

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

SOLID FOUNDATIONS AND NEW IDEAS

Annual General Meeting of the AJR

As in previous years, the Hall of Hannah Karminski House was full to capacity at this year's AJR General Meeting, held on June 17, 1976. In his opening remarks, Mr. W. M. Behr, OBE, Chairman of the AJR, paid tribute to the memory of those Board members whom we had lost during the year: Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, Rabbi Dr. I. Maybaum, Mr. E. J. Speyer, Mrs. Margaret Schurmann, Professor A. Reimann, and Dr. L. G. T. King.

Dr Rosenstock, Director of the AJR, in his address first referred to the loss inflicted on our dear colleague, Mrs. Margot Williams, whose husband, Mr. Maurice Williams, a widely recognised authority in the field of philately, had passed away two days before the meeting.

In trying to assess the period for which the services of the AJR would still be required, the speaker stressed that, while it was impossible to make any exact prediction, it was definite that the need for looking after people of our background would persist for many years to come. Most of us have now been in this country for about 40 years, and those who arrived in their forties or thirties are now in their eighties and seventies. They have thus spent their formative years outside this country. As far as they want to or have to spend the eves of their lives in Homes for the Aged, they would prefer to stay with people of their own background. As, more often than not, our people are already 80 years or older at the time of their admission, a long-term policy for the maintenance of the Homes, albeit perhaps on a gradually decreasing scale, had to be envisaged. Beyond this, it has also to be realised that some of those, who came here as children, included quite a few in need of special care, because the shock of having been uprooted at an early age both from their country of birth and from their families had left its indelible mark on them. All these problems made the continuation of our work indispensable and called for the co-operation and financial support of members of the comparatively younger generation, who also came over as refugees but were able to build up their lives anew in this country.

AJR in Anglo-Jewish Life

Turning to the position of the AJR in Anglo-Jewish life, the speaker stated that, due to its reliability and efficiency, the organisation had established a widely recognised reputation for itself. These bonds are also getting increasingly closer because there is now a general tendency among the Jewish organisations to narrow the gap between each other, to exchange experience and to avoid duplication by co-ordination and, to some extent, by pooling resources.

In the course of the past years, there has been a growing tendency to put the history of the Jewish refugees on record. Some of the publications, so far produced were on a high

scholarly level, others consisted of genuine autobiographies or fiction based on personal experience, others again were written in a more journalistic vein, and, for this reason, sometimes limited in their value. In this country the AJR, under the auspices of the Council of Jews from Germany, has also embarked on a History of Emigration research scheme. Thanks to the services of Mrs. Margot Pottlitzer, good progress has been made, and the same applies to research work in several other countries, especially in Israel, France and the United States. Therefore, the publication of a symposium, rendering an account of the position of the Central European immigrants in the main countries of resettlement, gradually takes shape. The Council of Jews from Germany, of which the AJR is the British constituent, is probably the only world organisation of formerly Continental Jews, which can claim to be based on active member organisations in various countries. Throughout the years, it has not only helped to maintain the contacts between the dispersed Jews from Germany but also played a decisive part in representing their interests. Whilst the legislation on individual restitution and compensation has now more or less come to its conclusion (with the possible exception of questions in connection with "Lastenausgleich" and Social Insurance), several member organisations face difficulties in continuing their welfare work, especially for the elderly, and efforts aiming at alleviating their position are going on at present under the auspices of the Council.

Organisational Changes

Dr. Rosenstock's report was followed by an account on current problems and plans for the future, rendered by Mrs. S. R. Taussig, General Secretary of the AJR since January 1, 1976. During the first months in her new position, she said, the greatest upheaval was the physical absorption of Self Aid (of which Mrs. Taussig has been and also remains General Secretary) into Fairfax Mansions. However, what could have been a traumatic affair went through smoothly. Now both organisations have settled down to a new pattern and are constantly finding new advantages in being close together. The sharing of premises also helps to reduce the overhead expenses.

All sections of the AJR continue their work unabated. The Social Services Department deals daily with complex problems. Employment is now extremely difficult and accommodation even more so. Where admission to Old Age Homes is concerned, there is, in accordance with general trends in all sections of the population, a marked tendency among the elderly to put off their admission until they have reached an advanced age. This creates multiple problems. Firstly, the average age in the Homes is very high, which reduces the activity and ambiance of the Homes.

Secondly, residents become ill with greater frequency and — more seriously — it happens all too often that they die very soon after their admission and sometimes applicants pass away just before they are due for admission.

Though it is certainly to be welcomed that people keep their independence for as long as possible, it is equally necessary to improve and increase the facilities for those who are now in the Homes as far as this is possible within the residents' physical and mental limitations. In this connection, the speaker stressed the importance of occupational therapy, if necessary concentrated on one Home with the provision of transport facilities for interested and suitable residents of the other Homes.

Mrs. Taussig agreed with the view expressed by one of our fellow workers at our latest Board Meeting in January, that some people would certainly be less reluctant to move into one of the Homes if, in accordance with the general rise of standards during the past years, the rooms were provided with private toilets. However, apart from the cost, this was not possible because of the architectural layout. Other suggestions for the improvement of life in the Homes would be welcome and carefully examined. The speaker also reported that the appeal for voluntary visits to residents of the Homes and isolated people living privately, published in AJR Information, had so far met with very limited response, and more "Adopt-a-Friend" Helpers would be welcomed.

Turning to the work at Hannah Karminski House, Mrs. Taussig mentioned the increasing importance of the AJR Club under the guidance of Mrs. Margaret Jacoby and of the Meals on Wheels Service which, thanks to Mrs. R. Anderman and her helpers, now supplied about 900 meals per month. At present, some building work was going on in the house to comply with the stricter fire precautions imposed by the authorities. As before, the House provides bed-sitting rooms in the upper floors, and Marie Baneth House in Golders Green is used for the same purpose.

As far as the Flatlet Home, Eleanor Rathbone House, is concerned, there has not been much movement, as few vacancies arose. Desirable as it would be to have more such flatlet accommodation, the rocketing price of building unfortunately made this question academic.

At the end, Mrs. Taussig referred to the invaluable services rendered by AJR Information and expressed her thanks to Dr. Rosenstock and Dr. E. A. Lomnitz for their constant readiness to help and advise her in carrying out her work as newly appointed General Secretary.

In his financial Report, the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. F. E. Falk, said that, according to the audited accounts for 1975, the income from subscriptions and donations had risen by about £4,000, amounting to £25,600 as compared with £21,400 in 1974. Whilst this was certainly to be welcomed as an expression of solidarity of our members and of their appre-

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AJR GENERAL MEETING

Continued from page 1

ciation of our essential activities, it was below the increase of expenditure, which, in keeping with the inflation rate during the year, had risen by 24 per cent. The total figures of income (including the contribution of the Jewish Trust Corporation out of the heirless property) amounted to £35,900, and of expenditure to £38,400, leaving a deficit of £2,500. The main single item of expenditure arose from the printing and despatch of AJR Information, which, after deduction of the income from advertisements (£1,700) amounted to £7,000, to which the apportioned share in the overhead expenses of the AJR had to be added; this brings the actual cost of our Monthly to more than £11,000. The speaker asked the members to help reduce the deficit by advertising in our Monthly. The paper, he stated, not only rendered highly essential services by publishing any developments in the fields of restitution, taxation and related subjects but also served as a link between all members and, at the same time, carried articles of specific interest and value to people of our background.

A further means of increasing our income, Dr. Falk stated, was the payment under Deeds of Covenant in favour of the AJR Charitable Trust. He also mentioned that during the recent years members and friends had left legacies to the Trust, and he appealed to members to follow the example of these deceased friends by including such provisions in their Wills. The assets of the Trust were required for the maintenance of Hannah Karminski House which, just at present, is faced with heavy costs, and, jointly with the CBF, of Eleanor Rathbone House, of which the AJR is the co-owner. Above all, the Trust would have to subsidise to an increasing extent the AJR in carrying out its day-to-day charitable work because other sources of income, especially the subsidies out of the heirless Jewish property, would only be available for a limited period.

In conclusion, Dr. Falk expressed his and his colleagues' thanks to the AJR staff. If it was possible to make up for the natural losses in membership by the enrolment of new members this was mainly due to the recognition of their efficient services and their methodical propaganda work.

Discussion and Elections

The reports were followed by a discussion. Mr. Herbert M. Hirsch pointed out that most of those members whose contributions were at the lower end of the scale did not realise that, in fact, their payments only represented a reimbursement of the AJR's out-of-pocket expenses for supplying them with AJR Information. It should be brought home to them that, apart from publishing its Monthly, the AJR required the contributions for the accomplishment of its manifold activities which in-

cluded the representation of the community as a whole and, above all, its essential welfare work in many spheres. This should be kept in mind by members, when they assessed their payments. Dr. F. Hellendall raised the question of the future of the Wiener Library, which had already been mentioned at the previous General Meeting by one of his fellow members of the PEN Club of German language authors abroad. He asked for an assurance that all alleys of keeping the Wiener Library in London would be explored. Mr. Behr, who is also Chairman of the Wiener Library, stressed that all people concerned were interested in keeping the Wiener Library in London but that this would only be possible if the means for covering the substantial annual deficits could be found on a long-term basis. Though so far all attempts in this direction had failed, the endeavours were going on.

The discussion was followed by the election of the Hon. Officers for the forthcoming business year. Mr. Behr announced that he had decided to resign as Chairman and proposed as his successor Mr. C. T. Marx, until now Vice-Chairman of the AJR. Mr. Marx, whose election as Chairman was agreed by the members, accepted the office and took over the chair of the meeting. He first thanked Mr. Behr for his outstanding services as Chairman and also for his readiness to remain associated with the work of the AJR as member of its Executive. He then proposed to elect as new Vice-Chairman Dr. F. E. Falk, up to now Hon. Treasurer of the AJR, and as new Treasurer Mr. L. Spiro, a member of the AJR Executive. These proposals as well as the re-election of the other Executive and Board members and the co-option of Mrs. Ruth Schneider to the Board were unanimously agreed, as suggested by the Executive and listed in the June issue of AJR Information.

"Jews in a Changing World"

After the completion of the formal business of the General Meeting, Mr. Hayim Pinner, Executive Director of B'nai B'rith, spoke about "Jewish Problems in a Changing World". One of the fundamental changes during the past decades, he said, was that the United Nations, founded by the war allies and originally comprising 52 countries, now had a built-in Third World majority. Changes had also arisen by the ascendancy of the oil-producing countries. Furthermore, the polarisation in world policies between East and West had been replaced by a North-South polarisation. Last, but not least, due to the existence and position of the State of Israel, there was now "antisemitism" even in countries where no Jews were living. Mr. Pinner stressed that Jews in the Diaspora stand and fall with the destiny of Israel.

