

INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Robert Weltsch

JEWISH LIFE IN A CHANGED WORLD

Reflections on the Eve of the Holy Days

As the New Year of the Jewish calendar starts at the end of this month, there is an unusual time lag between the Holy Days and a meditation occasioned by them. In the rapidly changing conditions of life and the feeling of uncertainty about the near future, almost every day makes us conscious of the permanent revolution which affects the whole world. Many things which seemed accepted and secure in the 19th century and after have become questionable; science foreshadows a different structure of existence, traditional values are challenged. No limit seems to be set to the miracles of technology if missiles shot from the earth can hit Mars, millions of miles away, and send back photographs which deny the surmise of life on that planet, thereby confirming the singularity of the human condition. It seems that the brave new world cannot be measured by conventional concepts. Political relations, moral views, economic, social, ecological facts are in the melting pot. Even the climate seems to undergo fundamental changes with the heatwave in Europe almost surpassing the proverbial tropics, and autark populated colonies in space have recently been predicted by the BBC. No wonder that Jewish speculations on the advent of a new year do not stop at heresy either. Confronted with shattering experiences and the erosion of time-honoured assumptions some Jewish creed became problematical, and we have not yet got over the shock of doubt sometimes expressed in the formula "Judaism after Auschwitz."

In the 30 years which have passed since the second world war, after the gruesome truth about the Holocaust had become known, the establishment of the State of Israel appeared to many Jews and non-Jews as a sort of compensation for the unspeakable evil. After a short hesitation, Israel was now accepted by the formerly anti-Zionist majority of Diaspora Jewry as the central fact of all Jewish existence towards which the endeavours of the next period would have to be directed. An enormous, unprecedented effort was made by Diaspora Jewry to help the emerging state politically and financially. Yet, while Ben-Gurion's proclamation of "return home" and of "Kibbutz Galuyoth" (In-gathering of the Exiles) was not vocally challenged, it remained a dead letter. Mass immigration did not take place, although the obstacles erected by the British Mandatory régime were removed together with the régime itself. At the same time, Palestine became a region of war or potential war and of terror and, as has often been pointed out, the only country where Jews were in physical peril. Moreover, the paradoxical situation arose that Israel in victory forfeited the sympathies of a large part of the world, enjoyed after her birth in 1948, and still more in 1967. It is unnecessary

to go into details because we were all witnesses to this deplorable process. True, at the beginning of July the almost unbelievable masterstroke of rescuing the hostages of the hijacked plane at Entebbe has restored to Israel some of the former sympathies in the West and admiration for her courage and military skill. It has, at the same time, enormously boosted the morale at home though it has also given rise to some exaggerated self-confidence.

Fundamentally, the main problems remain unsolved. Many things have developed differently from what the original Zionists dreamed of, and also differently from what post-second-world-war-Jewry had expected, especially after the victory of 1967 which according to popular view established Israel as the leading power of the Middle East. The Yom Kippur War of 1973 and its political consequences again brought a reversal. During the last year, the whole Middle East constellation has been in turmoil owing to the civil war in the Lebanon and the splits in the Arab camp, not to speak of the obscure factors of Russia's sinister intentions which can only be guessed at. The Jews, on the other hand, were disappointed by the decline of immigration and the increase in emigration, and by the economic and moral crises within Israel herself. Large newly-built quarters in the so-called development towns remain vacant, and even in these towns—as elsewhere in Jewish settlements—the Labour force consists primarily of Arabs. This demonstrates the interdependence of the two peoples, but it is inconsistent with the original Zionist idea theoretically proclaimed until this day.

All this provides stuff for thought in Israel, but also for Zionists in the Diaspora and beyond the Zionist camp. Three times the hope for mass immigration was foiled: in 1920, in 1948, and in 1967. Something must be wrong in the calculations. For the first time, official leaders of Zionist organisations, formerly unconditional yes-men, have begun to think for themselves and are demanding a say in Israel's political decisions and a re-examination of ideology.

A Time for Re-appraisal

When facts which have been overlooked or ignored become evident, or old assumptions are shattered, there come a moment for moral and intellectual stock-taking. In the Zionist movement, such a moment of perplexity arose after Herzl's death in 1904, when his political attempts had been frustrated. At that time a collection of essays written by the most prominent Zionist and non-Zionist Jewish thinkers was published in German, then still the *lingua franca* of world Jewry. It was entitled *Die Stimme der Wahrheit* (edited by

Lazar Schön, Würzburg, 1905), a kind of symposium of various, often conflicting views, a mirror of the internal unrest and confusion in the Jewish camp. Adolf Böhm, the foremost historian and ideological analyst of the early Zionist movement, considered this book so important that he devoted to it a whole chapter of his great work.* Surveying with strict objectivity the opinions expounded here, Böhm calls this epoch "a time of criticism and introspection as none before". The book itself, published more than 70 years ago, is now obsolete, of course, and has become a rarity on the market. But when I was invited by the Editor to review a contemporary collection of essays on the Jewish position, it occurred to me that this may be an attempt to look at the situation in a similar way as did that legendary *Stimme der Wahrheit*. Regrettably, it was nothing of the sort. The book, of enormous dimensions and weight, with many plates and photographs, some of them brilliant, under the misleading and totally inappropriate title "Next Year in Jerusalem"*** appears to be a piece of showing-off rather than of contemplation. In its whole make-up it is certainly not to everyone's taste. It is dominated by articles about American show-biz and success stories of Jews who came to the New World from the East European *Shtetl* penniless and achieved prominence in commerce (with astronomical incomes) and in such areas as movies and musicals. There are also some mistakes. Yet, as the reader is informed that the persons invited to contribute articles were not told about the rest of the contents, it so happens that a number of serious contributions found their way into the book. To some of these I am going to confine my comments. They are pondering the question: where does the average non-religious, or in any case non-orthodox, Jew stand today? In which respect are his relations to being Jewish relevant at a time when the confidence that Zionism would definitely "solve" the Jewish problem, is crumbling away?

A critical analysis of the situation after the experiences of the past decades, when the bulk of Eastern European Jewry for whose sake and in whose spirit Zionism was conceived almost a hundred years ago,† has tragically disappeared, was recently given by professor J. L. Talmon of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, in an enlightening essay called "Reflections of an Historian in Israel".‡ He comes to the conclusion that on prevailing evidence "the most history-ridden and history-obsessed people finds itself torn between

* "The Internal Problems of the Movement" in: Adolf Böhm, *Die Zionistische Bewegung bis zum Ende des ersten Weltkrieges*, Zweite Auflage, Berlin 1935, pp. 291-306.

** *Jews in the Twentieth Century*, edited by Douglas Villiers. Harrap, London, 1976, 352 pp. and many pictures. £12.50.

† On these beginnings see the recent instructive book by David Vital, "The Origins of Zionism", London 1975, Oxford University Press. It shows convincingly that the fathers of Zionist ideology were motivated solely by the conditions in the Russian Pale and orientated on the elements of Jewish civilisation developed there. Neither other Jewish groups, such as the Jews in Arab and African countries who today form the majority of Israel's Jewish population, nor the conditions of Palestine with its Arab inhabitants, played a role in this thinking.

‡ Encounter, London, May, 1976, pp. 82-90.

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On the Eve of the Holy Days

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solipsistic self-apotheosis, which comes from an idolisation of history, and self-rejection which is the result of a denial of the past". The crisis of identity, Talmon says, "is producing a far-reaching polarisation of the two extremes of the ideological spectrum".

Talmon's thesis is illustrated by some articles in "Next Year in Jerusalem". As the most radical advocate of "denial of the past" appears on p.98 Arthur Koestler, the Budapest-born writer once a fierce supporter of the most extreme Zionist Revisionist faction with its terrorist wing, who recently made the "sensational discovery" that the existence of a Jewish people is a myth, because those today called Jews are descendants of the Chazars, the Caucasian race which adopted Jewish religion in the 8th century and after the collapse of their empire spread westwards, so that all European Jewry, East and West, stems from this source.

There is nothing new in the idea that Diaspora Jewry should disappear in order to escape persecution or discrimination, and, at worst, extermination. Many suggested mass baptism in the 19th century. But experience has shown that there is nowhere to go, even if they wanted to, because gentile society would perhaps admit individuals but not alien masses. A programme of this kind would only evoke resistance, and the Jews would become more separated and unwanted than before. In a letter to the editor of this book (p. 106), Sir Isaiah Berlin refutes Koestler's argument. Sir Isaiah's plea for pluralism and respect for otherness in a civilised world is more convincing and more humane. His own career demonstrates that loyalty to the Jewish community does not prevent social and intellectual integration and is respected by the gentile world. But one cannot deny the difficulty to define Jewishness if the old religious bonds and the ceremonial way of life have been abandoned as is the case with the majority of non-Orthodox Jews. What remains has been described as family bonds, nostalgic sentimentality, social cohesion, adherence to folklore, etc.

What being Jewish means

But there is more to that than hits the eye. Men like the famous American sociologist Thorstein Veblen or the English scientist and author C. P. Snow have been puzzled by the explosion of Jewish intelligence in so many fields of life: they explained it by the peculiarity of the Jewish mind—a view not always acceptable to radical assimilationists who abhorred any emphasis laid on what could be interpreted as admitting a factor separating the Jews from other citizens. The inner-Jewish controversy about the special character of the Jew even in the post-assimilation era continued for decades, particularly in German-speaking Central Europe. It was exacerbated by the fact that the growing antisemitic movement

with its racial (*völkisch*) ideology increasingly stigmatised the Jew as an alien, different from the bulk of citizens. This attitude was sustained by the development in the 19th and 20th centuries of the idea of an exclusively monolithic nation-state, unfortunately later encouraged unintentionally by Woodrow Wilson's principle of self-determination, misused like so many other originally sound ideas. The United States themselves, however, as we may remember in their jubilee year, remained faithful to the superior idea of pluralism.

