## NOVELLE ZUM DEUTSCHEN SOZIALVERSICHERUNGSGESETZ

Am 30.12.1970 ist das Gesetz zur Aenderung und Ergänzung über die Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts in der Sozialversicherung vom 22.12.1970 im Bundesgesetzblatt verkündet worden. Es trat am 1.2.1971 in Kraft.

Die wesentlichen Aenderungen sind folgende:

1. Versicherte nicht-deutscher Staatsangehörigkeit, die im ehemaligen Deutschen Reich, in Danzig, Memel und im sog. Protektorat Böhmen-Mähren Beiträge geleistet haben, erhalten künftig ihre Rente auch dann ins Ausland gezahlt, wenn sie erst nach dem 8.5.1945, jedoch vor dem 1.1.1950 ausgewandert sind.

2. Bei Versicherten aus den unter Ziff. 1 erwähnten Gebieten ist die Anrechnung der ausländischen Beitragszeiten nicht mehr von der Anerkennung der Vertriebeneneigenschaft und der Vorlage eines Vertriebenenausweises abhängig. Die Rente ist vielmehr festzusetzen und zu zahlen, wenn die jeweiligen Versicherten "hinsichtlich der deutschen Volkszugehörigkeit die Voraussetzungen des Par. 4 Abs. 4 BEG erfüllen."

3. Die wichtigste Neuregelung enthalten die Par. 1 und 10 des Gesetzes, nach denen alle Verfolgten Beiträge nachentrichten können, die

(a) eine Versicherungszeit (Beitrags- und Ersatzzeiten) von 60 Monaten nachweisen können und

(b) deren rentenversicherungspflichtige Beschäftigung aus Verfolgungsgründen unterbrochen oder beendet worden ist.

Zu beachten ist, dass unter den vorerwähnten Voraussetzungen auch Witwen und Waisen für den verstorbenen Ehemann bzw. Vater Beiträge nachzahlen können.

Die Beiträge können nicht für Zeiträume vor dem 1.1.1933 nachentrichtet werden, auch nicht für Zeiträume vor Vollendung des 16. Lebensjahres und ebenfalls nicht für Zeiten, die als Beitrags- oder Ersatzzeiten anzurechnen sind.

Der Eintritt von Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfähigkeit bis zum 31.1.1972 steht der Beitragsnachentrichtung nicht entgegen. Werden die Beiträge innerhalb der Frist (31.1.1972) nachentrichtet, so sind sie auch noch für eine Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfähigkeitsrente anzurechnen. Erfolgt die Beitragsnachentrichtung dagegen erst zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt, so können diese Beiträge nur noch für das Altersruhegeld berücksichtigt werden.

4. Der bisherige Art. X des Bundesentschädigungsschlussgesetzes wird aufgehoben. Eine entsprechende Regelung findet sich nunmehr in den Par. 7, 8 der Gesetzes-Novelle. Hier ist wichtig, dass die nach diesen Vorschriften entrichteten Beiträge für eine Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfähigkeitsrente nur dann angerechnet werden können, wenn die Berufs- oder Erwerbsunfähigkeit entweder schon nachweislich vor dem 1.1.1967 eingetreten ist oder erst nach Zahlung der nachentrichteten Beiträge eintritt.

5. Bei der Bewertung der Ersatzzeiten ergeben sich gewisse Verbesserungen, die im einzelnen zu erläutern hier zu weit führen würde.

Die nunmehrige Regelung dürfte vornehmlich den Jungverfolgten zugute kommen, die ihre Beiträge nur in sehr niedrigen Beitragsklassen geleistet und daher bisher auch nur besonders niedrige Renten erhalten haben.

