

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Egon Larsen

WEIMAR CULTURE AND THE JEWS

There is one historical question which must remain unanswered: would the Jews have survived as the oldest ethnical group in western civilization without the Diaspora? Had the greater part of them been able to stay in their homeland, would they not eventually have submerged in the middle-eastern melting-pot of nations (as the "lost" ten tribes probably did), leaving behind them little more than a literary treasure called the Bible and the mythology of the beginnings of the Christian faith?

As it happened, the Jews did not only survive in the Diaspora, they also contributed enormously to western civilization. As a minority in every host country, they were in constant danger of persecution, forced to keep apart from the rest of the population, subject to strong social pressures. There was, in the ghetto, hardly any outlet for the talents and energies of a lively, literate, intelligent minority. But once the Jews were granted emancipation at the end of the eighteenth century, those pent-up qualities had a chance of being transformed into activity, of being released for the benefit of all mankind and, of course, the Jews' host countries. This development was most marked in Central Europe and reached its climax in Germany's "Weimar" era, with its strong Jewish influence in a sphere where the Jews had already shown their mettle for over a century—culture.

Weimar is now very much *en vogue*: among the historians who are still trying to explain what made Hitler possible, and among a younger German generation who seem to be nostalgically attracted to the good old days of Tucholsky and the *Blue Angel*. The latest book to be published on the subject is Walter Laqueur's *Weimar: A Cultural History 1918-1933**. Laqueur, born in Breslau in 1921, emigrated to Palestine in 1938 and became a political journalist; in 1955 he settled in London, where he succeeded Dr. Alfred Wiener as director of the Wiener Library. He is also a director of the Institute of Contemporary History.

With his Jewish background, Laqueur was the right man to deal with the important part played by the Jews in Germany's rapid ascent to world-wide cultural influence during that short historical period, a subject hardly touched upon by other books on Weimar. Let us be honest—we did our best to sweep the Nazi allegations that Weimar culture was strongly *verjudet* under the carpet. Now it is time not only to admit that, for once, our enemies were right, but to be proud of it. Laqueur writes:

"It was not at the time considered good form... to discuss the fact that a great many

of them (the intellectuals) were Jews. . . . So far as the public at large was concerned this was not exactly a secret, and the antisemitic critics made the most of it. . . . Antisemitic propaganda claimed that Weimar was a *Judenrepublik*; this was true to the extent that Jews did indeed play a bigger role than in Wilhelminian Germany. . . . There were many Jews in publishing and in the theatre. . . . They were well represented in most fields of learning, literature and the arts; almost all of them were highly assimilated and thought of themselves as Germans. . . . Without the Jews there would have been no 'Weimar culture'—to this extent the claims of the antisemites, who detested that culture, were justified. They were in the foreground of every new, daring, revolutionary movement. They were prominent among Expressionist poets, among the novelists of the 1920s, among the theatrical producers and, for a while, among the leading figures in the cinema. . . . Many leading theatre critics were Jews, and they dominated light entertainment."

Problematic Symbiosis

However, Laqueur goes on to say that this "German-Jewish symbiosis had few if any enthusiastic supporters among the Germans and a great many enemies who would have gladly done without Marx, Freud and Einstein, let alone Tucholsky, the Jewish film-makers and theatre critics". This is arguable: it was Berlin, the cultural *Wasserkopf*, that was envied, loathed, and vilified in the provinces as a centre of "lasciviousness and obscenity". To be sure, Berlin had grown into the hectic "entertainment capital of Europe", where cultural liberalism often tended to become uninhibited libertinism; but the bourgeois Jewish citizens in the provinces disliked the city for that reason as much as did the gentile German Conservatives.

Weimar was, in fact, Berlin. As one leading critic of Laqueur's book (Goronwy Rees in *The Observer*) put it: "The fascination of Weimar for our time... is largely a product of misunderstanding, because it does not for the most part extend beyond one particular city. For most Germans of the period, Berlin was an alien capital which represented everything they detested. . . . This does not mean that the achievements of the intelligentsia, in literature, art, music, theatre, architecture, film, do not form Weimar's most endurable memorial". One might add that the rejection of Berlin's culture in the rest of Germany was a portent of things to come: significantly, all the Nazi leaders who occupied the Wilhelmstrasse in 1933 came from the provinces.

Those achievements of Weimar culture

were, no doubt a splendid phenomenon, with powerful effects in many other countries, and by rights all Germany should have been grateful to the Jews who helped to bring it about—but that would have been asking too much; in fact, there were some Jewish voices warning against Jewish preponderance in the cultural sphere. As early as 1913, the young Jewish publicist Moritz Goldstein argued in the *Kunstwart* that the Jews were directing the culture of a people which denied them both the right and the capacity to do so. The press, the theatre, musical life, the study of German literature—all were largely in Jewish hands. Everyone knew it, only the Jews "pretended it was not worthy of notice"; for what mattered, they claimed, were their achievements, their cultural and humanistic activities. This, said Goldstein, was a dangerous fallacy, for "the others do not feel that we are Germans". Major cultural initiatives had to have popular and national roots; and this "rootedness" the Jews lacked, despite all their intellectual and emotional efforts. In short, for Goldstein the cultural activities of the German Jews were a purely German concern (he had, of course, grown up in the narrow-minded, nationalistic *Kaiserreich*), but it was precisely that modern, international outlook which characterized German culture after 1918, and which the Jews had a right to share because they were particularly well equipped and attuned to creating and thinking on a cosmopolitan level.

Shortly after 1918, when "they"—the anti-semitic opponents of Jewish cultural activities—still seemed to be a small number of cranks, Jakob Wassermann wrote pessimistically about the German-Jewish "symbiosis":

"Vain to seek obscurity. They say: the coward—he is creeping into hiding, driven by his evil conscience. Vain to go among them and offer them one's hand. They say: why does he take such liberties with his Jewish obtrusiveness? Vain to keep faith with them as a comrade-in-arms or a fellow-citizen. They say: he is Proteus, he can assume any shape or form. Vain to help them strip off the chains of slavery. They say: no doubt he found it profitable. Vain to counter-act the poison."

But what would have been the alternative, we may ask today: should the Jews in Germany have refrained from using their special talents and energies, and perhaps retired to some new form of ghetto, sticking to their traditional commercial trades? Should they have emigrated already in the 1920s? Should they have mistrusted the liberal, progressive Weimar constitution right from the start? No, history doesn't work like that. Hitler would have come to power just the same, though his rise might have taken slightly longer without the propaganda slogan of Jewish *Kulturbolschewismus*. However, had the Jews taken no part in Weimar culture, the German scene would have shown the

Continued on page 2, column 1

* Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1974 (25-95).

WEIMAR CULTURE AND THE JEWS

Continued from page 1

same paucity of artistic achievement after the first World War as it did after the second.

Laqueur does not indulge in such speculations; as a historian, he sticks to facts. But has he succeeded in conjuring up that singular atmosphere, the *Zeitgeist* of the Weimar era, of that "first truly modern culture" as he calls it? Those of us who were old enough to savour that peculiar flavour might feel the irreverent urge to say that the late PEM, in his *Heimweh nach dem Kurfuerstendamm*, did it better because he had been there; despite all his errors, omissions, and lack of balance he succeeded in recreating the Berlin of the era. The question which Laqueur, in his preface, promises to answer—"wie es eigentlich gewesen ist"—remains largely unanswered. How could he have painted the scene of Weimar-Berlin in the way we remember it? He was only a boy of 12 when it ended in 1933. "I refrained from interviewing 'Old Weimarians' for the purpose of this book," he admits. Instead, he adds no less than twenty pages of bibliography, an unselective list including irrelevancies such as a book on Paul Lincke. Also irrelevant are some of the photos which illustrate his work, for instance full-size reproductions of the title pages of *Untergang des Abendlandes* and *Berlin-Alexanderplatz*.

Kabarett and Film

More serious is the omission of any reference to the satirical political *Kabarett* (not its pale imitation in the musical and film *Cabaret*) which was so characteristic of Berlin in the 1920s. Siegfried Jacobsohn, the founder of the *Weltbuehne*, is mentioned only once as the "editor" of its forerunner, the *Schaubuehne*, although the *Weltbuehne* itself is quoted and discussed on 10 pages. The *Tagebuch*, too, is extensively quoted, but the name of Leopold Schwarzschild does not appear at all. Spelling mistakes abound in names like Liesl Karlstadt, Karl Grune, Piel Jutzi, Schwannecke. A large number of film plots are retold. The author of the *Freudlose Gasse*, Hugo Bettauer, whose tragically prophetic novel *Stadt ohne Juden* led to his assassination by a Viennese Nazi, is not mentioned. And perhaps Laqueur never saw the first important film of the era, *Caligari*—or he wouldn't have called it "a kind of high-brow *King Kong*". Just as wrong is his assertion that, despite the exodus of Jewish producers and actors, "the continuity of the pre-Nazi cinema beyond 1933, and even beyond 1945, is striking". There was no continuity.

"Weimar, in brief, was the age of Fritz Lang, of Marlene Dietrich and Richard Tauber as much as of its thinkers," says Laqueur. "In many ways the films of the period, the operettas and hit songs (*sic*) reflect the *Zeitgeist* as accurately as *The Magic Mountain* and *Demian*". Such statements may raise a good many eyebrows; yet they show the historian's difficulty in defining that elusive *Zeitgeist* largely from the printed documentary evidence of a whole period. Still, the book contains a wealth of material for those especially interested in the contribution of the Jews to all cultural sectors in pre-Hitler Germany, in an era unique in modern history. It's about time our modesty and unjustified embarrassment came to an end.

Robert Kempner

AFTERMATH OF NUERNBERG

Recently, the son of a convicted War Criminal, who had been indicted in Nuernberg, wrote to me: "I will avoid no risk or effort to help prevent crimes like the 'Final Solution of the Jewish Question'..." Another man—a convicted War Criminal, who had served a long sentence—asked me some time ago whether I could name a number of institutions for the care of Nazi victims, where he could make financial contributions. And so he tried to make good. This is part of the "moral effect" of Nuernberg and some of the subsequent German trials. Nuernberg was a moral institution, not only a legal or historical one. Numerous moving pictures, lectures, and books and television programmes are part of this moral effect. I would like to mention two television shows, one on Auschwitz where young high school students participated in discussions in Germany, and where they put questions to former inmates, and a television programme on Lebensborn. The recent ratification of the German-French Agreement on the prosecution of Nazi criminals in Germany, already convicted *in absentia* in France, is another side of a high moral spirit.

For many Germans the prosecution of the war criminals was a kind of tranquiliser because prosecution of the culprits seemed to mean the innocence of the major part of the people. However, beginning in the early 'fifties an undercurrent trend for the revision of Nuernberg and all it stands for started to develop. The first open sign was the development of a big lobby of paid and unpaid friends and political followers of convicted war criminals. More than a hundred of those convicted in Nuernberg were prematurely released—without consulting the judges or prosecutors. It was falsely assumed that this would facilitate drawing the Germans into the Western camp during the cold war, but actually it detracted from the moral effect of Nuernberg. Shortly after came the flow of revisionist literature. Hitler was no longer regarded as the main aggressor. Documents were attacked as questionable. Some of the writings produced in Britain and France were praised in Germany by unreconstructed right radicals. Despite the fact that objective works on Nazism, like the books of Joachim Fest and Werner Maser, found a wide distribution, the anti-Nuernberg underground developed steadily.

