

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

39 YEARS AFTER

This month, we remember the happenings of November 1938, which were to become a decisive turning point in the history of the German and Austrian Jews. It is an unfortunate habit that, even in scholarly works, they are labelled with the term "Kristallnacht". Though meant in an ironical way, possibly originating in Nazi Germany itself, this slogan is a grave misnomer. What actually happened was an outright pogrom on a scale never before experienced in the whole of Germany. The average German mainly noticed the smashed windows of Jewish shops (that's where the catchword is derived from) and the burning of the Synagogues. Less thought is usually given to the deportation of 25,000 men to the concentration camps of Sachsenhausen, Dachau and Buchenwald. The atrocities and human degradation they had to endure in the cold winter of that year have left their indelible mark on them. We also remember in humility those who were killed during the pogroms or perished in the camps.

Having said this we must, however, not forget that the pogroms also played an important role in our history under a different aspect. They served as a signal for mass emigration. Whilst during the 5½ years between the beginning of the Nazi régime and the pogroms about 150,000 Jews left Germany, the number of emigrants during the few months between the pogroms and the outbreak of war amounted to 100,000. As far as they were not caught up by the Nazis in occupied Western Europe during the war, they were thus spared the fate of those who did not get admission to other countries or had to stay behind for other reasons.

When the Nazi terror régime broke down, we all expected an unreserved and permanent condemnation of the crimes committed in their name by the German people. In fact, a spirit of shame and repentance prevailed in wide circles of the population during the first post-war years. It found its expression not only in the material compensation undertaken on a large scale by virtue of the Luxembourg Agreement a quarter of a century ago but, even more importantly, in the genuine desire of Germans of all walks of life to come to terms with the past. In a way, this attempt sometimes went further than it would have been desirable: there was often a reluctance to express criticism of individual Jews, even if it would have been justified, and the Jews in Germany were, to use a phrase coined in those days, put under a "Kaeseglocke".

Yet these times have gone. Almost in every issue of this journal we have to report on manifestations of neo-Nazism, e.g., rallies of former SS members, desecrations of Jewish cemeteries, mock burning of "Jews" in an officers' training college. We quote these incidents only as examples and do not want to generalise. Yet it would be equally wrong to disregard them.

There is, however, also a special problem

which arises from the ignorance of the Hitler régime among members of the young German generation. Though the participants in neo-Nazi activities also include youngsters, we must not forget that they are children of parents, who were born between 1933 and the outbreak of war and who therefore could not transmit the horrors of the Nazi régime from first-hand knowledge. Thus the blame to a high extent rests with the inadequate—to put it mildly—school education. It will be one of the paramount tasks of the democratic forces in Germany to see to it that the Hitler period is not glossed over in the school books and, above all, that the teachers reach this chapter of history in the course of the term scheduled for it. This, it is learned, is very often not the case.

Another phenomenon which we experience 32 years after the end of the war in many parts of the world and which is particularly dangerous in Germany, is the feeling of nostalgia, based more often on a primitive love of adventure stories than, as far as Germany is concerned, on an outright identification with the "glorious" past. Therefore, German publications as well as theatre, film and television performances which are meant to make readers and listeners aware of the deeper layers of the catastrophe are often counter-productive, much against the intentions of the authors and producers.

It is not the object of these few remarks to present an analysis of the serious problems with which we are faced and which are so different from the climate during the first post-war years. There is no reason for undue alarm. Nevertheless, whenever the 9th of November comes along, we cannot help remembering that day because for the first time it fully revealed the depth of barbarism which was soon to sweep the Continent of Europe. To paraphrase the old English adage: "Remember, remember the Ninth of November".

W.R.

NAZI CHANTS BY DRUNKEN OFFICERS

Eleven young Army officers were dismissed because they sang Nazi songs and engaged in a "symbolic burning of Jews" during a drunken spree at Munich.

Several officers intervened at the party and stopped the outrage, reporting it to the head of the Academy, Lieutenant-General von Reichert. A newspaper report was issued but suppressed by the Academy authorities until it leaked out and was published by the Frankfurter Rundschau. General von Reichert then submitted his report to the Defence Minister, Mr Georg Leber, who was described as infuriated by the attempt of the officers' superiors to suppress the incident. The officers accused of having participated in the mock burning of Jews and symbolically singing the Horst Wessel Lied were suspended. In the subsequent disciplinary hearings it was decided that they be dismissed from the Army.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LUXEMBOURG AGREEMENT

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Luxembourg Agreement on Restitution, signed on September 10, 1952 several publications appeared in Germany. In a special supplement to the "Deutschland-Briefe", its Editor Rolf Vogel describes the antecedents and proceedings of this historical event by which the German Federal Republic undertook to try and make amends for the horror of the Nazi régime, as far as this is possible by material compensation. The agreement provided global payments for the State of Israel as well as for the Nazi victims outside Israel, represented by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany ("Claims Conference"). These undertakings were fully honoured in the course of the subsequent years. Beyond this, the Agreement also laid down the principles of individual compensation for Nazi victims.

The anniversary is also recorded in a number of articles published by the official Bonn periodical "Das Parlament". It carries contributions by Annemarie Renger in her capacity as chairman of the German-Israeli Group of Parliamentarians, Federal Deputy Erik Blumenfeld, president of the Deutsch-Israelische Gesellschaft, Dr. F. E. Shinnar (Tel Aviv) who took a leading part in the preparation and implementation of the agreement, and Rolf Vogel.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

A trial which is expected to last for 2½ years has started in a Hanover court. Two former SS leaders of the Security Police in the Cracow district are accused of having been responsible for the mass murder of Jews in Southern Poland between 1942 and 1944. A third accused will not be prosecuted for the time being because he is 70 years old and seriously ill. The prosecution has stressed that the accused acted on their own initiative, eager to please the NS government and displayed an inhuman life-destroying frame of mind against Jews whom they considered unworthy to live in accordance with NS party doctrine.

In Frankfurt the sixth Auschwitz trial has started. 54-year-old butcher Horst Czerwinski from Bergen near Lüneburg and plasterer Joseph Maurer from Hofheim, Taunus, are accused of having shot inmates of the Auschwitz annex Lagisha after an abortive attempt to escape. They are alleged to have thrown dice to determine who should be allowed to do the shooting. 118 witnesses have been subpoenaed to testify against the two men. Czerwinski is also accused of having ruthlessly killed three prisoners during an evacuation march in 1945 because they were unable to walk any further.

The Münsingen court imposed fines on three men who took part in a carnival pageant in Nazi costume, representing Hitler and two officers and carrying a banner reading: "He has never before been as valuable as today". The three appealed against the sentence maintaining that it had all been meant as a joke.

In Düsseldorf three unemployed graduates are accused of having been members of a "revolutionary cell" and thrown bombs in cinemas which showed the American Entebbe film.

NEWS FROM GERMANY

ULLSTEIN CENTENARY

To mark the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Ullstein publishing house by Leopold Ullstein (Fuerth 1829-Berlin 1899) a special ceremony was held in the Springer House (immediately adjoining the Berlin Wall), which has incorporated the old established firm. The function was attended by several hundred invited guests, among them leading personalities of Berlin and the Federal Republic, old former members of the Ullstein staff as well as several members of the Ullstein family, most of whom had left Germany about 40 years ago.

In his address, Axel Springer recounted how he, "the boy" of Altona and avid reader of the "Heitere Fridolin", became the heir and successor of the Ullstein concern. He dealt with the steady rise of the firm under its founder and his five sons and with the decline, into which even this politically experienced enterprise tumbled, almost without realisation of the danger. "When the lights of freedom went out", said Springer, "the German-Jewish symbiosis was also destroyed". For this symbiosis, Springer continued, Germany owed an immeasurable debt of gratitude and the Ullstein House was one of the most important "Kondenspunkte". At the end Springer stressed the need for being constantly aware of the danger of new developments and for preventing the repetition of events of 1933, before it was too late. We have also to realise, he said—that even now, more than 30 years since the closure of Auschwitz, the German relationship to the Jews in Israel and anywhere else could not be "normal" but rather of a special kind.

The next speaker was to be Federal President Scheel who, due to the critical situation arisen from the abduction of Dr. Schleyer, had to stay in Bonn. His speech, which was read out, not only recalled the contributions of Jews to German life until 1933 but also stressed that in our days the relationship between Jews and non-Jews was not merely a problem of the Middle East. There was also a special obligation—not to be confused with special rights and privileges—vis-à-vis the Jews now resident in Germany.

After the address by Berlin's Governing Mayor Dietrich Stobbe, Frederick (Friedrich) Ullstein (London), in the name of the family, expressed thanks to all fellow workers, past and present, and wished the enterprise "a strong arm and a warm heart".

The centenary is also marked by a four volume, illustrated Festschrift "Hundert Jahre Ullstein". E.G.L.

A BERLIN EXHIBITION

The current Berlin exhibitions also include a display of press cartoons of the Twenties. Among the exhibits are works by Heinrich Zille, Fritz Koch-Gotha, and George Grosz as well as by B. F. Dolbin (whose biography was reviewed by Gabriele Tergit in our September issue), Walter Trier (who died in Canada), MOPP (Max Oppenheimer, who died in New York in 1954) and by Ludwig Wronkow, formerly associated with the Mosse press and now active in New York. The list of personalities and organisations which loaned works to the exhibition includes the New York Leo Baeck Institute.

PHOTO OF A MODEL NAZI RE-HUNG

Some time ago the photo of the NS State Labour Leader Hierl disappeared from the walls of the town hall of Parsberg. Hierl who died in 1955 had remained a freeman of the town until his death, because the administration said his outstanding efficiency in doing away with juvenile unemployment had earned him the honour. The picture was eventually found and sent to the Nuremberg public prosecutor who returned it to the municipality. It is now back in its place in the town's gallery of honour.