## LASTENAUSGLEICH

Wir berichteten in unserer Ausgabe vom Oktober 1970 über den Entwurf des 23. Aenderungsgesetzes zum Lastenausgleichsgesetz, das die Regelung der Ansprüche von Geschädigten aus der DDR (einschliesslich Ost-Berlin) zum Gegenstand hat. Wie wir damals mitteilten, bestand die Bedeutung des Entwurfs vor allem darin, dass er die Beschränkungen, die das frühere Gesetz (21. Aenderungsgesetz vom 18. August 1969) für ausgewanderte Verfolgte nahezu wertlos machten, aufhob. Nunmehr ist der Entwurf vom Bundestag angenommen worden, und das Gesetz ist im Bundesgesetzblatt vom 31. Dezember 1970, Teil I, S. 1870 zur Veröffentlichung gelangt. Das Gesetz geht über den Entwurf insofern hinaus, als auch entsprechend der von uns geäußerten Hoffnung die Begrenzung der Hauptentschädigung auf einen Höchstbetrag von DM 50.000 in Wegfall gekommen ist.

Das Gesetz enthält eine Reihe weiterer Bestimmungen, die aber nur für die wenigen Juristen verständlich sind, die sich auf das ungemein verzweigte Rechtsgebiet des Lastenausgleichsgesetzes und der damit zusammenhängenden Gesetze spezialisiert haben. Auch diese Bestimmungen können aber im Einzelfall für die Höhe der Entschädigung von Bedeutung sein.

Grundsätzlich ist festzustellen, dass nunmehr auch denjenigen Verfolgten, die Schaden auf dem Gebiete der DDR (einschliesslich Ost-Berlin) erlitten haben, geraten werden kann, ihre diesbezüglichen Ansprüche geltend zu machen. Wie bereits im Entwurf vorgesehen, läuft die Frist zur Anmeldung derartiger Ansprüche am 31. Dezember 1972 ab. Es muss aber den Beteiligten dringend empfohlen werden, mit der Zusammenstellung des Materials nicht etwa bis zum Ende 1972 zu warten, sondern die Ansprüche so schnell wie möglich vorzubereiten.

# EARLY ZIONISTS IN HEINE'S FAMILY

## The Descendants of the Poet's Sister

In the "Zeitschrift fuer die Geschichte der Juden" (Tel Aviv), No. 2/3, 1970, J. Raphael (Ramat Gan) published a stimulating essay about the descendants of Heinrich Heine's sister, Charlotte, who was married to the Hamburg merchant, Moritz Embden. It transpires from his story that one of Charlotte's grandchildren was among the few German Jews who settled in Palestine already before the First World War. This is particularly surprising because, as descendants of Court Jews, the Heines belonged to the upper stratum of German-Jewish society and most members of the family had severed their links with Judaism at an early period. Thus, the poet's brother Maximilian, a physician, was ennobled in Russia, and his other brother, Gustav, owner of the "Wiener Fremdenblatt", became an Austrian baron under the name of von Heine-Geldern.

Similarly, Charlotte Embden's only son, Ludwig, who remained unmarried, established connections with the Catholic Church; he lived in Vienna and was ennobled by the Austrian emperor. Her daughter, Maria, married the Italian aristocrat Prince della Rocca. Another daughter, Anna, went to live in England, where she became a reader to Queen Victoria; she remained single. The youngest child, Lieschen, died as a girl of 15.

Things took, however, a different course, in the case of Charlotte's daughter Helene. She married into the German-Jewish middle class. Her husband, Wilhelm Hirsch, was a highly cultured Jewish merchant in Berlin. For business reasons,

Wilhelm and Helene Hirsch settled in Paris in 1859, where their two daughters were born. One of them, Alice, died in infancy. The story of the other one, Mathilde, will be related presently. After the fall of France in 1870, the family first went to Vienna and, in 1876, returned to Berlin. After her husband's death, Helene moved to a flat in the Wielandstrasse, which became a literary meeting place. Her guests included Gustav Karpeles, the Heine expert; Julius Stettenheim, of "Wippchen" fame; and Alfred Kerr. Helene Hirsch died at the age of 86 in 1917. As there are certainly still people alive, who knew her, she was a personal link between the poet and contemporaries of ours.