During the year 1974 and the first months of 1975 a clique of right radical rabble rousers developed in various German cities partly around Frankfurt. In leaflets, booklets, brochures they propagandised the so-called "Auschwitz Lie", quoting apocryphal sources to prove that the crematory furnaces were nothing else than bakeries for the bread of inmates, only very few Jews had died in

Auschwitz. They went so far as to write that Hitler had nothing whatever to do with the death of Jews. Another slogan is that surviving Auschwitz inmates had been coached in Nuernberg and in German courts to commit perjury—despite the fact that the authentic documents are available in Munich, in the excellent Institut fuer Zeitgeschichte. This anti-Nuernberg clique even contends that the protocol about the so-called Wannsee Conference concerning the Final Solution of the Jewish Question—we discovered this in the files of the German Foreign Office—has been falsified. This anti-Nuernberg league consists of many persons in their forties, and a good part are very young persons. The clique in Germany, part of an international neo-Nazi set, tries to form a stab-in-the-back myth by German resistance fighters and to re-incarnate the falsified protocols of the Elders of Zion. Recently they even dared to make a demonstration on the thirty-third anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, in the neighbourhood of my Frankfurt office.

All this shows that the Battle for Nuernberg is not yet over.

Dr. Kempner was Deputy Chief of Counsel at the Nuernberg War Crimes Trials.—The Ed.

WAR CRIMINALS

The Immigration and Naturalisation Service is investigating 33 cases of alleged Nazi war criminals living in America. This was divulged by the deputy head of the INS, who told a Congressional sub-committee in Washington that there may be more than 30 Nazi war criminals living secretly in the U.S.A.

Ludwig Hahn, the former Gestapo leader once known as the "Hangman of Warsaw", was arrested in Schleswig-Holstein after the Federal Supreme Court rejected his appeal against a twelve-year gaol sentence imposed in Hamburg in June, 1973. A stay of sentence was granted by the Hamburg court on the ground of Hahn's poor health during the appeal procedures. Hahn, who was Nazi security chief in Warsaw during the Second World War, was convicted of complicity in the mass murder of Jews and other Polish civilians after a trial which lasted more than a year. Together with three former subordinates, Hahn is accused of deporting Warsaw Jews to Treblinka concentration camp and planning the operation.

ANNUITIES UNDER BEG

No Change in Tax Exemption

In view of a misleading announcement, recently published in a Sunday paper, it is repeated that the regulations of the Finance Act, 1974, do not affect the annuities ("Renten") paid under the Federal German Compensation Law (BEG) for damage to life, health or career. As already stated in several of our previous issues, the exemption of these payments from U.K. tax continues.

Greyhound Guaranty Limited

Bankers

5 GRAFTON STREET, MAYFAIR,
LONDON, W1X 3LB

Telephone: 01-629 1208

Telex: 24637 Cables: Greyty, London, W.1

HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

TORIES AND MIDDLE EAST

Labour and Tory MPs have expressed concern to Mrs. Margaret Thatcher about the pro-Arab trend in the Conservative Party, evidenced by the appointment of Mr Reginald Maudling as Shadow Foreign Secretary and the recent meeting between Lord Carrington and the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Mr. Leslie Huckfield, chairman of the parliamentary branch of the Labour Friends of Israel, asked Mrs. Thatcher whether the Carrington-Arafat meeting represented "a new departure" in Conservative foreign policy. Dr. Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North, also wrote to Mrs. Thatcher after several of his constituents had "expressed their fear that Mr. Maudling may follow a pro-Arab Middle East policy".

Mr. Michael Fidler, director of the newly-formed Conservative Friends of Israel, has described any talks with Arafat as "repugnant". He was certain, however, that no change of direction on the part of the Conservative Party should be inferred from this incident. The Conservative Friends of Israel, which now numbers 89 MPs and 19 peers, includes amongst its latest recruits Lord Avon (formerly Sir Anthony Eden), and Lord Fraser, a deputy chairman of the party.

ARAB BOYCOTT

Increasing concern is being felt by Israeli Embassy officials in London at attempts to extend the Arab boycott in Britain and at the feeble response so far from official and business circles. This question was taken up at a high level with the British Government some time ago, and was also one of the topics discussed during the recent meeting of Mr. Yigal Allon, Israel's Foreign Minister, with the Foreign Secretary, Mr. James Callaghan. It has now been placed on the agenda of a meeting, yet to be fixed, between the Trade Ministers of the two countries.

An Arab-British Joint Chamber of Commerce has been established in London headed by an Iraqi diplomat, Abdul Karim al Mudaris.

RACISTS

A deputation organised by the Committee to Stop Racism in Harrow told the Harrow Education Committee that it was undesirable for organisations inciting racial hatred, and thus breaking the Race Relations Act, to use education authority premises for meetings. As a result the Harrow Education Committee has asked its lawyers to look into the implications of banning racist organisations from using council premises for meetings.

Mr. Michael McLaughlin, the chairman of the British Movement, a breakaway group from the National Front, was convicted at Bury Magistrates' Court of stirring up racial hatred against the Jews during last October's election campaign.

"DIVIDED LOYALTIES"

Addressing the Anglo-Jewish Association in London on the question of divided loyalties, Lord Goodman reproached the community, himself not excepted, for having placed more emphasis and weight on the obligations arising from their loyalty as Englishmen than on their responsibilities as loyal Jews. He was especially regretful over what he described as "the horrible neglect" of the spiritual sources of Judaism and the almost total absence of a Jewish culture in this country.

Dayan Dr. I. Grunfeld questioned some of Lord Goodman's views about acknowledging loyalty to Israel. Mr. Ewen Montagu (who was sitting beside him), had once said that in case of a war between Britain and Israel he would have to fight on the side of Britain, and he was right. The basis of dual loyalties, said Dr. Grunfeld, could be overcome not on the basis of nationalism but only on the basis of a commitment to the overriding loyalty to mankind.

DANGERS IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Samuel Silkin's Warning

Speaking at a meeting commemorating the 32nd anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the six million Jewish martyrs of Nazism the Attorney-General, Mr. Samuel Silkin, QC, warned that if the time ever comes when a scapegoat is required here, there are those who would not find it difficult to represent Jewish faults and talents, failures and successes as a danger to our way of life. He believed it was almost inconceivable that such a situation could arise, but "one can't rule anything out". He had in mind the state of the German economy in the 1920s, when unemployment and inflation were rife. Although unlikely, such conditions could bring about similar prejudices in Britain.

Mr. Simon Frisner, chairman of the Polish Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, who presided, asserted that the world had not greatly improved since the days of the battle of the Warsaw Ghetto. Genocide was not a thing of the past. A new Auschwitz was possible if we were not on guard against anti-semitism or anti-Zionism.

As in previous years, the AJR was one of the supporting organisations of the memorial meeting.

CLUB PREMISES FOR PRO-ARABS

The Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (Caabu), held a three-day seminar on "The Future of Palestine" at the National Liberal Club. Mr. Rudolph Detsiny, who is a Jew and has been a member of the club for over 25 years and its senior vice-chairman since 1973, resigned from his post in protest against the club's agreement to hire its premises to the pro-Arab pressure group for the meeting.

Mr. C. Bilson, the club secretary, said that several other members had protested against the permission granted and that a huge majority of the 2,500 members probably disagreed with the views of Caabu. But, said Mr. Bilson, the club had sympathy for minority opinion, and was not associated with the many diverse opinions expressed in its rooms.

The Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain

invites members and friends to the

GENERAL MEETING

on Tuesday, June 17, at 7.45 p.m.

at Hannah Karminski House,

9 Adamson Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3

I

Report on AJR Activities

Treasurer's Report

Election of Executive and Board

(The list of candidates submitted by the Executive will be published in the next issue.)

II

MISS LUCIE SCHACHNE

Administrative Officer of the Camden Committee for Community Relations will speak on

STRIKING NEW ROOTS

Pre-war Refugees and Post-war Immigrants

Non-members are not entitled to vote, but are welcome as guests at the meeting.

Plan for "Community of the Future"

Addressing a dinner of the B'nai B'rith First Lodge at Hillel House, Chief Rabbi Jakobovits talked of the shortcomings and deficiencies of the present communal structure and communal leadership. Both, he said, were out of tune with the younger generation and, above all, with the intellectuals in the community. For many people they had become too archaic, rigid, remote and irrelevant for the requirements of the present age. The Chief Rabbi called for a Beveridge-type plan which would combine the vision of the "hoped-for Anglo-Jewish community of the future" with a realistic reassessment of its priorities based on current communal and social needs. To ensure the survival of the community, the "professionalisation" of the communal civil service was required, together with the greater involvement of the community membership at large in those services.

Violence Deplored

Lord Fisher, the president of the Board of Deputies, told a meeting of the board that the use of violence—however great the provocation—must be "unhesitatingly and unequivocally deplored". He referred to press reports that a small group of people had been creating disturbances at anti-Israel meetings and film shows, and sympathised with "the feelings of Jews who heard Judaism and Zionism equated with Nazism". All this, however, did not justify violent action and free speech had to be maintained. It was the duty of the authorities to preserve a well-ordered society.

Jews' College in Difficulties

A memorandum submitted by Mr Bernard Garbacz, treasurer of Jews' College, to a closed meeting of the finance and public relations committee, highlights the "disastrous deficit" of nearly £58,000 during the year ended last September. Mr Garbacz gave an ultimatum that either the college sells its five-storey premises in Central London and conducts its activities on a reduced scale, or he would resign immediately.

Two members of the Jews' college council—the Rev. Dr. Isaac Levy and Professor Domb—have come out strongly in support of Mr. Garbacz's suggestion to sell the present premises and move the college to smaller premises in Golders Green. Chief Rabbi Jakobovits also feels that there may be much merit in the suggestion. But, he said, if every member of the college council undertook to raise just a couple of thousand pounds a year, as do similar committees for Israeli universities, yeshivot and seminaries, the entire problem would be easily resolved without panic measures.

Jewish School Needs Pupils

The headmaster of Birmingham's King David Primary School has appealed for a greater number of Jewish parents to send their children to the school. Mr. R. E. Levy thought it sad that a relatively small number of Jewish parents took advantage of the excellent facilities and services offered by the school. Since the school did not consist entirely of Jewish children, it often happened that bright non-Jewish children received prizes for Hebrew and religion.

"Extravagant Simchas"

A group of rabbis in the Golders Green and Hendon area have condemned the "unseemly extravagance" of barmitzvah and wedding celebrations. In sermons and on posters the rabbis have declared that lavish spending is "contrary to the Spirit of the Torah" and provokes "widespread jealousy and animosity".

NEWS FROM ABROAD

NEW YORK JOBS DISCRIMINATION

A report last year prepared by the staff of the chancellor of the City University of New York criticised individual colleges for not recruiting enough non-New Yorkers, and also recommended that more Blacks and women should be taken on to faculty staffs.