GERMAN YOUTH WORK IN MAIDANEK

15 young students from a Protestant study group in the Rhineland spent a week of their three weeks' holiday visit working in the memorial section of the former Maidanek concentration camp where more than 300,000 people were killed.

DACHAU MEMORIAL

The former and present directors of the Dachau K. Z. Memorial, Mrs. Ruth Jakusch and Mrs. Barbara Distel, recently paid a visit to Yad Vashem (Israel) in order to exchange material and information between their archives. On that occasion it was reported that, this year, the Dachau Museum had been visited by half a million people and that the total number of visitors since its opening in 1965 amounted to 4.3 million persons.

A FILM ABOUT AUSCHWITZ

A film "Excursion to Auschwitz" has just been completed by "Aktion Friedensdienste". It shows the reaction of visitors to the horrors of the camp which is visited by thousands of tourists from Germany and all over the world every year. The 35-minute film will be shown to young people to counteract the rising nostalgia for National Socialism.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF GERMAN - ISRAEL SOCIETY RESIGNS

Professor of Theology, Rolf Rentorff, one of the founders and, since 1966, vice-president of the German-Israel Society, has left the Society. He stated that he missed a "third position" between the strong anti-Israel conception and the "uncritical enthusiasm" for the country.

ISRAELI MAYORS IN STUTTGART

A group of 15 Israeli mayors paid a visit to Baden Wuerttemberg and other German Laender at the invitation of the "Landeszentrale fuer politische Bildung" in order to obtain an impression of the municipal administration methods in the Federal Republic. On the occasion of the visit, the Mayor of Shavei Zion, Hans Bloch, spoke in 21 cities about his town, which had been founded by former residents of Rexingen in Wuerttemberg.

ISRAELI DIPLOMAT AWARDED BY GERMAN RED CROSS

Mrs. Hava Bitan, a member of the Israeli Embassy in Bonn, was awarded the Order of Honour of the Red Cross in recognition of her effective work for the co-operation and promotion of understanding between the German Red Cross and the Magen David Adom.

VISITS TO HANOVER

In 1966, the Municipality of Hanover commenced to invite Jewish former residents of their city. Altogether, so far 620 emigrated former Hanoverians have visited their place of origin.

OBERAMMERGAU PLAY PURIFIED

The anti-Jewish version of the Oberammergau passion play, the 1880 work of Alois Daisenberger, will be replaced by the baroque version of the Benedictine priest Ferdinand Rosner, written in 1750. The rehearsals have commenced, and the performances have been scheduled for the year 1980.

SWASTIKA FLAG ON SIEGESSAEULE

On October 9, a large swastika flag (80 by 220 cm) was fixed by unknown persons on the scaffolding of Berlin's "Siegestauele", about 30 metres from the ground. It was later removed by police officers.

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LUEBECK RE-ESTABLISHED

For the past years, the province of Schleswig-Holstein had no independent Jewish community. Recently, the Jewish residents of Luebeck, who until now were affiliated to the Hamburg community, have decided to re-establish their own previous community. The Synagogue was erected in 1880 and was spared demolition during the November 1938 pogroms.

WORMS JEWISH QUARTER TO BE RESTORED

The Jewish quarter of Worms, the only one preserved in the Federal Republic, is being restored. The Rashi Lehrhaus which had to be demolished ten years ago in view of its dilapidated condition, will be re-erected to serve as a memorial and as a venue for meetings of discussion groups.

GABRIELE TERGIT AT BERLIN FESTIVAL

During this year's Berlin Festival Weeks, which had as their main theme "Tendencies of the Twenties", Gabriele Tergit, Werner Finck, Käthe Haak, Valeska Gert and many other writers and artists of stage and screen took part in a programme aiming at explaining the impact of those fertile years to a new generation. On the following day, Mischa Spoliansky who now lives in London, and Margo Lion who lives in Paris, had an enthusiastic audience for a cabaret performance in the style of the Twenties.

AWARD FOR HILDE AHEMM

The authoress, Hilde Ahemm, whose book "Tates Wahltochter" was reviewed in our September issue, was awarded the Federal German "Verdienstkreuz am Bande". As revealed in her novel, she has always been closely associated with the destiny of the Jewish people. During the persecution time, she kept a Jewish former teacher of hers in hiding, and it was a particular tragedy for her that, due to an air raid on the house, she did not succeed in saving the Nazi persecutee whom she had tried to protect.

HITLER WINE

A brand of Moselle wine is sold in Bavaria in bottles bearing a label remembering Hitler's 87th birthday. The inscription on the label reads: "Dedicated to the 87th birthday of our Führer of the Great German Reich, Adolf Hitler. One People, one Reich, one Führer". There is also a picture of Hitler in front of a map of Germany, a swastika, and a German eagle.

"LOGENHAUS KLEISTSTRASSE" UNDAMAGED

Among the few Jewish landmarks of pre-war Berlin, which have survived the November 1938 pogroms and the bomb attacks during the war is the headquarters of the B'nai B'rith Grand Lodge in Berlin's Kleiststrasse. When in April 1937, the B'nai B'rith Lodges were dissolved and their assets confiscated, the house became property of the Prussian State, which appointed the "Fundamentum Treuhand A.-G." with its administration. For some time it was used by the Reich Ministry of Education. After the war, it was first restituted to the "Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation" and afterwards acquired by the Land Berlin. Since the end of the 'fifties, it has been owned by "Urania Berlin e.V.", the institute for the promotion of arts, science and cultural films. Joined with "Urania's" new building, the former House of the Lodge is used for meetings, and the great Hall, once the venue of many memorable Jewish functions is now called "Kleistssaal". E.G.L.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

HOME NEWS

Anglo-Judaica

ANTISEMITIC ATTACKS BY NATIONAL FRONT

In an issue of "Spearhead", published by National Front leader John Tyndall, an article on the Socialist Workers Party includes pictures of five of its "key workers". The text contains remarks such as "the reader will immediately notice . . . distinctly alien features". Of one man Steve Jeffreys, it is said "real name not known, but a glance at the photograph and the fact that he comes from a comfortable North London home are sufficient indications of his alien pedigree". Another man is described as "the lowest type of minority alien". Elsewhere in the journal Zionists are said to have led the combined forces of the Left in an attempt to have the Front march in Lewisham banned.

Jewish student leaders said that there was growing antisemitism at various universities. They revealed that a National Front student organisation is collaborating with a group known as the "Arab Rights Movement". It had recently sent an antisemitic poem to Dr. Jacob Gewirtz, executive director of the Board of Deputies' Jewish defence and group relations committee.

THE CAMPUS WAR

At the initiation and installation dinner of the B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England, the honorary district president, Mr Fred Worms said there was a disastrous state of affairs at universities. Of 12,000 Jewish students on 45 campuses, only 3,000 belonged to the Jewish Student Union, and of these 80 per cent had stopped their Jewish education at the age of 13. They were unequipped to fight the battle against Arab and anti-Israel propaganda on the campus.

ISRAELIS AND ARABS MEET IN LONDON

British pro-Arabs, acting on behalf of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Co-operation, held a seminar in London which was attended by representatives of the PLO and by a number of Israeli "doves" who had been invited in a private capacity. They had previously met in secret in other European capitals. The Israeli participants included former general Matityahu Peled, the chairman of the Israeli Council for Peace, Mr Uri Avneri, editor of the weekly magazine "Haolam Hazeh" and Dr Haim Darin, chairman of the editorial board of the periodical "New Outlook". The most virulent statements at the meeting were made by Jews: Rabbi Elmer Berger of the American Council for Judaism, and Dr. Machover, a member of the Israeli left-wing group *Matzpen* who now lives in Britain. Mr Peled declared he was satisfied with the results of the meeting: There was general agreement that there should be mutual and reciprocal recognition and that a peace settlement should include Israeli withdrawals to the 1967 borders with mutual security guarantees for both nations.

THE TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Trades Advisory Council of the Board of Guardians has issued a statement saying that its connection with the late Sir Eric Miller who had been a charitable man, had been in enlisting his co-operation in their main task to strengthen goodwill in the field of industry and commerce and the professions and to eliminate friction between Jewish and other traders. For these purposes he had put a car at their disposal, but they had now returned it. They had paid for all running costs and repairs.

JEWISH EDITOR FOR "PUNCH"

Mr. Alan Coren was appointed the first Jewish editor of "Punch" which was founded in 1841. He once visited 10 Downing Street disguised as a Sheikh and was saluted by the constables on duty.

MP PROTESTS AGAINST HYDE PARK PLO

Dr. Rhodes Boyson, M.P. for Brent North, has protested in a letter to the Home Secretary against the regular appearance of members of the PLO at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park. In his letter he expressed his concern "that an out-and-out terrorist organisation with international connections is allowed to use Hyde Park to popularise their aims, particularly that of the destruction of Israel, a legally-recognised democratic state".

SUPPORT FOR ARABS GROWING

During a recent opinion poll by Caabu, the Council for Arab-British Understanding 27 per cent of those interviewed thought Israel was an Arab country. 29 per cent of the 1,103 people interviewed said their sympathies were with Israel, 9 per cent with the Palestinians, 46 per cent with both, and there were 16 per cent don't know. The survey established that Israel remains the most favoured Middle East country with the British public, but sympathy with the Arabs has grown considerably in the last ten years.

NO CONFRONTATION FOR AJEX

The Manchester Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women has declared that it will not participate in any confrontation with the National Front. Mr. Clyne, its life president said: "The situation is well looked after between the Manchester Jewish Representative Council and Ajex. This is more important than being fellow travellers with other political organisations".

JEWISH GUESTS IN DUBLIN

Dr. Ben Epstein, director of the American B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, Dr. A. Rosenberg of New York B'nai B'rith, and their wives were guests of the Irish Airlines (Aer Lingus) at a reception in their honour at the Dublin Shelbourne Hotel. Prominent members of the Dublin B'nai B'rith were also present. The visitors are on a tour of Ireland.