Anyhow, the impact of hostile comment against aliens had its effect in Germany on Jewish intellectuals too, a fact to which many literary documents bear witness. As an example I should like to mention an exchange of letters between Fritz Mauthner (1849-1923), the philosopher of language and historian of Atheism, and his close friend Gustav Landauer (1870-1919). Mauthner was a radical assimilationist with teutonic leanings. In a letter to Landauer he wrote on October 10, 1913: "I feel myself to be a German and nothing else; at the same time I know that my brain has somehow a *ductus* which is called Jewish. . . ." To which Landauer replied: "Whether you call the Jewish character a 'duct of the brain' and add the word 'only', is not relevant. Relevant is that by calling this 'duct' Jewish you are referring not to an individual trait of yours but to something which you share with other people. . . . A community recognisable, as you say, by a 'duct of the brain' is, after all, reality enough".*

This old theme recurs several times in "Next Year in Jerusalem". Many years ago, Sigmund Freud said that he regarded himself as Jewish although as an agnostic, an anti-racist and anti-nationalist, he would be at a loss to define the meaning of the word in precise terms. Yet, certain answers, if not solutions, have been offered on various occasions. Some say that the average Jew is the most radical "nationalist", an after-effect of the allegedly most nationalistic religion. Others regard the Jew as the very prototype of universalist, not only in the wake of the teaching of the Prophets but also because emancipated Jews had to accentuate what is common to all human beings beyond national or racial particularities. This, in fact, became suspect in the era of the nation-state and of totalitarianism, culminating in Stalin's persecution — and extermination — of what he called "cosmopolitan" elements.

Beyond the Power of Words

Something seems to be hidden in the soul of the Jew, which predestines him to a special kind of irrational, perhaps mystical, reaction and communication; it is beyond rational language because it transcends the power of words. George Steiner, the master in the study and interpretation of the mystery of language and its limits, and of the role played by mathematics and by music, returns to this problem

* Gustav Landauer, *Sein Lebensgang in Briefen*, hg. von Martin Buber, Frankfurt 1929, Vol. I, pp. 450/51. — Cf. also Year Book VIII of the Leo Baeck Institute, London 1963, pp. XXIV ff.

in his contribution. He concludes his great essay on the "Meta-Rabbis" [of the Diaspora] — one of the most impressive in this book — by stating (p. 76):

"Of that of which one cannot speak one must be silent, urged Wittgenstein. There has always been a Jewish alternative: of that of which one cannot speak one must sing."

Perhaps something similar was in the mind of Arnold Schönberg when he put in the mouth of his Moses the desperate outcry "Wort, Wort, das mir fehlt". To say in music what its creator wanted to be communicated was the purpose of the opera *Moses und Aaron*. The towering and enigmatical figure of Schönberg, by the way, is appreciated (p. 308) in an essay "The Composer" by his disciple Peter Stadlen, a born Viennese, now the Daily Telegraph's outstanding music critic. This author, too, is led to consider

"whether, quite apart from the immense influence wielded in their respective fields by Schönberg, Marx, Freud and Einstein . . . there might not be a common denominator in their mode of thinking, a certain intrepidity, perhaps, in the face of paradox, seeming or real . . ."

— in other words, the impenetrable secret of the working of the "ductus in the brain" acquired in the course of many generations through centuries of mental training and common destiny.

As to the receptivity of the Jewish mind — and the Jewish soul — to music, Yehudi Menuhin, who certainly has to know it, makes some pertinent points in a study on the Jewish violinist (p. 330). As a violinist, Menuhin says, the Jew, and specifically the Russian Jew, is almost unparalleled in the modern world; this phenomenon "stems from the fusion of the cultivated and the wild, of the studied with the improvised, of the urban with the nomad, of the rooted with the exile. . . ." Menuhin wonders whether the cherished tradition of playing the violin will continue in Israel, under the pressures and requirements of national survival. And then, suddenly, he concludes with a quotation.

"Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound:

They shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance".

The author does not give the source; it is taken from the liturgy for Rosh Hashana and thus particularly appropriate to a meditation occasioned by the forthcoming festival. These are the lines recited in the Synagogue after the first blowing of the Shofar. In their original Hebrew:

אשרי העם יודעי תרועה ה באורפנדך יהלכון
The translation varies; in the Prayer Book of the New Liberal Congregation in London (edited by Rabbi Jakob Kokotek) the text is rendered as follows:

Happy is the people that understand the sound of the Shofar,

In Thy Light, O Lord, shall they walk.

In Central Europe the usual Machzorim carried a German translation which reads:

Heil dem Volk, das den Posaunenschall versteht,
Herr, im Lichte Deines Antlitzes werden sie wandeln.

This has always been a cry of comfort to a tormented Jewish community assembled on this Holy Day and tensely looking forward to a New Year. For me it is linked with a personal reminiscence which, with apologies to Menuhin, may serve as an appropriate winding-up of these observations. At the first Rosh Hashanah under the Hitler regime I chose this famous verse as the banner headline on the front page of the New Year edition of the *Jüdische Rundschau* which appeared in Berlin

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HERZL'S UGANDA PLAN

In 1903, exactly seventy-three years ago, Theodor Herzl, acting through his British representative Leopold Jacob Greenberg, later Editor of the "Jewish Chronicle", requested the London law firm of Lloyd George, Roberts & Co. to draw up a charter for Jewish settlement in British controlled Uganda. His Majesty's Government had offered an area in the Interior, not yet definitely delineated, for this purpose. Greenberg had, no doubt, thought that the influence of Lloyd George, Liberal member of Parliament and expert on East Africa, might come in useful.

One of the proposed names for the territory which Herzl hoped might be a forerunner of a Jewish State in Palestine, was "New Palestine". The charter was to be made out to the newly established Jewish Colonial Trust — a British foundation for which Herzl, a foreigner, was not in a position to sign. The draft stated, that this Jewish colony was "to promote the well-being of the Jewish People" and "to encourage the Jewish-national idea".

Greenberg—who had done most of the talking with the British officials—said that it was no small matter that the British Government had offered the Jewish people a home—and besides the place might be a suitable "drilling-ground for our national forces".

The Colonial Secretary, Joseph Chamberlain, received Herzl—who spoke English fairly well—twice in October, 1902. He was visibly impressed by Herzl's description of the misery of the Jewish masses in Eastern Europe, poverty-ridden and haunted by fears of pogroms. Herzl told him that he was looking for some interim territory because he had made no progress in his attempts to get a Palestine Charter from Sultan Abdul Hamid: "You know what it

means to talk to a Turk. If you want to buy a carpet, you have to drink half a dozen cups of coffee first and to smoke a hundred cigarettes; then you have to make small talk about the family and only from time to time you mention the carpet". Chamberlain was amused. And Herzl continued: "Now, I personally may have time to negotiate that way — but my people have not. They are dying of hunger. I must help them".

Herzl explained his ideas about preliminary Jewish colonisation attempts envisaged in Cyprus and in the El Arish area on the Eastern fringe of the Sinai Peninsula. Chamberlain replied that as Colonial Secretary he could only speak about Cyprus, but chances for Jewish colonisation there did not seem promising as the local Greeks and Turks might be afraid of competition. It would probably be different with underdeveloped Egypt which was under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Secretary, the Marquis of Lansdowne. Here, Herzl quipped: "We don't want to go to Egypt proper, we've already been there".

Egypt and El-Arish were seriously discussed and it was agreed to continue the talks through Lansdowne and Greenberg, and also to consult Lord Cromer, Britain's man in Cairo, and to send Jewish experts to investigate. In the end, largely due to Egyptian conditions and Lord Cromer's resistance, nothing came of all this, so that finally Herzl accepted Chamberlain's Uganda offer which was expressed in a Statement of Intent, dated August 14, 1903, from the Colonial Office to L. J. Greenberg and provided for negotiations between the British Government and the Jewish Colonial Trust on proposals regarding Jewish settlement in East Africa. The boundaries between Uganda and British East Africa were being delineated at about this time and the area foreseen for Jewish settlement was actually in what is now Kenya—though the scheme was referred to as "the Uganda scheme".

The letter said that the Marquis of Lansdowne was studying the whole problem with that interest which HMG always showed for any well-considered plan aiming at the improvement of the situation of the Jewish

race. Provided that a suitable place for settlement could be found, Lansdowne was ready to make favourable proposals for the foundation of a Jewish colony which would enable the settlers to pursue their own national interests . . . in a large area, in security and with provisions for a Jewish-directed self-administration of all communal and religious matters, while the British Government would maintain general over-all control.

This Statement of Intent by the British Government, headed by Arthur James Balfour, already contains some elements of the Balfour Declaration of 1917, though Herzl never met Balfour whom Weizmann convinced of the seriousness and morality of the Zionist concept two years later. Thus Joseph Chamberlain showed his sympathy for Jewish national aspirations even before Balfour.

In fact, he received a vote of thanks from the Sixth Zionist Congress in August 1903, but Herzl's efforts were not recognised by most of the delegates. His suggestion of a possible detour on the Zionist road to Palestine engendered a storm of protest. Many of the delegates, particularly those from Russia, denounced him as a "traitor" to the ideal of the return to Zion. It did not help him much that he only asked for an investigation of the project, which was merely intended as a "night shelter (Nachtsyl)" (Max Nordau) for the homeless Jewish masses in Eastern Europe to whom the Turks still denied immigration to Palestine while the Western countries and USA became more restrictive in their immigration policy. Herzl succeeded in getting approval for sending a delegation of experts to East Africa but—no funds were budgeted to pay for its expenses.

In November 1903 a conference at Kharkov, organised by Menachem Ussishkin (later President of the Jewish National Fund) decided to put an end to the Uganda scheme which they denounced as the "dezionisation of Zionism". It was decided to send a delegation to Dr Herzl who was very ill in Vienna at that time, to demand: (a) that he should forget about Uganda once and for all; (b) that he should never again submit to the Congress any project for settlement elsewhere than in Palestine; (c) that he should devote all his efforts to practical work in Palestine. If he did not accept these demands, the Kharkov group threatened to walk out and found a separate Zionist organisation.