The American Jewish Congress and others have expressed concern that the university's attempt quietly to "diversify" its faculty by engaging fewer New Yorkers is resulting in discrimination against Jews. Many graduates of colleges and universities in New York are Jewish, and any policy which limits the opportunities of such graduates would inevitably affect the chances of Jews for faculty positions, the executive director of the AJC states. "By emphasising non-New York graduates, this policy would be discriminatory against Jews in effect, though we trust that this is not the intent".

BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT

The Brazilian Democratic Movement, the only opposition party recognised by the Brazilian military rulers, won its biggest success in Sao Paulo State in the recent elections when Mr. Alberto Goldmann, a 37-year-old Jewish civil engineer and leader of the Movement, was elected to the State Legislature. The political police in Sao Paulo State now allege that Mr. Goldmann was elected with the aid of a "Jewish section" of the Brazilian Communist Party. Brazil's Jewish community of some 165,000 is unaware of such a section, and the movement has denied that it is linked with the Communist Party which is illegal in Brazil.

Two Jews have been appointed members of the new Government of Sao Paulo State, Dr. Jose Ephim Mindlin who has taken over as Secretary for Culture and Education, and Professor George Wilheim who is Secretary for Planning. In Brazil's southern Parana State Dr. Saul Raiz has been appointed Mayor of Curitiba, the capital. The Jewish community, in the affairs of which Dr. Raiz has been active, today totals about 400 families.

ARGENTINA

Memorial Meeting Banned

Authorities in Cordoba have banned a Warsaw Memorial Meeting planned by DAIA, the central organisation of Argentine Jewry. The official reason for the ban was given as "technical", involving security. The Cordoba provincial police claimed that it lacked sufficient personnel to prevent likely disturbances. (JTA).

"White Slaves and Drugs"

The National Movement, a new political party founded in Argentina's northern province of Tucuman, states in its declaration of principles that the white slave trade and drugs are two instruments of Zionist imperialism to corrupt "improvident youth".

PORTUGUESE UPHEAVALS

With the strengthening of the Left-wing forces in Portugal, the Portuguese Government has made it clear that it sympathises with the Third World and the Arab countries. Portuguese Ministers are paying visits to Arab States and are attempting to strengthen the ties with them. There are 500 Jews in Portugal, 400 in Lisbon and 100 in Oporto. Many are businessmen and face economic difficulties. As a result of the upheavals, a number of Jewish families have decided to leave the country, though no Jew has been molested because he is a Jew.

POPE PIUS XII

Pope Paul VI, addressing a huge crowd in St. Peter's Square, again defended the memory of Pope Pius XII, who took office in March, 1939. Pope Pius XII has been condemned for not protesting against the Nazi massacre of the Jews of Europe during the Second World War and other atrocities. He has also been accused of knowing in advance that the Nazis were going to deport the Jews of Rome to concentration camps and remaining silent.

Pope Paul claimed that Pius had always done everything possible to save human lives "even at the most dangerous and tragic moments".

FONTAINEBLEAU DESECRATION

Police are seeking those responsible for overturning and desecrating some 40 tombstones in the Jewish cemetery at Fontainebleau. A delegation of town councillors, headed by the Mayor, visited Judge Louis Guthmann, president of the Fontainebleau Jewish community, to express their "disgust, reprobation and outrage at such an act of vandalism". M. Piniatowski, the Interior Minister, has been asked by M. Jeanne-Pierre Bloch, the president of the International League Against Racism and Antisemitism, to safeguard the Fontainebleau community of some 250 families.

DUTCH CHALLENGE DISCRIMINATION

The Dutch Premier, Mr. Joop den Uyl, announced in the Dutch Parliament that the visit to Riyadh by the Dutch Foreign Minister, Mr. Max van der Stoep would be postponed indefinitely, and the Dutch Government would regret a negative reaction by the Saudi Arabian Government to this postponement. Saudi Arabia refused to grant a visa to a Dutch Jewish journalist among the press party due to accompany the Foreign Minister, and Mr. den Uyl said at a press conference at The Hague that his Government's decision had been taken on humanitarian grounds.

OLD AGE HOMES IN SWITZERLAND

To provide sufficient accommodation for Jewish elderly people in Zurich, it is planned to erect an Old Age Home with a special wing for the ailing. It is estimated that about 1,800 Jewish residents of the city are over 65 years old and that at least 180 of them will require accommodation in a Home. The present facilities in the Jewish homes in Lengnau (Aargau) and Zurich with a capacity of altogether 110 beds are therefore considered as insufficient.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

Gorta Radiovision Service

(Member R.T.R.A.)

13 Frognaal Parade,
Finchley Road, N.W.3
SALES REPAIRS

We can provide a quick and
efficient Colour Television
Service.
(435 8635)

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

FRANCO-GERMAN CRIMES PACT RATIFIED

After four years, West Germany has ratified the 1971 Franco-West German convention for the prosecution of her citizens sentenced *in absentia* by French courts for Nazi crimes committed during the Second World War.

RELEASE OF NAZIS SOUGHT

A "Working Committee of United Groups to Help the Past German Prisoners-of-War and Germans Sentenced for War Crimes" has been formed in West Germany.

Dr. Alfred Seidl, a Munich lawyer and representative of many Nazi criminals since the Second World War, has been appointed State Secretary of the Bavarian Ministry of Justice. Formerly the legal representative of Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy, who is still detained in Spandau Prison in West Berlin, he is succeeded by Dr. Ewald Bucher, a former West German Minister of Justice. Dr. Bucher heads the "Freedom for Rudolf Hess Actions Group".

INCREASE OF JEWISH POPULATION

According to statistics, published in the March issue of the bulletin of the Zentralrat of the Jews in Germany, the Jewish population in the German Federal Republic increased from 26,772 on January 1, 1974, to 27,199 on January 1, 1975. This is mainly due to the immigration of 1,301 persons. On the other hand, 455 Jews left Germany and the losses by death amounted to 525, whereas there were only 80 births. The largest communities are Berlin (5,493) and Frankfurt/M (5,009).

HELPERS TO PERSECUTEES HONOURED

The "Zentralverband demokratischer Widerstandskämpfer- und Verfolgtenorganisationen (ZDWV)" has awarded the honorary membership to four personalities in recognition of their work for the persecutees. They are the director of the International Tracing Centre of the Red Cross in Arolsen, Albert de Cocatrix, the chairman of the documentation centre for damage to health after imprisonment and persecution in Cologne, Dr. med. Hans-Joachim Herberg, Bundesrichter Martin Hirsch (formerly chairman of the Federal Parliamentary Committee on compensation) and Rechtsanwalt Dr. Robert Kempner.

AUSTRIAN ANTISEMITIC PROPAGANDA

Open antisemitic propaganda seems to be spreading in Austria. At the University of Salzburg neo-Nazi students, in the absence of the rector, opened an exhibition dealing with the alleged "crimes of world Jewry". When it was closed by the rector, the organisers appealed to a local court for an injunction against him.

The independent Salzburger Nachrichten, Austria's biggest provincial daily, published an article about "Zionist Terrorism", also demanding measures to censure the correspondent in Israel of the Austrian Broadcasting Network for alleged pro-Israel bias.

BURGTHEATER CANCELLATION

The cancellation of the scheduled visit to Israel by Vienna's famous Burgtheater has been attributed to political reasons. The leading Vienna newspaper, Kronen-Zeitung, declared that the cancellation was not due to the fear of certain actors of being exposed to terrorist attacks in Israel, as had been claimed, but the Government's desire to appease Afro-Asian and Arab countries. Jewish circles in Vienna feel that the whole affair will retard the hitherto promising development of cultural relations with Israel. Other groups due to visit Israel shortly, have reiterated their determination to carry out their engagements.

Herbert Freedman

"TODAY IS V-DAY"

A Reminiscence of 1945

Before me lies a London newspaper with the dateline May 8, 1945, headed by an 8-column streamer "Today is V-Day". "Scenes in the West End assumed a fantastic air," added a local reporter, "with nightfall, hundreds of bonfires threw a lurid glow into the clouds, reminiscent of the 'fire-raising' raids on London of 1940-41."

The day of rejoicing and exultation found the Jews in a sombre mood. Among the conflicting feelings there was, of course, thankfulness for the hour of deliverance and for the victory of justice, but the liberation of Nazi-occupied Europe during the preceding months had already revealed the depth and extent of the Nazis' crime. The lid was lifted from the cauldron that was the Continent and its stench filled the nostrils of the world. Who would ever forget the anxious days when hope mingled with fear, children were frantically searching for their parents, and parents for their children; when the offices of Jewish organisations were besieged by queues eager to see the lists of persons reported safe and praying that their own beloved ones would be miraculously among the survivors?

On that day of May 1945, 9 million refugees and "displaced persons" were found on German soil—3 million Poles; 2.6 million Russians; 1.8 million Frenchmen; 750,000 Czechs and Slovaks; 100,000 Belgians; 100,000 Dutchmen and 60,000 Scandinavians. When UNRRA ceased operations in 1947, it had repatriated and resettled respectively 7 million of those 9 million people.

At the end of 1945, there were about 100,000 Jews in the D.P. camps in Germany and Austria, and another 25,000 in Italy. The Jews returning to their former homes, were not always received with open arms. The worst experiences were suffered by Polish Jews coming back to their native towns. An underground organisation of Polish Fascists, the "Armija Krajowa", launched systematic attacks on Jews in all parts of the country, with the active aid of the population, to force the survivors to emigrate. Pogroms flared up in dozens of places, the worst one in Kielce when 42 Jews were killed and 60 injured. No wonder that a mass exodus of Jews from Poland followed which swelled the D.P. camps by another 100,000.

During the war, over 26 million soldiers, sailors and airmen were killed in action. Yet civilian losses were hardly less than those of all the opposing fighting forces. It was a war against women and children as much as against men. 8,010,000 civilians were killed in East and South-East Europe; 3,350,000 in Germany, including those persecuted for their race, religion, and political creed; 690,000 in the Western countries; and 190,000 in Italy and Austria—together with the Far East theatre of war making the frightful total of almost 25 million civilians killed. The total losses—both military and civilian—in the Second World War were, therefore, near to 51 million.

The figures of the civilian casualties include the Jews who were murdered by the Nazis. It is due to this fact that in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe civilian losses were eight times larger than those sustained by the armed combatants. Excluding the Far East, Jewish dead constituted one-third of all civilian casualties. 6,093,000 Jews perished

during the war, making 73.4 per cent of the Jewish population in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Looking through the London paper of 30 years ago, I found the following passage: "Yet, though we are fully entitled to rejoice, our jubilation is likely to be tempered. We have emerged alive from the perilous phase of a crisis that has been convulsing the world for a generation. That crisis continues. The battle is not over because the guns are silent; it is transferred from the generals to the statesmen, from the common soldiers to the common people..."

Belated Victory Parade

The historic Victory Parade in London took place not immediately after the end of the European war, but more than a year later, on the 8th of June, 1946. The psychological moment for such a show had long passed. The invitation of the British Government to Russia, made in February 1946, was not answered; only at the end of May, after several diplomatic inquiries, came the final refusal. Warsaw, too, cancelled its participation at the last moment. The new world conflict was already casting its shadows. Others were not present either. One missed the French maquis, the Italian guerillas, the Greek partisans.