BELFAST STORE GUTTED

The Model Furnishing Company in Belfast which has been owned by the Coppel family since 1920, was completely gutted in incendiary bomb attacks on Yom Kippur.

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New Prayer Book

A new prayer-book to serve the 32 established and developing Reform congregations in the United Kingdom, has just been published. Officially it is the seventh edition of "Forms of Prayer" first published in 1841 to serve the newly-created West London Synagogue, but is almost completely rewritten to suit modern concepts. Chairman of the committee responsible for the book is Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Senior Rabbi of the West London Synagogue and chairman of the European Board of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. The cover has been designed by Abram Games. Sixty pages of the appended Study Anthology contain quotations from Moses Mendelssohn, Franz Rosenzweig, Samson Raphael Hirsch and other Jewish leaders, but also from Chassidic scripture, from cabbalists, and from secular writers like Spinoza, Heine, Freud, Saul Bellow, Herzl, Weizmann, Kafka, Norman Mailer and Bud Flanagan. Subjects of the prayers include the Holocaust and the State of Israel. The main texts are in English and Hebrew, but there is also some Aramaic and Yiddish.

Award to Mrs. Jakobovits

The First Lodge of B'nai B'rith has named Mrs. Amelie Jakobovits who like her husband came to this country as a refugee, Woman of the Year. The award is given to any member of the Anglo-Jewish community who has made an outstanding contribution to the furtherance of B'nai B'rith ideals.

Youth Centre for Kenton

A £150,000 purpose-built Jewish youth centre is to be built opposite Kenton Synagogue. The Department of Education and Science, Brent Council and a Jewish charitable organisation have promised grants totalling nearly £100,000, the remainder will be raised by the Kenton Youth Aid Trust. The proposed two-storey building will house the Kenton Jewish Club and the local Jewish scouts and guides with a joint membership of 500.

Hebrew at Brent Cross

At the John Lewis shop at the Brent Cross Shopping Centre in London, a little export guide in French, German, Japanese, Hindi, Arabic and Hebrew is available for foreign shoppers. Unfortunately the Hebrew text is printed upside-down.

Jewish Radio Programme in Leeds

Radio Leeds has started a special programme for Jewish listeners "Jacob's Ladder" which is broadcast on Friday mornings at 10.55 and repeated on Sundays.

Kosher Slaughter EEC Style

The Glasgow Board for Shechita is to bring its poultry abattoir up to EEC standards. The new abattoir will provide customers with poultry cleaned, drawn and "koshered" under the most hygienic conditions and cellophane wrapped.

Synagogue will not be Mosque

The Great and New Synagogue in Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester, has been sold to a Pakistani for use as a warehouse. The Moslem community had put in a higher bid, but it was refused because it wanted to turn the synagogue into a mosque.

Hebrew course at comprehensive school

Modern Hebrew has been introduced into the curriculum of the Allerton Grange Comprehensive School in Leeds first at O-level and later at A-level. The subject will be open to both Jewish and non-Jewish pupils.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Begin and Dr. Brzezinski

According to "Time" news magazine, the only member of President Carter's entourage whom the Israeli Prime Minister Mr. Begin had met before his recent visit to the United States was Dr. Brzezinski, the President's right-hand man in security matters. Mr. Begin brought him copies of a letter written by Tadeus Brzezinski, his father, from Leipzig where he was the Polish Consul in 1933 protesting against the Nazi treatment of Jews. Mr. Tadeus Brzezinski, now 81 years old, lives in Montreal as a long-standing Canadian resident. The letter is now kept at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem.

Lessons on Holocaust opposed

The Jewish community of Philadelphia in collaboration with the main Protestant and Catholic organisations of the city have evolved a study programme on the Holocaust which is to be introduced in 26 senior and 40 junior high schools. The course has been planned by Dr Franklin Littel, the chairman of Temple University's religion department. The Rev. Hans Hag, chairman of the German-American Committee of Greater Philadelphia which claims to represent 50,000 German-Americans out of a total population of nearly 2 million, has protested against the plan, saying that "the course gave the impression that the Nazis were the only ones to commit crimes against humanity and that the Jews were the only ones to suffer." Some of the material of the course should be replaced by material for the study of "genocide" committed by Soviet Russia, by Moslems and Hindus in India in the late 1940s and by Communists in Cambodia and other Far Eastern countries.

Conversion of Jewish Editor

The rabbis of Philadelphia have received letters from the Jewish Activist Coalition of the city, drawing their attention to the fact that one of the assistant editors of "The Jewish Exponent" the community-owned English-language Weekly, was converted to Unitarianism some years ago. Similar letters were received by the heads of all Jewish organisations, social action committees in synagogues and by all members of the Jewish Community Relations Council. It says that the Jewish community should be served by Jews who identify with Judaism. The Unitarian Church has apparently attracted quite a number of Jewish converts in recent years. Jews find that its refusal to believe in the Trinity and other Christian tenets, makes it a spiritual religion with which they can identify.

Bingo in the Temple

In order to establish a sense of community in the congregation, the Los Angeles Reform Temple Beth Shalom has introduced a weekly bingo night. Other Los Angeles synagogues have swimming pools or hand out colouring books during Sabbath services so that the faithful can colour their emotions. There is also a homosexual congregation.

JEWISH RADIO IN URUGUAY

An official reception, attended by representatives of the government and the Churches, was held in Montevideo to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the radio programme "Zion's Voice in Uruguay" which is presented by Mr. Jose Jerolimski. The event was widely discussed in the national press.

BRAZIL DIALS ISRAEL

Brazil has become the first Latin American country to introduce direct telephone dialling to Israel. Lebanon, Iran and Saudi Arabia will follow in due course.

AMIN'S CHANGE OF SIDES

Mr. Henry Kyemba, former Ugandan Minister of Health who defected to Britain early this year, said in his book "State of Blood" that in 1971, Amin's seizure of power was widely welcomed. At the time, the Israelis were closely involved in major building projects in Uganda, including Entebbe airport, and in the training of Ugandan officers. A photograph in the book shows Amin on a visit to Tel Aviv, toasting Ugandan-Israeli friendship with Defence Minister Moshe Dayan in 1971. In 1972, however, Colonel Gaddafi of Libya bribed him with a vast cash offer to turn into a violent enemy of Israel. He had fully co-operated with the hi-jackers at Entebbe airport. Mr. Kyemba says that Amin had ordered him long after the murder of Mrs. Dora Bloch to announce that she had been returned to the airport before the Israeli raid. Mr. Kyemba appeals to the Arab States to consider whether it is worthwhile "to sustain a vicious régime that brings the Arab name and the name of Islam into disrepute".

SOUTH AFRICA

Telephone Threats to Jews

Leading Jews in Cape Town have received anonymous telephone calls saying: "Remember what happened to the Jews in Germany". Most of the recipients are Jews who signed a public protest against the manner in which African squatter camps had been bulldozed by the authorities.

Voluntary Duty by B'nai B'rith

The South African B'nai B'rith has made arrangements with the State and civic authorities to take over duties in hospitals, clinics, telephone exchanges and other public services over Christmas in order to give the regular staff the time off.

Black Rabbi jailed

Fifty-year-old Joshua Msitshana who claims to be a rabbi and spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation in Soweto, the African township of Johannesburg, has been sent to prison for five years under the Terrorism Act. He was found guilty of writing and distributing pamphlets inciting to violence against the government. Rabbi Casper, Chief Rabbi of South Africa, said he knew of no such congregation, nor had he information about Mr. Msitshana's ordination as a rabbi.

Jewish Judge in Supreme Court

Mr. Gerald Friedman, a 48-year-old Cape town lawyer who is vice-president of the South African Bar General Council, has been appointed a judge of the country's Supreme Court.

Secret visit to Israel

Officials in Jerusalem reluctantly confirmed a report that the South African Foreign Minister, Mr. Botha, had paid a secret visit to Israel. They have denied a report by the U.S. "Newsweek" that Israel helped South Africa to become a nuclear power.

JEWISH MUSEUM IN AUSTRIA

In Eisenstadt, the capital of the Burgenland, an Austrian Jewish Museum will be opened next year to give a picture of Jewish culture in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. It will include a former synagogue in the renovated Eisenstadt ghetto.

ISRAEL'S GIFT TO COSTA RICA

The Israeli Ambassador presented the National Library of Costa Rica in San Jose with the 19 volumes of the Jerusalem Encyclopaedia Judaica as a gift from his government.

NORWAY

Israeli Orchestra Honoured

The Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra under its conductor Zubin Mehta was the first full symphony orchestra to play before 1,800 people in Oslo's new concert hall. All tickets were sold within four hours. Crown Princess Sonja welcomed the orchestra which received a standing ovation and enthusiastic notices from press, radio and TV. An anti-Israel demonstration near the concert hall, staged by the Norwegian Friends of the PLO, received little attention.

Student Demonstrations

Student demonstrators burnt the Israeli flag, shouted slogans and chanted battle songs preventing Professors Eden and Ahanan, Israeli guest professors, from delivering lectures in Oslo and Trondheim. They came to Norway under a cultural agreement between the two countries but were constantly harassed. The Norwegian authorities apologised for the demonstrations in strong terms.

FRANCE

Russian Envoy in Synagogue

The Soviet Ambassador to France attended this year's remembrance service in the Great Synagogue, which was attended by more than 800 people, including representatives of President Giscard d'Estaing, Mr. Chirac, mayor of Paris and Mrs. Simone Weil the Minister of Health. Chief Rabbi Dr. Kaplan deplored in his sermon recent neo-Nazi activities including synagogue desecrations in France and elsewhere. Earlier Nazi slogans and swastikas had been painted on the walls of the Great Synagogue.