Herzl was deeply offended and refused to see the Kharkov delegates. However, in April 1904, there was a meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee in Vienna where he managed to convince the anti-Ugandists that he had always remained faithful to the Zionist programme. He died on July 3, 1904, at the age of 44, in Edlach near Vienna—worn out by these bitter disputes. In the meantime the British Government had withdrawn its offer, and the Seventh Zionist Congress of 1905 ruled that the Zionist Organisation should aim exclusively at settlement in the Land of Israel.

ON THE EVE OF THE HOLY DAYS (CONCLUDED)

on September 20, 1933. This caused a sensational resonance because it implied a defiance which a later generation may fail to understand. Among Jews, the Wagnerian word "Heil", usually translated in Hebrew as "Ashrei", had acquired an odious flavour because of its topical connotation: after Hitler had been appointed Reichskanzler it was decreed that the only salutation in Germany had to be *Heil Hitler* (not among Jews, of course). The simple *Guten Tag*, or (in Alpine regions) *Grüss Gott*, etc., were abolished; anybody using them became suspect. Thus, there was a hidden challenge—however innocent—in the different meaning of the word "Heil", a *chutzpah* in the eyes of the Nazis, to use a word recently included in the new Concise Oxford Dictionary. It was, perhaps, a childish satisfaction, but under the circumstances of September, 1933, the impact was unmistakable.

Jews, at that time in Germany, felt a sort of moral superiority whenever the gap between themselves and National Socialism was underlined; in this case in the application of the little but solemn word *Heil*. Thus, Yehudi Menuhin's quotation (in his context without outspoken relation to the "Day of Remembrance", as the New Year is called in the Liturgy) turns back our memory to those awful days 43 years ago, and indeed to many other past events. Whenever considering the Jewish situation, we are admonished not to forfeit our memories, neither as individuals nor as a people.

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It is announced with deep regret that
MR. WERNER M. BEHR, O.B.E.,

Past Chairman of the A.J.R. and Joint
Chairman of the Council of Jews from
Germany, suddenly died on August 22, 1976.

A full appreciation of his signal services
to the Jewish community will be published
in our next issue.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

USA

Jimmy Carter and the Jews

When the Democratic candidate for the Presidency, Mr. Jimmy Carter, accepted his nomination, he said: "Ours is the party that welcomed generations of immigrants—the Jews, the Irish, the Italians, the Poles—enlisted them in its ranks and fought the political battles that helped bring them into the American main stream—and they have shaped the character of our party. This is the heritage. . . . Ours is a tradition of leadership, compassion and progress".

His vice-presidential team-mate, Senator Mondale has supported Israel on all issues during his service in Congress. In 1974 he took the initiative in sponsoring a proposal by the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee to increase US assistance to Israel by about £110 million and military grants by about £55 million. He was also a sponsor of the amendment making US trade concessions to the Soviet Union dependent on the liberation of Russian emigration policies.

What is an antisemite?

The highest commanding officer of the United States, General George Brown, has been attacked for stating in public that Jews and other ethnical groups exercised too much power in Congress. However, his appointment as head of the Pentagon Chiefs of Staff was extended by the Senate against the votes of the three Jewish senators Javits, Ribicoff and Stone. They were reminded that it had been General Brown who organised the air-lift to Israel during the Yom Kippur War. John Tower, Senator for Texas, defended him saying: "He is no antisemite, he only lacks judgement and sensitivity".

Films on Entebbe planned

About a dozen international film companies, including the Hollywood studios of Warner Brothers, Paramount and Universal are seeking Israeli Government help to make films of the Entebbe rescue operation. The Israeli Government has declared that it will actively co-operate in the production of Warner Brothers' film, but will not prevent independent producers from making their own films. Warner Brothers says it has already signed Steve McQueen, the US film star to play General Dan Shomron, the Israeli commander of the raid.

Shofar blown in the White House

As part of his election campaign, President Ford invited some 30 Jewish leaders to a 90-minute session at the White House to outline his long record of support for Israel. Six rabbis who head congregations established 100 years before the American Revolution of 1776, presented him with a letter attesting the congregations' 200-year span of loyalty to the country. Repeating George Washington's words to these congregations, Mr. Ford promised "to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance". The rabbis also presented a shofar to the president, who tried but failed to blow it. Rabbi Musleah of Philadelphia's Mikveh Israel synagogue, did it for him.

Synagogue at West Point

Five million dollars will be needed to erect the synagogue which it has just been decided to build at the American Military Academy of West Point. It will be used by Jewish tutors and students.

GREECE

Child Martyrs remembered

A memorial to the 12,000 Jewish children of Salonika, murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War, was unveiled in Israel's new diplomatic offices which were opened in Athens. The offices have been built at a cost of some £250,000 provided by the Salonika Jewish community.

MEXICO

Strip cartoons on "Protocols" in Mexico

Mexican Jews are deeply shocked by the publication of rabidly antisemitic strip cartoons in the popular press and in particular at the reproduction of quotations from the infamous Tsarist antisemite forgery "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" in coloured cartoons in the bi-weekly magazine "Los Penitentes", a relatively new publication. It is distributed not only in Mexico, but also among Mexican emigrants in the United States to whom it is exported at low prices. The Mexican Government does not share the fears of its 38,000 Jews and maintains that "free expression" even of obnoxious views, is guaranteed by the constitution.

SOUTH AFRICA

Extradition of Financier demanded

Israel has been asked by the South African Government for the immediate extradition of Mr. Savell, wanted by the police in connection with a £6 million fraud charge. He fled to Israel after the collapse of the Sidarel Finance Company of which he was chairman. It had left hundreds of investors, many of them pensioners, penniless. If the extradition is granted, it will be the first after the recent signing of an amended extradition treaty.

Jewish Cricketer starts Newspaper

Mr Wilfred Isaacs, the sponsor of the Jewish cricket eleven which bears his name and has toured Holland, Britain and Denmark, has joined the board of publishers of a projected new morning paper "The Citizen" which is financed by the fertiliser millionaire Mr. Louis Luyt and aims at countering "the ultra-liberal, anti-South African policies of the Rand Daily Mail". His own takeover bid for that paper was rejected.

THE JEWS OF JAPAN

The Jewish community in Tokyo, numbering about 120 families, has elected the Japanese diplomat Mitsugi Shibata an honorary life member. The former Rabbi of the community, Rabbi Tokayer who emigrated to Israel with his wife and two Japan-born children, found Mr. Shibata after a five-year search. In 1941, as a young diplomat in Shanghai, Mr. Shibata had been horrified to learn of a plot by the Japanese secret police, the Kempetai, to put several thousand Jewish refugees aboard a ship and sink it in deep waters. He immediately alerted the heads of the Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities, and the Kempetai, realising that their plan had been revealed, called off the action. Mr. Shibata had previously served in Shanghai. At that time there were about 20,000 Jewish refugees from Germany and Poland, including 500 rabbis and religious students, in Shanghai and Manchuria. They were generously treated by the Japanese authorities until, after the outbreak of war, members of the German SS arrived in Tokyo and informed the secret police that these refugees were a subversive threat. The Kempetai leaders planned their pogrom for the night of Rosh Hashana 1942. Several people who were at a Jewish meeting to discuss Mr. Shibata's disclosures, were arrested and tortured. Mr. Shibata was placed in solitary confinement for 40 days, sent back to Japan and banned from China for 50 years.

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FRANCE

18 Yad Vashem Awards

In Paris 17 men and one woman were honoured by being awarded the Certificate of the Yad Vashem and having a forest of 30,000 trees planted in their honour for saving Jews from the Nazis, very often at the risk of their own lives. The one woman among them is Beate Klarsfeld, better known for her endeavours to have German war criminals brought to justice. Among the 17 men are Alain Poher, the president of the French Senate, Gaston Defferre, mayor of Marseille, the dramatist Eugene Ionesco and several leaders of the Church.

Bombs in Paris

A bomb explosion caused extensive damage to the offices of the International League against Antisemitism and Racism in Paris. On an outside wall, the words "Peiper will be revenged" were written in black paint. A former SS Colonel Joachim Peiper who went to live in Traves, eastern France, six years ago, was apparently killed by former resistance workers when his house was burned down. His remains have not been positively identified.

NEWS FROM THE EAST

Israeli Scientists barred

Only one of 16 Israeli geographers who applied for visas to attend the International Geographers' Conference in Moscow, will be admitted by the Russian authorities.

No emigration for village Jews

The Soviet government has refused to let 80 Jewish peasant families from the village of Ilyinka, 400 miles from Moscow, emigrate to Israel. They are the descendants of Russians who converted to Judaism several centuries ago. One member of the families had called the attention of the Jewish activist Vladimir Slepak to their plight. He was 81-year-old Mr. Varnavsky who though illiterate could recite Hebrew prayers. The villagers worship on Saturdays, observe the festivals and bake matzot. Every boy born is taken 650 miles to the Caspian Sea for circumcision by mohelim of the "Mountain Jews" living there. When in 1937 their shochet was arrested during one of the Stalin purges, they refrained from eating meat for four years. Now they eat only meat from their own herds.

A sombre anniversary

Representatives of the Rumanian Federation of Jewish Communities and of the Communist Party paid homage to the many thousands of Jews murdered by the Nazis and their agents in the Moldavian town of Jassy in June 1941. The tributes which marked the 35th anniversary of the massacres, were widely reported by the press, radio and television. The mayor, Mr. Manciu, unveiled the memorial built by the town council in the square of the 300-year-old Great Synagogue and said it was to remind people that such atrocities must never again be allowed to happen. Nearly every member of the Jassy Jewish community and 800 representatives from the other Moldavian communities attended a memorial service conducted by Chief Rabbi Dr. Rosen in the Jewish cemetery where a great number of the victims are buried in common graves. He also paid homage to the 1,200 men and women who died in the "Death Train" on which the Nazis deported Jews after the pogrom of June 29, 1941.