Palestine was placed within the "Colonial Empire", between the Police of North Borneo and the Regiment of St. Helena. It was represented by 16 members of the Transjordan Frontier Force, by 15 Palestine policemen (7 Britishers, 4 Jews and 4 Arabs) and a detachment of the Palestine Regiment, led by Lieut. Y. Granowsky, with a Jewish sergeant and 16 men—eight Jews and eight Arabs. The climax came with the march past of the Jewish Brigade. They occupied an excellent place, following directly upon the crack units of the Parachutists and Commandos. They made a fine impression marching under the blue and white banner with the Star of David. The Brigade was represented by 24 soldiers in all, led by Lt. Col. Ephraim Ben-Arzi and Capt. M. Saudinsky. It was as if behind them marched invisibly all those who were entitled to take part in this historic procession—the Ghetto fighters and partisans, the survivors of Auschwitz and the other camps—the army of the unknown Jewish martyrs...

Your House for:—

**CURTAINS, CARPETS,
FLOORCOVERINGS**

SPECIALITY

**CONTINENTAL DOWN
QUILTS**

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS

ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

(Established 1946)

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK
Telephone: 904 6671

Personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM, LONDON

Sumptuous is the only word that can be used adequately to describe the recently published catalogue of the Jewish Museum, London.* It contains some 1,200 fully documented entries with 19 colour plates and over 200 pages of photographs. As the late Cecil Roth says in the Introduction: "There can be no doubt that the Jewish Museum in London has played an important part in the revival of interest in Jewish ritual art which has become so marked in recent years." And he goes on to lament the Jewish museums in Germany that have ceased to exist.

The catalogue itself is divided into four sections and also has specialist monographs by Natalie Rothstein on Textiles and Arthur Grimwade on Silver. The emphasis is a collection of this kind is, of course, on Anglo-Judaica, but Jewry knows no territorial boundaries and the collection contains many fascinating items from the Continent.

The most important German group of objects is the Kahn collection of textiles (ark curtains, mantles and binders) dating from the mid-seventeenth to the late nineteenth century, which was assembled in Southern Germany before the Second World War and acquired from the Kahn family in 1967. It seems likely that most of these textiles come from Ashkenazi communities in and around Germany, Alsace, Switzerland and the Low Countries. Places mentioned in the inscriptions include Antwerp, Steinach, Weideburg and Rot.

The collection of ritual objects is large and varied and many are of old German manufacture, including silver cups and other objects made in Augsburg. Of particular interest is the Hebra Kadisha Cup of Schwabach which is a silver gilt beaker and cover engraved with very many names of members of the association, including members of the Katzenellenbogen, Heilbron, Häusner, Ginzburg and other families. It was made by Johann Conrad Weiss in Nuremberg about 1700.

Of books there are not a large quantity since the museum is not primarily a library, but of special interest is the "Emden" prayer book written by Rabbi Meir b. Solomon Reinbach of London in 1753 and donated to the Hambro Synagogue by Selig, son of David Emden. Little but excelling in pure charm are the illustrations in the Miniature Book of Benedictions for Daily Use, scribe unknown, but dated Frankfurt-a-Main, 1734. It was executed by Zachariah Fränkel, son of Koppel Segal Fränkel of Fürth and his bride Frumet Kahn, daughter of Rabbi Moses Kahn, Klaus-rabbiner of Frankfurt and Chief Rabbi of Darmstadt. It also contains a most interesting list of subsequent owners.

Pictures include one of Zwi Ashkenazi, Chief Rabbi of Hamburg, painted in London in 1714, and one of Isaac Löw Würmser (1768-1813), the Baal Shem of Michelstadt.

Among the large collection of medals, tokens, seals, etc. is one dedicated to Gabriel Riesser and inscribed "Dem Streiter für Recht und Freiheit Dr. Gabriel Riesser seine Hamburgischen Glaubengenossen MDCCCXX-XVI", and also the seal of the Hebra Kadisha of the Bechofen congregation.

These are but a few highlights of a large and varied collection. The catalogue itself, imposing in size and appearance, is well-worth possessing simply for browsing in and for occasional reference, but it is an essential tool for anyone seriously interested in the appurtenances and ritual art of the Jews.

W. M. SCHWAB

* Catalogue of the Jewish Museum, London. Published by Harvey Miller for the Jewish Museum, pp. xxvi, 414, illustrations, index, London 1974, £15.

J. J. Maitlis

A CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE MARRANOS

The historian's difficulty is at times caused not so much by the scarcity of historical material, but by its over-abundance. The student of history knows that history writing is not merely an accumulation of historical facts and data; it requires critical analysis, a sifting and careful selection of the available material, in order to obtain a true and more realistic picture of the past. The merit of Prof. Salo Baron, the noted historian and sociologist, is that his voluminous history of the Jews is selective as well as cumulative, analytical and at the same time synthetic. In particular is this the case in his recent volume (XV),* in which he is dealing with Jewish life in all its aspects and facets, situations and events, countless sufferings and achievements at the close of the Middle Ages, and thus leading up to the beginning of a new era of unprecedented changes in the fortunes of Jews in Western Europe at the turn of the 17th century. The sociologist Baron is also emphasising the process of interrelation between Jews and the nations among whom they lived. Jewish history, regardless of its traditional uniqueness, has always been part of world history, culturally as well as economically. This was naturally also the case in the period under review.

The present volume of Baron's history deals at length with the post-expulsion period of Jews from Spain (1492) and recounts in great detail the vicissitudes and tribulations of the New Christians, the Marranos, in the Spanish homeland and in the vast dominions overseas. The Spanish empire was at its height, a great world power with its wealth and grandeur. However, in the course of the 17th century Spain lost its momentum and started to decline. On the international horizon new forces of some Western European countries emerged and assumed the politico-economic leadership in the Western World. The change opened up new, untold opportunities for the economic and social advancement of Jews among the newly emergent nations. It was the beginning of a new era in Jewish history.

Militant Church

But mediaeval Spain with its militant church continued to persecute and terrorise all those who became suspect of non-conformity in matters of religious belief and practice. The old battle-cry of a Christian Spain for the Spanish people brought in its wake untold abuse and sufferings to the New Christians, the Marranos, who in the eyes of a fanatical and greedy clergy became suspect of secret Judaization. The long arm of the established "Holy Office" of the Inquisition had recourse to every imaginable means of punishment, from excommunication to torture and burning at the stake, against all those who were accused as renegades and apostates. This was the lot of the Marranos not only on the Iberian peninsula but also in the New World where some of them escaped to from the clutches of the merciless Inquisition at home. To be sure, the discovery of new lands opened fresh outlets for the harassed Marranos, whose tireless energy and enterprise secured for them, at least for some time, havens of refuge in their recurrent emergencies.

It is a sorrowful, sad picture, which Baron unrolls before us, of the tragic fate of the Marranos in the colonial empire of Spain. Spied upon, denounced by their fanatical enemies and relentlessly persecuted by the inquisitorial bureaucracy, no place could be considered safe. But, Baron reminds us, as so often in Jewish history, tribulations and agonising sufferings stiffened the resistance of this significant minority of potential martyrs. "Defying all dangers, they continued to cultivate their ancestral faith in the secrecy of their homes, carrying the perennial struggle like their ancestors, between 'history' and 'nature', between eternal hope and endurance".

Secret Judaizers

It seems that struggle and endurance of the secret Judaizers in the New World had their effect on some Indian groups who became impressed by their teaching and practices. Soon, Baron tells us, a romantic notion spread that the Indians were the descendants of the Ten Lost Tribes in ancient Israel. The theory that the Indians descended from the ten tribes was further elaborated by English colonizers. It went so far that this hypothesis gained wide circulation in Europe, and at the beginning of the 17th century books and tracts were published on the subject. There were even reports that some Indians could recite the "Shema" prayer. For historical reasons, it should be mentioned that the identification of the Indians with the Ten Lost Tribes played a certain role in Manasseh ben Israel's negotiations with Oliver Cromwell for the readmission of Jews to England.

In settling down in the vast overseas territories under Spanish and Portuguese rule, the New Christians were from the outset an important asset to the economy of those lands. Baron highlights in particular the novel international role played by the Marranos in world trade and finance. Apart from capital they brought along with them industrial know-how, mercantile expertise and an enterprising spirit. Of great importance was also their cultural contribution, as many of the New Christians came from well-educated circles in the Iberian peninsula. It is estimated that by the middle of the 17th century some 2-3,000 Judaizers lived in New Spain within a total white population of about 20,000.

However, not all of the New Christian settlers were rich. Many belonged to the lower classes, consisting of farmers, artisans, miners, pedlars, shopkeepers, officials and even monks. But the wealth of some leading Marrano merchants has always aroused the inquisitor's greed and whetted his insatiable appetite. To be sure, it was not always the concern about the purity of the Christian belief which brought the Marranos to the stake, but often the covetousness of their fortune. The victim had to pay with his life as well as with his property which went into the coffers of the Church and State.

No different was the lot of the Marranos in Portugal and its overseas possessions. Yet, by a clever military stroke (and perhaps with some clandestine Marrano help) in the early part of the 17th century the Dutch conquered an important part of Brazil, liberating the Marranos from the throes of the Inquisition. It was the Dutch who helped to establish the first professing Jewish community in

the South-American continent. The unprecedented religious freedom offered by them, and the manifold industrial and economic opportunities for all settlers, were a great inducement for many new immigrants. Under a tolerant and vigorous administration many Jews from all over the world settled in Recife, in the newly conquered Dutch possession in Brazil. Here, as in so many other places, the Jews played a notable role in advancing trade and mercantile expansion of the colony, and helped in the development of the Brazilian sugar industry with a flourishing export to Europe. Professor Baron also mentions the significant cultural contributions of the Jews to the colony under Dutch rule. The first Hebrew author in the New World was Isaac ben David Aboab who went over to Recife from Amsterdam in 1641 to become the spiritual leader of the congregation, joined by his colleague Moses Raphael de Aguiar in the ministry.

The community in Brazil grew continuously and consisted of settlers from a variety of countries: Marranos from Spain and professing Jews from Italy, Turkey, the Barbary States, and even from Germany and Poland. Here Ashkenazim joined Sephardic Jews who, together with the Marranos, brought with them to the New World extensive contacts and considerable experience in international trade. It is estimated that by 1645 the total number of Jews reached about 1450, or one half of the entire white population in the colony.

New Centres in Europe

A highly interesting first chapter of the present volume deals in a comprehensive manner with the conditions of Jews in the Netherlands before and after the Peace Treaty of Westphalia in 1648 which ended the Thirty Years War. New Christians, followed later by professing Jews, settled in Holland in the latter part of the 16th century and promoted intensively the overseas expansion of Holland with its increasing trade and commerce. In general, Prof. Baron is of the opinion that by their influence on Europe's major money markets and commercial centres, from Antwerp, Amsterdam to Leghorn and Venice, Marranos and Jews were in a strategic position to serve the international trade and, at the same time, shape their own fortunes in a world of great changes. Soon new opportunities for their own participation in the mainstream of European politics and economics arose. Of great importance was also their close relation to the Sephardi Jews in the countries of Islam and the Ottoman Empire in particular, which led at an early period to inter-relations between the Old and New World.