JEWISH CENTRE IN BRUSSELS

Three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Dyan from London settled in Brussels and founded "Simcha" a centre for English-speaking Jews in Brussels. It has now about 90 members, British, American and even Belgians, most of whom work in the Common Market and other international organisations and companies.

ITALY

Public support for freed Nazi murderer

In Milan, a bomb was planted at the Italo-Israel Bank which in spite of its name has had no Jewish or Israeli connections for years. After the explosion, an anonymous telephone caller told a news agency "This is only the beginning. Jews and Communists are warned not to intimidate West German offices or institutions, otherwise harsh reprisals will strike their dens. Remember the Ardeatine Caves. Long live Kappler".

SEX-CHANGE TENNIS-STAR

Dr. Renee Richards, the sex-change tennis player who was recently beaten by Virginia Wade in the U.S., represented the United States at the 1973 Maccabiah as Richard Raskind. Dr. Richards, 43-year-old father of a five-year-old son, is an eye surgeon from California who played as a man against Wimbledon champion Australian Neale Fraser in 1960.

EGYPTIAN PLANES REPAIRED IN BRITAIN

British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce will overhaul and keep the Soviet-built MiG-21 fighter aircraft, the mainstay of the Egyptian Air Force as part of a contract worth many millions of pounds. Since Soviet technicians and advisers were expelled from Egypt in 1972, the country has been short of spare parts and maintenance facilities. Teams from the two companies will go to Egypt to do the work.

Heidi Heimann

THE BIBLE IN BRITISH ART: 10th-20th Century

Exhibition at Victoria and Albert Museum

The Victoria and Albert Museum has just opened a small but most important and enjoyable exhibition: "The Bible in British Art 10th to 20th Centuries". It comprises, of course, Old and New Testament examples and should be of interest to specialists and amateurs alike. The deceptively small catalogue—presented in this modest format to keep the price down to 30p—was compiled by the Keeper, Dr. Michael Kauffmann and is full of valuable information and instructive insights in its four lengthy introductions to the different sections. The wealth and diversity of the exhibited works from all periods is astounding and truly delightful.

Magnificent codices from the early centuries, the 11th and 12th, start the exhibition on a majestic scale. To name only a few: the Caedmon Genesis from the Bodleian Library in Oxford is open at a large, most intricate coloured illustration of Noah's Ark; from the Lambeth Bible a whole page is reproduced on the cover of the catalogue, illustrating three episodes: Abraham visited by the three Angels, Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac and Jacob's dream of the heavenly ladder, combined in a dense design. These Bibles are joined by a number of important Psalters and supplemented by fragments of embroidery, the famous "opus Anglicanum", for which English women were specially renowned and by four Alabaster reliefs, which are also an English speciality.

In later centuries the emphasis shifted from an exclusive preoccupation with religious art. However, illustrated Bibles continued to be made. After the invention of printing they were first illustrated by woodcuts—sometimes taken over from continental models—later, engravings were used after famous paintings by Tintoretto, Rubens, etc., as in a Bible published in 1660 in Cambridge. Later still, in 1762, came a complete, fully illustrated family Bible. In the middle of the nineteenth century Dalziels' Bible was begun and finally published in 1881. And this trend continues right up to the present day; an Oxford Illustrated Old Testament in five volumes was recently published (1968-69) with drawings by contemporary artists, including Edward Ardizzone, Anthony Gross and many others, among them David Hockney, who drew illustrations for the Book of Nehemia: spidery, wilful, unorthodox drawings, which prove the never ending fascination as well as inspiration of Holy Writ.

Apart from these book illustrations during the last three centuries artists attempted easel pictures as well as single drawings of biblical subjects for new and more personal reasons, commissioned neither by church nor patron. The artists choose subjects hardly ever illustrated before such as: "Samuel's ghost conjured up by the Witch of Ensur appearing to Saul" (1 Samuel 28), of which a magnificent drawing by the Swiss artist Henry Fuseli, who made his home and career in England, is exhibited. But by far the most impressive in composition and execution are a number of large water colours by William Blake. They are outstanding in every sense of the word. Four of them show Old Testament events: "The Finding of Moses in his basket by the tall, beautiful Egyptian princess" who bends forward, supported by two smaller maidens-in-waiting. Moses, again, tall, standing upright next to a small "burning bush" at his feet—an unusual arrangement of this frequently depicted event; yet another

rare subject: "Naomi entreating Ruth and Ophah to return to the land of Moab" and finally an illustration to Psalm 85, 10: "Mercy and Truth are met together, Righteousness and Peace have kissed each other", figures that by their majestic stature and simplicity of outline draw and hold the attention. No other artist of the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries was able to infuse so much personal feeling and simple grandeur into his designs, though quite a number came up with personal and unusual compositions. Turner's Deluge, for instance, shows an impressive, wild, storm-tossed seascape and because the Deluge presented an opportunity to represent unbridled nature, it became a popular theme of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Altogether, authenticity of setting began to play an important part and efforts were made to produce authentic environment. One of the most memorable attempts in this direction is the famous painting of 1854, "The Scapegoat", by William Holman Hunt, illustrating a passage from the third Book of Moses 16, 22 "of the scapegoat sent into the wilderness bearing upon him all the iniquities of the people". The goat stands alone in a desolate landscape on the shore of a lake. Hunt studied and painted this picture in Palestine on the shore of the Dead Sea with the mountains of Edom beyond. The rainbow on the right is a symbol of forgiveness, as is the glow of the setting sun on the far mountains. This realism is a new venture, never attempted before the nineteenth century. It invests this picture with special emphasis and meaning.

Besides this stark realistic trend there exists another lyrical one, which touches by its intimacy and simplicity and also produces notable images. Millais' "The Return of the Dove to the Ark" is one of these. Contrary to the biblical account, Millais features two young girls welcoming back the bird instead of Noah and thus gives the theme a new popular appeal. "The Meeting of Jacob and Rachel at the Well", by William Dyce, is unconventional, but Dyce is a lesser artist and he evokes some resistance against his cloying sentimentality. As is to be expected, this very personal approach to the biblical events continues in the twentieth century with painters like Stanley Spencer, Paul Nash and Eric Gill. It proves the continuing fascination these stories and figures exercise upon the minds and imagination of the artists even in our time, when the Bible has ceased to be THE BOOK, on which attention was exclusively focused. The contribution British artists of every age made in visualising the figures and events in the Bible is displayed in this exhibition to best advantage; it impresses by its variety and its consistent high quality throughout.

The Exhibition is held on the first floor and will go on until January 8, 1978. Hours: Monday to Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5.50 p.m., Sunday 2.30-5.50 p.m.

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ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE

Professor Aron Shulov, founder and director of the Jerusalem Zoo, said at a lecture in Britain that thanks to the initiative of the British Friends of the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo, the Zoo had expanded considerably and now provided a place of study and recreation for Jewish and Christian religious groups. Priests, monks and nuns as well as Orthodox Jews were often to be seen together. Professor Shulov brought working sheets, games and quizzes on animals and plants mentioned in the Bible, for distribution among British school-children. Once or twice a year, there will be competitions and the winners will be granted free trips to Israel as guests of the Zoo. Various incidents from the Bible are re-enacted in the Zoo. Noah's Ark is at the moment under construction. Israel has now four Zoological gardens, two Safari parks and over 160 nature reserves. The Bible mentions the names of about 130 animals, some of which are now extinct. The Zoo has got specimens of King Solomon's red deer, pheasants, lions and the Syrian bear.

PANELS FOR DIASPORA MUSEUM

Peter Parr, a non-Jewish Bournemouth artist, is creating three massive panels for the proposed Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv. The largest, a 20-foot by 12-foot canvas, depicts the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492, the two slightly smaller ones are of the massacre of the Marranos in 1391 and of a street battle between Cossacks and Polish Jews in 1648. Mr Parr's best-known work is the canvas on the Battle of Trafalgar at Madame Tussaud's in London.

SAMSON'S CITY UNCOVERED

Israeli and American archaeologists have discovered the city of Timnath where Samson courted Delilah and slew a lion. Five miles west of Beit Shemesh, they found a Cananite city which had been destroyed by a tremendous fire near the end of the late Bronze Age (about 1200 BCE). Many signs of Philistine occupation were discovered. A massive, four-yard-wide, city wall and the city gate were uncovered. It had been destroyed about 1100 BCE during the period of Saul, but later reconstructed.

GERMAN VOLUNTEERS HELP HANDICAPPED

Thirty-three young Germans have gone to Israel for between 12 and 18 months in order to work for "Aktion Sühnezeichen", a West German organisation set up to help people who were persecuted by the Nazis. They work in a number of European countries which had suffered under Nazi rule, but the bulk of their effort is concentrated on Israel where they look after mentally and physically handicapped adults and children. Volunteers are first trained in Germany, where apart from learning how to deal with handicapped people, they are thoroughly informed about the fate of European Jewry under National Socialism. At the end of their training, they are sent to Auschwitz for a week where they help to look after the memorial camp and study in the archives. "Aktion Sühnezeichen" was set up in 1956 by the Lutheran Synod, the only large organisation in W. Germany which has accepted the theory of collective guilt.

GROWING POPULATION

Israel has now a population of 3,628,000 of which 569,000 are non-Jews. The latter figure includes the 100,000 Arabs in Jerusalem, but not the Arabs of the occupied territories who number over a million. Israel's Jewish population has increased by 1.8 per cent, that of the non-Jews by 3.6 per cent during the last year.