Yiddish Theatre Centenary

The world-famous Yiddish Theatre, founded in Jassy, Rumania, in 1876, celebrates its 100th anniversary by giving performances of Isaac Babel's tragedy "Sunset" in Warsaw, Breslau, Liegnitz and Waldenburg. The play deals with the tragic life of the Odessa Jew Mendel Krik.

HOME NEWS

UNITED FRONT TO FIGHT RACIALISM?

The Board of Deputies' defence and group relations committee participated in an anti-racist rally in Hyde Park and a march to Downing Street which had been arranged by West Indian Organisations. The organisers had given an undertaking that the Arab-Israeli conflict would be kept out of the rally, but in his speech, the Pakistani Left-winger Tariq Ali made offensive anti-Israeli remarks. Subsequently the Board of Deputies and the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen who had joined the rally were severely criticised, in particular by the Right-wing Herut section. The chairman of Herut, Mr. M. Benjamin, said at the Board Meeting of the Board of Deputies after the rally that they would have to decide whether they were prepared to combat racialism in the company of bed-fellows who wished to see the destruction of Israel. Mr R. Kalman defended the Board saying that the rally organisers had lost control to such groups as the International Socialists, the Maoists and the Trotskyites all of whom were anti-Zionist. Nevertheless, the Board should ignore the "lunatic fringe of the Left" and co-operate with the constructive elements of the coloured community. In a letter to Mr Joshi, chairman of the West Indian National Demonstration Committee, the Board stated that it was glad to have had the opportunity to stand with the coloured population "in the forefront of combating racialism and all forms of discrimination" and to have conveyed to them the Chief Rabbi's support in their fight. "Having been the first victims of racial discrimination", the statement continued, "we want to use our experience to promote closer ties between us in order to help with the problems of integration without loss of religious or cultural identity... We extend the hand of friendship to the Asian and African communities and we certainly hope that you will reciprocate this idea".

LABOUR FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

Mr Arthur Bottomley, MP, a former Commonwealth Secretary and Minister for Overseas Aid, has been elected chairman of the parliamentary branch of the Labour Friends of Israel. Throughout his political career, he has been a staunch supporter of Israel and greatly concerned with the fate of racially oppressed people, including Jews in Arab lands. Mr Bottomley succeeds Mr Leslie Huckfield, MP, who had to relinquish the chairmanship when he became Under-Secretary of State for Industry.

SIR HAROLD WILSON'S JEWISH ENGAGEMENTS

Sir Harold Wilson has accepted an invitation to be guest of honour at a reception to mark the golden jubilee of British B'nai B'rith. He has also been awarded the Henrietta Szold Award for Services to Israel and the Jewish people by Hadassah, the American women's Zionist organisation.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT GLADSTONE PARK

The sixth annual interdenominational memorial service, organised by the Willesden branch of Ajax, in memory of those who died in prisoner of war camps and in concentration camps, will be held on Sunday afternoon, 19th September, at the Prisoners Memorial, Gladstone Park, N.W.2.

Members and friends of the AJR are invited to attend the Service, which will commence at 3 p.m.

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PROTEST AGAINST OMISSION OF JEWS FROM MEMORIAL

Mr. Greville Janner QC, MP, protested in a letter to the Soviet Ambassador against the fact that the Babi Yar monument to the massacred victims of Nazism did not mention that almost the entire Jewish population of Kiev was among them and that Jews were not mentioned at all. An embassy official said in an official reply, that a special mention of Jews would have meant setting them apart artificially. "The people of Jewish nationality in our country are on a completely equal footing with all other nationalities... We should show respect for the fact... that the Soviet Union and its army have done for Jews more than any other country in the world". Mr Janner wrote back to say there was not a single monument to Jewish victims in Russia even in places where the whole Jewish community had been murdered. "This silence over the fate of those condemned by Hitler Germany to the Final solution is inexplicable to civilised opinion and particularly wounding to Soviet Jews".

STUDY IN ISRAEL FOR BRITISH STUDENTS

The Hebrew University is providing a special pre-university course for students accepted by a British university where the emphasis will be on the understanding of Judaism as a religion and culture and on an introduction to the history of the Jewish people in modern times and of the State of Israel. The students will live in new dormitories on Mount Scopus and will have the benefit of a university group leader.

Dr. Conway, former headmaster of the JFS in Camden, has been appointed by the Zionist Federation Educational Trust to expand the scheme he operated at the JFS under which school-children spent six months in Israel to study and live as members of a community of contemporaries. The staff of the JFS have planted an avenue of trees in the Ben-Gurion Forest to express their gratitude to Dr. Conway, and pupils of the school have presented him with a cheque to be used to purchase a gift for the Givat Washington High School where they stayed during their visit to Israel.

CHARTER FLIGHTS TO ELATH

At last, the Israeli civil aviation authorities have agreed to charter flights from Britain to Elath this winter. After November 4, Dan-Air will have one flight leaving every second Thursday. Cost for a two-week holiday: between £136 and £196.

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ANGLO-JUDAICA

An ambitious programme

Mr. Benjamin M. Kuras, a 32-year-old former Prague journalist and convert to Judaism, has, after a period with the BBC and the Young Vic, become an independent theatrical manager. At the moment he is in charge of an ambitious 3-month season of Ballet and Dance at the Collegiate Theatre, Gordon Street, London. One of the most interesting programmes was that of Cary Rick with dances on biblical themes. Mr. Kuras stated that he had become a Jew three years ago in London because he no longer shared the agnosticism of his Catholic family. Judaism seemed to him to be the only answer to the meaning of life.

Chief Rabbi's gratitude to CBF

Dr. Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi, recently paid a short visit to Dublin to launch an appeal by the Central British Fund's local committee. He said that coming to Ireland felt to him like coming home because he had been Chief Rabbi of Ireland from 1949 to 1957 and five of his children had been born there. He said he owed a great debt to the CBF which had rescued him and his family from Germany when he was 15, and he was honoured to be now a vice-president of the organisation.

A new kind of queue

When he opened a new mikvah at Bournemouth, the Chief Rabbi Dr. Jakobovits said that in the past few months three new mikvahs had been opened—an unprecedented event in the 300-year history of the Anglo-Jewish community. He added that young wives were forming long queues at the mikvah in sharp contrast to their mothers who had largely ignored this ancient Jewish tradition. The Bournemouth mikvah however had to open "dry"—because of the drought there was no water available.

First Prison Governor

Mr Jack Shulman has been appointed governor of Highpoint Prison near Newmarket which will be opened next February and will have 300 inmates by the end of 1977. Mr. Shulman was deputy governor at two Aylesbury prisons for two years, and previously assistant governor at Maidstone and Wormwood Scrubs. He is the only Jewish governor in the prison service, and a former organiser of Maccabi.

School row at Prestwich

At the garden party of the Prestwich Jewish Day School, a parent Mr. Leslie Feuer had a microphone taken away from him by a senior governor when he was singing the Hatikvah, the Jewish national anthem. Angry parents, protesting against the alleged anti-Zionism of the school, are threatening to take their children away.

Jerusalem Fashion Week in London

Mr. Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem, visited London recently en route to New York to meet some of the prospective buyers at the first ever Jerusalem Fashion Week in London. Sir Marcus Sieff, chairman of Marks & Spencer, gave a reception in his honour and said there was no better way to support Israel than to do business as business. He said he was doing so because Israel was a first-class source of supply. In 1975 Israel exported £13 million worth of textiles to this country.

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FOUNDING FATHER OF RHODESIA

The Remarkable Career of Alfred Beit

As Rhodesia prepares to keep her "date with destiny", the memory inevitably strays back to her origins, the days when the country first came into political life. She was the creation of Cecil Rhodes, the greatest of the latter-day Empire-builders, and his story of course is amply recorded. But Rhodesia is just as much indebted to a less well-known man who happened to be a German-born Jew, Alfred Beit, who was in fact Rhodes' right arm, and it seems certain that without him the country might never have been built. He died 70 years ago, aged 53, and though the press of the world then duly noted the event, the name has since settled in that obscurity which the modest man eagerly courted throughout his formidable career.

Beit, who left such millions as Rothschild and Wolfson might envy, was, as a financier, a visionary genius and he holds a sure title to fame. But he was fated, and perhaps fortunately so, to meet a greater, more dramatic genius who cast a spell over him and sometimes, however unjustly, a powerful shadow too. No two men could have been, at first sight, more strikingly unlike. Rhodes was the son of an Anglican clergyman, Beit of a Jewish businessman; the one was a British imperialist, the other a German merchant. Beit (says his biographer, G. Seymour Fort) was "an internationalist both in outlook and purpose", while Rhodes "thought and acted in terms of the Anglo-Saxon race".

Yet they were "so essentially alike in spirit, character and mental qualities that they inevitably arrived at complete unity". Neither of them intellectuals or scholars, both possessed "great powers of organisation which they used as much for the productive expenditure of wealth as for its acquisition, and above all for the maintenance of a practical form of Imperial policy". Each had the same sweep of constructive vision and each also absolute confidence in the other. If Rhodes' belief in the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon race was romantic, so was Beit's "supreme faith in the reality of Rhodes' ideas".

Beit came from Hamburg, the son of a struggling businessman who could offer at best a meagre existence. Beit's education was irregular owing to delicate health and he later often declared himself unable to write a grammatical letter. But then of course he could do different things. In 1875, aged 22, he went out to South Africa as the representative of a shipper's office doing business with the then new mining settlement at Kimberley. He was fortunate in that he arrived in the early days of the world's richest diamond field, but he was efficient as he boldly seized the opportunity. Diamonds were found in such quantities that wealth could be had almost for the asking, and having served first with two relatively small firms, Beit began to co-ordinate production on a commercial basis.