In this country, at present the main minority under attack is the coloured section of the population. Yet this does not justify any com-

placency among the Jews because once, as a result of economic difficulties, racialism raises its head, it would not stop with one group. To meet the situation, one of the measures to be taken by the Jews in this country should be the intensification of Jewish education. The speaker, therefore, endorsed the recent suggestion of Mr. Fred Worms to branch off part of the income of the Joint Israel Appeal to Jewish educational work in Britain. This was particularly essential because Jews—including university students who often bear the brunt of Arab attack—would not be able to defend themselves if they did not possess the knowledge, the spirit and the driving force which had sustained our people for 3,000 years against overwhelming odds.

Recalling that President Roosevelt had once offended "The Daughters of the American Revolution" by addressing them as "My fellow immigrants", Mr. Pinner said that none of us would take offence at this title, nor could we forget who we are when others in this country are hurt, insulted or discriminated against because they are now "the immigrants". He warned that racialism was becoming respectable again.

Welcoming the Prime Minister's statement at the dinner for President Katzir about the great contribution of Jewish immigrants to British society, Mr. Pinner said it should be seen within the context of a potentially dangerous situation against the background of economic difficulties, unemployment and inflation.

Mr. Pinner's well balanced and concise analysis of the situation was greatly appreciated by all present and, on their behalf, Dr. A. R. Horwell moved a cordial vote of thanks to the speaker.

RENTENERHOEHUNGEN

Die deutschen Sozialversicherungsrenten sind vom 1. Juli 1976 um 11,4 Prozent erhoeht worden.

Durch das 5. Bundesbesoldungsgesetz, das aber noch keine Rechtskraft hat, sollen die Pensionen der Beamten und Richter mit Wirkung vom 1. Februar 1976 um funf Prozent erhoeht werden. Fuer die Neufestsetzung der Renten auf Grund des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes (BEG), die grundsuetzlich jaehrlich den entsprechenden Beamtenpensionen angeglichen werden und die ebenfalls rueckwirkend vom 1. Februar 1976 in Kraft treten wuerden, liegt zur Zeit nur ein Rohentwurf vor. Wir werden unsere Leser ueber den Fortgang der Entwicklung unterrichten.

WITWER VON BEAMTINNEN

Hinterbliebenen-Pension unabhengig von Unterhaltsanspruch

Aus dem Beschluss des Bundesverfassungsgerichts vom 12. Maerz 1975—2BvL 10/74—, ergangen auf Vorlage des Landgerichts Muenster, wurde im Bundesgesetzblatt vom 15. Mai 1975 nachfolgender Entscheidungssatz veroeffentlicht:

"Par. 141 des Beamtengesetzes fuer das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen in der Fassung vom 1. Juni 1962 (Gesetz— und Verordnungsblatt S. 272) verletzte Artikel 3 Absatz 2 und 3 des Grundgesetzes und war deshalb nichtig, soweit er den Anspruch des beim Tod der Beamtin in ehelicher Gemeinschaft lebenden Witwers auf Witwergeld dem Grund und der Hoehe nach vom Bestehen eines gesetzlichen Unterhaltsanspruchs des Witwers gegen seine verstorbene Ehefrau abhengig machte".

Der vorstehende Entscheidungssatz hat gemaess Par. 31 Abs. 2 des Gesetzes ueber das Bundesverfassungsgericht Gesetzeskraft.

Bonn, 9. Mai 1975

Der Bundesminister der Justiz
Dr. Vogel

(Wir verdanken den Hinweis auf diese Entscheidung unserm inzwischen verstorbenen Freund Dr. L. G. T. King.)

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HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

THE ARAB BOYCOTT AND THE GOVERNMENT

Mr. Eric Moonman, Labour M.P. for Basildon, supported by Mr. Tim Sainsbury (Cons.) and Mr. Greville Janner, QC (Labour) raised strong protests in the House of Commons against the Arab boycott of firms dealing with Israel and said it was time the government openly condemned the boycott. The Arabs now not only boycotted firms which traded direct with Israel, but also companies which carried on business with other firms doing business with Israel. Some corporations actually volunteered to fulfil the Arabs' demands. Some firms had turned down a project which would have netted £140 million over five years in connection with the Haifa Ports Authority. Replying for the Government, Mr. Meacher, Under-Secretary for Trade, said the Government could not direct or instruct firms to supply specific markets or to prevent exporters from producing whatever documents were required in respect of goods shipped to a particular country. There were regular contacts between British and Israeli Trade and other Ministers, and a joint committee was being set up to examine further ways of promoting exports in both directions. The National Coal Board had signed a consultancy contract with the Israel Ports Authority covering the coal-handling facilities to be installed as part of the development of Haifa port. The differences—to which Mr. Moonman had also referred—for Jewish employees to travel to Arab countries were exaggerated. A number of Arab States did not require a visa for British citizens, most others only required visa applicants to state their religion. In most cases therefore there was nothing to prevent a British Jew from travelling to most Arab countries if he so desired. Individuals must decide for themselves the urgency of the business they wanted to transact and any risk that might be involved.

BOOST FOR ANGLO-ISRAEL TRADE

The 25-year-old Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Council for Israel, established in 1968, have decided to merge for the sake of greater efficiency. The new council has ten specialised committees for trades from fashion to computers. During 1975, Israel imported goods from Britain to the value of £237 million, more than any single Arab country including Saudi Arabia (£200 million), Egypt (£108 million), or Kuwait (£99 million). Over the same period, Israel's imports to Britain rose to more than £91 million. In the first three months of 1976, Israel's total exports increased by about 50 per cent compared with the same period last year. A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy said that joint committees of senior officials of the British and Israeli trade ministries were being set up to promote economic relations and the exchange of technical know-how between the two countries.

One of Britain's top fashion designers, Mr. Bill Gibb, opened the second Israel Clothing Textiles show and said that he was impressed by the use of colour and pattern in many of the new fabrics on display and by the strength and maturity of the Israeli industry. The goods displayed by seven of Israel's largest fabric manufacturers included shirting, dress fabrics and ethnic-style embroidered cottons, canvas and wool suiting.

PRIME MINISTER FRIEND OF ISRAEL

Like his predecessor, Sir Harold Wilson before him, Mr. Callaghan, the Prime Minister has accepted an invitation from the Labour Friends of Israel to attend the "Israeli Evening" they will be holding during the Labour Party Conference at Blackpool.

CORRECTION

The number of votes, received by the National Front in the recent local elections (July issue, p.12) should have read 50,000 (not 500,000).

ISRAEL'S PRESIDENT HONOURED IN BRITAIN

Professor Katzir, president of Israel and a noted scientist in his own right, paid a private visit to Britain at the invitation of the British Society to participate in the 70th birthday celebrations of Sir Ernst Chain, a fellow biochemist. In spite of the private character of his visit, he was given a warm welcome from official quarters. The Queen invited him to a luncheon at Windsor Castle, and the Prime Minister was his host at No. 10, Downing Street the following day.

Later during the week, Mr. Katzir took part in the discussions of the symposium of the British Society and attended a dinner in Middle Temple Hall in honour of Sir Ernst. At a dinner given at the Dorchester by the British Friends of the Weizmann Institute, Sir Harold Wilson was also present. Professor Katzir told the audience that as a young man he had reported to President Weizmann on the institute's progress. On that occasion Weizmann had said to him: "Don't mix in politics, otherwise your end will be like mine". He continued: "I didn't listen to him—so here I am". Weizmann had had a deep conviction of the vital role which science would have to play in the development of a Jewish State, but he gave even higher priority to the Jewish values of justice and righteousness.

SHADOW OF THE SWASTIKA

Mrs. Sadie Relf, wife of Mr. Robert Relf who went to prison for refusing to take down a sign stating that he would only sell his house to an English family, said in a press interview that she shared her husband's views on the need for racial purity. She said her husband had voted Labour until he attended a Trafalgar Square meeting in 1962 where Colin Jordan stated: "Hitler was right". He had then joined the British National Socialists and was sent to prison twice for refusing to pay a fine for daubing racist slogans and for smashing an Indian shop window. Michael McLaughlin, a member of the British Movement formerly led by Colin Jordan said at a subsequent interview that Hitler had been right and that anyway he had not killed any Jews—they had been typhoid victims. A Jew in New York had written Anne Frank's diary. The concentration camps had all been built after the war, all Communists were Jews and Russian anti-semitism was nothing but a split between Communists and Zionists.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

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50th Anniversary of Hebrew University Friends

A galaxy of prominent speakers and a distinguished audience gathered at Bedford College on July 4 to mark the 50th anniversary of the British Friends of the Hebrew University. The speakers included the Presidents of the British Academy, Sir Isaiah Berlin (who is also President of the "Friends" and was in the chair), of the Royal Society, Lord Todd, and of the Royal Academy, Sir Ernst Gombrich, as well as Professor Yehuda Bauer of the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Jewry and Professor Albert Neuberger, Chairman of the Friends' Executive. The central event was the presentation of a Document of Honour to Dr. Anna Freud, who in her impressive and charming reply interpreted this award as a belated tribute to her father, a member of the University's first Board of Governors. At the end of the function Yehudi Menuhin played movements from Bach's Partita in E major. In a moving speech after the recital, he associated himself with the other speakers and stressed his personal identification with the objects of the Hebrew University.

After Entebbe

At the time of going to press, feeling of anger, horror and revulsion at the fate of Mrs. Dora Bloch and condemnation of Uganda's President Amin for his complicity were expressed by members of Parliament, communal and Zionist leaders in a succession of protests, messages and vigils. In a letter to the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Crosland, the Board of Deputies urged the British Government to continue to press for her assassins to be brought to justice and expressed the hope that the attempt at the UN to castigate and censure Israel will be resisted.

ISRAEL THREATENED BY ISOLATION

More than 200 academics from 35 British universities and 8 polytechnics took part in the sixth and largest symposium on Israel, Zionism and Jews in international life which had been convened by the Institute of Jewish Affairs at University College, London. Leading academics from Israel and the USA also took part. Professor Finer from Oxford drew attention to the danger of sympathy for Israel being eroded under the impact of Arab, pro-Arab and Leftist propaganda, especially among younger Jews who had never realised the deep reasons which had made the creation of a Jewish State an historic necessity. Professor Glazar of Harvard warned against over-estimating the power which any ethnic group could exert in the shaping of US foreign policy, especially as the commitment to Israel was being undermined by its costliness, the shifting attitude of the mass media in presenting Middle East events and the growing influence of Arab wealth.

THE "GOD DIMENSION" IN ISRAELI LIFE

Over 300 people attended the 35th annual conference of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain in Harrogate. The chairman, Mrs. Eva Mitchell, emphasised the movement's increased commitment to Israel, but demanded religious equality for the Progressive community in Israel and its rabbinate. She deplored the "ruthless stranglehold" of the Orthodox establishment and underlined the paradox of a largely secular state, founded on the principles of the Torah, which "alienates with brutal discrimination those whose love of Judaism is real and deep, but not fundamental". Mrs. Mitchell who twice received a standing ovation, strongly criticised the recent Earls Court Salute to Israel rally, the largest ever gathering of the Jewish community in this country. "What should have been an opportunity", she said, "for presenting Israel's nobility, humanity and achievement, was cheapened to an exercise in chauvinism and vulgarity".