Ena Steiner

ALBAN BERG'S OPERA "LULU"

When Arnold Schoenberg left Berlin in 1933 and, via Paris, went to America, this did not sever the bonds between him and his devoted former pupils and friends Alban Berg and Anton Webern. What could have expressed better Berg's love than his poem, published in the *Festschrift* on the occasion of Schoenberg's 60th birthday on September 13th, 1934 (his first in the United States), an acrostic, the initial letters of the twenty lines spelling out the words "Glaube, Hoffnung, Liebe", and prophesying that Schoenberg would be recognised in his homeland on his centenary in 1974, which has come true.

Moreover, there was also a birthday present forthcoming: Berg's dedication to his master of his twelve-tone opera "Lulu". "Accept it", he says in his accompanying letter, "not only as a product of years of work consecrated to you, but also as a documentation of my innermost conviction: the whole world, also the German, shall recognise in the dedication of this German opera, that it has its roots in that realm of the most German of music, which will for time eternal bear *Your Name*.—Another sorrow: that I cannot lay at your feet the score of the complete opera, but only the copy of the beginning."

Just over a year later Berg was dead, and "Lulu" (the opera based on Wedekind's twin dramas "Erdgeist" and "Buechse der Pandora", which Berg had first seen in Karl Kraus' private performance as early as 1905, but did not start composing until 1928, and which would have been the crowning achievement of his oeuvre) was left with the third act uncompleted.

An Unfinished Work

Upon hearing of Berg's death, Schoenberg immediately contacted his widow, Helene Berg (who, as her friend Alma Mahler recounts in her memoirs, is a natural daughter of Kaiser Franz Joseph), offering to complete the opera, a gesture which Frau Helene called the first ray of light in her darkness. After examining the score and the libretto Schoenberg, however, declared himself unable to carry out the task. The reason he gave officially was that the work was more difficult, and required more time than he had at his disposal, but in a letter to his friend and former pupil Erwin Stein (9. and 11.3.36) he gave the real reason for his decision, namely the caricature of Puntschu, a Jewish banker in Wedekind's drama, which Schoenberg found objectionable.

Regrettable as Schoenberg's refusal might be from the musical point of view, it is, of course, fully understandable that he, a Jewish composer, who had just fled Germany, would not wish to add to the denigration of his fellow sufferers—Berg apparently having seen fit to include Wedekind's offensive words in his libretto. Webern, the good friend of Berg and Schoenberg, and Alexander von Zemlinsky, Schoenberg's early mentor and brother-in-law (a half-Jew), who were then approached by Helene Berg, also declined to complete the opera (probably out of respect for Schoenberg).

Helene Berg, who survived her husband by over forty years, took the refusals by her husband's closest friends as a sign of fate for the work to remain a fragment, and did not approach anybody else. In fact, she laid down that "the opera is to be performed as a fragment", and in her Will, which after her death in August 1976 has now become accessible,

she requests that nobody should be given access to the manuscript of the third act.

After having seen the recent performance of "Lulu" at the New York MET, with Carole Farley as Lulu and conducted by James Levine (who at the moment is recording all Mahler Symphonies) I have to admit that the opera in its present form is suffering from a strong sense of imbalance, and it is not surprising that now, after Frau Berg's death, efforts are being made to over-rule her wishes. As recently announced by the BBC in their programme "The Arts Worldwide", the opera is now available with the third act complete, and has been accepted for performance in 1979 by Rolf Liebermann for his Paris Opera, with Pierre Boulez conducting. There are rumours, however, that this may not materialise. But whoever is going to complete the opera, or may have already done so (one source of information has it that it is the Viennese composer Friedrich Cerha), it is to be hoped that a tactful solution will be found for the problem that had seemed unsurmountable to Schoenberg.

F. Thorn

THE OTHER ISRAEL

Israel? Begin, Arafat, the Refugee Problem, the West Bank, Mr Vance . . . Anything else? Yes, Begin, Arafat, Sadat, the settlements, the Golan Heights, devaluation, the Gaza Strip . . . What comes inevitably to mind first are newspaper headings and trouble spots. But there are other things as well, for instance 60 (sixty!) museums in a country half the size of Switzerland. In one of the most beautiful and sober art books* to reach my desk in many years, the Chief Curator of the Israel Department of Antiquities and Museums, Dr. Rahmani, and the photographer Peter Larsen bear witness to an almost unbelievable achievement: in less than three decades of statehood Israel has amassed, collected, unearthed, arranged and "processed" an enormous treasure of artefacts, not only from her own, archaeologically fertile soil, but from all over the world, and in time from the Horvat Minha Venus (second half of the fifth millennium BC) to Niki de St. Phalle's "Golem" of 1972.

It is virtually impossible to give an idea of the abundance of works of art on display in the main museums of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, let alone the various kibbutz museums, the Ha'aretz (the "Museum of the Land") and many others in small towns, and it is the outstanding merit of the author to have provided an explanatory text, both scholarly and clear,

* The Museums of Israel, by L. Y. Rahmani and Peter Larsen, Secker & Warburg, 240 pp. £12-50.

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both historically informative and unfailingly accurate to every one of the 293 illustrations. Yet it is the merit of the photographer to have provided the picture material itself. Every photo, far from being a presentation by mechanical means, is an interpretation of the respective item, small or big, with an almost visionary understanding of their importance and their relationship. Thus the pictures become images of time, times and spiritual space.

Concise Description of Museums

What this unique and concise book attempts is an orderly description of all the museums, which with the exception of eight were begun during the first 25 years of the new state. A short (anonymous) foreword points out that the most different personalities, "Zionist pioneers and Catholic monks, British governors and Moslem sheikhs, kibbutz members and learned institutions and official and semi-official private collectors" contributed, as well as many organisations of all sorts. All the more astonishing is the fact that the whole wealth of art works represents an united image, not a haphazard accumulation of "things beautiful", not a comprehensive collection only, but a "tangible expression of a young state, a very ancient people and a diversified population".

Quite apart from historical importance—let alone material value—a considerable amount of exhibits is illustrated and annotated, which will certainly appeal to anybody, art historian and the bus conductor alike, and even those who were lucky enough to have seen them "in the flesh" will now have a lasting record of their experience. As a record alone the book is valid and valuable. To quote only a few examples: "Mary and Child" (6th century AD), one of the oldest interpretations of the Mother and Child-theme (No. 59), Emanuel de Witte's Interior of the "Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam" (c. 1680, No 83), Chagall's "Jew with Torah" (Plate XXI), the "Portrait Head of a Woman" from the Jordan Valley (2nd century AD)—and these are selections due to personal delight, out of many many more. Most astonishing the quality of modern works: One of the most important Renoir "Nudes" is in the Tel Aviv Museum (Plate XX), an excellent Schiele ("Städtchen", Plate XIII) is in the Israel Museum of Jerusalem, and a virtually unknown Signac, "St Cloud" (Plate XI) again in Tel Aviv.

One would like to keep enumerating all the marvels for the sake of talking about them, but there is no other way of enjoying them but reading and looking and reading and looking again.

ARCHIVES IN FORMER GERMAN TERRITORIES

Readers from former German Eastern territories may be interested to learn in which (now) Polish archives relevant files have been preserved. Particulars, based on the Polish periodical "Archeion", were published in the July, 1977, issue of "Archivar" (Duesseldorf). Among other things, it is stated that the archives of Danzig include the mortgage records of Elbing, and that the Koelsin archives have preserved those of that city from 1558 to 1945 as well as files of the Dramburg law court and of the Schlochau "Landratsamt". The Poznan archives possess files of the Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium. The findings of the Konitz regional committee, which in 1945/6 recorded the local Nazi victims, are kept in Konitz and the Lissa Archives have preserved the files of the local law court (1879-1920).

E.G.L.

THE ISRAELI SCENE

THE FATE OF EL AL

Mr Hyam Sanderson, El Al's director in Britain, said recently that reports that Israel's national airline might be closed down because of labour trouble, had been distorted. Various alternatives had been suggested for the airline to take if industrial unrest continued. All staff committees had pledged to the government their full support to stop "wildcat" industrial disputes. El Al had in fact had a record-breaking season, carrying 34 per cent more passengers than last year.

WOMAN PILOT

Lieutenant-General Mordecai Gur, Chief of Staff of the Israeli Air Force, said that the Air Force would soon have its first woman pilot who was at the moment taking part in an Air Force pilots' course. She might become a fighter pilot or fly helicopters or transport aircraft. All units of the Israeli Defence Forces are now employing women in jobs formerly reserved for men.

FORESTS FIRED BY TERRORISTS

Hundreds of acres with tens of thousands of trees have been lost in fires on the eastern slopes of Mount Carmel. Suspects have been seen running from the fires. Five residents of neighbouring Arab villages were arrested as suspects of arson.

"ROOTS"

Alex Haley, the black American author of the international bestseller "Roots" which traces his ancestry back to an African village, came to Israel to be awarded an honorary fellowship by the Hebrew University. He said: "The real roots are here in Israel". Having grown up on Bible stories, he said he knew the Sea of Galilee better than his native Mississippi river.

AN ACT OF CLEMENCY

Mr. Begin, Israel's Prime Minister and acting Minister of Justice has shocked public opinion and the legal establishment by recommending a presidential pardon for Yehoshua Bension, jailed former general manager of the defunct Israel-British Bank who was sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment and a fine of £1,470,000 in 1975 for stealing £16½ million of Israel-British Bank money and other currencies. The fine will still have to be paid. Mr. Begin said that two of Israel's top physicians had recommended an act of clemency because Bension was a very sick man with a short life expectancy. This is contradicted by a leaked Health Ministry report which said there was no real medical ground for release.

MAYOR PROTESTS AGAINST DEMOLITION

Mr. Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, has protested to Israel's military authorities over the demolition of a half-built house in an Arab suburb of East Jerusalem, because the owner's son was suspected of terrorist offences. The authorities apologised explaining that they had thought the building was outside the city boundaries. Three years ago, when the military demolished a house in the city for the last time, Mr. Kollek came to an agreement with them that he should be consulted if they ever planned similar action.