The family tradition was continued by her daughter Mathilde. In 1884, when she was 22, she married the 34-year-old merchant Heinrich Salomon, who was born in Santomischel in the Province of Posen as a member of a religious family, related to Rabbi Akiba Eger. The couple had three children, Walter, Edith and Leonie. Under the impact of the rising antisemitism, Heinrich Salomon became interested in Zionism and, as early as 1911, acquired some land in Palestine. Together with his family, he emigrated to that country shortly afterwards. Thus, a great-niece of Heinrich Heine became a settler in the land of the fathers more than two decades before the enforced exodus of German Jewry started. A sentence comes to mind which the poet wrote when, under the guidance of Eduard Gans, he and his fellow students considered the participation in a

Jewish settlement project in the U.S.: "Wenn erst Ganstown erbaut sein wird und ein gluecklicheres Geschlecht am Mississippi Lulef benscht und Mazzes kaut..."

Shortly before the Salomons emigrated, their daughter Leonie got engaged to a merchant from Baden, Hugo Kaminski. He followed them, and the wedding ceremony took place in Haifa. The couple had two sons, who were both born in Palestine.

Due to the outbreak of the First World War, the whole family returned to Germany and the male members of military age joined the Forces. Heinrich Salomon's son, Walter, fell on the Western Front. The daughter, Edith, went to England in 1906 and married an English Jew, Percy Paul Baker. She was killed in an air raid on London in 1940. The story will be told by Mr. Raphael in a special article to be published at a later date.

The other daughter, Leonie, and her husband, Hugo Kaminski, together with their sons went back to Palestine in 1932 because they were already aware of German Jewry's precarious position before the Nazis actually came to power. One of their sons fell in the war of 1948, and Hugo Kaminski died in 1961. The link with the past is kept alive by Charlotte Embden's great-granddaughter, Leonie Kaminski, who lives in Tel Aviv.

We are indebted to Mr. J. Raphael for having told us the story of the descendants of Heinrich Heine's beloved sister "Lottchen".

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## Round and About

### MR. HERBERT SULZBACH HONOURED

To mark the 77th birthday of Mr. Herbert Sulzbach, the German Ambassador and Frau von Hase recently gave a reception in his honour. The guests included well-known personalities of English and Continental background with whom, in the course of his wide-spread activities, Mr. Sulzbach has established bonds of personal friendship. In his cordial and informal speech, the Ambassador reminded the gathering that Mr. Sulzbach was one of those who, "to the shame of the German people", had been forced to leave their country of birth. Notwithstanding his experiences under the Nazis, he had not given up his belief in a Germany as he had known it before 1933 and incessantly worked for the promotion of Anglo-German and German-Jewish understanding. He commenced this work as an education officer at Featherstone Park, the British P.O.W. camp for German officers. For the past two decades he has been on the staff of the German Embassy of which he is now the oldest member both in age and years of service. On behalf of President Heinemann, the Ambassador conferred the Grand Federal Cross of Merit on Mr. Sulzbach. We extend our sincerest congratulations to our trusted and helpful friend Herbert Sulzbach on the well-deserved recognition of his untiring efforts.

### BOOK AWARD

The 1970 *Jewish Chronicle* Book Award has been awarded to Dr. Dannie Abse. He received the £250 award for his "Collected Poems," a selection of verse written over the past 20 years. His early autobiographical novel, "Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve," has just been republished.

### FAMILY EVENTS

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

#### Deaths

**Lewin.**—Miss Vally Lewin, of 260 Grove End Gardens, London, N.W.8, passed away after a long illness on February 3. Mourned by her sister, relatives and friends.

**Metzger.**—Mr. Ferdinand Metzger (formerly Mainz) passed away on February 1, at the age of 81. Deeply mourned by his widow, daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. 23 Luttrell Avenue, London, S.W.15.

#### Birthdays

**Putzel.**—The children of Mrs. Adele Putzel, of 9 Haven Lodge, Hayes Crescent, London, N.W.11 (formerly Nürnberg) are happy to announce that she celebrated her 80th birthday on February 16.