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Kissinger excommunicated

A body calling itself the *Supreme Rabbinic Court of America Inc.* has "formally and unconditionally" excommunicated "Avraham ben Elazar Kissinger, otherwise known as Heinrich Adolf or Henry Kissinger, from the Jewish people". It proclaimed him "a traitor to our god, our people, the Jewish nation of Israel and our eternal heritage and way of life, our Torah". Head of the organisation which has its headquarters in Washington, is Rabbi Marvin S. Antelman who at a solemn excommunication (Cherem) ceremony at the New York Hilton, declared Dr. Kissinger had pressurised the Jewish people "to give up divinely ordained, liberated areas of our promised land".

Accusations by former Vice-President

During a TV interview, Spiro Agnew who resigned from the Vice-Presidency of the United States during the Watergate investigations, said that he maintained statements made in a novel that the American mass media were under Zionist influence and that there was a powerful Zionist lobby in Congress.

Tough anti-boycott laws

The Senate Finance Committee proposes strong legislation which would deny foreign tax credits, tax deferral on income from abroad and other benefits to companies participating in a boycott against any country, nationality or religious group. If this recommendation becomes law, it would bring in an additional £170 million to £227 million, mainly from U.S. oil companies operating in the Arab world. The Administration is opposed to such a measure.

Prison sentence for former Mizrahi president

Mr. Bernard Bergmann, a non-practising rabbi who has resigned from the presidium of the World Mizrahi Movement, was sentenced to four months' jail after pleading guilty to two charges of a £500,000 fraud in the operation of a nursing home. There has been a violent press campaign against Mr. Bergmann who since 1958 has been described as the head of a "cartel" of nursing homes conspicuous for neglect of patients, abuse and fraud.

Award for Elizabeth Taylor

At a dinner dance to mark the 60th anniversary of the American Jewish Congress, the Israeli Ambassador to the U.S.A. presented the film actress Elizabeth Taylor with an award to an "artist and humanitarian". In 1973, Miss Taylor who was converted to Judaism when she married the late producer Mike Todd, founded the Israeli War Victims' Fund with money obtained from an auction of part of her jewellery collection.

Death of Successful Refugee from Germany

Mr. Fred S. Mendel, the meat packer and art patron of Saskatoon, Canada, died in California, aged 87. He first emigrated from Recklinghausen to Australia and went to Saskatoon in 1940. He founded the firm International Packers Ltd. and donated about £90,000 and a number of paintings to the local art gallery. He was a member of B'nai B'rith and a director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

TALMUD IN SPANISH

Some years ago, Mr Abraham Wais of Buenos Aires founded a publishing house with the express purpose of producing a Spanish translation of the Babylonian Talmud and works by Jewish scholars. So far ten out of 26 Talmud tractates have been published together with the works of Philo of Alexandria and Josephus Flavius.

SOUTH AMERICA

Israeli team finds water

An Israeli team of water planning consultant engineers has found 150 wells in an agricultural research project on three Pacific zones of Nicaragua.

Revenge for Eichmann?

The body of Dr. Salvador Akerman of Buenos Aires who had been abducted from his suburban clinic, was discovered under a bridge on a minor road. A local newspaper received a message from the kidnapers saying that he had been killed "in revenge for his participation in the concealment of Adolf Eichmann after his abduction by Israeli agents". The kidnapers calling themselves the "Liberation Command of America" quoted from a work of fiction which said that Eichmann had been hidden by the agents in a clinic near Dr. Akerman's. Mr. Isser Harel, the Jerusalem author of the book, wrote to the newspaper saying that he had written a work of fiction which had no bearing on the real facts of Eichmann's capture.

SOUTH AFRICA

Scientific ties with Israel

South African and Israeli research councils have jointly drawn up a programme of close collaboration, allowing for the exchange of scientists and an annual symposium on topics of interest to both countries. The first such symposium, to be held in Israel, will concern the recycling of waste water.

Africans kill Jewish doctor

56-year-old Dr. Melville Edelstein was the first victim of the Soweto riots. He was pulled from his car and stoned to death. A deeply religious Orthodox Jew, Dr. Edelstein had warned in a recent survey of the opinions and attitudes among Soweto's matriculation pupils, that they showed considerable hostility to Afrikaners, and this was an ominous danger signal for the country and the Government. He had expressed the hope that his revelations would lead to a "dramatic initiative" to meet the Africans' grievances. Responsible African leaders have expressed their deep regret for Dr. Edelstein's death, because as chief welfare officer of the Bantu Administration Board, he had spent his life working for reconciliation between the races.

VATICAN VOTES WITH ARABS

At the end of the Vancouver Habitat Conference, an Iraqi-sponsored clause supporting the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism was included in the declaration of principles. Britain, the United States and most Western nations voted against, whereas Switzerland, Sweden, Austria, Portugal, Japan and some South American nations abstained. Among the 89 delegates in favour were the representatives of the Vatican and of Mexico, apart of course from the Arab and Communist delegates. In its official paper, the *Osservatore Romano*, an article was published to explain that the Vatican would not have voted in favour of that particular paragraph of the declaration if it had been possible to vote on each paragraph separately. A number of leading Jewish and Catholic organisations have protested in Rome.

75 YEARS ISRAELITISCHES WOCHENBLATT

The weekly paper issued by the Swiss Federation of Jewish communities, *Israelitisches Familienblatt* has published a special edition on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. The Swiss President and the president of the city of Zurich sent letters appreciative of the special part the weekly had played in putting important issues before the public. In one article of the jubilee edition, Dr. Böschstein, Bern, critically examines Swiss policy with regard to refugees before and during the last war.

NEWS FROM THE EAST

EAST GERMAN REPRESENTATIVES AT W.J.C. MEETING

Mr. Helmut Aris, President of the Federation of Jewish communities in the German Democratic Republic, and Dr. Peter Kirchner, chairman of the East Berlin Jewish community, attended the European branch meeting of the World Jewish Congress at The Hague as observers. The participants of the conference comprised 70 delegates from 20 countries. Dr. Kirchner, the first representative of the Jewish community in East Germany to address a W.J.C. meeting, reported on Jewish institutions in the G.D.R. and on its Jewish community's support for the State of Israel's independence, though they might disagree with some of Israel's policies. The conference also offered the opportunity for a talk between the Chairman and General Secretary of the West German "Zentralrat". Mr. Werner Nachmann and Mr. Alexander Ginsburg, respectively, and the two representatives of the East German communities, who stressed that they would welcome a closer co-operation between the Jewish communities in East and West Germany.

BABI YAR MEMORIAL IGNORES JEWS

The recently unveiled memorial to the victims of the Nazi massacres perpetrated at Babi Yar, the ravine near Kiev, does not mention that a great number of the victims were Jewish, and no inscription in Yiddish is included. On September 29 and 30, 1941, alone, 33,000 Kiev Jews were machine-gunned, and the constant delay of the erection of the memorial evoked protests from Soviet writers and poets, like Yevgeny Yevtushenko.

JEWISH CEMETERIES BROKEN UP

The Prague Jewish community has announced that the old Jewish cemetery in Litomysl (Leitomischl) on the border between Moravia and Bohemia was to be razed and transformed into a public park. Tombstones which have not been claimed by relatives of those buried there before the end of the year, will be used for a monument on the site which is to serve as a memorial to the cemetery. Earlier this year the demolition of five cemeteries in Slovakia had been announced.

PHILOSOPHY SCHOLAR SENT TO ISRAEL

Vitaly Rubin, a Jewish activist, and his wife were allowed to emigrate to Israel four-and-a-half years after first applying to leave. Permission was at first refused because Mr. Rubin was considered an important specialist whose subject is ancient Chinese philosophy.

NAZARETH MAYOR IN MOSCOW

The recently elected Communist mayor of Nazareth, Taufik Sajad, was the only Israeli citizen to be invited to the Soviet Writers Congress in Moscow. He is well-known as the author of emotional nationalist poetry in his native language.

AUSTRIA DOES NOT CLOSE THE DOOR TO JEWS

Mr. Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Federal Chancellor has publicly stated that his country would remain open to Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Republic in transit to other countries.

MAUTHAUSEN MEMORIAL

On June 20, a memorial was unveiled on the site of the former Mauthausen concentration camp where thousands of Jews were killed. The victims include Dr. Otto Hirsch, the Executive Director of the Reichsvereinigung of the Jews in Germany, who was deported to the camp and murdered there on June 19, 1941. The erection is due to the efforts of the "Komitee zur Errichtung und Erhaltung eines Mahnmals fuer juedische Opfer in Mauthausen" under the chairmanship of the President of the Vienna Jewish community, Dr. Anton Pick. The memorial consists of a seven-branch Menorah, six branches representing the six-million dead the seventh the eternal light. The memorial was unveiled by Ing. Simon Wiesenthal and two other former inmates of the Camp.

Egon Larsen

A MONUMENT TO THE CABARET

Lisa Appignanesi is a nice young Jewish woman from Poland whose parents survived the war, emigrated with her as a baby to France and, in 1950, to Montreal where she grew up. As a student she moved to England, married an Italian, and gained her Ph.D. in comparative literature at Sussex University. She is much too young to have ever seen a real cabaret, yet she has written the most comprehensive book on its history, *The Cabaret* (Studio Vista, London). You won't get more than 5p change out of £7 when you buy this large, lavishly and beautifully illustrated volume, but it's worth every penny of it, and a good many British readers seem to think so too: the book will already be reprinted for Christmas; a German edition was published even before the English one, with a foreword by Werner Finck—a seal of approval indeed. But its cultural-historical value is much greater for the English-speaking reader for whom, as *The Guardian* put it in its three-quarters-of-a-page-long appreciation, the cabaret is still only "an exotic idea lurking in Isherwood's Berlin". For us Continentals, however, the book is a monument to a literary and political form of dramatic art that was once part of our daily lives — at least for those of us who are old enough to be nostalgic about it.

It took Lisa Appignanesi two years to research her subject, and she made very good use of her sources from various countries, including many interviews she has made with "survivors" from the pre-war and war-time periods of the cabaret. The book is generously furnished with a great number of characteristic dialogue texts and lyrics from cabaret programmes in the original languages and with English translations (several of them competently done by our London colleague, Dorothea Gotfurt). No less important are the references to the historical and social background which made the cabaret at certain periods almost a necessity and, particularly in Central Europe in our century, a political weapon.