In the transformation of Jewish history Holland assumed a leading role. After the hard and long struggle against the rule of mighty Spain, the Dutch finally achieved their independence and could politically and socially make a fresh start. It was a meteoric start. "By defying the ruling powers of the Spanish Church and state", Prof. Baron states, the Dutch severed completely their mediaeval legal ties with the Holy Roman Empire. Indeed, as Baron stresses, it was a revolutionary uprising against constituted authority which broke theologically with the past and produced a secularisation of politics. It was in the country's interest to transcend the sectarian divisions and to view the position of the Jews in the light of the newly emergent socio-political realities. Soon the

* *A Social and Religious History of the Jews*, by Salo Wittmayer Baron. Volume xv. Columbia University Press, New York and London, 1973. £7.50.

A CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE MARRANOS

Continued from page 6

time had come to rescind some disabilities under which the Jews had long suffered.

Already by the 1590s a Jewish settlement had been established in Amsterdam which in a few generations was to develop "into the largest Jewish community" in Western Europe. Holland's dynamic economic advancement and new opportunities attracted many Marranos and soon also professing Jews, who in the liberal, tolerant Dutch climate had become a great asset to the economy of the country. Jewish businessmen with their international trade connections provided an important link with the centres of commerce and finance all over.

Flourishing Amsterdam Community

As we know, Jews were, however, not only engaged in trade and business, but at the same time also followed lofty, intellectual pursuits. The flourishing Jewish community in Amsterdam consisted not only of prosperous merchants and financiers, but also of many artisans, pedlars, traders, rabbis and doctors. Among the various branches of industrial and mercantile activities, in which Jews played a significant role, was the printing and book trade. Jews established their own printing presses and soon Amsterdam became an important publication centre of books in Hebrew, Ladino and Yiddish, as well as in Spanish, Portuguese and other Western languages. It is of interest to note that Menasseh ben Israel, the communal rabbi and writer of repute, was also engaged in proof-reading.

The Amsterdam Jewish community was also the seat of some great rabbinical authorities and outstanding intellectuals, of men of letters and philosophers. Here we find the well-known Rabbi Jacob Sasportas, a native of Algerian Oran, who accompanied Menasseh ben Israel on his historic mission to Oliver Cromwell in 1655, and remained in London for a decade to officiate as the spiritual leader of the newly established Jewish community in England. Another outstanding man was the polyhistor Joseph Solomon Dolmedigo of Candia in Crete, known as "Yashar". Among the medical luminaries was Abraham Zacuto Lusitano, possibly a relative of his namesake, the famous astronomer, historian of the Spanish expulsion. However, outstanding among them all was Baruch (Benedict) Spinoza, the man of great intellectual eminence who was ultimately excommunicated by the rigid control of the rabbis and the communal elders. Mention should also be made of Uriel da Costa, the Portuguese Marrano, whom Baron calls "that fascinating, if erratic, searcher of truth". It was a truly amazing number of Marranos and other fugitive Jews from various lands, men of extraordinary intellect and character who, at the dawn of the new era in Jewish history, lived in the relatively small community of Amsterdam, which Prof. Baron rightly calls the "Dutch Jerusalem".

BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER
Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS

Always interested in purchasing
well-preserved instruments.

JAIQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.

142 Edgware Road, W.2
Tel.: 723 8818/9.

Hans I. Bach

ON THOMAS MANN'S SIDE

Katia Mann, Thomas Mann's widow who, in a family of writers and actors, made a point of never writing herself, was at last persuaded to dictate her recollections, now published as a charming slender book with an appendix of photographs*.

Now ninety, still vigorously in command of her household, she speaks with a marvellous freshness and immediacy, sensible and frank, shrewd and practical. Her youth was spent in Victorian Munich where her parents kept a large, sociable house: her Jewish father, Alfred Pringsheim, professor of mathematics, was an early devotee of Richard Wagner but out of favour at the Wahfried circle because they wanted to avoid a scandal, when irascible, he hit a man who made disparaging remarks about his hero with a beer glass, and was nicknamed "Schoppenhauer" (lit. "hitter with a pint glass" but, of course a pun on the philosopher Schopenhauer). Her beautiful mother was the daughter of Ernst Dohm, the editor of the "Kladderadatsch", and of Hedwig Dohm, novelist and one of the early suffragettes, both of whom also of Jewish origin. Young Katia went to theatres and parties in the company of her four brothers, and this is how Thomas Mann first met her: when he was fourteen years old he had cut out a painting by Kaulbach of the five children as pierrots and a pierette, widely reproduced, and fixed it over his writing desk, without of course knowing who the sitters were. He first met Katia in a tram in Munich where she had an argument with the conductor who wanted her ticket which, about to leave at her stop, she had already thrown away. She evidently got the better of

* Katia Mann: *Meine ungeschriebenen Memoiren*. Edited by Elisabeth Plessen and Michael Mann. S. Fischer, Frankfurt, 1974. DM 19.80.

it for he called after her: "Go, you fury!"

Even though quite a number of Jews are mentioned, they are rarely referred to as such. The young couple while engaged went to Berlin. Katia's uncle Hermann Rosenberg, director of a large bank, gave a dinner in their honour, and one of the guests, Maximilian Harden, the famous editor of "Die Zukunft", of great political influence, said how pleased he had been to see "the two nice young people"; Thomas Mann did not like being called that. Then they went to her grandparents Pringsheim "who were very wealthy. They asked immediately: Now, Tommy, what do you wish for? He said: 'Oh, as a matter of fact, I do not have a good watch'". (He got a gold watch that did not need to be rewound or cleaned.) Katia Pringsheim disapproves of the order of precedence at the parties of the painter Stuck in Munich, with different tables for aristocrats, distinguished people and "the dregs", a Jewish professor and his ugly wife being placed at the last. She mentions Alfred Kerr's unsuccessful wooing of her, reflected in his venom against Thomas Mann. Of Gustav Mahler, the novelist said it was really the first time that he felt he had met a great man. Their long and warm friendship with Bruno Walter began with a telephone complaint that Klaus Mann had pulled the hair of his daughter Gretel. Old feuds are vividly recalled, such as that of Thomas Mann with Theodor Lessing; he had offended Samuel Lublinski, the book critic of the Berliner Tageblatt, the only one who had praised the "Buddenbrooks", with a sneering antisemitic article, "all the more out of place as Lessing was a Jew himself". Thomas Mann intended to put him into the centre of a novel as a "wretch".

The book abounds in literary anecdotes from pre-Hitler Germany and the America of refugees. The publisher Sammy Fischer always expected Katia Mann to appear with "a dagger in her gown" ("den Dolch im Gewande"), showing how resolutely she looked after their material interests, also evidenced by examples of her common-sense advice. She says that she did not collaborate in her husband's books, even though her letters from a sanatorium in Davos gave him many details of the "Magic Mountain". She was quick to spot models such as Georg Lukacs, the communist critic, for Naphta, and "Tommy", who used to read any new chapter to her, was often grateful for her criticism of details. In America she certainly saved his life when, at 70, in the middle of work on "Doktor Faustus", he got a malignant tumour of the lung. The doctor wanted to tell him the truth at once, which she prevented. She had him rushed by plane to Chicago and operated on at once. But she could likewise tactfully remain in the background: she never accompanied her husband on the long walks during which he planned the next steps in his writing. She probably was to him too what she confesses having been in her parents' house: "a little sunshine".



HOUSE OF HALLGARTEN
53/79 Highgate Road, London, NW5 1RR

Choose Hallgarten—Choose Fine Wines

BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

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

Letters to the Editor

ISRAEL AND "WORLD OPINION"

Sir,—I am, to put it mildly, amazed at the conclusions drawn by Dr. Weltsch in his "Meditations on Pesach", published as the leading article of your previous issue.

Based on and undoubtedly influenced by Noah Lucas's book, Dr. Weltsch says that "the victory and ruthless attitude (?? my question mark) alienated large parts of world opinion" and continues: "Israel had the sympathies of a great part of the world for the Jews struggling after the holocaust . . . because this feeling lasted as long as they were objects of compassion".

Sir, world opinion as expressed in the built-in majority of the (In-) Security Council and in the General Assembly of the (Dis-) United Nations is the opinion of the Russian and Communist dominated and influenced Afro-Asian countries, and the sympathies of the Western European countries are influenced by the oil crisis and the billions of Arab money.

We do not want to have the compassion of the world after a second holocaust—we have every reason to work and pray for an Israel that can defend herself. And as to the millions of Arabs, quoted by Dr. Weltsch, what about the expropriation and murder of Jews, in Syria, Iraq, Egypt and other Arab countries?

May I draw your and Dr. Weltsch's attention to the item on page 4 of the same April issue, headed "Jerusalem Pastor's Protest to U.N." The Evangelical Pastor, Dr. Duvernoy sent an open letter to Dr. Waldheim (ex-officer in the Hitler German Army) in which he stated that the attitude taken at the General Assembly was "more detestable than Munich".

Hijacking by Arafat & Co., murder, black-mail, resulted in a standing ovation by the majority of delegates. Are these the people whom Dr. Weltsch considers as "world opinion"?

There is one sentence on which I agree with Dr. Weltsch: This, "stiff-necked people" will overcome difficult situations, because "Am Yisroel Chay".

F. J. WILLIE GERTLER.

37 Campbell Court,
Queen's Gate Gardens,
London, SW7 4PD.

Dr. R. WELTSCH writes:

With regard to the letter of your correspondent I want to confine my comment to two points.

1. His "question mark": What I actually said was "ruthless attitude necessarily following from the situation", i.e. inherent in every prolonged occupation regime; he omitted this qualification.

2. Naturally "we pray for an Israel that can defend herself", but in my and many Zionists' opinion the repeated proclamation of Israel's leaders that the Jews can go it alone, against the whole world, even losing her last and only supporter, has never been valid Zionist doctrine; it is not only unrealistic, but plainly dangerous.

Sir,—Though I greatly admire Dr. Weltsch, his article in your April issue cannot remain uncontradicted. Dr. Weltsch's views have not changed when a small group in Israel in the 1940s favoured a bi-national State. Though the last 30 years have clearly shown that this idea was dead from the start, the protagonists of this course still judge the developments in Israel by this standard. It is, of course, impossible to discuss political questions with such rigid—and I must regretfully add, blind—moralists, but it must be said that there was never even one Arab of importance who accepted the tenets of a bi-national State. The history of the last 30 years should have shown Dr. Weltsch the break-up of interconnected communities who had lived for centuries side by side, each seeking their own national instrument: Belgium, Cyprus, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, just to name a few which are mentioned daily in our papers.

In spite of that I would not have written to you, but for an observation which is blatantly ambiguous and misleading. He spoke of "some action such as the evacuation of a million Arabs from the territory claimed by the Jewish State and the strict prohibition to return to their homes". Evacuation is a media vox and can mean either that the Arabs took to flight, on their own free will, whatever the reason, or that the Israelis drove them out. What does he mean? I have no doubt how the paid and unpaid lobbyists of the Arabs will take it.