### JUDAICA BOUGHT

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### JEWISH BOOK WEEK

March 15 to 18 at Woburn House

This year's Jewish Book Week will be held from Monday, March 15 to Thursday, March 18 at Adolph Tuck Hall, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1. The exhibition of books will be open on Monday from 7 p.m. onwards, and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The programme also includes lectures on each of the four evenings at 8 p.m. The Opening Lecture on Monday, March 15, of which the A.J.R. is one of the sponsoring organisations, will be given by Mr. Chimen Abramsky, Reader in Jewish History at London University, on: "Jewish Historians—From Graetz to Modern Historiography." We should like to draw the special attention of the members of the A.J.R. and their friends to this lecture.

The subjects of the other lectures are: A Hebrew Evening (Tuesday), "Jewish Books and Jewish Readers" (Wednesday), and "Prayer and Poetry," speaker: Dr David Daiches (Thursday).

### Letter to the Editor

#### TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

*Sir,—All your readers are likely to share the joyous expectation of Israel's trade with a foreign country rapidly increasing from £2.5 million to £14 million. However, it is a very different matter if the country referred to is South Africa. Of all peoples should not the Jews who know from experience what discrimination on racial grounds means be the first to boycott the land of Apartheid?*

Yours, etc.,

(Dr.) HILDEGARD FORRES.

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#### Miscellaneous.

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#### Personal

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**EDUCATED WIDOW,** middle 50s, own income, modern house, not having the opportunity to contact gentlemen, would like to meet gentleman (German origin), 58-65. Object companionship/matrimony. Box 199.

#### MISSING PERSONS

##### Personal Enquiries

**Hirschfeld.**—Lea Hirschfeld, who emigrated to London from Berlin in 1937/38, present age approximately 55. Sought by Mr. Josef Marienfeld.—Replies to Salomon, 13 St. John's Road, London, N.W.11.

**Schlesinger.**—Paul Schlesinger (from Gleiwitz), in his early 70's, who lived in Bayswater until about 1941 when he moved to Huddersfield. Box 200.

## IN MEMORIAM

### DAYAN MEYER STEINBERG

Dayan Meyer Steinberg, a member of the London Beth Din and minister of the Brixton Synagogue, died at the age of 64. He was born in Lvov and, until 1939, communal rav of Czartkow (Poland). At the outbreak of war he became a chaplain of the Polish forces. He later escaped via Rumania to Palestine and, after the end of hostilities, went to Germany to act as chaplain to the Polish citizens rescued from the Nazis. When passing through Paris, he spotted his wife and only daughter whom he had given up as lost in the concentration camps. They had spent years in Belsen. A staunch Orthodox, the *Jewish Chronicle* writes, Dayan Steinberg comprehended, if not even shared, the thoughts and sentiments of the modern English Jew and was able to exert a moderating influence on some of the decisions of the Beth Din.

### ALEC NATAN

Mr. Alec (Alex) Natan, the sportsman, publicist and educationist, died in London in his 65th year. Born in Berlin, he was in his younger years well known by his athletic records as a sprinter. He emigrated to England as early as 1933. From 1935 to 1937 he had a University of London research fellowship in international relations. Later, he was for almost 25 years history master at King's College, Worcester. Mr. Natan also established a reputation for himself by his activities in press and radio, both in this country and on the Continent. His numerous books include works on sport, a series "German Men of Letters" and "Britain Today". He was a co-founder of the Anglo-German Association and, since 1964, a member of the German PEN Centre in the Federal Republic.

E.G.L.

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Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

# IGNORANCE ON THE ISRAELI-ARAB DISPUTE

"The Western Wall is in Hebron"; "Ben-Gurion is the leader of a Palestinian party founded in the 'thirties"; "The Palestinian revolution against the mandatory régime continues to flare up. . . ." These "facts", and many similar ones, are not taken from the tales of One Thousand and One Nights but are live replies given by Arab students in Cairo and Beirut to questions on the subject of the Israeli-Arab dispute, put to them a short while ago.