Roots in the 18th Century

One may argue with the author about the origin and migrations of the cabaret. She is certainly right that the first beginnings may be traced back to the days of François Villon in the fifteenth century, but I believe that it started to play its modern part in pre-revolutionary France in the eighteenth century and not, as she tells us, only in the 1880s, reaching its greatest height two decades later with Aristide Bruant and Yvette Guilbert. Then, says the author, it "travelled east" from France to Germany before the First World War; but surely the climate of the Habsburg monarchy produced political-literary cabarets in Budapest even before Vienna's *Nachtlicht* opened in 1906 with Karl Kraus, Polgar, Altenberg, Friedell, Roda Roda. At any rate, we all agree that the German cabaret started with the *Elf Scharfrichter* on Friday, April 13, 1901, in Munich, mainly in protest against imperial Germany's infamous Lex Heinze, which permitted police interference in art. Among the contributors and performers were Frank Wedekind, Hanns von Gumppenberg, the *Simplicissimus* editor Albert Langen, the theatre director, Otto Falkenberg, and the fascinating Marya Delvard — the first stage "vamp". The *Simplicissimus* artist Th.Th. Heine designed the posters (he died in exile in 1948).

The alternative form of the cabaret, the

Künstlerkneipe, was also born in Munich in the first decade of our century: the *Simpl*, taking its name from the congenial satirical weekly — it was Th.Th. Heine's idea, and he also designed the new cabaret's emblem, a bulldog opening a bottle of champagne with its teeth. Kathi Kobus, a peasant's daughter and certainly no intellectual, was the hostess, beloved by her guests and performers, Schwabing's poets, artists, political radicals and students. It was here that Joachim Ringelnatz, the sailor-poet, made his debut as a cabaretist; so did Erich Mühsam, the son of a Jewish pharmacist from Berlin, who later took part in Munich's *Räterepublik* and ended his life in Oranienburg in 1933.

Miss Appignanesi tells us of a cabaret in Prague, the *Montmartre*, though she gives us no dates but claims that Egon Erwin Kisch, Franz Kafka, Max Brod and Jaroslav Hasek, Schwejk's creator, were among the contributors, and that songs were performed in Yiddish, Czech and German. It must have existed very soon after 1918; I had never heard of it. But she discovered what hardly anyone outside Munich knew: that at the *Oktoberfest 1919*, Bertolt Brecht took part in a sideshow which Karl Valentin ran in a little booth, and the book includes a peach of a picture of the troupe with Brecht playing the clarinet. Throughout his life, he acknowledged the great influence of Valentin on his stage craft.

Heyday in Berlin

The Berlin cabaret in the Weimar period played a part which is unique in cultural history; the film *Cabaret*, very vaguely based on Isherwood's *Goodbye to Berlin*, presents a completely false impression of what it was really like, emphasising the "grim aura of Weimarian decadence", as Lisa Appignanesi says. She gives us the true picture. For us, however, one of the most important factors is that the *Kabarett*, like the other cultural activities of the era, reflected that extraordinary symbiosis of Jewish and Gentile

talent which made the Berlin of the twenties and early thirties the cultural capital of Europe.

Basically, the Berlin cabaret was anti-Nazi; the Nazis had no cabarets because there just wasn't any talent among them. Was our cabaret an effective political weapon? We hoped so fervently; yet we knew that our destiny was not being decided around the *Kurfürstendamm*. As Kästner said about Tucholsky: "A little fat Berliner tried to stop a catastrophe with his typewriter". The effort just had to be made. Lisa Appignanesi shows the English reader how it was done; there are many translated texts: from Tucholsky's writings, Kästner's *Wenn wir den Krieg gewonnen hätten*, Walter Mehring's *Lied der Hakenkreuzler*, verses by Klabund and Brecht which were sung in the cabarets. We are reminded of our splendid performers: Trude Hesterberg, Rosa Valetti, Kate Kühl, Blandine Ebinger, Claire Waldoff, Valeska Gert, Annemarie Hase, Paul Grätz, Erich Weinert, Ernst Busch; of Karl Schnog, Ringelnatz and Werner Finck, who recited their own work, and who often extemporised—like Finck who, when an intruding SA man shouted at him "Dirty Jew!" in the *Katakombe*, answered calmly: "You are mistaken, I only look that intelligent".

The book distinguishes well between these political-literary little stages and the more ambitious satirical cabaret revues, starting with Max Reinhardt's *Schall und Rauch* in 1901, and culminating in the brilliant shows by Friedrich Holländer and Mischa Spoliansky/Marcellus Schiffer, in which Marlene Dietrich and Margo Lion played their first cabaret parts. The *Kabarett der Komiker* was the longest-lasting theatre-like cabaret; its performers ranged from Ilse Bois, the gifted parodist, and Willy Schäfers to guest artists such as Karl Valentin, Roda Roda, and Yvette Guilbert, and here Fritz Grünbaum and Paul Nikolaus were the resident *conférenciers*. Grünbaum was tortured to death in Dachau, Nikolaus took his own life in his Zürich exile.

In Exile

Lisa Appignanesi's history of the cabaret extends well beyond its final curtains in Germany: "As the enemies of the Nazi régime fled to other countries, exile cabarets began to spring up in Vienna, Prague, Zürich, Paris, London. From these centres, writers, actors, composers, set-designers in a profusion of exiled talent continued the battle against Nazism and exposed its horrors to foreigners who were rarely aware of Germany's plight". Cabarets sprang up even "in such improbable places as a Canadian internment camp". In Zürich, the *Pfeffermühle*—with Erika Mann and Therese Giehse—battled bravely against the Swiss authorities who were anxious not to annoy Hitler. Our London exile cabarets, the *Kleine Bühne* of the "Free German League of Culture" and the *Laterndl* of the "Austrian Centre", are fully recorded and appreciated in this book, and so are the main purposes we had in mind when we kept them going throughout the war: to maintain hope among our fellow-refugees and to inform our English friends of the reality behind Hitler's speeches. But that story has already been told in these pages.

We may take pride in having introduced the cabaret in England, which had never known that art form before; perhaps we may call ourselves the spiritual fathers of "Beyond the Fringe" in the theatre, "That was the Week that was" on television, and the "Establishment" in Soho, all of them now gone. Maybe so long as this is a free country it will have no permanent need of the "grim critique" of cabaret satire.

CLUB 1943

Meetings every Monday at 8 p.m. sharp
at Hannah Karminski House,
9 Adamson Road, N.W.3.

PROGRAMME AUGUST—SEPTEMBER

August 2: Mrs. F. Schulmann: "Die Juden in der Sowjet-Union".

August 9: Dr. Rudolf Breitenstein (Pressereferent der Deutschen Botschaft) spricht ueber seine wirtschaftlichen Satiren.

August 16: Max Danziger (Tel Aviv) zeigt Lichtbilder von seiner Reise nach dem Fernen Osten.

August 23: Arno Reinfrank: "Atomenergie in der deutschen Politik".

August 30: Bank Holiday.

September 6: Mrs. Sheila Levy: "The Development of Palladian English Architecture".

September 13: Gellert Tausz: "Bygone Era in India".

September 20: Mrs. Lucy Middleton (former MP): "Women's Contribution to the Labour Movement".

September 27: Gabriele Tergit spricht ueber das Kapitel "Die hohen Duefte Asiens" aus ihrem Blumenbuch.

Entrance 30p per evening

J. W. Bruegel

RESISTANCE OR COMPLIANCE? The Problem of the Social Democrats

For some time an abundance of well-documented literature has been available on the fall of the German democracy in 1933, and of its strongest pillar, the Social Democrats. Nevertheless, the recent publication of some relevant documents adds substantially to our knowledge about one of the most lamentable chapters of modern history. The source are the Prague archives of the SPD, the German Social Democratic Party in exile, which, previously believed lost, were rediscovered in Stockholm a few years ago. A selection of 13 documents has been edited by Hagen Schulze, who published them, annotated with admirably methodical footnotes and amplified by a survey of the members of the Party executive, a chronological table, etc. The title of the book, "Anpassung oder Widerstand?"* is not entirely appropriate. For no one in the SPD was thinking of a genuine adaptation to the prevailing conditions, and as far as resistance is concerned, it was only a question of whether it should have been brought to bear with the same strength against Papen—who paved the way for Hitler—as against Hitler himself.

Part of the documents date back to the period before the ominous January 30, 1933, and they also include a contribution by Otto Wels, written in retrospect, on the hardly less ominous July 20, 1932, when the Braun-Severing Government of Prussia was deposed by force. The other documents are from the time after Hitler assumed power or, as one might rather put it, ascended to it by trickery. What all these documents have in common are the depressing marks of utter helplessness in the face of the piecemeal extinction of everything that had been achieved. For an observer of the 'seventies, fully conversant with the tragedy which was then only beginning to unfold, it is, of course, easy to turn up his nose at the inability of the leading SPD functionaries to make successful attempts at stemming the avalanche which was then sweeping Germany. But what would be much more difficult is to try and develop serious concepts of what might or could have been done at that late hour in order to stop the catastrophe. Everything that was done or left undone in 1932, carried the risk of helping to put Hitler in the saddle instead of rendering him innocuous. The Braun-Severing Government has been much ridiculed for not retorting to their deposition through Papen by any other steps than an appeal, based on the Weimar Constitution, to the Supreme Court, the decision of which—though even positive in the main—no longer had any practical significance.

But even if it was only a token gesture, there was simply nothing else to be done at that moment. In the "Gewerkschaftliche Monatshefte" of July, 1975, Professor Hans Mommsen clearly made the point that there was not the slightest chance of restraining Papen by a general strike and the mobilisation of the "Reichsbanner" and "Iron Front" organisations:

"Such an attempt would have given direct support to Hitler's ambitions. For the NSDAP which could not hope to attain power legally, was only waiting for such an interior political constellation to enable it to pose as the saviour of the Fatherland from 'Marxism' and to use this as a pretext for usurping power. An open revolt by the

democratic socialists, no matter how it was instigated, would like the Austrian uprising of February, 1934, have amounted to a moral trump for the future, but not to a prevention of the dictatorship for the present".

Here a comparison with the Austria of that period suggests itself: in both cases the coup against the Social Democracy was not carried out by its main militant opponent and true adversary. Apart from the fact that because of the German experience, in Austria everything seemed preferable to going under without resistance, the Austrians were spared the millstone of a Communist mass party, virtually allied with the worst reaction, which was then brutally destroying it. However many tactical and fundamental mistakes the SPD may have committed and did commit in the years before 1932, the fact that it was possible for a man like Hindenburg to become President in 1925 (which, as the documents show, was far more disastrous than was publicly admitted) was due exclusively to the refusal of the Communists to support a united republican candidate for the presidency. Before the Communists joined forces with the National Socialists in the Berlin transport strike against the democratic administration in November, 1932, their speaker, Wilhelm Koenen, reacted in the Prussian diet (30/8/1932) to the deposition of the Braun-Severing Government with the following words, which might be regarded as the very essence of political blindness:

"The discussions . . . must not disguise that in fact it is only the debate between two parliamentary groups of fascism . . . (They are) merely differences of opinion as to how capitalism is to be saved most effectively from the imminent revolutionary dangers. . . ."