He was probably the first to realise that unless some control was established, restraining the urge to get rich quickly and ensuring "the orderly evolution of the diamond fields out of the welter of unbridled production and competition", the diamond industry would be ruined by its own expansion, and he lost no time in taking action after he had met Rhodes who possessed the same ambition. Between them they brought off the great take-over by which they formed the towering De Beers Consolidated Mines Company. When soon afterwards rumours of gold filtered through, they immediately staked claims on the Rand, and by 1888 their British South Africa Com-

pany struck north into what is now Rhodesia.

If Beit readily acknowledged the daring master-mind of Rhodes who could force the astute (Jewish) rivals, "Barney" Barnato and Wolf Joel, to accept "amalgamation", nevertheless it was he, "little Alfred" (as Rhodes was fond of calling him) who, by his tenacity of purpose, ensured a successful issue. And this was true throughout their association. The huge schemes mapped out by Rhodes were shaped by Beit to practical proportions. Well has it been said that without Beit, Rhodes would have been "helpless and muddled in details of business, yawning over balance-sheets and puzzled by costs of production", and without Rhodes "whispering sonorous words of conquest", Beit would have "dwindled to a successful share-dealer".

But while the making and managing of money was in Beit's blood, it did not all fill his mind. He seemed to be embarrassed by it, and being by nature an introvert (who never married), he had an almost nervous dread of publicity. He was however intensely aware of the social obligation that money carries. "Remember (he used to say) you cannot expect to make money unless others make it with you. To do anything big you must also be careful that others will prosper with you."

One of the many stories told about him has it that Rhodes once wondered what had brought him from the Fatherland to Africa. Beit blushed (as he often did) and said: "Hm, if you want to know — only one reason, to make money, to make enough money to give my mother in Hamburg a thousand pounds a year and keep her a carriage and pair with a liveried coachman".

No single need seemed to him greater for the immediate purposes of civilisation as he (and Rhodes) could best conceive them, than the opening up of what then still was the dark continent by way of all kinds of communication. He believed that (in his own words) "by construction of railways, telegraphs (including wireless telegraphy) and telephones, and kindred or other methods of transmission of persons, goods and messages, civilisation will be best advanced and expedited in Africa for the benefit of the inhabitants, whether native or immigrant". Accordingly, he left £1,200,000 for the building of the Cape-Cairo Railway, and particularly Southern Africa benefited much from his generosity.

In the South African press Beit was included among those "Jews in our midst who have shown great interest and devotion to our land and by their spirit of enterprise have brought benefit not only to themselves but also to the State". "By the common man (General Smuts testified) Beit will be remembered mainly because of his services to transport in South Africa. Who has not travelled over the wide expanse of Southern and Northern Rhodesia and has not blessed the memory of Beit at sight of a bridge or a causeway over a hopelessly deep and rough river-bed, even when there was no water flowing in it? These useful memorials of Beit are scattered all over that young country".

The most memorable perhaps is the Alfred Beit Bridge spanning the Limpopo river towards the Transvaal, one of Rhodesia's most vital links with her neighbours, and it seems an appropriate monument too, for shy though he was, almost to the point of self-effacement, Beit would have loved nothing better than to be remembered as a builder of bridges—in every respect, and therefore, like so many Jews, he took a particular interest in educa-

tion, if only to make up for the schooling he had been denied. If the sums he spent on his cause are a reliable yardstick, he may well be regarded, on that score alone, as one of the most generous benefactors of his time.

Nor were the gifts confined to Rhodesian or South Africa's high schools (including the universities of Johannesburg and Cape Town). A Chair of Colonial History was established at Oxford; £160,000 was bequeathed to London University's College of Technology and Medical Science Funds, and a grateful thought was spared for his native city of Hamburg which received £100,000 to build a university.

The Germans appreciated his "warm interest" while at the same time wondering why it was that "Germans outside Germany have managed, within a relatively short time, to secure great economic and political power". In its memoir of Beit in 1906, one of Berlin's liberal papers found that this was "by no means an accident", because it was "precisely the ablest men" who "soon realise that Germany puts so many obstacles in their path that they follow the most elementary common sense when they prefer to apply their talents abroad. Our bigotry in political, social and religious affairs has always driven away the very best people", and it was "Germany's misfortune" that in this way "our most dangerous rivals on the world markets—the United States and Britain—reap immeasurable benefits from the services rendered by Germans".

Normally Beit was at pains to keep clear of politics which, on the whole wisely, he left to Rhodes, but such was his devotion to the friend that, much against his better judgement, he got himself involved in the notorious Jameson Raid which eventually sparked off the Boer War. He assisted, no doubt at Rhodes' bidding, the Outlanders' rebellion against Krueger.

Inevitably, having settled in London, he was assailed by a great deal of hostility, much of it unscrupulous and often directed against his German origin and/or Jewish birth. It little availed him that, under Rhodes' inspiration, he had become an ardent imperialist, and the detractors were not interested in the fact (noted by the biographer) that "England would have been a definitely poorer country if these German-British subjects had elected to domicile themselves elsewhere".

There was a strong anti-German feeling in the country, and the Anglo-Germans of Beit's generation, including the Court Jews of Edward VII, were almost bound to be misunderstood as they worked for good relations between the two powers. However sound the intention of the Rhodes scholarships, an Anglo-German entente simply did not then go well with the Rhodes-Beit concept of a United British Empire as the embodiment of an idea embracing and superseding all national differences.

Nor was Beit always the most inspired protagonist of Anglo-German peace. When in 1905 he visited the Kaiser who complained, much like Hitler, of "a certain anti-German section in London", Beit promised to talk his English friends into virtual isolationism; they were to keep out of Continental affairs, leaving the French to the Germans' tender mercies, and as for South Africa, he fancied, the interests of Germany—"only commercial interests"—were identical with those of England.

Beit was not the first hard-headed businessman to reveal remarkable naïveté in politics. Out of his chosen field, the undoubted genius was reduced to commonplace. He was indeed unlikely to carry conviction, even if his health had not by then declined. A few months later he died, four years after Rhodes.

THE CURTAIN COMES DOWN

The great days of the German Stage and Screen in the Twenties and early Thirties produced an unprecedented crop of Jewish talent. Many of our friends whose formative theatrical experiences go back to those days, feel that these standards have never again been reached anywhere. After the Nazis came to power, many of those highly gifted actors, actresses and producers went to Hollywood where there was the hope, often disappointed, of finding congenial work. Others came to this country, and, sometimes with the help of the BBC, often started on a successful second career. Sadly, during the last few weeks, several of them, beloved by us all, have died. In Hollywood Fritz Lang, the master of film suspense who had succeeded where many others failed, died at the age of 86. His films, starting with "Metropolis" and the spine-chilling "M" with Peter Lorre, have become classics of the screen. Lucie Mannheim died in Germany. Frederick Schrecker, aged 83, and Hugo Schuster, nearly 90, died in London. Schrecker will be sadly missed in our old-age homes where he generously entertained the inmates on several occasions. Hugo Schuster was for several years a member of the Berlin "Kulturbund" theatre—prior to his emigration to this country.

Lack of space, unfortunately prevents us from printing in full the many tributes to the life and work of these artists we have received, and a few extracts must suffice.

Fritz Schrecker

"You never stop to learn!" These were Fritz Schrecker's words from the "Waiter's Song" of the London *Laterndl* war-time theatre, broadcast by the BBC shortly after his death. Schrecker developed his art on tour with the great Jewish actress Gisela Werbezirk, and his formative years must have been spent at the "Neue Wiener Volksbühne", where cheap but moneyspinning farces alternated with unforgettable Strindberg productions. Fritz Schrecker's range turned out to be just as comprehensive. How else can it be explained that he was one of the very few admitted to the friendship of such a critical judge of character and quality as Karl Kraus. In a version of his "The Last Night", he entrusted one of the main parts, that of the "Master of the Hyenas"—symbolizing the Austrian press—to Schrecker. Fritz was most versatile, but his effect was never that of alienation. On his 50th birthday, he played Titus Feuerfuchs in Nestroy's "Talisman" at the *Laterndl*. As the *Laterndl*'s nightwatchman and torchbearer he carried a "little light", the light of hope and courage. When he was about to enter an internment camp in 1940, his first words were: "This is where the stage is going to be". And so it was—there was a successful camp theatre. After his release he

worked for the German and Austrian Services of the BBC, and right up to his last days, for film and television. His death came much too soon for all his friends who can only say: "Thanks for the memory!"

Dr. Rudolf Spitz

Hugo Schuster

Hugo Schuster died after a long illness shortly before his 90th birthday. With him an era of German-Jewish theatre history has come to an end. Born at Aachen as the son of a doctor, he started his career at Otto Brahm's Berlin Lessing Theatre, the cradle of naturalism on the stage. During the First World War, he acted in soldiers' theatres in the front-line. In the Twenties he played in most of the leading German theatres, but always returned to Berlin. He was attracted, like all great actors of the time, by Max Reinhardt, the magician of the theatre. Reinhardt said of him that his great gifts were most of all displayed in his own productions of Klabund's "Kreidekreis" and Shaw's "St. Joan" where Elizabeth Bergner played the lead. After 1933 he went to Vienna and to the German Theatre in Prague from where he escaped on foot to Poland when the Nazis moved in. From there he came to London. After the outbreak of war he was interned and sent to Australia. After his return to London he was to be seen at the "Kulturbund" and at the "Laterndl". When the war ended, he found employment on the English stage. He appeared in a number of plays, in films and on television where his last great part as the blind autograph hunter in the dramatised version of Stefan Zweig's "The Invisible Collection" once more revealed his mastery. He also took part in radio transmissions and in the German service of the BBC. Between 1956 and 1963 he lived in Germany and appeared in many productions, culminating in Fritz Kortner's Faust. However, he no longer felt at home in post-war Germany and returned to his beautiful home in Golders Green where, with his wife, the former Reinhardt actress Sybil Rares, he

spent his last years full of interest for everything that happened in the world in general and in the world of art.