All these statements and answers are compiled in a book entitled "Ignorance on the Palestinian question", written by Anis Zayig, M.A. in history. The writer is the director of the "National Centre for Palestinian Studies" in Beirut, which has, until 1969, published 125 books and papers on the Palestinian problem. The Centre has the largest library on this subject of all Arab countries and is considered a serious source of study and research material for Arab intellectuals.

This book is, in fact, a study conducted among university students in Cairo and Beirut to determine the level of knowledge of the educated Arab stratum on the Palestine subject assuming that "we (the Arabs), at least with regard to the Palestinian operation, are a nation speaking more about the subject than reading about it, and our feelings towards it are stronger than our knowledge about it". The results and conclusions of the study are that "these youngsters (the educated ones) are devoid of any basic and fundamental knowledge on the subject of Palestine".

And if this is the situation among the educated people in Cairo and Beirut, what about the majority of the Arab population and the masses of youths who never reach the threshold of university?

It seems that the education to hatred inculcated for 20 years in the Arab teaching institutions and manuals has not helped in getting a grasp of the facts, its only result being the promotion of a blind feeling, stripped of any knowledge.

Here are a few instructive and somewhat stupefying examples of replies given by university students from Cairo and Beirut to questions related to the Israeli-Arab dispute:

- On the Israel settlements (the "moshav") it was said that these are Communist

- agricultural villages in the Soviet Union.
- On the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth): an Israeli nuclear enterprise.
- On the Technion, the well-known scientific technological institute in Haifa: a Jewish group in Palestine before the establishment of the State of Israel.
- On the Zionist revisionist leader Jabotinsky: a Soviet diplomat, a Soviet military commander, the real name of Lenin.
- The students in Cairo and Beirut were incapable of differentiating between Moshe Sneh, the Hagana commander during the Second World War and leader of the Israel Communist Party since the middle 'fifties—and Ho-Chi-Min, leader of Northern Vietnam.
- On the number of the Palestinian nation: 100,000; 1 million; 10 million.
- On the number of Israel's inhabitants: 300,000; 1 million.
- On the length of the Palestine shores: 18 km.; 1,000 km.
- On the U.S. Zionist Women's Federation, Hadassah: a suburb . . . ; a street name . . . the Arab University in Arab Jerusalem.
- The siege of Faluja in 1948: In this siege, Abdel Nasser was captured by the Israelis . . . at Faluja; the Israelis had encircled the Arab kings and rulers . . . ; the Arab army encircled and almost destroyed the Israelis at Faluja.

Israeli Knesset Member and publisher of "Haolam Hazeh", Uri Avneri, will be delighted to hear that he is "a French-Jewish writer" . . . or "a negro author". Finally, some information on Israel's Parliament: "The Knesset is a Jewish officers' club".

## BRIEF HISTORY OF ZIONISM

Publication in German Reference Book

In his contribution to the second and final volume of "Kirche und Synagoge", Hans Tramer, with the help of Eli Rothschild, has succeeded in giving an outline in little more than 35 pages of the "Jewish Renaissance in the 19th and 20th Centuries". "Kirche und

Synagogue" is a "Manual on the History of Christians and Jews", edited by Karl Heinrich Rengstorff (Munster) and Siegfried von Kortzfleisch, and published by the Ernst Klett Verlag, Stuttgart (1968/70).

Dr Tramer's treatise reads like a miniature introduction to the history of Zionism. The bibliographical footnotes and references to comprehensive quotations from the relevant literature help to deepen the reader's knowledge of the subject.

The extensive material is treated under three headings. The first chapter, entitled "Rebirth of the Nostalgia for Israel", begins with the precursors of Zionism around the middle of the last century and leads via Moses Hess's "Rom und Jerusalem" (1862), Leon Pinsker's "Autoemanzipation" (1882) and the proclamations by Dr. Isaak Ruelf-Memel (died 1902) and Dr. Nathan Birnbaum (died 1937) to the ideologies of Heinrich Loewe and Simon Dubnow. In the second chapter, "Conceptions of the Zionist Movement", Herzl and Nordau naturally occupy pride of place. They are followed by Professor Franz Oppenheimer and Dr. Arthur Ruppin (both from Berlin and both died in 1943), whose programmes were important for the settlement of Palestine. The "Renaissance of the Spirit" is mainly represented by Achad Haam, Weizmann, Buber and Bialik.