Admirable as the resistance of the SPD was, continuing under the "legalised" terror of the NSDAP, so that as late as March 5, 1933, 120 Social Democrats were elected to the Reichstag—the minutes of the internal party discussions make depressing reading. Although on January 31, 1933, Breitscheid proclaimed the slogan "preparedness is all" i.e. in case the newly appointed Reich-Chancellor Hitler violated the Constitution, it is not clear—and probably never was—what precisely one was to be ready for. An almost spookish note is struck by later discussions between the members of the Party Executive who had fled to Prague, and some Party officials who either could not or would not emigrate, cherishing the illusion that at last something might be saved for the movement by lying low. A man like Kurt Schumacher—who had to pay dearly for this error—did not consider it enough for the officials who had stayed on to disassociate themselves from the "Prague people" (Wels, Vogel, Hilferding, etc.). He insisted on the latter's expulsion from the Party, and on a formal "dissociation" from the International. This was only two days before the ban on any party activity.

We must be grateful to the editor, Hagen Schulze, for his painstaking comments. The only point where he seems to draw the wrong conclusions is when he complains that as late as the end of 1932, the "traditional overrating of the significance of election results" had still not been given up by the SPD and that the decline of the NSDAP seats from 230 to 198 between July and November, 1932, had been considered "sufficient reason for the leadership of the Social Democratic Party to regard

the National Socialist danger as for the time being overcome". (In 1932, there were two presidential elections and two to the Reichstag, apart from those to the Lander diets.) The minutes really do not indicate that the Party leadership indulged in such delusions. But that in those dismal days one could not help rejoicing over NSDAP defeats, since stressing them was apt to raise the spirit in the own camp—this was fully understandable psychologically. It is surprising that an editor as thorough in his research as Schulze should say that it is impossible to find out if Otto Wels took part in the Zurich conference of the Bureau of the Labour and Socialist International of February 18 and 19, 1933; surely a brief consultation of the Archives of the International deposited in Amsterdam would have sufficed to settle this point.

THE GERMAN SCENE

ISRAELI AWARD TO PRIME MINISTER OF HESSE

At a ceremony at Wiesbaden, the Israeli Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Mr Meroz, decorated the Prime Minister of Hesse, Albert Oswald, with the Magen David Adom Medal of the Israeli Red Cross Organisation, for which he had done important work. Mr Oswald said in his vote of thanks that the Israeli organisation fulfilled the spirit of the Founder of the International Red Cross, Henri Dunant, by looking after men and women of all races, nationality and religions.

Dr. Walter Hesselbach, chairman of the Board of the Federal Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft was awarded the "Torch of Learning" for his support of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

GERMAN-SPONSORED REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

The largest and most modern rehabilitation clinic for the physically handicapped was opened on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem. Nearly 27,000 Germans contributed to the *Axel Springer Fund* which has financed the hospital which has workshops, sports arenas and kitchens specially adapted to people working from a wheelchair. There are even cars which have facilities for handicapped people to learn to drive. The director of the clinic, Professor Magora, said that it would be open to all: Jews, Arabs and Christians and that it would co-operate with hospitals on the West Bank of the Jordan.

ORDER OF MERIT FOR JEWISH HERO

The Mayor of Munich, Helmut Gittel, presented the Jewish businessman Henryk Ingster with the Federal Order of Merit. The certificate accompanying the Order states that Ingster had shown great courage and readiness to sacrifice himself when he saved a fellow prisoner in camp Fünfteichen in Silesia from deportation.

ROW OVER DEGREE FOR AXEL SPRINGER

There is a lot of antagonism among students and the general public to the honorary degree which the Hebrew University wants to confer on the German publisher Axel Springer who has made reconciliation with Jews and unqualified support of Israel one of the guiding lines of his publishing policy. He is a frequent visitor to Israel where he has established a cultural foundation and has contributed £357,000 to the Israel museum library in Jerusalem.

VICTOR GOLLANCZ HOUSE IN FRANKFURT

The Society for Social Research and Planning and the Institute for Social Workers and Teachers in Frankfurt have jointly set up an Institute that will cover all aspects of social research and social work. The building in which the Institute is to be housed, is named after Victor Gollancz, the British Jewish publisher who helped to provide aid for starving Germans and worked for reconciliation immediately after the last war.

* "Anpassung oder Widerstand? Aus den Akten des Parteivorstandes der deutschen Sozialdemokratie 1932/1933". 230 pp. Verlag Neue Gesellschaft, Bonn 1975.

H. W. Freyhan

AN ENGLISH SYMPOSIUM ON GERMAN MUSIC

It is probably true to say that in the realm of the arts Germany has made the widest impact through her music. The works of the great German—and in this context, one must include Austrian—composers are known all over the world; they are an indispensable part of the international repertoire. It is therefore hardly surprising that the vast literature which deals with German music is not confined to German-language publications, and Anglo-Saxon writers have, for more than two centuries, made contributions in this field which are in no way inferior to the relevant German literature and include such outstanding biographies as Thayer's Beethoven and Ernest Newman's Wagner. Yet, strangely enough, no attempt seems to have been made to produce an English History of German Music, nor have the relevant German publications been translated.

A new volume (*Of German Music*, edited by H. H. Schoenzeler. Oswald Wolff, London, 1976. £6.50) does not set out to fill this gap with any claim to completeness, but it does provide a survey which roughly covers the development from about 1400 till the present day. It takes the form of a symposium with contributions from ten authors. The editor has refrained from imposing any rigid guide-lines on his contributors, and this has resulted in a great variety of methods and approaches, and also of standards. Moreover, it has caused not only a certain amount of duplication but also some evident distortion: less important material has sometimes taken precedence over what should have been "musts". The article on the Bach family, by Antony Hodgson, whilst giving Johann Sebastian his due, fails even to mention the B-minor Mass, and as outstanding a composer as Hugo Wolf gets only one brief reference—as a music critic!

Variety of approach is not necessarily a disadvantage. Musicology needs both the historian, especially when his research is not oblivious of the general background, and the aesthetic scholar who probes deeply into the music itself.

Both these approaches are represented in their extremity in the present volume. Percy Young, that great expert on Baroque music, explores the course of German music from Schuetz to Telemann, shedding much light on the sociological aspects, but hardly dealing with Schuetz' towering works. On the other hand, Hans Keller, deliberately discriminating against historical considerations, presents much novel—and of course, provocative—thought on the music of Mendelssohn and Schumann. His thorough study of Mendelssohn's instrumental works leads him to a fresh evaluation of this still underrated master and disposes of the patronising way in which he is not seldom treated. Whether one accepts his view of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto as "one of the greatest symphonic structures of all times" or not, he always argues from strength, and his contribution is one of the book's greatest assets.

Some controversial statements also occur in Basil Lam's survey of *The Classical Symphony*. But again, this is the essay of a noted

scholar, and it covers more or less the whole output of the Viennese classics—more than its title promises. The historical background is not ignored so that a fuller picture of the period emerges.

Peter Gradenwitz, the Israeli musicologist, gives an apt description of the pre-classical period, and Nicholas Temperley writes of Schubert's songs with artistic insight.

Although the editor, H. H. Schoenzeler, has recently promoted the cause of Weber (e.g. he has conducted a new recording of some lesser-known works) he has left the discussion of this composer to Hugo Zelzer. But he is also an authority on Bruckner, on whom he published a book in 1970, and his essay on Brahms and Bruckner benefits from his detailed studies.

John Douglas Todd, who comes from Australia, deals with Wagner. His subtitle *Romantic Zenith—Seeds of the Future* is not without justification. His commitment to the Bayreuth master is a total one—it could almost be called totalitarian—and it is possible to share his enthusiasm for Wagner's music without endorsing his excessively far-reaching conclusions. With all his missionary zeal, he is not always above factual errors, e.g. in his assumption of Wagner's—and Cosima's Jewish ancestry, which has long been disproved.

In discussing Wagner's antisemitism he seeks to play it down by the tiresome familiar list of the composer's Jewish friends, and he also adopts Bryan Magee's argument (see AJR Information, May 1974) that Wagner, while critical of Mendelssohn, would have approved of "giants like Schoenberg and Mahler" (Todd), which is just wishful thinking, I fear.

The author sees in Wagner "the very central point of German musical history". If this is highly debatable, what is one to make of his claim that Wagner, "had he been born 2000 years earlier, might well have become the founder of another world religion", and that his music "is a wider ranging experience than that which the formalised religions have to offer"? One need not even be cynical and refer to the founder of a certain *Weltanschauung* who did claim Wagner as one of his chief inspirations.

Not surprisingly such one-sided Wagner worship leads the writer to some striking undervaluations of other composers. But he also condemns those conductors who, in his opinion, have not accepted Wagner's ideas on interpretation: there is the "Toscaninian cult of literalism" (but Bayreuth engaged him!), and Klemperer presents "Beethoven's works as animated museum-pieces"! Modern stage production of Wagner meets with disapproval and Wieland Wagner is not even mentioned.

After such eccentricities, the author concludes with a few sensitive hints on the right approach to Wagner's music and speaks convincingly of the "protracted moments of great stillness when the rhythm is very much below the surface of the music."

In two essays Eric Roseberry covers the transition to the twentieth-century as well as the music of Schoenberg and Hindemith. These are sympathetic but well-balanced studies which include a brief, yet essential outline of the wider cultural and sociological background. The position of Strauss and Mahler is judiciously defined. On Strauss' late *Metamorphosen* the writer has this felicitous comment: they "revealed him on a separate, sunset-lit plane amidst the globally scattered emblems of German musical culture after a

second world war." (This could also be said of the *Last Four Songs*).

It is doubtful, though, whether Schoenberg's fusion of "seemingly disparate elements of the German tradition" and Mahler's absorption of "a variety of musical cultures" can be called a "Jewish faculty" which led to their denunciation as "cultural Bolsheviks" by the Nazis; their racial origin provided sufficient reason for that! But this is a minor point.

SIR ERNST CHAIN 70

Sir Ernst Chain whose 70th birthday celebrations brought Israel's President Mr. Katzir to Britain, was born in Berlin. His father, an industrial chemist of Russian origin, was a friend of Chaim Weizmann. His own career started in the biochemistry department of the Berlin Charité hospital. He came to Cambridge soon after the Nazis came to power, but later on received a call to Oxford where he developed his work leading to the isolation of penicillin and the demonstration of its dramatic effect in curing infectious diseases which, in 1945, won him the Nobel Prize. After a spell as head of the microbiological research centre of the Institute of Health in Rome, he returned to Britain, and with funds provided by the London University and the Wolfson Trust he established, in 1961, the department of bio-chemistry at Imperial College of Science and Technology which he headed until his recent retirement. He is a member of the Royal Society and was knighted in 1969. He supports many Jewish causes and was also a patron of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund.

At the No. 10 Downing Street luncheon in honour of himself and of the Israeli President, the Prime Minister, Mr. Callaghan, in a special reference to Sir Ernst, recalled the benefits and talents which Jewish immigration had brought to Britain.

PROGRAMME OF CLUB 1943

In this issue, readers will for the first time find an advertisement announcing the programme of the Club 1943 for the forthcoming two months. It is intended to publish these programmes regularly.