Heinrich Wiedemann

Lucie Mannheim

1920 spielte eine blutjunge Schauspielerin an der Berliner Volksbühne einen sterbenden indischen Knaben in Rabindranath Tagores "Das Postamt". Der Regisseur war Juergen Fehling, die Schauspielerin Lucie Mannheim. Im Parkett sass ergriffen ein Schuljunge, das war ich. Nie hätte ich mir damals träumen lassen dass ich einmal im Londoner Rundfunk ihr Partner, manches Mal ihr Regisseur sein dürfte, und am wenigsten, dass sie mich einen ihrer Freunde nennen könnte. Dazwischen lag ihre phantastische Karriere. Sie spielte in Berlin an Kaysslers Volksbühne und an Jessners Staatlichem Schauspielhaus, dem das Schillertheater angegliedert war. An der Volksbühne hatte sie Jürgen Fehling kennen gelernt—es entwickelte sich eine künstlerische Zusammenarbeit und eine schicksalhafte Liebesbeziehung, die auch wenn sie sich wandelte, bei beiden lebenslanglich blieb.

Soll ich ihre Rollen aufzählen? Es gab keine Grenzen für sie. Halbe Kinder und halbe Greisinnen, Proletariermädchen und elegante Damen, Dirnen und Heilige, Komische und Tragische, all diese erfüllte sie mit ihrer Kunst, der nie mit sich selbst zufriedenen Kunst der Perfektionistin. Deshalb war es so wunderbar mit ihr zu arbeiten. Sie wurde geliebt vom Publikum, und als sie nach dem Krieg zu ihren Berlinern zurückkam, wurde sie mit Blumen überschüttet. Sie spielte einen Reisser von Verneuil "Her Lamberthier", den sie einst mit Albert Bassermann gespielt hatte. Diesmal war ihr Partner ihr Gatte, der englische Schauspieler Marius Goring. Sie spielten abends auf deutsch, nachmittags auf englisch für die Besatzungstruppen. Sie hatte ja auch auf englischen Bühnen sensationelle Erfolge, vor allem als Nora und als Nina in Bruno Franks Drama. In Berlin folgten dann noch einige Rollen, man ernannte sie zur "Berliner Staats-Schauspielerin", aber das Staatliche Schillertheater blieb ihr verschlossen bis auf ein einziges Mal in "Schau heimwärts, Engel". Für ihre Wunschröle, die berlinische Frau John in Hauptmanns "Die Ratten" musste sie nach Wuppertal gehen. Die schönsten Hymnen auf sie schrieb Alfred Kerr "Wonnevoll! Ein Augenglück! Was braucht Lucie Mannheim Gesangseinlagen? Wenn sie berlinisch redet, ist es Musike. . . . Es gibt keine, die so schön im Klang den Kern, die Quintessenz . . . dieser Sprachgruppe weitermelodeit. Herrlich. Der Extrakt dieser Sprache. Ihr Herz. Ihr schönstes Herz". Luschie, es lebt in uns weiter. Dein schönstes Herz.

Walter Hertner.

(For obvious reasons, this very personal tribute had to remain untranslated.—Ed.)

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PERSONALIA

Rabbi Manfred Swarsensky retires

Rabbi Manfred Swarsensky, well known and beloved as a Berlin rabbi in the 'thirties, is retiring from the post of Rabbi of Wisconsin which he held for many years after his emigration to the U.S.A. The University of Wisconsin gave a farewell banquet in his honour which was attended by more than a thousand people. In a resolution, the Wisconsin State Senate expressed its recognition of his signal services, and the Roman Catholic Edgewood College which three years ago conferred an honorary doctorate on him, has now established a chair for Jewish Learning which will bear his name.

Honorary Doctorate for Hilde Himmelweit

Hilde T. Himmelweit, professor of social psychology at the London School of Economics, was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Open University. She is the granddaughter of Robert Remak, the famous neurologist who was the first Jew to become a professor at a German university a hundred years ago after the King of Prussia had intervened on his behalf. Professor Himmelweit is considered one of Britain's most brilliant scholars, who became widely known when she carried out an investigation into the effect of television on children some years ago. She had repeatedly visited Israel and showed particular interest in the use of television in Israeli schools.

Success of conductor

Julius Rudel, the conductor of the New York City Opera was given an ovation after his brilliant performance of Mozart's opera "La clemenza di Tito" at the Vienna State opera and was asked to conduct the traditional "Fledermaus" performance next New Year's Eve. He has also been acclaimed for his subsequent direction of "Cosi fan tutte" at the Paris opera. Mr. Rudel is a cousin of the late S. Adler-Rudel.

Award to young Jewish scientist

Twenty-seven-year-old Dr. Jeremy Sanders, a Cambridge University chemistry demonstrator, was awarded the Meldola Medal by the Royal Institute of Chemistry. The medal is a gift of the Maccabeans, made annually to the most promising British chemist under 30 and was established in 1915 on the death of David Meldola who was president of both the Maccabeans and the Institute.

Jewish Chairman of Industrial Tribunals

A London solicitor, Dr. Donald B. Williams, was appointed one of the six chairmen of Industrial Tribunals for North London. At his court in Woburn Place, he will have to sit with employers and trade union officials to decide on matters of industrial relations. Mr. Williams comes from Leeds and at one time considered becoming a rabbi, but after two years' National Service in the RAF he decided to become a lawyer. He has practised as a solicitor since 1955.

New Dublin Judge

Mr. Hubert C. Wine, chairman of the Jewish Representative Council of Ireland, has been appointed a District Judge in Dublin. He was educated at the Dublin Talmud Torah and Trinity College, Dublin and has appeared for the defence in many famous criminal cases. In his spare time, he is an international table-tennis player with Irish singles and doubles championships to his credit.

Top job for German rabbi

Rabbi Dr. N. Peter Levinson, chief rabbi of Baden and chairman of the council of West German Associations for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, was elected president of the International Council of Christians and Jews which has member-organisations in 15 countries.

A KIND LAWYER REMEMBERED

We must have been two of countless refugees whose lives have been dramatically changed by the late Dr. King. I was sent to him in 1963 when our financial affairs seemed desperate. Nine years before, we had applied for my husband's teacher's pension. The Hamburg Authorities turned it down. We appealed to the "Oberlandesgericht" and failed; we were informed this was final. Both of us had good jobs and (foolishly enough) thought: Ah well. Things changed. My husband fell ill, the fees of our youngest daughter, retarded, in a Rudolf Steiner Home, went up and up—I got older and retirement loomed. It looked grim.

So, there I was, in Dr. King's Office, I still clearly remember him behind the large desk, small, restless, chain-smoking. "And now let's open your file". (That file is now as thick as the family bible, it must have been opened and tied up hundreds of times). This was the secret of his successes: He listened and he cared. He said to me: "Of course, you are much too late. But this is injustice, it will take long, but we will get there in the end". So we did, three years later. We got our pension, with back-pay, and "Kinderzuschlag" for our daughter, by now 20, born under German occupation in Holland. Since then, I saw Dr. King whenever we had problems. Last winter he said: "I really should retire but how can I, these hundreds of files are lives to me, and, by now, many of them lives of friends. I hate to leave them".

I got his last note out of the blue, dated April 25, 1976. "Ich habe mir die Sache mit Ihrer jüngsten Tochter durch den Kopf gehen lassen: man sollte versuchen für sie eine regelmässige Zahlung auch im Falle Ihres Ablebens zu bekommen. Bitte kommen Sie einmal her".

I went. Now his last communication seems to me like a message from another world. Thank you, Dr. King, for listening and caring. J.W.

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THEATRE AND CULTURAL NEWS

New York. "Jan Kiepura—a great discovery" . . . these lines are not half a century old, but written in 1976! They refer to the son of the late tenor Jan Kiepura, emphasising the fact that a comparison is not valid: Kiepura junior is a pop star with his own image, entirely independent, and, seemingly, "unique" in presenting music of his own age. However, there is a link: at a recent concert his mother, the unforgotten Marta Eggerth, contributed by singing two numbers from Lehar's "Merry widow". The unbelievable strength of her voice and the extraordinary beauty of her coloratura which, apparently, she still retains, make her, according to the critics, "the eighth wonder of the world".

Oedön von Horvath who lamentably died so young, is today considered one of the most important dramatists by leading European theatres and many will perform his works during this autumn. He would have had his 75th birthday this month. His play "Geschichten aus dem Wienerwald", well known to Continental audiences, is included in the London National Theatre's next season's programme.

Vienna. The world famous Hotel "Sacher" is 100 years old. A special exhibition at the Vienna Rathaus (open August/September) proudly investigates this very Austrian establishment from every aspect, and provides a glimpse behind the scenes, producing a collection of culinary specialities, menu cards, cookery books and lists of the hotel's favourite and regular visitors. Newspaper cuttings, official announcements, referring to the

"Sacher" explain how the hotel played its role in influencing the social and cultural life of Vienna during very different periods of Austrian history.

Books. "Brecht in Augsburg" (published by Suhrkamp, Frankfurt) is the title of an original documentation, containing descriptions of hitherto unknown details of Brecht's school-days and early youth. The volume refers to Brecht's family, his attitude to war and revolution, and cites examples of his first writings, a period when he was a very bourgeois-like Berthold Friedrich Brecht. A book which readily supplies roots of an interesting development leading to Brecht as we know him.

Alfred Doeblin's name was equivalent with criticism and letters about the theatre. Some 50 years ago, his novel "Berlin Alexanderplatz" was one of the bestsellers of the day. Walter-Verlag, Olten, re-issues Doeblin's theatre reports of the twenties under the title "Ein Kerl muss seine Meinung haben". The book includes Doeblin's writings of the years 1921-1924 when Berlin's theatre life boasted a hundred famous names, when Jessner Fehling, Bergner, Dorsch, Kortner, Moissi, Massary, Heinrich George and Max Reinhardt were just some of the period's creative and versatile figures.