PASSOVER PLOT FILM BANNED

The Israeli Film Censorship Board has banned the film "The Passover Plot", made in Israel last year and based on the book by British writer Hugh Schonfield. Its main theme is that Jesus did not die on the cross. When the film was released Christian clergy and laymen protested violently against an arbitrary distortion of the New Testament. Christian leaders in Israel threatened to shut down their churches if the film was shown in Israel. Schonfield's Jesus is a Jew, determined to free his country from the Romans. The "plot" consists in a planned betrayal by Judas ensuring that Jesus should only be on the cross for one day because of the Passover, but it misfires and Jesus later dies of his wounds.

SIR HENRY d'AVIGDOR-GOLDSMID REMEMBERED

The ICA (Jewish Colonization Association) has endowed a chair of agricultural economics at the Hebrew University in memory of the late Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, who was ICA's president for 25 years.

"BLACK HEBREWS" DEPORTED

A group of American Blacks calling themselves "Black Hebrews" and claiming to be the real descendants of the ancient Israelites, arrived in Israel and tore up their return tickets and passports to prevent deportation. In the past few years, some members of the group have defied the Israeli authorities and formed a community in the Negev town of Dimona. The group of 3 men, 6 women and 16 children were taken from Ben-Gurion airport to a detention centre, issued with new travel documents and flown back to the United States. The US Embassy in Tel Aviv said the group denied that they were Black Hebrews and claimed to be Presbyterians who came to visit Christian holy places.

A SOVIET SPY IN ISRAEL

According to the Tel Aviv paper "Jedioth Achronoth", the Israeli censorship have for 13 years banned the publication of the arrest of a Soviet spy who in 1963 came to Israel via Poland. He was sent to prison for five years, but is still living in Israel. He had been trained for his job in Vilna, Lithuania, his birth-place, and had been sent to liaise with the Russian cultural attache Nikolai Nosakov who was subsequently sent home as "persona non grata". The paper adds that the Russians sent agents to Israel so that they could establish a new personality and then re-emigrate to the US and act as agents there.

REFUGEE BABY BORN

A baby boy was born to a Vietnamese couple who were among the refugees rescued by an Israeli cargo ship and flown to Israel last summer.

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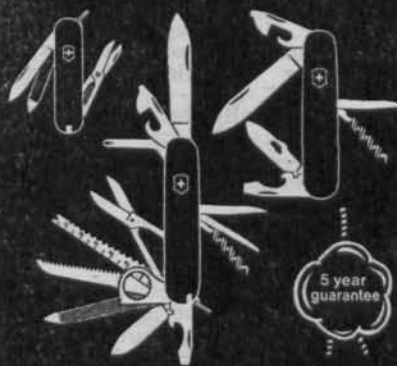
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BAGHDADI BILDUNGSROMAN

According to the 1971 Census, only 10,000 of Canada's 300,000 Jews use French as their first language and of these two-thirds are foreign-born. Under the circumstances, it is hardly surprising that nearly all Canadian-Jewish writers write in English.

There is, however, one significant exception. Interestingly enough, his mother tongue and the language in which he made his literary debut is not French but Arabic. In an autobiographical novel which was translated into English last year*, he describes his adolescence in the Baghdad of the 1940s, a setting which, for all its strangeness, is not without its analogies in Jewish experience:

"No one expected us to change. No group, no government, dreamed of depriving us of loyalties or our past. One is born Shiite, Armenian or Jew and one dies Shiite, Armenian or Jew. . . . We strolled side by side down the main street without ever blending into fraternity or anonymity.

"We were Jews. We knew it. Everyone knew it. But we were also children of this land, children of the country. And that was something we had to shout, constantly cry out, for fear it would be forgotten and that we would be deprived of our share of the wealth which God had bestowed on this kingdom, his own."

The dismemberment of the Turkish Empire after the First World War had brought with it a new role for the Jews of Iraq. The rudiments of French and English which they had learned in the schools of the *Alliance Israélite Universelle* made them indispensable as intermediaries between the British army and the Arab population. When Iraq became independent a few years later, their experience under the British turned them into "the backbone and sinews of the Iraqi state", although "they played this role unwillingly in self-defence". Soon most branches of the civil service "were overflowing with Jews". Gradually, however, they ceased to be indispensable and were squeezed out of public life.

This development was paralleled less deliberately but no less inexorably by developments in the cultural field. "It was not our knowledge of English or French of which we were most proud," writes the author, "but our skill in Arabic. At the final examinations set by the Ministry of Education for students in all the schools, the first prize was invariably won by a Jew." As journalists and litterateurs, the Jews were enthusiastic, even prominent participants in the Arabic literary revival. Gradually, though, they lost this role too as Iraqi literary nationalism became an unequivocally Moslem phenomenon.

Naim Kattan's work is a sort of *Bildungsroman* in which the hero attempts to find his bearings between three reference points—European (predominantly French) culture, Arabic literature and his Jewish identity.

At the age of thirteen, his reaction to the anti-Jewish riots of 1941 is twofold: he reads the novels of a French writer who, he later

* Naim Kattan: *Farewell, Babylon*. Translated from the French by Sheila Fischman. Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1976. \$8.95.

discovers, is virtually unknown and he memorises the entire *Moallakat*, an anthology of pre-Islamic Arabic poetry, for, as he says, "this pre-Islamic heritage was truly mine." A few pages on, we share his pride when he is addressed as *ustadh* (master) by the editor of an avant-garde magazine who has just accepted his first poem for publication. This scene, however, is immediately followed by a description of his school's annual visit to Babylon and a memorable speech by his English teacher who, like his pupils, was Jewish:

"Only the Jews can feel the upheaval of a living past under these piles of stones," he told us. "Nothing ties the Arabs to Babylon. When they conquered it, we were already there. We are the true natives. We came here as captives, the slaves of Nebuchadnezzar. But we triumphed over defeat. On this ground we wrote the Talmud. . . ."

"And how did he end his speech? By exhorting us to work hard, to study English, the key that would open the doors of the world to us."

When he and his best friend graduate from the Alliance Israélite school, they enrol in a Moslem secondary school, the only two Jewish pupils. Naturally, they excel in the study of the Koran and of pre-Islamic poetry:

"We delighted in this endless discovery of our cultural past. For it was our past: no reservation, no restriction crossed our minds. . . . Nessim and I were usually among the first to raise our hands, pointing out with joy that we held the key to the mystery. The teacher never called on us. He persisted in ignoring our eagerness to declare our attachment to our common heritage and unconsciously rejected the tribute we were burning to pay to his teaching."

Nevertheless, even when the political writing was clearly on the wall, they stubbornly persist in their determination to embark on literary careers:

"We had deliberately crossed boundaries to join the opposite camp. As we were not going to be doctors or engineers, did we really have a choice? Our field was literature and our place had already been designated: among the Muslims."

This, of course, was a fool's paradise, one which they shared with the Jewish Commun-

ists (who, for a short period, produced the only legal Communist organ in the country, allowed because it was vehemently anti-Zionist). At the same time, other young Jews would discreetly disappear, to re-emerge a few months' later in Palestine. Yet "Zionist and anti-Zionist Jews rarely confronted each other. What was the use? All were looking for a way to escape and who could say which way was right?"

Shortly thereafter, perhaps luckier than most, he does escape. Armed with a French government scholarship he goes to Paris. However, judging by his later career, he escapes into an existential situation as full of complexities and paradoxes as the one he left. Is this merely a coincidence? Possibly, but probably not. We will not know for sure unless he provides us with a sequel.

NEW GERMAN STUDY ON WEIMAR REPUBLIC

German and foreign scholars still take a very active interest in the history of the Weimar Republic, especially during its last phase. This is re-affirmed by the recent publication of a study by Bernd Soesemann "Das Ende der Weimarer Republik in der Kritik demokratischer Publizisten" (volume 9 of the "Abhandlungen und Materialien zur Publizistik", Colloquium Verlag, Berlin, 1976). It deals with four leading democratic publicists of those days: Theodor Wolff (1868-1943), the long standing chief editor of the "Berliner Tageblatt", Dr. Ernst Feder (1881-1964), the paper's Home Affairs editor, Julius Elbau (1881-1965), since 1914 associated with the Ullstein publishing house, and Leopold Schwarzschild (1891-1950), until 1933 editor of the periodical "Das Tagebuch" and the weekly "Der Montag-Morgen". These four well-known editors of liberal press publications held important positions during the decisive years and, especially in view of their Jewish origin, were outcast by the Nazis. They had to leave the country immediately, with the exception of Elbau, who stayed in Germany until 1938.

Dr. Soesemann has thoroughly perused the material he found in the press and in archives as well as memoirs, correspondence and preserved personal documents. He comes to the conclusion that all four publicists considered the danger of the Nazi movement as extremely serious (and greater than the Communist threat to the Republic). Yet for a number of reasons, the Reich's Chancellor of those days, Dr. Heinrich Brüning, was not prepared to heed these warnings, let alone to use their press as a platform for pronouncements on the subject.

Though the proportion of Jewish contributors to these papers was not inconsiderable and though the Weimar Republic was denounced by the Right-wing parties as "Judenrepublik", it would, as Soesemann stresses, be unjustified to speak of a decisive "Jewish" influence on public opinion. There were only loose contacts between the four publicists of the study, and they differed so widely in their personalities that they could not be regarded as a united group able and willing to take joint action.

E.G.L.