The version that the Jews drove the Arabs out, is just a legend. I still remember the speech in 1948 by the then Labour Colonial Secretary Thomas who gloatingly assured his audience, that the Arabs who had started fleeing would be back in a few days with the victorious Arab armies. And against the much quoted Deir Jassin, you can set the appeals of the Haifa Jewish Community to the Arabs to stay put. The figure of 1 million refugees is, of course, fiction, as in 1948 the total of the Arab population in the whole mandatory territory was 1,100,000. Surely they did not flee from the West Bank, from Gaza or even from parts of Israel and it is rather reckless to mention figures which he cannot prove.

Dr. Weltsch's approach is so one-sided, that he completely forgets not only the hundred thousands from the camps in Europe, but the near million who luckily escaped from the Arab countries. Even the Greeks and Turks considered in 1922 such an exchange as fair, but our moralists consider it a crime.

Besides, how could Israel have coped with such an influx, not only of a potential Fifth Column, but with the financial burden upon them which hardly was sufficient for the new immigrants and the arms needed.

And one last point. Dr. Weltsch castigates Israel and quotes the disapproval of the U.N. and similarly minded organisations and individuals. Does he not see after Arafat's appearance in Flushing Meadows, that this is a Circus where the participants are heavily paid. Neither he nor I have ever read a word of condemnation of the expulsion of millions from the Soviet bloc states, under infinitely worse conditions. Is that the new mission for the Jews to carry the blame and burden for all the others?

(Dr.) ALFRED FLEISS.

21 East Castle Street,
London, WIN 7PA.

Dorlon Chocolates

make
very special gifts

Caxton Chocolate Co. Ltd.
London N22 6UN

Dr. R. WELTSCH writes:

As this issue of AJR Information is already going to press, it is too late for a detailed reply to a letter which is on a rather personal note. A few remarks must suffice.

1. The idea of a bi-national commonwealth in Palestine was not invented in 1940, but was embodied in the Resolution of the Zionist Congress of 1921, often quoted later by Zionist authorities in defence against accusations of alleged Zionist intentions to displace the Arabs.

2. The classical theory of bi-nationalism, desirable as it would have been, has proved impracticable by world developments and had to be replaced in Palestine by the idea of Partition, proposed by the Peel Commission in 1937.

3. To the Arab refugee problem (also with regard to numbers) I referred in the AJR Information issue of September, 1974.

4. Colonial Secretary Thomas left the British Government in 1936 and cannot have made a speech in 1948. The controversial question of the disappearance of the bulk of the Arab population has been amply discussed; there are also many literary documents in Hebrew, candidly describing some of the events. Anyhow, some observers believe that Arafat owes his regrettable diplomatic success not only to "heavily paid participants at the UN Circus", but that in some measure also Israeli conduct played into his hand.

HISTORY OF RESTITUTION

Sir,—Your April issue contains a criticism of my article-review on Dr. Walter Schwarz's book on "Rückerstattung nach den Gesetzen der Alliierten Mächte". There are two points in this letter which require comment.

First I have nowhere suggested that Dr. Schwarz should have provided details of the personalities of those who on the Allied side were responsible for the final version of the restitution laws. It remains to be seen whether the lifting of the veil of secrecy imposed by law at present will render this possible. There is no certainty at all about this.

Secondly I do not agree that the fact that the decisions in restitution matters do not show the names of those judges who disagreed with the verdict prevents the publication of biographical details of judges in leading positions, in particular of those who were members of the various Supreme Restitution Courts. There is a vast literature on the history of German courts and the personality of their members. These works would have remained unwritten, if the rule in question had the effect which the writer claims. Professor Doehring's masterly "Geschichte der deutschen Rechtspflege seit 1900" devotes nearly one-fifth of its space to biographical notes. I understand that this gap in Dr. Schwarz's work, whose great value is in no way in dispute between the writer and me, is soon to be filled by authors of intimate knowledge and great experience.

(Prof. Dr.) E. J. COHN.

5 New Square, Lincoln's Inn,
London, WC2A 3RS.

HANS SCHAEFFER BIOGRAPHY

Sir,—Your readers may be interested to learn a few facts about Hans Schaeffer, which are not mentioned in Eduard Rosenbaum's brilliant article. In 1949, as H. Muessener reports in his book "Exil in Schweden" (Hanser Verlag), Adenauer offered Schaeffer the post of Secretary of State in the Federal Ministry of Economics, which Schaeffer, however, declined. Yet he put himself at the disposal as an adviser and, among other things, was consulted before a decision on the Schumann Plan was taken. At the London Debts Conference (1951-1953) he was adviser to the Swedish delegation, but also in contact with the German delegation.

GABRIELE TERGIT.

315 Upper Richmond Road,
London, S.W.15.

Werner Rosenstock

IN MEMORY OF FRITZ URY

Tribute to a Friend and Fellow Worker

The AJR has suffered a severe loss by the death of its Executive Committee member, Fritz Ury, on April 18, at the age of 68.

In his work for the Jews from Central Europe, Fritz Ury excelled by an unsurpassed sense of duty, linked with deep human understanding and enhanced by widespread practical experience. The fact that he associated himself with the cause of the AJR was in itself remarkable, because he left Germany already in 1926 and therefore did not come to this country as a refugee.

Born into an old-established Berlin family, he embarked on a business career at the age of 16, when he joined the firm of Etam.

A few years later, the firm entrusted him with responsible positions abroad. He remained associated with Etam throughout his life, and when he retired as managing director two years ago, continued to work for the company as its vice-president up to the very end. Yet his heavy professional commitments would never limit the amount of time, energy and thought he devoted to the needs of the former refugees.

Care for the Homes

A member of the AJR since its inception, Fritz Ury began taking an active part in our work, when the Old Age Homes were established. He was chairman of the House Committee of Leo Baeck House since its erection in 1958. At the same time, he was for many, difficult years also chairman of the House Committee of Osmond House and remained a member of that committee until his failing health compelled him to reduce his activities

last year. Hardly a weekend passed when he did not visit the Homes at The Bishop's Avenue to meet the residents and to discuss the innumerable questions bound to arise in running the Homes with the Matrons. He never considered it his task to "supervise" the work but rather to help the senior members of the staff by letting them have the benefit of his advice. This approach was not only most effective, especially as his co-operations was based on long-standing experience in tackling human and administrative problems, but it also resulted in close personal bonds with the staff.

Counsel in Committee

Having rendered signal services as a House Committee chairman, he was soon asked to join the Management Committee, which is responsible for the general policy concerning all the Homes jointly administered by the CBF and the AJR. His services on this committee were particularly valuable because he had a grasp of the wider issues involved and at the same time an inside knowledge of the day-to-day work of the Homes. Of equal importance were his activities as a member of the AJR Executive, where all questions connected with the numerous tasks of the AJR as the representative body of the Jews from Germany and Austria are discussed and decided upon.

When expressing his views in committee, Fritz Ury was always guided by the old adage "suaviter in modo, fortiter in re". With an open mind for valid counter-arguments, he would propound his opinion in a well-informed, concise and convincing way. Yet having sat together with him round the same table at innumerable meetings, I can not remember a single occasion, when he lost his temper. This self-discipline also stood the test during the last years of his life, when his health began to fail: he often suffered physical pain, but he never let others be aware of it.

Fritz Ury also had many outside interests. He was widely read, especially in the field of literature and philosophy, and there are very few self-educated people of his erudition. He found pleasure in music, and one of the great joys in the last years, when he was frequently confined to his home, was the superb stereo equipment which Etam presented to him on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his association with the company.

To be helpful to his fellow men was for him a matter of course. Yet the quality which was most outstanding was his extreme personal modesty. Notwithstanding his intellectual gifts and his manifold achievements he was free of any considerations of prestige and even averse to expressions of recognition and gratitude made to him. His counsel will be sadly missed by his colleagues in the AJR Executive, the Management Committee and the Leo Baeck House Committee and by his many other fellow workers. Yet, beyond this, his death means the loss of a beloved friend.

May I, contrary to the usual custom, be permitted to add a personal note. I knew Fritz Ury from my boyhood days onwards. Our families were acquainted with each other in Berlin, and his father was the trusted lawyer and regular chess partner of my father. Thus our relationship was cemented by an awareness of our common past. I therefore have added reason to feel united with the sorrow of his nearest ones, his wife, his son and his daughter and her family. Together with them, we mourn the loss of a man, whom we shall always remember with gratitude and affection.

PROFESSOR ERNST DAVID BERGMANN

Professor Ernst David Bergmann, Israel's leading scientist in the field of atomic energy, died at the age of 71. The son of the late Rabbi Dr. J. Bergmann (Berlin), he studied and later worked at Berlin University. When the Nazis came to power, he first went to London and, in 1934, at the request of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, became head of the newly founded Daniel Sieff Research Institute in Rehovot. In 1951 he left Rehovot for Jerusalem becoming Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Hebrew University. The climax of his scientific career was his appointment by Ben-Gurion as Chairman of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission in 1953; he held this position until 1966. Professor Bergmann was also Chief Scientist to the Ministry of Defence until a few years ago and Chairman of the National Council for Research and Development. Only one month before his death he terminated his service as Vice-President of the Hebrew University.

BASIL AND ROSE HENRIQUES REMEMBERED

In memory of Sir Basil and Lady Rose Henriques, whose work for youth helped many thousands of under-privileged Jewish children in London's East End, a metal workshop sponsored by the Children's Fund Association of London, has been dedicated in Boys' Town, Jerusalem. The centre provides vocational training and a religious education for some 1,300 pupils, mostly from under-privileged large Oriental Jewish families.

The association has also endowed a Boys' Town scholarship in memory of Mr. David Caminer, one of its longest-serving members, who died in June, 1974.

DUNBEE-COMBEX-MARX LTD.

Dunbee House
117 Great Portland Street,
London, W.1

Tel. 01-580 3264/0878 (P.B.X.)

Grams: FLEXATEX LONDON,
TELEX.

INT. TELEX 2-3540

With
Compliments



4 Gladstone Road
(off Queen's Road)
Southall, Middlesex

PERSONALIA

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

The presidency of the prestigious California University will be assumed on July 1 by Dr. David S. Saxon, a 55-year-old physicist. It is believed he will be the only Jewish president of a major American university, apart from specifically Jewish institutions. Dr. Edward H. Levi was until recently president of the University of Chicago, from which post he resigned after President Ford appointed him Attorney-General of the United States.

Dr. Saxon resigned from Los Angeles University during the McCarthy era rather than sign an anti-Communist loyalty oath.

WOMEN ELECTED

Mrs. Frances D. Green has been elected president of San Francisco's organised Jewish community. Recently Mrs. Lawrence Jay Weinberg was elected president of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles. Of the 16 major Jewish federations in the United States, Mrs. Green and Mrs. Weinberg are the only women presidents.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 15th of the month.

Birthdays

Jacoby.—Affectionate good wishes to Mrs. Margaret Jacoby on her 93rd birthday on May 22. Words cannot express the love and admiration which the members of the AJR Club feel for their Chairman. We wish her many more years to continue her work in good health and happiness.

Leiner.—Mrs. Paula Leiner, of Otto Hirsch House, 2/4 Priory Road, Kew Gardens, Surrey, will celebrate her 90th birthday on May 15.