The third and last chapter is devoted to the development of Zionism in the time from about 1916 to 1933. It starts with the ideas of the "Innere Erziehung zum Judesein", as represented in Germany by Chaim Arlosoroff (1899-1933), the leading personality of Hapoel Hazair, and Salman Shazar (Rubaschow), the present President of Israel. The author then deals with the discussion of the basic concepts of Zionism (Hermann Cohen, Buber, Rosenzweig). The impact of the call "More Judaism" which largely arose from experiences during the First World War, is reflected in statements by Jakob Klatzkin, Arnold Zweig and Ernst Simon. The postulates of "Religious Regeneration" and "New Thinking" are exemplified by quotations from Max Brod, Franz Rosenzweig ("Stern der Erloesung") and Emil Bernhard Cohn.

At the end of the survey we find the "Return to Ourselves" as demanded by Georg Landauer (1895-1954); testimonies by Orthodox leaders such as Samson Raphael Hirsch, Isak Unna, Isaak Breuer (Frankfurt/Main) and Joseph Carlebach; and finally an account of the way in which Leo Baeck, the leading Liberal and non-Zionist, propounded the idea of a Jewish renaissance. E.G.L.

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# ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST

## REWARD FOR MENGELE'S CAPTURE

The Haifa Documentation Centre has offered a reward of £20,000 for Joseph Mengele. As the Auschwitz camp doctor Mengele, one of the most sadistic of all the German war criminals, was in charge of "experiments" performed on human beings.

In November, 1959, he was known to be in Argentina, but disappeared after the West German Government demanded his extradition. In April, 1961, he was reported to be in Brazil and, in December, 1964, in Peru, but the South American government denied his presence there, as they had done previously. For some time it has been claimed that Mengele is living in Paraguay and only recently the West German President's office reported that the Paraguayan Government had refused a German request for Mengele's extradition.

It is hoped that the increased reward will induce someone to come forward from the clandestine Nazi rescue organisation which has helped Mengele to elude his pursuers for the past 25 years.

## AFGHANISTAN COMMUNITY

The ancient Jewish community of Afghanistan has dwindled to 425 families in Kabul and 26 in Herat. Other small ancient communities have virtually disappeared.

A recent visitor has reported that, while Afghanistan supports the Arab line on Israel, something still remains of the time-honoured tolerance towards the country's Jews. The Jews of Kabul still manage to muster a minyan for services in their synagogue. There is, however, no authorised rabbi. The decline in the Jewish community is due to recent emigration to Israel and Iran. Afghan Jews are free to leave without hindrance.

## UGANDA COUP

### Obote Blames Israel

Dr. Obote, the deposed President of Uganda, has alleged that the successful coup in his country was engineered by "foreign elements", mentioning Israel by name. The charge has been described as "absolute nonsense" by an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Major-General Idi Amin, who staged the coup, recently stated that he was consulting the Israeli military mission in the country in the face of a Tanzanian threat of invasion.

## JERUSALEM PRIZE

The Jerusalem Prize, worth £835 and Israel's most valuable international award, has been awarded to the 71-year-old Argentinian poet and writer, Jorge Luis Borges, a non-Jew.

## JEWIS IN ARAB COUNTRIES

A study carried out by the International Committee for the Deliverance of Jews in the Middle East was released by General Lucius D. Clay, formerly head of the American Military Government in Germany.

According to the study, only 700 Jews are left in Egypt. The 80 released from prison were set free only after they had signed away their Egyptian citizenship and surrendered their property to the Cairo Government. For other Jews allowed to leave the country similar conditions were imposed.

There are still severe restrictions on Jewish emigration in Iraq and Libya. Of the 90 Jews left in Libya none has been given an exit visa, and in Iraq only a few elderly people out of 1,800 applying for exit visas have been allowed to leave. Some Iraq Jews are still under arrest.