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- 7 Nov. Dr. Werner Rosenstock: "Bilanz von 40 Jahren. Geschichte und Einordnung der Refugees in England".
- 14 Nov. Dr. Hans Freyhan: "Die Englandreisen Joseph Haydns und ihre kuenstlerischen Ergebnisse".
- 21 Nov. Mrs. Mally Burger: "Wild Life at its Truest. My Safari through Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania". (With coloured slides).
- 28 Nov. Heinz Norden: "Ersteigung des Turms von Babylon. Aus einer Uebersetzerkarriere".
- 5 Dez. Dr. Ellen Kessel-Ruhemann: "Die Deutsche Romantik".
- 12 Dez. Dr. Hans Bach: "Antisemitismus in der Kirche. Der Wandel der Beziehungen zwischen Christen und Juden in den letzten 50 Jahren".
- 19 Dez. Ein Heiterer Abend mit Mr. F. Ruhemann und Anderen.

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IN MEMORIAM

PROFESSOR FRANZ BOEHM

Professor Franz Boehm, who recently died in his 83rd year, will be particularly remembered by Jews all over the world as a courageous champion for the promotion of Jewish-Christian understanding, the normalisation of German-Israeli relations and, last but not least, the material compensation for the victims of the Nazi régime. He was the head of the German delegation during the negotiations with representatives of Israel and the Claims Conference, held at The Hague and resulting in the Luxembourg Agreement in 1952. As a parliamentarian, he constantly fought for the just implementation of the Agreement and the fair interpretation of the compensation laws. His interest in the sphere of moral compensation is reflected in his introduction to the new edition in 1953 of the work by Hugo Sinzheimer on "Juedische Klassiker in der deutschen Rechtswissenschaft" (first published in 1938 in Holland) and in his two volume work (jointly written with W. Dirks) "Judentum — Schicksal, Wesen und Gegenwart" (1965). He was awarded the Leo Baeck Prize in 1970.

Before the war, Professor Boehm was Professor of Law, first in Freiburg and later in Jena, from where he was dismissed for political reasons in 1938. After the war he was from 1946 to 1962 professor of civil law at Frankfurt University.

Franz Boehm's activities for German-Jewish understanding and his urge to get at the roots of Jewish existence resulted in personal bonds with many leading Jews in and from Germany.

RABBI PROFESSOR DR. C. C. LEHRMANN

Dr. Cuno C. Lehrmann, who died in Luxembourg at the age of 72, was the Liberal Rabbi of the Berlin Jewish community from 1961 until his retirement in 1971. Born in Stryzow (Poland), he spent his school and university years in Wuerzburg where he obtained his Ph.D. in 1932. When the Nazis came to power, he found refuge in Switzerland. Later he held the office of a *Grand Rabin* of Luxembourg for ten years and, in recognition of his outstanding services, by special order became a citizen of that country. He retained his bonds with Luxembourg and published several works on the history of the Jews in the Grand Duchy. He also had several works on the French-Jewish spiritual relationship to his credit and, during the last ten years of his life, was Honorary Professor at Wuerzburg University. Lehrmann was both a rabbi and a philologist.

E.G.L.

H. D. LEUNER

The Rev. Heinz David Leuner who has died in London aged 71, came from a middle-class Jewish family in Breslau. In 1933 he and his wife went to Prague as political refugees. He studied at the German University and became a convert to the Scottish Episcopalian Church which he regarded as a reconciliation between Jewish and Christian teaching. In 1939 he escaped to Glasgow with his wife and small child, studied theology for five years at Trinity College and became a minister of the Church of Scotland. During the war he made it his special task to look after fellow-refugees and at the same time advocated friendly relations with a post-Hitlerian Germany. Later on he was appointed European Secretary of the International Jewish Christian Alliance and travelled widely in its service. In 1966 his book "When compassion was a crime" was published by Oswald Wolff, London. It tells the story of "Germany's silent heroes 1933-45", i.e. of those Germans who risked everything in order to assist and save Jews. It was widely acclaimed after its publication in Germany a year later. Several more books in German followed: "Religious Thinking in 20th century Judaism", and a short history of the Jewish People for the Berlin Church Academy are the best known among them.

STAATSEKRETAER a.D. ARNOLD BRECHT

Staatssekretaer Arnold Brecht, who died at the age of 93, was one of the most loyal members of the high civil service under the Weimar Republic. He served first with the Reich Ministry of Interior and, when he encountered opposition among German National members of the Reichstag, became Secretary of State in the Prussian Braun-Severing Government. He was dismissed in 1933 and emigrated to the United States, where he was appointed Professor of Public Law at the "New School for Social Research", which provided new fields of activities for scholars who had been expelled by the Nazis. He died when he was on holiday in Eutin, not far from Luebeck, his city of birth.

DR. MORITZ GOLDSTEIN

Dr. Moritz Goldstein, who died in New York at the age of 97, has left his particular mark on German-Jewish historiography by his essay "Deutsch-juedischer Parnass", published in the "Kunstwart" in March, 1912. In this article, he courageously dealt with the complicated position of Jewish intellectuals in German life, culminating in the sentence "We Jews are administering the spiritual property of a nation which denies our right and our ability to do so". There was a heated discussion after the appearance of the article. Moritz Goldstein re-assessed his attitude to the problem in the light of the destruction of Central European Jewry in the Second Year Book of the Leo Baeck Institute (1957). Notwithstanding the realisation of the problematic position of Jewish authors, for which he blamed the German non-Jews rather than the Jews, he himself continued to work in the German literary field, especially as editor of the "Goldene Klassiker-Bibliothek". In 1918, he joined the staff of the "Vossische Zeitung" and, among other things, wrote reports on law court proceedings under the pseudonym "Inquit". He emigrated first to Italy and from there to England where, together with his late wife, he opened a boarding house in which many refugees spent their holidays. After the war, the family went to the United States. There, Moritz Goldstein resumed his journalistic activities by writing for German papers, especially the "Neue Zeitung" (Munich).

DR. MARTHA MOSSE

Dr. Martha Mosse, who recently died at the age of 93, was Polizeiraetin at the Berlin Police Presidium until 1933; she was the first woman to hold a position in this sphere and particularly excelled by her knowledge and experience in the field of criminal law. During the time of persecution, she put herself at the disposal of the Berlin Jewish community and worked in the newly established department for economic help. She was deported to Theresienstadt in 1943. After the liberation of the Camp she returned to Berlin and resumed her activities in the service of her city of birth. The last position she held before her retirement in 1953 was that of a "Justitiarin" at the Criminal Police. In his standard work "Der verwaltete Mensch" (reviewed in our December, 1975 issue) Dr. H. G. Adler repeatedly quotes Martha Mosse's notes and observations about the compulsory segregation of the Jews in Berlin, the cruel methods of their deportation and the terror of the Gestapo.

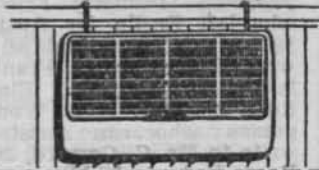
E.G.L.

DR. ISAIAH SHACHAR

One of Israel's outstanding art historians Dr. Isaiah Shachar who was junior research fellow at the London Warburg Institute and subsequently curator at the Jerusalem Israel Museum, has died at the age of 41.

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PERSONALIA

NEWS FROM THE EAST

JEWISH ACTIVISTS FREED

Six Jewish activists were arrested by the Moscow police when they tried to leave for Kiev to honour the Jews slaughtered by the Nazis at Babi Yar. They were released a few days later. Dr. Coggan, the Archbishop of Canterbury, paid a visit to Babi Yar on the 36th anniversary of the massacre. Jews in Leningrad and Minsk had also been prevented from attending the ceremony at the memorial for the dead.

ONCE MORE THE "PROTOCOLS"

The Soviet Academy of Sciences has published a book entitled "History and Politics of International Zionism" which has as its central theme the subjects of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" which have been known to be a forgery for 75 years. The book says that World Jewry aspires to world domination by means of controlling the international banking system. The Zionists are said to strive for the status of a super-government with Jews encouraged to become fifth columnists all over the world. A well-known lecturer, Valery Yemelyanov, repeated the protocol's allegation that Freemasonry could provide the means to achieve world-mastery for the Zionists.

RUSSIAN SYNAGOGUES FULL

In contrast to previous years, the police did not interfere with synagogue visits during this year's High Holy-days. One Moscow synagogue had an overflow of 800 standing outside in the street, which was closed to traffic during the services.

NEW POST FOR SIR HERMANN BONDI

Professor Sir Hermann Bondi has been appointed chief scientist at the Department of Energy. Sir Hermann, who was born in Vienna in 1919, was scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence from 1971 until he took up this new appointment.

FORMER BERLINER AT ISRAEL EMBASSY

The new cultural attaché of the Israeli Embassy in Bonn, Jochanan Bein, was born in Berlin. The family emigrated to Palestine (as it then was) in 1933.

NEW IRISH PEACE COMMISSIONER

Mr. Anthony D. Leon was recently appointed a Peace Commissioner. He is the first Jewish president of the Irish Auctioneers and Valuers Institute and has just finished his term as president of the Irish Chapter of the International Real Estate Federation.

JEWISH MAYOR OF CORK

A new Lord Mayor, 65-year-old Gerald Goldberg, has been elected in Cork, the second largest city of the Republic of Ireland. It is the first time that Cork has had a Jewish mayor. In his inaugural speech, Mr. Goldberg spoke in Irish and included a Hebrew prayer. He said that as a born Corkman, he found no difficulty combining being Irish and being Jewish. But he said "I am first and foremost a Jew".

SIR ISAAC WOLFSON 80

Sir Isaac Wolfson who has just celebrated his 80th birthday, donated £2 million to Israeli causes to mark the event. About £500,000 has been allocated for the building of the Great Synagogue in Jerusalem. An Isaac Wolfson Chair in Talmudic Studies will be established at the Hebrew University and a Chair in Jewish Studies at the Tel Aviv University. The Isaac and Edith Wolfson Charitable Trust is responsible for the opening of an Edith Wolfson Park in Tel Aviv and a 600-bed Edith Wolfson hospital at Holon. Altogether Sir Isaac is responsible for the building of 50 synagogues.