The AJR Club extends its heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Charlotte Plessner on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Deaths

Bennett.—Mr. Arthur Bennett, of 14 Douglas Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth, passed away on March 19 at the age of 74. Sadly missed by his wife, Wally, and son, Peter, relatives and all his many friends.

Berger.—Mrs. Gertrude Berger, born 7.10.1896 in Insterburg, widow of the late Dr. Max Berger, died suddenly in Zurich whilst on holiday on March 31. Deeply mourned by her son, Mr. Peter L. Berger and family.

Bley.—Dr. Bruno Bley died suddenly at the age of 80. He is survived by his widow, Gertrud, son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

Collins.—Bebe Collins (née Lewin) passed away suddenly on April 6. Deeply mourned by her husband, brother, family and many friends. —46 Tarranbrae, Willesden Lane, London, N.W.6.

AUSTRALIANS HONOURED

The Philippines Government has awarded Sir Asher Joel the highest honour ever accorded to an Australian. A citation from President Marcos stated that the award (with the equivalent rank of Chevalier) was given for outstanding services to the Philippines.

Mr. Joe Berinson, a Jewish member of the Australian Federal Parliament, has been elected Deputy Speaker. He is a member of the Perth Hebrew congregation.

NEW QCs

There are three Jews amongst the new Queen's Counsel announced by the Crown Office: Lord Lloyd of Hampstead, Mr. Lionel Swift and Mr. Anthony Lester.

MAYOR OF BARNET

The next Mayor of Barnet will be Councilor Norman Hirshfield, of Hendon. Mr Hirshfield, a surveyor and estate agent, is chairman of Barnet Council's housing committee and a Marylebone magistrate. A member of the Hendon Synagogue, his wife is an active worker for the Jewish Blind Society. His elder brother, Lord Hirshfield, is chairman of the Norwood Trust.

UNDIMINISHED YOUTHFULNESS

Birthday of Margaret Jacoby

To keep the reader in suspense, the heading does not disclose how old Mrs. Margaret Jacoby will be on her next birthday due on May 22. In fact, she is not old at all. If one bases the guess on her spiritual and physical alertness, it could be the 39th, but if one is pedantic and consults the calendar, one may, reluctantly, come to the conclusion that the figure should be read the other way round. Members of the AJR Club, of which she has been the chairman since its inception, never tire of admiring the energy, prudence and charm with which she holds the reins. If the Club has developed from a mere meeting centre into a real community of friends, it is, in the first place, due to Mrs. Jacoby's guidance, in which she combines organisational ability with personal compassion. Equally, those at AJR headquarters, who are in constant contact with her day-to-day work, are spellbound by her indomitable efficiency and clarity of mind. Last but not least, her reports at the AJR Board meetings about the work of the Club, marked by her deep understanding of the wider issues involved and spiced by her strong sense of humour, have gained her innumerable friends. There is every reason to wish her—and us—many happy returns of the day.

W.R.

Accommodation Vacant

SMALL CENTRALLY-HEATED ROOM with cooking facilities in the room, to let to middle-aged lady in N.W.11. Box 484.

Accommodation Wanted

ADVERTISER SEEKS FURNISHED BACHELOR FLAT to rent during winter months anywhere near the South Coast. State particulars. Box 489.

CHARITABLE ORGANISATION requires one or two rooms for office accommodation; long lease essential. Box 490.

GENTLEMAN wants comfortable furnished room with use of kitchen. Box 492.

Miscellaneous

REVLON MANICURIST / PEDICURIST. Will visit your home. 01-445 2915.

EXCLUSIVE FUR REPAIRS AND RESTYLING. All kinds of fur work undertaken by first-class renovator and stylist, many years' experience and best references. Phone 01-452 5867, after 5 p.m. for appointment, Mrs. F. Philipp, 44 Ellesmere Road, Dollis Hill, London, N.W.10.

I AM INTERESTED IN OBTAINING the first edition of the book: "Vom Goldenen Ueberfluss," by Jacob Loewenberg. M. Vanson, 59 Valley Drive, London, NW9 9NJ.

RECENTLY WIDOWED LADY aged 65, lonely, would like to meet refined lady in similar circumstances. View friendship. Tel.: 01-727 4490 until 12 noon.

ELOCUTION, VOICE PRODUCTION, drama or improve your English. Phone 01-794 2941.

WANTED FOR OWN USE a couple of Rosenthal Maria Weiss soup plates. Phone 01-883 4315.

Personal

CONTINENTAL LADY, early 40, would like to meet gentleman. View friendship. Box 482.

GENTLEMAN in excellent position wishes to meet attractive young lady, good family background, object matrimony. Box 483.

PROFESSIONAL LADY, interested in theatre, music, exhibitions, week-end outings and many other subjects and events, would like to meet ladies and gentlemen of similar interests. View companionship, sharing interesting, stimulating activities. Preferably N.W.1, N.W.8 N.W.3, N.W.11. Age group 50 to 65. Box 485.

MIDDLE-AGED LADY would like to meet a gentleman living in London area—not over 70 years of age. Marriage considered. Box 486.

I AM LOOKING for a partner for my best friend who is a widow in her middle fifties; very attractive, active and practical. Box 487.

VIENNESE GENTLEMAN late 40s would like to meet lady of Continental origin in her 30s; N.W. London area. Box 488.

GOOD LOOKING REFINED LADY, late 60s, living in Birmingham, nice own home, wishes to meet gentleman for companionship. View marriage. Box 491.

Missing Persons

AJR Enquiries

Corfield.—Mr. John Corfield last known address: 115 Randwick Drive, Warndon, Worcester, WR4 9 LR.

Furcht.—Dr. Margarete Furcht, last known address: 43 Highbury New Park, London, N.5.

Weisbart (or Weissbarth).—Dr. Weisbart (or Weissbarth), solicitor, and daughter, Mariele, pharmacist, ex-Berlin or Frankfurt.

Thanks for Condolences

Collins.—I wish to thank my family and all my friends most sincerely for the sympathy and kindness shown to me in my recent bereavement.—Manfred Collins, 46 Tarranbrae, Willesden Lane, London, N.W.6.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 15p for five words.

Situations Wanted

Women

ALTERATIONS OF DRESSES, etc., undertaken by ladies on our register. Phone AJR Employment Agency, 01-624 4449.

CONTINENTAL LADY, German-speaking, seeks non-residential position as nursing companion. Also night duty and as travelling companion. Box 481.

LADY AVAILABLE for shopping/cooking/companionship up to 4 hours Monday to Friday in Richmond/Kew/Wimbledon area. Please contact AJR Employment Agency, 01-624 4449.

FOR SALE

Quantity High-Class German Table and Decorative Silver, Mainly Pre-1914.

'Phone (day time)
01-575 4936

THEATRE NEWS

MORITZ GOLDSTEIN ("INQUIT") 95

Schiller in English. Following the excellent "Maria Stuart" translation by Stephen Spender, and the less successful "Highwaymen" performance at the Round House (reported in this column earlier this year), "Don Carlos" was staged in an English version by James Kirkup. Produced at the "Everyman" theatre, Cheltenham, the evening was considered a festive occasion, and the work succeeded by virtue of its powerful and poetic language as well as by the splendidly acted contrast between father and son. Whether Philip of Spain is seen as a mere battle loser against the Tudors, or as father of a Hamlet-like figure—it certainly is a different "Don Carlos" than the one studied in Continental textbooks.

East Berlin. 25 years after the death of Heinrich Mann, the poet was remembered not only on account of his literary works, but also honoured by an exhibition of 35 of his drawings and sketches.

Bremen. Franz Kafka's "Prozess", dramatised by Peter Weiss of "Marat/Sade" fame, will have its première as a play there on May 28th.

Ghent. Duerrenmatt's "Visit" (Besuch der alten Dame) was brought first to this country by the Lunts in 1960. The play became a world success and the subject of an opera by Gottfried von Einem. The opera recently had its première in Ghent (in Flemish), to be followed this autumn by a German production in Munich.

Birthday. Charly Gaudriot, conductor of the first Vienna Radio Dance Orchestra, clarinettist and saxophonist, winner of three "Golden Ribbons", known to several generations of Austrian audiences as a most versatile musician, celebrated his 80th birthday.

Recovering from illness is Luis Trenker, 82, after a stomach operation in Berlin. Trenker, as popular as ever, is still known as "King of the Mountains".

Obituary. Guenther Lüders, German stage and film actor, died in Duesseldorf at the age of 70.

Therese Giehse, 77, actress, famous for her "One Woman" shows which she continued up to her recent illness, died in Munich after an operation. Giehse was discovered by Paul Barnay in 1926, and played "Mutter Courage" at the world première of this Brecht work in Zürich. S.B.

ART EXHIBITION IN LONDON

An exhibition of works by the painter Rosa Schafer, who came to this country as a Jewish refugee from Austria, will be held at the Margaret Fisher Gallery (2 Lambolle Road, London, N.W.3) under the patronage of the British Council for the Shaare Zedek Hospital (Jerusalem), which will benefit by its proceeds. It will be opened on Thursday, May 22, at 6.30 p.m. by Mr. Victor Mishcon, D.L. (Chairman of the British Council for Shaare Zedek Hospital) and in the presence of the Cultural Attaché of the Israeli Embassy. The Exhibition will run until June 14 (Opening hours Monday to Friday, 2.30-6.30, Saturday 11 to 1).

KAFKA RESEARCH

The Gesamthochschule Wuppertal, founded only a short time ago, has established a research centre for German-language literature in Eastern Europe, which arranged a public international Kafka colloquium last December. The centre also prepares a critical edition of Kafka's collected works.

On March 27 Dr. Moritz Goldstein (New York) attained the great age of 95. In Germany, he was well known as a regular contributor to the Vossische Zeitung, where he wrote under the pseudonym "Inquit". In the first place, he was, however, active as an essayist and historian of literature. During the years 1907 to 1914 he edited the widely distributed "Goldene Klassiker-Bibliothek".

In the Jewish sphere, Dr. Goldstein caused a stir by his essay "Deutsch-Juedischer Parnass", published in the "Kunstwart" (1912). It was one of the first Jewish analyses of the precarious position of Jewish authors, artists and publicists vis à vis the German majority population. He propounded the thesis that, notwithstanding their full assimilation, they were considered as outsiders, and he criticised them for not being aware of this predicament. In the same year, Goldstein also wrote a brochure about "Begriff und Programm einer juedischen Nationalliteratur", published by the Juedische Verlag (Berlin).