Obituary. The Austrian writer Alexander Lernet-Holenia has died at the age of 77. He was the author of novels and many successful plays of which the hilarious comedy "Ollapotrída" (1929) was perhaps best known. His unconcealed contempt for the Hitler Régime is reflected in the short novel "Der 20. Juli".

FREDERICK SCHILLER 75

The well-known actor Frederick Schiller, a long-standing member of the AJR celebrated his 75th birthday in August. A pupil of Otto Preminger, he received his training at the Vienna Max Reinhardt Seminar. He came to this country in 1938 and after a spell in the Pioneer Corps resumed his career by playing in the "Laterndl" and in Peter Herz's "Blue Danube Club". Since then he has frequently appeared on the British stage, in films and on television together with such stars as Michael Redgrave, Ingrid Bergmann, James Mason and others. At the moment he is to be seen in Stanley Kubrik's film "Barry Lyndon" and will take part in a new BBC-TV serial "The Expert". He has given much pleasure by entertaining members of the AJR Club, the various old age homes and other clubs and homes all over London. We wish him many more years of creative activities.

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG REMEMBERED

On the 25th anniversary of the death of Arnold Schoenberg wreaths were laid on his grave of honour on Vienna's Zentralfriedhof by the Austrian Ministry of Education, the International Schoenberg Society, and the City of Vienna, whose freeman Schoenberg had been since 1949. Two years ago the ashes of Schoenberg and his second wife Gertrude, née Kolisch, had come from Los Angeles to be buried in their native soil. Not far away, Franz Werfel, Schoenberg's neighbour in California has his grave in the row of honour and next to Werfel is the resting place of Egon Wellesz, who died last year in Oxford. His widow now lives in Vienna with her younger daughter so as to be near her husband's grave.

E.S.



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NEWS FROM GERMANY

CARDINAL JULIUS DOEPFNER

The Archbishop of Munich, Cardinal Julius Döpfner, died at the age of 62. At the Ecumenical Council of Rome in 1964, he was appointed by Pope John as one of the moderators who helped to create a new relationship between the Vatican and the Jews. In the same year he dedicated a church and convent at Dachau and warned the congregation that had assembled on the site of the old concentration camp that the Nazi spirit survived in many forms, both in Germany and elsewhere. He also advocated a modification of the script of the Oberammergau Passion Play with its many antisemitic overtones, but he nevertheless attended the performance in 1970 of the unchanged text which was boycotted by Jewish and liberal organisations and personalities. In 1975 he led a small group of members of the Catholic Academy in Bavaria on a visit to Israel where he not only went to biblical sites, but also to the Hebrew University at Jerusalem and to other Israeli establishments. After his return, the Romano-Guardini-Prize of the Academy was for the first time awarded to non-Germans: Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek and Professor Shemaryahu Talmon were both given a warm welcome when they travelled to Munich to receive the awards. After the 1972 murder of the Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympic Games, the Cardinal held an impressive service in the Munich cathedral.

TRIUMPH FOR JEWISH COMPOSER

During the summer Festival of the Munich State Opera, the Israeli composer Josef Tal's opera "Versuchung" which had been commissioned by the theatre, was given its first performance. The text was written by the Jerusalem poet Israel Eliraz. The theme of the opera is the inability of a people to distinguish between fraud and truth, symbolised by a demon and a good king. The author and composer who attended the first night, were given an ovation in the heavily guarded opera house.

THE JEWS OF BONN

Klaus H. S. Schulte, a young Essen lawyer, has just published a book of 700 pages on the Jews of Bonn and their descendants. It is a scholarly work, published as volume 16 of the Bonn Municipal Archives publications. The book gives an exhaustive survey of the careers and the social structure of the Bonn Jewish population in the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, of the structure and personnel of the religious community and many statistical data. Well-known families include the Alsbergs, Cassels, Philipppsons, Cahns and many other Jewish names of citizens whose families had been resident in Bonn and its hinterland for generations. E.G.L.

ERICH LUETH'S PEACE WITH ISRAEL

In the summer of 1951, the journalist Erich Lueth, press relation officer of the City of Hamburg, and his friend and collaborator Rudolf Kuestermeier started their "Peace with Israel" Movement which soon snowballed throughout Germany and was supported by the Federal Authorities and by leading Jewish organisations and personalities in Germany and abroad. It began the long process of dialogue between Israel and Germany. Lueth has now, 25 years later, published his own history of the movement "Die Friedensbitte an Israel 1951—Eine Hamburger Initiative" (Hans Christians Verlag, Hamburg 1976), in which he describes his negotiations with official and private quarters and publishes a number of interesting documents. Lueth's initiative led to the setting up of the Society for Jewish-Christian Co-operation in Hamburg, to the publication of a journal "Friede mit Israel", to generous donations for forests in Israel and to regular pilgrimages by young Germans to the mass graves of Bergen-Belsen. Dr Lueth himself travelled to the U.S. and gave 150 lectures during two months, and twice visited Israel in the service of German-Jewish reconciliation. In Lueth's book there is a facsimile reproduction of page one of AJR Information of November, 1951 which contains an English translation of his appeal "Peace with Israel!". It had originally appeared in the "Neue Zeitung", München. E.G.L.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

The AJR Club extends its heartiest congratulations on the occasion of her 80th birthday on September 11 to Mrs. M. Pickardt and also expresses its gratitude to her for keeping the account books in perfect order. We wish her good health and contentment and the strength to carry on her good work for many years to come.

Sincerest wishes also to our octogenarians Mr. P. Geiger and Mrs. E. Mauthner and to Mrs. E. Langdon on her 70th birthday.

Smith.—Mrs. Hannah Smith née Weinberg, formerly Dortmund, will celebrate her 80th birthday on September 18.

Deaths

Leser.—Hilde Leser, of 34 Grosvenor Court, Christchurch Avenue, London, N.W.6, passed away peacefully on July 20, after a long illness. Deeply mourned by her husband and many sincere friends. Mr Hans Leser expresses his gratitude to the many friends for their kindness on the death of his beloved wife.

Mamlock.—The AJR Club deeply mourns the death of its most devoted and untiring helpful hostess, Mrs. Kate Mamlock. Her loving care brought her there daily. She will be sadly missed by all of us.

Meyer-Michael.—Wolfgang, of 11 Reynolds Close, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London, N.W.11, passed away on August 3, 1976.

Philipppson.—Theodor Jacob Hermann Philipppson, born 1897 in Berlin, passed away peacefully on July 18. Deeply mourned by his wife Marianne, sister Anne Leonie and daughter Barbara and her family. 22 Anglers Reach, Surbiton, Surrey.

Sulzbacher.—Dr. Paul Sulzbacher passed away on August 17. Deeply mourned by his wife and family. 50 Barn Rise, Wembley Park, Middx.

Zippert.—Walter Zippert, beloved husband of Susi, passed away on July 31, aged 84, after a short illness. Sadly missed by his wife, relatives and many friends. 138 Lynton Road, Ealing, W.3.

CLASSIFIED

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

Situations Vacant

Women

THE AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY needs ladies for dress alterations and mending who would be prepared to collect and deliver work/do fittings at clients' homes. Please contact Mrs. Casson, 01-624 4449.

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NURSING COMPANION. Continental lady, German-speaking, seeks non-residential position. Also night duty and as travelling companion. Please call 01-458 8698 between 6 and 9 p.m.

Accommodation Vacant

SCHWARZWALD. 2 Zimmerwohnung — aller Komfort — in Freiburg zw. 15. Okt. — 15. Dez. und 15. Jan. — 15. März auch wochenweise zu vermieten. Geeignet f. 2-3 Personen. Anfragen unter Box 602 (AJR).

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TO LET—one room, ground floor, West Hampstead, central heating, cooking facilities. £10 p.w. Elderly lady preferred. Box 608.

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Personal

WIDOW, WITH ONE CHILD, wishes to meet professional gentleman in his fifties. Box 600.

WHICH INTELLIGENT YOUNG MAN, possibly professional, seriously interested in marriage, would like to meet my friend, a very attractive, educated, 29-year-old secretary? Box 603.

ISRAELI WIDOW, 62 years old, cultured, German speaking, own lovely home, wishes to meet suitable gentleman for the purpose of marriage. Would consider living partly in England. A. Simon, 111 Jabotinsky, Tel Aviv, Israel.

WITWE, unabhängig, 65 Jahre, sucht einen intelligenten Partner zwecks gemeinsamer Reisen, Vorträgen, Bridge, u.s.w. kennen zu lernen. Geteilte Rechnung. Box 607.

WIDOWER, own home, independent means, many interests, no family, wishes to meet lady, also independent, for companionship. Age about 65. Please reply with telephone number to Box 606.

WIDOWER, mid-seventies, healthy, interested in nature, in settled financial situation, wants to meet lady for companionship and friendship, chats, joint walks and attending his household. S. Nagel, 51 Windsor Road, London, N.7 (Holloway).

AJR Enquiries

Loewenthal.—Mrs. H. Loewenthal last known address, 31 St. Georges Road, London, NW11 0LU. Scheidt.—Mrs. F. Scheidt, last known address, 15 Carr Manor Crescent, Leeds 17.

Personal Enquiries

Levin.—Would anyone know the whereabouts of Marion, Annelies (born 8.11.22) and Inge (born 1923) Levin (or Levy), children of Mr. and Mrs. Levin, formerly Koenigsberg, later Berlin. Last known address Berlin Schoeneberg, Eisenacher Strasse. Parents were deported in 1942. Children probably sent to England between 1936-38 (children's transport?) Any replies to Box 601.

Kuh or Neuhaus.—Will anyone knowing the whereabouts of Anneliese Kuh or Erika Neuhaus, formerly of Magdeburg, please write to Box 605 or phone Lucie Weinreb née Prinz 01-346 3990 between 8 and 10 p.m.