Club 1943 was founded by former refugees during the war. The fact that for 33 years it has had regular weekly meetings indicates that its activities render an important service to the community and that the organisation is built on sound foundations. As the last chairman of the Club, the late Mr. Hans Jaeger, put it: "The Club meant a homestead for many lonely souls, it gave inner enrichment for hundreds, created permanent friendships".

Today, the Club comprises not only pre-war refugees, but also a number of post-war immigrants from the Continent as well as British-born members. In spite of the natural losses, the total membership amounts to nearly 130. Not all of them are active, but most of them pay their membership fees regularly and attend the functions whenever possible.

We are, however, aiming at a still better attendance of our Monday evenings. Having enlisted the co-operation of high-ranking speakers, it is sometimes embarrassing to confront them with only a comparatively small audience. The attendance will certainly grow, if more people in our midst become aware of our interesting lectures and other functions. This is the reason for which we make the readers of this journal acquainted with our weekly functions at Hannah Karminski House, and we hope that the announcements of the programmes will induce them to join the Club or to attend some of its functions as guests.

E.S.

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FROM THE ISRAELI SCENE

REFORM RABBI EXCLUDED FROM RELIGIOUS COUNCIL

After several supreme court orders had stated that no political party had a monopoly on religion in Israel, the Progressive Jewish community nominated Rabbi Dr. Weiler for a seat on the Jerusalem Religious Council. Mr. Raphael, Minister for Religious Affairs, rejected the claim stating the Independent Liberal Party (IPL) which had sponsored the nomination, did not maintain a positive attitude towards Judaism. The Minister of Tourism, Mr. Moshe Kol, himself a member of the IPL, declared in public that he was ashamed that such an attitude should be possible. Rabbi Weiler, who was born in Riga, founded the Union of Progressive Judaism in South Africa and opened a kindergarten at his synagogue for black children. Two of his sons were killed on active service in the Israeli Army.

DIVORCE AFTER ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

The Jerusalem Beth Din compelled a woman to accept a divorce from her husband, because without his consent, she had received A.I.D. (artificial insemination by donor, i.e. not by the husband). Artificial insemination by the husband had been unsuccessful, and the husband objected to the adoption of a child. The court ruled that the woman was not entitled to claim maintenance from her husband and that the Orthodox Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem was to blame for treating both husband and wife.

RECORD CITRUS SEASON

The 1975/76 citrus season which has just ended, broke records for the amount of fruit sent abroad and the amount of foreign currency earned, according to Mr. Tulipman, general manager of the Citrus Marketing Board. 49 million cases were exported, bringing in more than £98 million in foreign currency. Most of the fruit was shipped from Haifa instead of Ashdod which is closer to the main growing areas, because of the long and repeated strikes in Ashdod.

GIFT FROM ISRAEL SPURNED

Israeli authorities had planned to present sets of the Encyclopedia Judaica to all universities in Greece. Israel's representative, Mr. Timor was to have presented the first set to Salonika University which at first accepted his offer, but subsequently declined it on the pretext that the university senate had not given permission. There are 2,200 Arab students at Salonika university, 1,000 of them Palestinians.

SYMPHONY CONCERT IN THE OLD CITY

The London impresario Victor Hochhauser recently presented the first symphony concert in the history of the Jewish Quarter of the Old City as an open-air event. The all-Beethoven programme was conducted by Lukas Foss, a nephew of the late Dr. Richard Fuchs, a leading member of the London Board of the Leo Baeck Institute.

SMALLEST GERMAN THEATRE VISITS ISRAEL

The Theater in der Westentasche from Ulm, Germany's smallest theatre, paid a visit to Israel and gave numerous performances all over the country. They had brought with them members of the Ulm public: 50 people between 14 and 73 years of age.

Another group of visitors from Germany consisted of some 400 inmates of Bavarian old-age homes whom the Bavarian Red Cross had sent on a Mediterranean cruise. They spent three days in the country and were received by members of the government, of the Universities and the Israeli equivalent of the Red Cross, the Magen David Adom.

EMIGRANTS COME BACK

Mr. Josef Almogi, chairman of the Jewish Agency reported that during the first four months of this year, Jewish Agency staff had dealt with 1,750 applications from Israelis who had emigrated but wanted to return home. Most of them had now done so. During the same time, there had been 6,000 new immigrants, but only 38 per cent of Soviet Jews leaving for the West in April had come to Israel, the lowest percentage ever. In the first three months of 1976, 1,830 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel, compared with 2,400 in the same period in 1975. The Soviet Immigrants' Association in Israel is to send emissaries to Vienna, Brussels, and Rome to reduce the number of Russian emigrants trying to settle in Western countries.

The Jewish Agency has refused to deal with a complaint by the Zionist Organisation of Canada that prospective immigrants had not been given correct details of the kind of problems they were likely to meet in Israel, particularly about buying a home, and that therefore as many as two in five of Western immigrants returned to their home countries within five years.

RETURN TO ARAB COUNTRIES

Mr. Yosef Nawi, 47, who came to Israel 20 years ago with his parents, has left the country with his wife and two daughters and returned to Baghdad. Both Mr. Nawi and his wife were interviewed twice on Baghdad radio in Hebrew and declared that Iraq was a garden of Eden and that Iraqi Jews had made a serious mistake when they left for Israel. Mr. Nawi had failed to find suitable work and, when he sought to open a butcher's shop, was refused a licence.

Eleven families of Moroccan origin, living in Haifa have announced that they planned to leave Israel for Paris where they would receive a Moroccan visa enabling them to return to their former country. They alleged discrimination over housing and income tax and harassment by the police.

Meanwhile, a committee of Jews from Arab countries is demanding compensation for property and money left behind when they went to Israel. A document stating their claims has been sent to U.S. President Ford. 600,000 of the 850,000 Jews who formerly lived in Arab countries are now in Israel, and, according to the committee, the property they were forced to leave behind is worth five times as much as that abandoned by Palestinian refugees.

CASUALTY CENTRE OPENED

Nearly four years after the laying of the foundation stone, Tel Aviv's new Magen David Adom Centre was opened in the presence of a large delegation of British friends who provided one million pounds needed for the new venture. The building consists of a complete underground first-aid centre and shelter, and three storeys above ground. The Minister of Health, Mr. Shemtov, said at the opening ceremony, that it was the best-equipped centre in Israel.

KING SOLOMON'S MINES IN SAUDI ARABIA?

American and Saudi geologists think they have found the legendary "lost" gold mines used by King Solomon. In a mountainous region between Mecca and Medina they have discovered an abandoned mine where the waste rock left behind by the miners still contains six-tenths of an ounce of gold per ton. According to the Bible, 1,066 talents (about 34 tons) of gold were brought to Jerusalem from Ophir by Solomon's workers. At today's prices, these would be worth about £65 million. The geologists think that they have found the only mine within range of ancient Israel which could have produced such wealth and must therefore have been Ophir.

WEST BANK HEALTH SERVICES PRAISED BY WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATIONS

A report issued in Geneva by the World Health Organisation, a United Nations Agency, says that the health services in the West Bank and the Gaza strip have improved considerably since Israel occupied the areas during the 1967 Six-Day War. The members of the committee which drafted the report, a Romanian, a Senegalese and an Indonesian had been refused admission by Israel until this year when they were allowed to visit the territories separately. The report notes that residents who need highly specialised treatment or operations, are admitted to Israeli hospitals and charged only a nominal fee. The report was refused adoption by the conference after a protest by Arab States and most of the Third World countries which claimed that the investigators had not been given full freedom to investigate all the items they were supposed to look into.

ISRAEL TV'S LEFT-WING BIAS?

The Israeli Parliament is seeking to change the broadcasting laws, because political and military leaders allege left-wing bias in the way the independent National Broadcasting Authority is running the Israeli TV services. They want television to be made the special responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office, saying that the reporting of recent Arab rioting in the occupied territories had been greatly distorted. There were many instances of Arab injured, but no films of the many Israeli troops hurt. So far, some employees of the Authority have been dismissed for showing left-wing sympathies on the satirical "That Was The Week That Was" programme.

OIL HOPES IN ASHDOD

Reports from experts seem to indicate that Israel has made a substantial off-shore oil find near Ashdod. The Israeli Government has entered into an agreement with American oil companies to drill for oil in southern Sinai.

BRITISH AID TO JERUSALEM HOSPITAL

Mr. Victor Mishcon revealed at a meeting of the British Council of the Jerusalem Shaare Zedek Hospital that the organisation had sent £239,000 to the hospital in 1975.

BUST OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN FOR ISRAEL

Under a joint resolution of the United States Congress, signed by President Ford, a bronze bust of the young President Abraham Lincoln, sculpted by the late Sidney Loeb of Chicago, was presented to the people of Israel by the people of America. The bust was acquired from the sculptor's widow by the Gildesgame family of the U.S. and Britain, all of whose members attended the unveiling ceremony in Ramat Gan.

PHOSPHOR STAMPS INTRODUCED

In the course of automation of Israel's postal services, Israel has introduced the method of phosphor bars on the country's stamps. Phosphor is used to work electronic devices in letter sorting and facing machines.

ISRAELI JOURNALIST BEATS CHANCELLOR AT CHESS

Chancellor Schmidt recently organised a chess tournament at Palais Schaumburg, his official residence, between politicians and journalists. During a two hour match against the Israeli journalist Daniel Dagan, he was twice beaten.

BIRTHDAYS

DR. WALTER SCHINDLER 80

Dr. Walter Schindler will celebrate his 80th birthday on August 25. Full details of the career and achievements of this eminent psychiatrist and psychotherapist who came to this country from Germany in 1938 were related in these columns five years ago on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Today, I should like to place on record the deep gratitude of the Theodor Herzl Society for his work in conceiving the idea of and arranging over a period of approximately 12 years as Director of Studies the annual lecture courses, under the joint auspices of the Society and London University Extra Mural Department (whose co-operation he was instrumental to secure). These courses have become an outstanding feature of Jewish life in London, due to the excellence of their standard and the breadth of vision which inspired their founder. Almost all areas of Jewish life and history, in Israel and the Diaspora, were covered and the central teachings of the three great monotheistic religions explored and compared by scholars of renown. Dr Schindler himself also made some notable contributions.

I am sure that not only the Executive and members of the Theodor Herzl Society, but all those whose knowledge was enriched by these lectures, will wish to thank Dr. Schindler, and to join with his friends and patients in sending him their sincere congratulations and very best wishes on his 80th birthday. May he long be able to continue as a wise counsellor to his patients and to make his contributions in all those fields where his activity has been a source of inspiration.

FRANK E. FALK



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KURT MAY 80

Mr Kurt May will be 80 on August 15, and this is a welcome opportunity of paying tribute to his magnificent work in the field of restitution and compensation as General Manager of the United Restitution Organisation (URO).

The activities of that body, established in 1948 in London, were originally restricted to the former British and French Zones of Germany and their corresponding sectors in Berlin. However, until 1953 the US Military authorities did not permit URO to extend its work to the US Zone. Therefore, in order to help persons, who had claims for restitution of property in the American Zone but could not afford the services of private lawyers, the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation (the successor organisation for the US Zone of Germany and the US Sector of Berlin) set up a Legal Aid Department at its headquarters which were first in Nuremberg and later in Frankfurt.