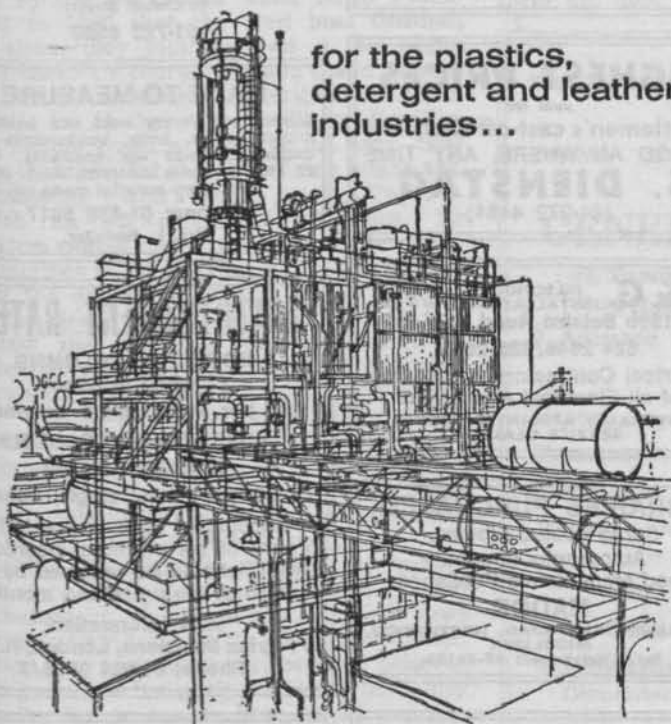
When the Nazis came to power, Goldstein first emigrated to Florence where he was in charge of a boarding school until 1936, and later to Wales. In 1947, he re-emigrated to the United States.

JUDAICA EXHIBITION

An exhibition "Juedischer Alltag—Juedischer Festtag, Kleinodien und Geraetschaften aus dem haeuslichen und sakralen Bereich des Judentums" was on display first in Luebeck and then in Duisburg. It will now be transferred to the Historical Museum in Hanover. The exhibits were compiled by Dr. Zvi Sofer (Institutum Judaicum Delitzschianum, Muenster), and the catalogue, among other things, carries a contribution by Rabbi Dr. Bernhard Brillung about Israel Meyer Herz, the first Jewish goldsmith in Schleswig-Holstein.

CHEMICALS...

for the plastics,
detergent and leather
industries...



Lankro
CHEMICALS LIMITED
ECCLES · MANCHESTER

"AVENUE LODGE"

(Licensed by the London Borough of
Barnet)

Golders Green, N.W.11

NORTH-WEST LONDON'S EXCLUSIVE
HOME FOR THE ELDERLY AND
RETIRED

- ★ Luxurious single and double rooms with telephone.
- ★ Principal rooms with bathroom en suite.
- ★ Lounge with colour TV.
- ★ Kosher cuisine.
- ★ Lovely gardens—easy parking.
- ★ Day and night nursing.

Please telephone the Matron, 01-455 0800

SELECT RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE HOTEL

Exquisite Continental Cuisine
H/c. C/h. Telephone in every
room. Large Colour TV. Lounges.
Lovely Large Terrace & Gardens.
Very Quiet Position.

North Finchley, near Woodhouse
Grammar School.

MRS. M. COLDWELL
11 Fenstanton Avenue,
London, N.12
Tel.: 01-445 0061

ROSEMOUNT GUEST HOUSE

Excellent food. Colour TV.
Central heating. Large garden.

17 Parsifal Road, London,
N.W.6

Tel.: 01-435 5856 & 8565

GROSVENOR NURSING HOME

85/87 Fordwych Road,
London, N.W.2

For the Geriatric and
Convalescent.

Lift to all floors, pleasant
lounge and dining room, all
modern conveniences.

All enquiries, telephone:
01-452 9768 & 01-452 0515.

HAMPSTEAD HOUSE

12 Lyndhurst Gardens, N.W.3

for the elderly, retired and slightly
handicapped. Luxurious accom-
modation, central heating through-
out. H/c in all rooms, lift to all
floors, coloured TV, lounge and
comfortable dining room, pleasant
gardens. Kosher food. Modest
terms. Telephone for appointment:

01-349 0856 or 01-749 6037

Continental Boarding House

Well-appointed rooms, excellent food. TV.
Garden. Conspicuous atmosphere. Reasonable
rates. A permanent home for the elderly.
Security and continuity of management
assured by

Mrs. A. Wolff & Mrs. H. Wolff (Jnr)
3 Hemstal Road, London,
NW6 2AB. Tel.: 01-624 8521

NEWS FROM ISRAEL

BRITISH TRADE

According to the trade figures for 1974, British exports to Israel reached a record figure with goods and materials amounting to £219,235,398, half of it accounted for by the export of rough diamonds. The total figure was about £32 million more than in 1973. During the same period imports to Britain from Israel rose by only £9 million to a total of £78,700,968. Thus the trade gap has widened in Britain's favour to the extent of over £140 million.

RECORDS OF GERMAN JEWRY

Museum in Nahariya

In Nahariya, the town originally inhabited mainly by immigrants from Germany, a Museum of German Jewry was founded a short while ago. It is accommodated in the Town Hall and shows displays pertinent to the history of the Jews in Germany. The foundation of the Museum is due to the initiative of Israel Siloni (originally Kurt Hammer-schlag), formerly a teacher in Frankfurt (Philanthropin) and Stettin.

PRIZE FOR SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

The 1975 Jerusalem Prize has been awarded to Simone de Beauvoir, the French writer, for her contribution to the "freedom of man in society". Making the announcement, Mr. Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, pointed to the "symbolic significance" that the winner was the first woman recipient of the prize and that this was International Women's Year.

AMNESTY'S ALLEGATIONS

A three-member Amnesty International mission visited Israel and Syria in October last year to investigate allegations of ill treatment and torture. In the report just published, the mission concludes that some of the safeguards contained in the Geneva Convention relevant to the protection of prisoners-of-war against ill treatment and torture "were not fully respected by the parties concerned". At a press conference in London, the secretary-general of Amnesty, Martin Ennals, said that on the basis of evidence so far amassed "it seems that the abuses perpetrated against Israeli prisoners-of-war were generally of a more serious character" than what was suffered by Syrian prisoners-of-war in Israel.

CRIME RISE

Dr. Menahem Amir, a Hebrew University lecturer on criminology, has drawn attention to the rise in protection rackets and gangland murders in Israel since the 1967 Six-Day War. Public confidence in the police was dwindling, he said, and as a result many extortion cases were not reported because of the racketeers' threats. However, violent crime had not affected the safety of the streets. Dr. Amir estimated that there were between 400 and 500 Israeli criminals involved in robbery, gambling, protection or narcotics rackets, smuggling or prostitution, some of whom were religious Jews.

Mr. Shaul Roselio, the Inspector-General of Police, feels the situation is almost inescapable as the outcome of Israel's security problems, with arms easy to obtain. Israel's social problems have also produced frictions which in turn cause aggressive attitudes.

UNESCO BAN

Despite the anti-Israel stand of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the Anglo-Jewish Association is to continue co-operation with Unesco through its membership of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organisations. The decision was taken after consulting the association's partner in the CCJO, the Alliance Israelite Universelle of France—other Jewish organisations having non-governmental status with Unesco have made similar decisions. The continued co-operation is aimed at maintaining the CCJO's influence and ability to protest at every opportunity about Unesco actions concerning Israel.

Meeting in Paris the Intellectual Encounter for the Universality of Unesco unanimously approved a proposal by the Russian-born American-Jewish violinist, Isaac Stern, to establish a permanent organisation with individual national committees in different parts of the world to fight the anti-Israel resolutions approved by Unesco's general conference in Paris in November.

More than 100 distinguished scientists, writers, artists and other intellectuals from many countries attended the meeting, with Professor Andre Lwoff of France, 1965 Nobel Prize winner for medicine, presiding. The meeting unanimously approved a resolution warning "all peoples and Governments against a precedent which might be used as a pretext for further acts of discrimination contrary to the goal of Unesco". The resolution, calling for annulment of the anti-Israel resolutions, said that only the reversal of the measures against Israel would allow reconciliation between Unesco and the community of artists, scientists and intellectuals.

BELSIZE SQUARE GUEST HOUSE

24 BELSIZE SQUARE, N.W.3
Tel.: 01-794 4307 or 01-435 2557

MODERN SELF-CATERING HOLIDAY ROOMS. RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER. MODERATE TERMS. NEAR SWISS COTTAGE STATION

SWISS COTTAGE HOTEL

4 Adamson Road,
London, N.W.3
TEL: 01-722 2281

Beautifully appointed—all modern comforts.
1 minute from Swiss Cottage Tube Station

LUGGAGE

HANDBAGS, UMBRELLAS AND ALL LEATHER GOODS

TRAVEL GOODS

H. FUCHS
267 West End Lane, N.W.6
Phone 435 2602

For all occasions that may be
Your speech in prose or poetry
You can perform successfully
If you have made them up by me
(English or German as you like it to be).

Give me your personal points to stress

And let me make it your success.

ERNEST BRAGER

32B Golders Way, London, N.W.11
Tel.: 458 7089

JEWISH BOOKS

of all kinds, new & second-hand. Whole libraries & single volumes bought. Talesim. Bookbinding.

M. SULZBACHER

JEWISH & HEBREW BOOKS (also purchase)
4 Sneath Avenue, Golders Green Road,
London, N.W.11. Tel.: 455 1694.

THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine—Licensed

169a Finchley Road, N.W.3
(624 6301)

PARTIES CATERED FOR

YOUR FIGURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

... by a visit to our Salon, where ready-to-wear foundations are expertly fitted and altered if required.

Newest styles in Swim & Beachwear & Hosiery

Mme H. LIEBERG

871 Finchley Rd., Golders Green,
N.W.11 (next to Post Office)
01-455 8673

B. L. WEISS

PRINTERS • STATIONERS

ST ALBANS LANE · LONDON · NW11

Telephone: 01-458 3220

Catering with a difference

Food of all nations for formal or informal occasions—in your own home or any venue.

LONDON AND COUNTRY

Mrs. ILLY LIEBERMAN

01-937 2872

HIGHEST PRICES

paid for
Gentlemen's cast-off Clothing
WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME
S. DIENSTAG
(01-272 4484)

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL) LTD.

199b Belsize Road, N.W.6
624 2646/328 2646

Electrical Contractors & Stockists of all Electrical Appliances
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED HOOVER SERVICE DEALERS

LIBRARIES PURCHASED

Scrap books, Albums, Autographs bought. Good Manuscripts Published.

NADOR

63 CRANBOURNE ROAD, NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX
Tel.: (Northwood) 65-21152.

CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHERS AND PRINTERS

Golderstat Limited

25 Downham Rd., London N1 5AB
01-254 5464

DENTAL REPAIR CLINIC

DENTURES REPAIRED (WHILE YOU WAIT)

We specialise in duplicating your own Dentures

1 TRANSEPT ST., LONDON, N.W.1
(5 doors from Edgware Road Met. Station in Chapel Street)

01-723 6558

MADE-TO-MEASURE

Double knit Jersey wool and washable drip-dry coats, suits, trouser-suits and dresses. Outsize our speciality. From £5.75p. inclusive material. Also customers' own material made up.

Phone: 01-459 5817

Mrs. L. Rudolfer.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

EDITORIAL COLUMNS

($\frac{1}{2}$ width of page)

£2 per inch, single column.

ADVERTISING COLUMNS

($\frac{1}{2}$ width of page)

£1.50 per inch, single column.

A discount of 20% is granted for orders of six or more insertions. Orders should be received by the 10th of the preceding month.

"AJR Information,"

8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3
Phone: 01-624 9096/7

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

In order to ensure that you receive your copy of "AJR Information" regularly, please inform us immediately of any change of address.