THE ISRAELI SCENE

PRESIDENT OF BUNDESTAG VISITS ISRAEL

Mrs. Annemarie Renger, president of the Federal Parliament, visited Israel at the invitation of the Knesset. She attended a meeting of the Israeli Parliament and saw most of the leading politicians and trade union members. She also visited Theodor Heuss Haus, named after the first president of the Federal Republic where unmarried mothers and their children are cared for.

ADENAUER REMEMBERED

The Israel-German Society for Haifa and Northern Israel and the Cultural Centre of the German Embassy held a combined meeting to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Germany's first Federal Chancellor, Dr. Adenauer. Dr. Per Fischer, the German Ambassador, stressed the close co-operation between German and Israeli scientists and scholars which would not have been possible without Dr. Adenauer's decisive work for reconciliation and restitution.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY HONOURS

Axel Springer, the German publisher, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former US Ambassador with the United Nations and Andrej Sacharov, the Russian scientist, were awarded honorary degrees by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In the laudatory speeches it was said that Springer had untiringly worked for the reconciliation between Germans and Jews and supported the rights of the people of Israel. Moynihan had devoted his life to the maintenance of human rights and Sacharov was fighting for the same rights in his scientific works.

WOLFSON SCHOLARSHIP FOR RAMAT GAN

The Isaac and Edith Wolfson Charitable Trust has donated £10 million (about \$713,000) to the Bar-Ilan University of Ramat Gan for scholarship awards. The money will be paid over ten years.

BRITAIN EXHIBITS AT FURNITURE FAIR

At an international trade fair in Tel Aviv, held under the title "Man and Home" Great Britain and West Germany are showing their goods in their own pavilions. Altogether 18 countries are taking part.

BRITISH TV AT ISRAEL FESTIVAL

The first World Jewish Film and Television Festival will be held in Jerusalem in October. Several British companies will send entries, 22 countries will take part. The seven-day festival is organised by Manchester-born Mr. Melville Mark, the originator of the famous Golden Rose of Montreux TV festival. Among the contributions will be the BBC's documentary "To the Promised Land" about Jewish emigrants leaving Russia, Jack Rosenthal's moving film "The Evacuees" and "It's My Belief" which shows a London boy's preparation for his barmitzva. Granada is sending the recent World in Action film "A Calculated Risk" about Russian Jewish dissidents.

BRITISH MISSILES FOR ISRAEL

After having relied for years on American and home-produced missiles, Israel has purchased the British-manufactured SLAM system which will be installed on the three submarines now being completed in the Barrow-in-Furness shipyards. The ships and system are produced by Vickers. SLAM stands for "Submarine (or Surface) Launched Air Missile" and is destined for effective short-range defence against enemy surface craft or helicopters.

"BRIDGE OF THE EAGLES"

A new road bridge in Tel Aviv will be named Geshar Hanesherim (Bridge of the Eagles) in honour of the liberators of the Entebbe hostages. The name was taken from a sentence in the Book of Samuel: "They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions".

SON ET LUMIERE AT MASADA

For the first time, this year tourists will be able to attend *Son et Lumiere* performances on Masada Hill. The story of the Masada hero Elazar Ben Yair and of his comrades will be illustrated and watched from the top of another hill in the neighbourhood. A mass audience is expected. Similar performances for smaller audiences have been arranged on Mount Zion for years. They are mainly concerned with the history of pilgrims to Jerusalem throughout the ages.

Obituary

MRS. TONY BORG

Mrs. Tony Borg (née Wolff) who died in Manchester aged 84, will be gratefully remembered by many who benefited from her care and assistance. Trained as a social worker and kindergarten mistress at the Berlin Pestalozzi-Froebel Haus, she moved to Bingen with its ten per cent Jewish population after her marriage. During the First World War, she ran the municipal kindergarten there and was awarded a medal by the German Government for her outstanding work. After the war, she established the local Jewish Women's Society to which she drew lecturers like Dr. Baeck, Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig and many others. The late Dr. Maybaum, at the time rabbi of Bingen, and his wife, became close friends. In the 'twenties she set up a girls' group of the Jewish Youth Movement, "Kameraden". She came to Manchester as a refugee in 1939 and did manual work at first to support her ailing husband and her young daughter. After her husband's death in 1950, she became a handicraft teacher and worked in the Ancoats University Settlement and at Hollins Domestic Science College. She retired to start a course of intensive occupational therapy at the Morris Feinmann Home and continued until she was 75. Last year, failing health made her move into the Home herself.

Letter to the Editor

"EXCOMMUNICATION" OF KISSINGER

Sir,—I was disgusted to read on page 4 of your August edition that the so-called Supreme Rabbinic Court of America Inc. has excommunicated Dr. Henry Kissinger. The Head of this organisation, Rabbi Marvin S. Antelman, should be ashamed of such action. This organisation is very much behind the times.

Dr. Kissinger's effort for peace in the Middle East speaks for itself, and it is ridiculous that such an act has taken place.

ERIC GOODMAN

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MISCELLANEOUS

MONTREAL AND AFTER

Israeli sports fans were disappointed that Israel did not win any medals at this year's Olympic Games, notwithstanding the fact that some of her sportsmen put up good performances. An early disappointment was the Football team which only managed a goalless draw against Guatemala. At the beginning of the games the Israelis had received resounding cheers and sustained applause from 75,000 spectators when they marched into the arena wearing black armbands as an act of remembrance for the victims killed by terrorists at the Munich Games in 1972. The Canadian authorities went a long way to ensure their safety. A memorial service for the Munich victims was arranged by the Jewish community of Canada and attended by many leaders of politics and sports. Prime Minister Trudeau was there, but the absence of Lord Killanin, president of the International Olympic Committee, drew many unfavourable comments.

Mrs. Ankie Spitzer, the widow of one of the athletes murdered at Munich and other Olympic widows were asked to leave chairs near the flagpole during the flag-raising ceremony and were pulled away when they protested.

In Israel, Rabbi Yossef, the Sephardi Chief Rabbi ruled that TV transmissions from Montreal were not to be watched on Saturday nights, because when the programmes were sent out in Canada, it was still Shabbat there and "Jews must not benefit from work carried out on the Shabbat, even if it is performed by non-Jews".

At a meeting of the Asian Games Federation in Montreal, Israel was ejected from the Asian Games which she helped to establish 24 years ago, allegedly for reasons of security.

TELEPHONES FOR THE AGED

The Berlin Jewish Community has decided to have telephones installed in the homes of old and sick members who live alone and cannot afford to do so themselves.

EARLY JEWISH CRAFTSMEN

Goldsmiths and Seal Engravers

The indefatigable research worker, Rabbi Dr. Bernhard Brillung (formerly Breslau), now retired Akademischer Oberrat of the Institut Delitzschianum, Muenster, has written a monograph on "Juedische Goldschmiede, Kupfer- und Petschierstecher in Ostpreussen" published in the Jahrbuch fuer die Geschichte Mittel- und Ostdeutschlands, Band 23 (Colloquium Verlag Berlin, 1974).

Before the emancipation Jews were not admitted to the goldsmiths' guilds and could, therefore, only work as seal engravers ("Peschierstecher"). The first Jewish goldsmith who settled in Koenigsberg (1850) was David Aron, born in Ratzebuhr in 1823. There were also Jewish goldsmiths in other East Prussian places, e.g. Gumbinnen and Tilsit.

The major part of the essay deals with Jewish seal engravers in Koenigsberg. The first among them was a refugee from Poland, Salomon Jacob. Another early engraver was Joseph Wulf (licensed in 1736) whose descendants are also listed in the essay. The work excels by the comprehensive reference to the source material.

From the historiographical point of view, the same author's article on the first Jewish goldsmith in Schleswig-Holstein is of equal value. It is an offprint of the catalogue of the Exhibition "Juedischer Alltag — Juedischer Festtag", shown in Luebeck, Duisburg and Hanover. It describes the life of Israel Meyer Herz, whose maternal grandfather, Isaak Jacob of Altona, received permission to settle in Schleswig as early as 1738. Herz was born at the beginning of the nineteenth century and was accepted as an apprentice by the Christian goldsmith Gottlieb Heinrich Schmieth who trained him from 1821-1824. After initial difficulties he was granted the right of a citizen of the town of Schleswig and worked there as a goldsmith from 1826 onwards.

W.R.

75th BIRTHDAY OF DR. ERNA GOLDSCHMIDT

Five years ago, when she celebrated her 70th birthday on September 30, tribute was paid to the manifold activities of Dr. Erna Goldschmidt. They have if anything, increased since then. Erna Goldschmidt continues her work in the spirit which imbued her and her husband, the late Dr. F. Goldschmidt, whose lasting monument is to be found in his pioneer work in the field of restitution and social care. She has devoted all her life to Jewish causes and is now mainly engaged in personally looking after her most significant achievement, Clara Nehab House in Golders Green, a Home for the Elderly. She concerns herself with all the day-to-day problems of management, keeps up contact with the residents and sees to their comforts, thus making the home something special among similar institutions. She continues to do important work on behalf of the B'nai B'rith Leo Baeck Women's Lodge which owes its existence to her and of which she was the first president. She is chairman of the Welfare Committee of the Lodge and supervisor of the Home Help scheme. Her help and assistance is being eagerly sought on many occasions when her great experience in welfare and social service matters and her enthusiasm are of invaluable assistance.

With her warm expressive face and her gentle ways, Erna Goldschmidt is a friend to all and an adviser to many. She is a board member of the AJR and has always taken an active interest in its work, particularly work concerning the old age homes. Until ill-health forced her to give up some of her work, she was a member of the house committee of Otto Schiff House since it was first opened, but she still cares for and knows about the inmates. On her birthday we extend our warm wishes to her, hoping that she will long continue to care for those who need her and to whom she gives much happiness.

ISRAELI CHOIR IN BRITAIN

The 70-strong Israel Kibbutz Choir took part in the "Europa Cantat" 100-choir festival in Leeds as the only non-European choir. After the festival they visited West Germany at the invitation of German trade unions. Adla Yadin, wife of the Israeli Minister for Education, came over as one of the 70 singers.

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