A press conference was given in Paris by two Syrian Jews who escaped from the country. They said that any Jew who ventured two miles from the Jewish quarter in Damascus was imprisoned for two months and tortured. Members of families of Jews who managed to escape were rounded up for interrogation by Syria's counter-espionage organisation, only young girls being spared the whipping meted out to those being interrogated.

Syrian Jews are not allowed to practise any liberal profession and may engage in manual work only for other Jews. Arabs are not obliged to pay for any goods bought from a Jew. On a Jew's death his assets are confiscated and given to Palestinian Arabs. Jewish religious activities are restricted. The textbooks boys must use for their studies are prefaced with the words: "Jews are criminals and thieves. They must be exterminated".

## TUNISIAN RABBI KILLED

A gunman, who fired a series of shots in a mixed Jewish and Moslem district of Tunis, fatally wounded Rabbi Masliah Mazous. Jewish and Moslem passers-by chased the man and two Jews were slightly wounded by further shots. He was later arrested. The military authorities stated that he was a Moslem who was "unbalanced".

In an expression of condolences to the Chief Rabbi, the Governor of Tunis and representatives of the ruling Neo-Destour Socialist Party assured Rabbi Meiss Cohen that the Government would continue to protect all citizens, whatever their religion.

## CEMETERIES IN POLAND

At a meeting in Bielsko-Biala of the Social and Cultural Association of Polish Jews, the neglected state of the cemeteries was discussed. A special committee was formed to deal with the task of setting in order the tombstones in the Jewish cemetery and in four neighbouring townships.

## EASTERN EUROPE

### EMIGRATION FROM USSR

Mr. Vitali Svehinsky, a Moscow architect, who has just arrived in Israel with his wife and two children, stated that half-a-million of the Soviet Union's three million Jews would leave for Israel immediately if the Government allowed them. Dr. Boris Tsukerman, a physicist and one of the leaders of the Jewish renaissance in the Soviet Union, has also arrived in Israel together with his family.

A *Jewish Chronicle* correspondent was told by Mr. Nikolai Loginov, first secretary to the Soviet U.N. mission, that when asked for exit visas his Government takes into account "not only the interests of the applicant, but those of the Soviet State and our friendly Arab allies".

It is estimated that 1,300 Soviet Jews have left for Israel since June, 1967. Experts on Soviet affairs reckon that a quarter of a million Soviet Jews have applied for permission to emigrate to Israel—about 8 per cent of the Jewish population of the U.S.S.R. They say that a further 250,000 might also apply to emigrate, should the Soviet Government decide to allow free emigration to those Jews who wish to leave.

### VERGELIS DENIES ANTISEMITISM

Aaron Vergelis, the editor of the Moscow Yiddish periodical *Sovietish Heimland*, said at a press conference in Geneva that "propaganda organs outside the U.S.S.R. create a Jewish problem inside the U.S.S.R." There were Jewish problems in the U.S.S.R., but similar to those in the rest of the world. "In the U.S.S.R., antisemitism appears in the least conscious layers of the population, but it is being stamped out. . . ." More than a thousand Soviet Jews had already emigrated to Israel, said Mr. Vergelis, stating that "the main problem of Zionist propaganda is that the reserve of Russian Jews wishing to go to Israel is now almost exhausted".

### CZECHS ACCUSE ZIONISM

Prague radio recently broadcast a Communist Party document analysing the internal situation which led to the invasion of the country by Soviet and other Warsaw Pact forces in August, 1968, and the overthrow of the Dubcek régime. The report said: "Forces which committed themselves from the positions of Zionism were of considerable influence in the struggle against Socialism in Czechoslovakia."

The document described Zionism as "one of the instruments of international imperialism and anti-Communism" and named seven Jews as prime exponents. These included: Dr. Frantisek Kriegel, a former Minister; Professor Eduard Goldstuecker, former president of the Writers' Union; and Mr. Arnost Lustig, a writer. With the exception of Dr. Kriegel, all those named are now in the West.

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