Kurt May was Head of the Legal Aid Department which co-operated with the URO offices. A former highly respected lawyer in Jena, he proved himself an outstanding personality. When, in 1953, the Claims Conference assumed the financial responsibility for the running of the URO offices, the scope of which had increased enormously after the enactment of the Federal Indemnification Law (BEG) and later of the Federal Restitution Law (BRüG), Mr May was appointed Chief Executive (General Manager) of all URO Offices in Germany and of the offices established in the countries of immigration. He was particularly qualified for this work due to his remarkable legal knowledge and striking juridical acumen, linked with enthusiasm and drive. He was an inspiring leader of URO's legal team, commanding respect and general affection of the URO staff (comprising over 1,000 persons at the height of operations) and also of those who came into contact with him, from high-ranking judges and civil servants to humble clients.

Imbued with a deep conviction of the imperative necessity to undo the wrongs perpetrated by the Nazi régime, Mr May felt that URO's obligation was not restricted to the representation of its own clients. As he saw it, URO had also to assist lawyers in Germany and all over the world, who represented private claimants in the pursuit of their claims. With the help of senior legal officers in the service of URO, he organised a Research Department which brought to light an abundance of information about the insidious methods of spoliation adopted by the Third Reich, thus helping in the substantiation of claims.

It was only in the nature of things that the complex edifice of legislation dealing with restitution and indemnification led to moot points and differences in the interpretation of the law. Under the active guidance of Mr May, URO lawyers helped to fight cases (not necessarily of URO clients only) before the highest German Courts and obtained a considerable number of important Court decisions on questions of principle which served as useful precedents for future cases.

During its existence URO so far has represented approximately 300,000 claimants, on whose behalf over 500,000 claims were submitted, a truly gigantic task and a lasting monument to Mr May and the staff of the URO.

Kurt May has reached 80 in undiminished vigour and health. His friends' wish is that he and his wife, Vera—herself an eminent jurist—may continue so for many years to come.

C.K.

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MRS. MATHILDE PICKARDT, 80

Mrs. Mathilde Pickardt will be 80 on September 11. She is known to many as an indefatigable worker for numerous good causes and organisations. Her particular loyalty goes to the Theodor Herzl Society to which she has been giving many years of devoted effort as Hon. Secretary, Joint Hon. Treasurer and as never-tiring hostess at all social occasions. She also endeared herself to the members of the AJR Club whose account books she keeps in perfect order. She is an active member of her local Liberal Party and of the Council of Christians and Jews. For many years she was Secretary of Hampstead Zion House in Eton Avenue, the home of numerous Zionist and other Jewish organisations. She has been an interested member of the AJR for several decades. Her many friends and in particular the Executive and members of the Theodor Herzl Society extend to her their warmest congratulations and wish her many more years of fruitful activity and personal happiness.

F.E.F.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF F.W.V.

To mark the 95th anniversary of the foundation of the F.W.V. (Freie Wissenschaftliche Vereinigung), the London former members of the fraternity held a dinner on July 10. The function was presided over by the chairman, Dr. H. G. Sandheim, who welcomed the "Bundesbrueder" and their wives and the guests. In his introductory speech he recalled that the F.W.V. had been founded to overcome the discrimination then prevailing at German universities. Notwithstanding the fundamental changes since 1933, this basic idea of mutual tolerance had not lost its topicality. The atmosphere of understanding between old and newly gained friends made the party a most enjoyable event for all those who were present.

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FROM THE ISRAELI SCENE

IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Page 8

MEDICAL CARE FOR LEBANESE

Hundreds of wounded and sick Lebanese Christians have crossed the border clandestinely in order to be treated by Jewish doctors. A hole was cut in the security fence to allow old people, women and children to cross into Israel. Parked under a tree in the neighbourhood there is an Army ambulance used as a consulting room by Jewish doctors, who refuse to accept payment for their services. Israeli soldiers serve the patients with coffee, while they are waiting for treatment and medication. Most of them are then sent back to their villages, but those needing hospitalisation, are sent to Israeli hospitals. All of them asked not to have their photographs or names published, as they allege that other people who were treated by Israelis, were later murdered by terrorists.

SECOND DEATH SENTENCE IN ISRAEL

One of the terrorists who attacked and occupied the Tel Aviv Savoy Hotel in March 1975, when two soldiers and nine civilians died, was sentenced to death by a military court. He is a 24-year-old Jordanian, Mussa Hussein Tallaka, who was trapped in the wreckage of the hotel after a night-long siege by Israeli forces. Another terrorist, 21 years old, and supposed to be the guiding spirit of the attack, was sentenced to life imprisonment. Since the foundation of the State of Israel, only one death sentence was pronounced and carried out—against Adolf Eichmann. Under Israeli law only the crimes of genocide and treason in war conditions are subject to the death penalty.

ARABS FINANCE EMIGRATION?

A member of the Likud opposition party in the Knesset announced that he had reliable information that an Arab consortium had provided \$1,000 million to encourage Jews to emigrate from Israel. According to Israeli broadcasts the consortium has also begun to buy houses in Israel.

OPERATION ON EGYPTIAN WOMAN IN JERUSALEM

A 55-year-old woman from Cairo, Paduah Kurdijah, came to the Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem for an open heart operation. She had been induced to do so by an Arab-language television programme about medical progress in Israel. A speaker for the hospital confirmed that she was the first Egyptian patient, but people from other Arab countries had repeatedly come to Jerusalem for treatment.

WORK FOR ARAB INTEGRATION

The Israeli Government is to set up special machinery to handle the affairs of the country's 450,000 Israeli Arabs and to speed up their integration in Israel's national life.

ISRAELI ARABS WANT NATIONAL RIGHTS

A committee of Israeli Arab leaders presented the Israeli government with a memorandum stating that the 450,000 Arabs in Galilee, the Negev and the north-east of Tel Aviv insist on having full national political rights in a bi-national State. The committee comprises Communist and PLO sympathisers, headed by the Mayor of Nazareth.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Deaths

Baron.—Mrs. Margarete Baron (Katz, née Cohn), aged 91, formerly of Welwyn Garden City, passed away on July 4. Sadly missed by her children, Vera and Kurt Ambrose (Manchester), Susi Simon (Paris), grandchildren and great-grandchildren. 111 Higher Lane, Whitefield, Manchester, M25 7EY.

Borg.—Mrs. Toni Borg, (née Wolff), aged 84, passed away on July 6, at Morris Feinman Home, Manchester. Deeply mourned by her daughter and son-in-law, Lore and Heinz L. Lehman, 428 Rochdale Road, Middleton, Manchester M24 2QW, her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends.

Fleck.—We regret to announce the death of our beloved Liesel Fleck. Peacefully on Tuesday, June 22, at Harrow Nursing Home. Deeply missed by relatives and friends.

Italiener.—On June 27, 1976. Peacefully at home, Hedwig, beloved wife of the late Rabbi Dr. Bruno Italiener, dearly loved by her daughters, Ruth and Hannah, son-in-law and all her family.

Jaffe.—Mr. Gerald Jaffe passed away suddenly on June 2, aged 79. Deeply mourned by his wife, Herta, children, grandchildren, relatives and friends. 8 Claremont Road, Croydon, Surrey.

Kroner.—Lucie Kroner, of 11 Carisbrooke Court, Weymouth Street, London, W.1, formerly of Berlin, passed away on June 24 at the Middlesex Hospital, London, after a short illness. She spent most of her life helping others—relatives, friends and strangers, and her loss will long be deeply mourned by us all.

Laufer.—Mrs. Margaret Laufer passed away on June 30, aged 84. Deeply mourned by her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Langford, 75 Quickwood, Chalcots Park, London, NW3 3RT.

Rosenthal.—Mrs. Hedwig Rosenthal (née Weissl) of 97 Park Avenue North, London, N.W.10, passed away peacefully on June 28 at the age of 89. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by her daughter Lissy, son Heinz (Brazil), all her relatives and friends.

Schuster.—Nelly Schuster passed away peacefully at home. Sadly missed by all her relatives and friends.

Memorial Stone

Joachim.—The stone setting in ever-loving memory of Kurt Karl, beloved husband of Else, will be at the Liberal Jewish Cemetery, Pound Lane, Willesden, on Sunday, September 5, at 12.30 p.m.

Klimt.—The stone setting in loving memory of Helen, beloved wife of Fred, will be at the Liberal Synagogue Cemetery, Pound Lane, N.W.10, on Sunday, August 15, at 11 a.m.

Leiner.—The stone setting in memory of Mrs. Paula Leiner, beloved mother of Mr. M. Leighton, will be held at Bushey Cemetery, on Sunday, August 22, at 11 a.m.

CLASSIFIED

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Dr. L. G. T. KING, 1898-1976

Dr. L. G. T. King, or "Munti" as he was known in the F.W.V. students' fraternity, was born in Berlin, where he practised as a Rechtsanwalt. With the advent of Hitler his successful legal career came to an abrupt end. He and his young family emigrated to England where he made a new start in the commercial sphere, interrupted by his War service.

With the new German legislation on restitution and compensation he got his chance to follow again his chosen career as a lawyer. Within a short time he had established himself and made his reputation as a knowledgeable adviser. His gift for lucid and painstaking exposition of his clients' claims, his integrity and his fairness came to be highly respected by clients and authorities alike.

In later years he largely concentrated on social insurance cases. He was one of the first few lawyers to recognise the importance of these claims for Nazi victims and contributed to a new interpretation of the relevant laws.

His concern for his fellow human beings, his fatherly advice in helping to solve their problems made him a friend of many. It was the old and ailing who benefited most from his generosity.

His warm personality inspired trust and loyalty. A harmonious atmosphere pervaded his office and made it an ideal place to work in.

His happy family life was his mainstay. His was a fulfilled life. J.J.H.

DR. GERTRUD KOEBNER

Dr. Gertrud Koebner died on June 24 at the age of 87. The widow of the historian Professor Richard Koebner, she was a scholar in her own right. She wrote several works on aesthetics, among them the book "Vom Schoenen und seiner Wahrheit" (1957). Dr. Koebner spent the last years of her life in Heinrich Stahl House.

Miscellaneous

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JEWISH LADY, Continental origin, well educated, travelled, sociable, varied interests, "young 55", would like to meet Jewish gentleman with view to marriage.—Box 597.

AJR Enquiries

Marcus.—Mrs. Edith Marcus. Last known address: 7 Cumberland Court, Great Cumberland Place, London, W1H 7DP.

Personal Enquiries

Neumann.—The heirs of Maximilian Alfred Neumann deceased, late of 80 Wolmer Gardens, Edgware, should get in touch with Rechtsanwalt Bernd Stein, Neue Kantstrasse 9, 1 Berlin 19.

MISCELLANEOUS

HILDE SPIEL HONOURED

The writer Professor Dr. Hilde Spiel was awarded the "Preis fuer Publizistik" of the City of Vienna. Previous authors honoured in this way included Alfred Polgar and Friedrich Torberg. Hilde Spiel's main work is the biography "Fanny Arnstein oder Die Emanzipation" (1961). Dr. Spiel spent the years of emigration (1936-1963) in England. She is now also regular cultural correspondent to the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. E.G.L.

PROFESSOR E. J. COHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The North Western Reform Synagogue Group of the Friends of the Hebrew University decided to launch an appeal for the establishment of a scholarship in the name of Professor Ernst J. Cohn in the Faculty of Law of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Professor Cohn was both a distinguished jurist of German-Jewish origin and an active Jewish communal worker. Contributions may be sent to the headquarters of the Friends of the Hebrew University, 3 St. John's Wood Road, London NW8 8RB or to the North Western Reform Synagogue, Alyth Gardens, Finchley Road, London, N.W.11.

HEINRICH SCHALIT

The former organist of the old Munich Main Synagogue Heinrich Schalit died in Colorado, USA, aged 90. In the Thirties he used to give religious organ recitals in liberal synagogues in Berlin and elsewhere. Between 1933 and 1939 he was choirmaster of the Rome Great Synagogue. His brother was the writer and Galsworthy translator Leon Schalit who died in London in 1950.

PROFESSOR HANS ROTHFELS

Shortly after his 85th birthday, which was referred to in our June issue, the historian, Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Hans Rothfels, died in Tuebingen. After his dismissal in 1934 as Professor of Modern History in Koenigsberg, Professor Rothfels emigrated first to this country and later to the United States, where he became Professor at Chicago University. He returned to Germany in 1951. His works include a book about "The German Opposition against Hitler" (1949). E.G.L.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

RESISTANCE AND PERSECUTION IN BADEN

As a sequel to the two-volume work about "The Persecution of Jews in Mannheim 1933-1945" the Municipal Archives of Mannheim recently published a volume about "Persecution and Resistance under the National Socialism in Baden" (W. Kohlhammer Stuttgart). The contents lay stress on resistance and, based on reports by the Gestapo and the public prosecutor in Karlsruhe mainly deal with the "illegal" fight of members of the labour movement and the circle of the political Catholics (around the Freiburg Archbishop Dr. Conrad Groeber). Whilst, generally, Jews are only mentioned in connection with few incidents, the book carries references to the former Karlsruhe lawyers Dr. Leopold Friedberg (died 1966 in New Zealand) and Ludwig Marum, the former member of the Reichstag and of the Baden State Council, who was murdered by the Nazis in 1934. E.G.L.

TWO JEWISH LAWYERS REMEMBERED

Two books have just been published which remember two Jewish jurists from the South-West of Germany who attained eminence during the Weimar Republic. Ludwig Landmann whose life and work is described in a book by Dr. Rebentisch, was Lord Mayor of Frankfurt between 1924 and 1933. His many achievements in adding to the industrial and cultural importance of the city were widely recognised, but after 1929 he was under constant attack from right-wing forces and forced to resign in March, 1933. He left for Holland shortly before the outbreak of war and was, with his Dutch wife, kept hidden by Dutch friends. He died, sick and starving, in 1945.

Dr. Günther Rossmannith has described the life of Hermann Isay (1873-1938) who was born at Trier into a family of lawyers, practised as a lawyer in Berlin and published a number of important works on the law of patents and trademarks and commercial law. He was baptised, but had nevertheless to relinquish his professorship at the Charlottenburg Technical Academy in 1933 and died in 1938. E.G.L.

EXILED AUTHORS IN CALIFORNIA

The Francke Verlag, Berne and Munich, published a paperback book about the German Exile Literature in California. The editors are John M. Spalek, Joseph Strelka and Sandra H. Harychak. The book carries comprehensive information about the German language authors who had to leave Germany when the Nazis came to power and settled in California. It gives valuable biographical and bibliographical information, and quotes reliable source material. The writers dealt with include Alfred Doeblin, Lion Feuchtwanger, Alfred Polgar and Wilhelm Speyer. Most of the contributors to the volume are attached to universities in California and other parts of the U.S. A second volume, still in preparation, will deal with exiled authors who lived in New York. E.G.L.

OPINION POLL ON PLO

A survey carried out by National Opinion Poll claims that 75 per cent of the British public support the PLO in its call for a secular democratic State with equal rights for Jews and Arabs. This was disclosed at a press conference by the Free Palestine Information Office whose director, Mr. Louis Eaks, a former chairman of the Young Liberals, described the results of the survey as "beyond our wildest hopes". A spokesman for National Opinion Poll explained that 2,000 people had been questioned but that the results were obtained from answers given by 1,100 people judged to be familiar with the Middle East situation and "an adequate sample to ascertain the views of the population". Asked which side they supported in the Arab-Israeli conflict, 36 per cent said the Jews, 7 per cent the Arabs, 31 per cent neither, 8 per cent both and 18 per cent didn't know; 68 per cent felt that Britain should not supply arms to either side, 5 per cent to the Israelis only, 1 per cent to the Arabs only; 21 per cent to both, and 18 per cent held no opinion; 49 per cent said that the PLO should be involved in further Middle East peace negotiations, 33 per cent said it should not, and 19 per cent didn't know. These figures formed part of a twelve-page report published as an advertisement in The Guardian.

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CULTURAL NEWS

Letters to the Editor

VICKY EXHIBITION

The Ben Uri Art Gallery has to be congratulated on its latest exhibition, *Original Vicky Cartoons and Drawings*. This event has been made possible by a number of generous loans and gifts, which recall the deep humanity and timeless quality of Vicky's artistic achievement. He was one of us, born as Victor Weisz in Berlin in 1913, and becoming a well-known and beloved cartoonist first to the News Chronicle, then the Daily Mail and lastly to the Evening Standard, where he had become the successor to the famous cartoonist Low. His tragic death by suicide in 1966 ended a brilliant career.

To those of us who came from Germany the most remarkable fact of the exhibition is perhaps the realisation how intimately Vicky knew and appreciated the English scene, English as the English or perhaps more so. His strongest works, still pungent and not in the least dated, are those which concentrate the design on one or a few figures, such as the writer, an old man who writes letters for Indian illiterates or Harold Wilson worshipping an enormous sign of the £. Or again, Wilson waving from the Post Office tower. Vicky was a good portraitist, and the exhibition includes brilliant renderings of De Gaulle and Nehru as well as Macmillan as Moses. The diminutive figure of the artist is a frequent inhabitant of his own cartoons.

Few of the works are precisely dated; Vicky is crying out for a monograph devoted to his Life and Work, in which the artistic and chronological problems of his oeuvre could be further elucidated.

H. ROSENAU

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Robert S. Wistrich, the editor of the Wiener Library Bulletin whose first book "Revolutionary Jews from Marx to Trotsky" will be reviewed in one of the next issues of AJR Information, has received one of the twelve Wolfson Fellowships awarded for the first time this year by the British Academy, with the object of strengthening links between British and European scholars. Robert Wistrich will spend some time in Paris to complete his research into French Socialism and the Dreyfus Affair, the subject of his next book.

STAGE AND SCREEN

Operetta—for ever. Glancing over the programmes of German-speaking theatres this summer, one wonders how the species "operetta", so often ridiculed and "finally" buried, has survived its obituaries in such a convincing way. Among the revivals for the 1976 summer season, we find Benatzky's "Meine Schwester und ich" at Aachen, Milloeckers' "Gasparone" in Bremerhaven, Kalman's "Zigeunerprinzessin" in Essen, and Zellers' "Vogelhändler" in Mannheim. Künnecke is also represented with his celebrated "Vetter aus Dingsda" (Wuppertal-Buehnen), whilst Vienna follows its tradition of the annual "Merry Widow" performances and Bad Ischl stages its usual Operetta Festival. Perhaps not too bad for a type of entertainment which, 30 years ago, appeared totally eclipsed and outdated by the arrival of the American Musical.

Ruehmann-Film Weekends are being arranged this summer at the Austrian castle of Laxenburg under the heading "Film Comedies of the German Language". Ranging in production dates from 1934 to 1973, they include successes such as "Allotria" (with Renate Mueller and Adolf Wohlbrueck), "Frasquita" (with Jarmila Novotna) and many post-war films, like "Hauptmann von Köpenick" and "Narrenschiiff" with Oskar Werner and Vivien Leigh.

Birthdays. German star actress Jenny Jugo, who created innumerable film roles for UFA and who partnered Werner Krauss, Gruendgens and Gustav Froehlich, celebrated her 70th birthday; she is specially well remembered as Eliza in the German "Pygmalion" version. Viennese actor and producer Hans Jaray is also 70.

Obituary. Hilde Hildebrandt, the German film actress, has died at the age of 78. She was a highly-polished performer, typifying the once so popular parts of "Ladies of Society".

S.B.

JUBILEE OF BRITISH BALLET

Fifty years of British ballet were celebrated in radio and television and at Sadler's Wells Theatre with personal tributes to Dame Marie Rambert who was born Cyvia Rambam in Warsaw in 1888. In her ballet group she helped to train and make known artists like Alicia Markova, Diana Gould (Mrs. Yehudi Menuhin) and many others.

MOHAMMED ALI'S GIFT

Sir,—I noticed that in your April issue (page 4), you mentioned Mohammed Ali's gift to a Jewish home for the aged and handicapped in Washington, and I am sure you will not mind if I send in a correction of your statement.

Mohammed Ali made a contribution to Self-help Community Services in the amount of \$100,000 (which has been fully paid) for its Hillside Aged Programme in Washington Heights, which is an area in the borough of Manhattan in New York City in which still a large number of Nazi refugees live.

The programme offers day care services to seriously handicapped older people who are being transported to and from the centre, meeting there and receiving a hot lunch among other services. Without Ali's contribution we would have had to close it last September.

KURT G. HERZ,

Executive Vice-President,

Selfhelp Community Services Inc.

44 East 23rd Street,
New York, N.Y. 10010.

SPANISH ROYALTY IN SYNAGOGUE

Sir,—Your report that Queen Sofia's visit to the Madrid Synagogue was the first by a Spanish monarch for 500 years reminds me of the tales we sometimes hear of what was not known in Israel for 2,000 years—T.V., fridges, two Chief Rabbis, etc. I daresay there never was anything like this in 2,000 years. Nor was a Spanish monarch ever in a Spanish synagogue — for the simple reason that no mediaeval monarch, Spanish or other, could ever dream of entering a synagogue, the sanctuary of people, the "killers of Christ", who were at best, with good grace or ill, tolerated in a Church-dominated society, usually on secular and strictly material considerations.

Also may I briefly comment on the information that Sephardim from Spanish and French Morocco claiming Spanish nationality will now need to prove only two, instead of ten years' residence. To the best of my knowledge, this can apply only to Sephardim from the former French zone of Morocco as those from the Spanish one obtained the concession as far back as April, 1931, when the short-lived Republic came into being.

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