ARCHBISHOP VISITS SYNAGOGUES

During his recent visit to Russia, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Coggan, made a point of visiting synagogues and meeting members of the Jewish community. He attended the Saturday morning service at a Moscow synagogue.

A WOMAN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Mrs. Vicki Harris, a principal at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, is the first woman to gain first prize in the Certified Diploma in Accounting and Finance examination. From 1971 to 1973 she was Assistant Professor of Psychology at the California State University. During that time she spent six months at the Haifa Technion and at the University of the Negev in Beersheba as a lecturer and an adviser on ergonomics—the human factor — to the Israeli Ministry of Defence.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge; any voluntary donation would, however, be appreciated. Texts should be sent in by 15th of the month.

Birthdays

The AJR Club extends its heartiest congratulations to their very dear Mrs. Charlotte Salzberger on the occasion of her 85th birthday with sincerest good wishes.

Dawidowitz. — Mrs. Anita Dawidowitz (née Wolff), formerly Stettin, of 19b Clifton Gardens, Maida Vale, London, W.9, will celebrate her 75th birthday on November 16.

Suschitzky. — Mrs. Adele Suschitzky from Vienna, will be 99 on November 19. She is now at Osmond House. Best wishes and warmest congratulations from her son, daughter-in-law, and her three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Thanks for Congratulations

Guttman. — Mrs. S. Guttman and Mr. C. H. Guttman thank the AJR Club and all their friends most cordially for the kindness shown to them on their special birthdays.

Deaths

Cohn. — Herman Cohn passed away peacefully in his 89th year on October 3. Deeply mourned by his wife Irma, sons, daughters-in-law, sister, nephew, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends.

Collins. — Manfred (Michael) Collins, of 46 Tarranbrae, London,

N.W.6, passed away suddenly but peacefully on September 24, aged nearly 77. He will be remembered by his relatives and many friends.

Levy. — Mr. Otto Levy (formerly Cologne) passed away suddenly and A. G-d without suffering on Hoshana Rabba — October 3. Deeply loved and mourned by his wife Hannah, daughters Susan (Brager), Ann (Goldberg), Helen and Janet, sons-in-law David and Bernard and grandson Shai. 17 Baslow Road, Leicester.

Litten. — Miss Olli Litten, of 103 Gilling Court, Belsize Grove, London, N.W.3, passed away on October 2, shortly after her 80th birthday. Deeply mourned by her sister, brother and many friends.

Mayer. — Else Mayer (née Kass), widow of Ludwig Mayer, passed away peacefully at Samaritan Hospital on October 1 after serious illness. Mourned by daughter, Helen, family and friends.

Selby. — Mr. William Selby (formerly Wilhelm Silbiger) died peacefully on October 1, aged 72, after much suffering. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by his wife, Irene, his children, Barbara, Ruth and Colin, and their families.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 25p for five words plus 20p for advertisements under a Box No.

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Personal

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WIDOW, in the 60s, independent, no children, own comfortable house, is looking for a widower who may perhaps be lonely. Must be a thoughtful and considerate gentleman, who may like to build up a friendly companionship. When replying, please give telephone number. Box 688.

WIDOW, YOUNG, early fifties, good appearance, continental background, widely travelled, interested in music, theatre, books and travel, would like to meet kind and sympathetic gentleman with same interests. Box 692.

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INFORMATION REQUIRED

Personal Enquiries

Frank Wolff. — My father, Walter Freeman (formerly Friedlander) who left Berlin for Australia in 1938 wants to re-establish contact with his first cousin, Frank Wolff: last known address 7 Elm Grove Rd., London, W.5. Would any person who can assist, please write to Mr. G. Gerrard, 26 Manor Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

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MISCELLANEOUS

25 YEARS SOLIDARITE

The *Solidarité* which forms the representation of Jewish refugees in France—its full name is "Solidarité des Réfugiés Israélites" was founded in 1952 and is therefore celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year. It is a member organisation of the Council of Jews from Germany. Its most urgent tasks from the very beginning were connected with housing. Many buildings had been destroyed during the war, and the refugees who survived or who returned from hiding or from concentration camps, had mostly lost their homes. In 1957 a donation of the Federal Bundestag of West Germany enabled it to buy a small castle in a park south of Paris and convert it into a home for mainly elderly men and women. At the time, the German radio had broadcast a radio play "Die Vergessenen" by Peter Adler which drew the attention of Professor Carlo Schmid, vice-president of the Bundestag to this urgent task. Many organisations and private German citizens also contributed.

At a later date, the *Solidarité* was enabled by money received from international organisations to acquire a number of houses in and near Paris and to offer low-price accommodation to Jewish refugees. Apart from housing, the organisation has helped many people with loans to await their restitution money, and its advice has been listened to when in those far off days the restitution laws were drawn up. There remains a great deal of social work to be done for an ageing refugee population, and *Solidarité* needs all the funds at its disposal from membership fees, donations and legacies.

We extend our best wishes to our sister organisation, hoping that it will be able to continue its work in the spirit of humanity and responsibility which it has always displayed. It will still be needed for many years.

DR WERNER CAHNMAN, 75

Dr. Werner Cahnman (Forest Hills), until his retirement, Professor of sociology at Rutgers University (New Brunswick, N.J.), celebrated his 75th birthday on September 30. He has many books and articles on sociological subjects to his credit, among them (as co-author) a work on "Sociology and History".

For us, his studies in the Jewish sphere have always been of particular importance. An outstanding example was his lecture on Village and Small Town Jews in Southern Germany delivered at the Scholars' Conference at Arden House near New York under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Institute. It testified to his gift of covering new and so far neglected ground of Jewish sociological facets. This is added reason for looking forward to his forthcoming work on the history of the Jews in Munich (his city of birth) in the pre-Nazi and Nazi period, to be published by the Institut fuer Zeitgeschichte.

It is also one of his concerns to preserve or restore the monuments of our German-Jewish past and under his guidance, the recently founded Rashi Association has already done spadework in Worms and several other places. A former prisoner of Dachau, he is founder (1967) and chairman of the American Dachau Committee. Before the Nazis came to power, he was from 1931 onwards, "Syndikus" of the Bavarian District of the Central-Verein.

We wish our friend Werner Cahnman many more years of unimpaired health and activities in the service of scholarship and Jewry.

HENRI BRAUN-ADAM, RESISTANCE FIGHTER

Nearly 1,000 people, among them artists, writers, communal and political leaders attended the Pere Lachaise funeral of Mr. Henri Braun-Adam, French Resistance leader, journalist, art critic, Communist leader and social worker who has died, aged 77. He went to France in the early 1920s as a political refugee from Poland. Before the Second World War he was a successful professional photographer and played a leading part in the artistic and cultural life of Paris. With the invasion of France, he quickly took a leading part in uniting the French resistance and in including the Jewish population. He was twice decorated for his work in the Resistance and his post-war work to rehabilitate orphans of the Resistance and of deportees.

ROMAN ZAMBROWSKI

Mr. Roman Zambrowski who was for 19 years a member of the Polish Politburo, the longest term of office for any Jew in the government of an East European country, has died in Warsaw, aged 68. For several years he was the target of a vehement smear campaign by antisemites in the Polish Communist Party. He was born into a middle-class Jewish family, but in the mid-sixties his two sons were baptised in a Warsaw cathedral. In 1963 he was the last Jewish member of the Politburo and the Polish Party Sekretariat to be forced to resign.

BLACK JEWISH ACTRESS

In the smash-hit musical "Bubbling Brown Sugar" at the London Royalty Theatre there is a 22-year-old black actress, Beverley Butler who says that she was born Jewish and that her parents and grand-parents were also Jewish. When she was asked about the origin of their Jewishness, she said: "When you are black, it's difficult to say where your ancestors came from."

SELF AID CONCERT

Monday, November 28

As readers will have seen from the announcements in this and last month's issue, the traditional annual concert of Self Aid of Refugees will take place on Monday, November 28, at 7.45, in the Queen Elizabeth Hall. The programme includes two Haydn Symphonies (No. 66 and 76) and the Violin Concerto No. 3 by Mozart. The Park Lane Music Players will be conducted by Rudolf Schwarz, and the soloist will be Ida Haendel, both of whom very generously put themselves at the disposal of the function. Many former Berliners will remember Rudolf Schwarz from the first years of the Nazi régime, when he was conductor of the Jewish Kulturbund Orchestra and, by his artistic accomplishments, helped to lift the morale of the German Jews during their darkest period. Ida Haendel is a pupil of Carl Flesch, whose worldwide renown in pre-war musical life is equally remembered especially by former Continental Jews.

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THEATRE AND CULTURAL NEWS

Berlin. Although no longer the German capital, Berlin is still very much the centre of German theatre activity; the variety of its cultural presentations is astounding. During a single week this autumn the Schiller-theater had works by Schiller, Ibsen, Hebbel, Raimund and Gerhart Hauptmann in its repertoire, whereas Schlossparktheater, Komodie and Renaissancetheater provided more works of modern world literature. At the "Theater am Kurfuerstendamm" familiar faces appeared in a French comedy (Rudolf Platte, Kaethe Haack, Thomas Fritsch, who is Willy's son), whilst for operetta fans there was a gigantic music-cum-dance presentation of Kalman's "Gräfin Mariza" with Marika Röck playing the (enlarged) part of the duchess, dancing her solos and ensembles with quite unique brilliance and unbelievable perfection. (She is 64.)

60 years ago. It may not be pure coincidence that bright and melodious operetta music was created whilst the battles of World War I raged. When audiences were clamouring for gaiety and cheerfulness, composers on both sides of the channel responded; the British success of 1917 "Maid of the Mountains" is still much played today, and simultaneously Jessel's "Schwarzwaldmädel" arrived on the German scene whilst Kalman presented the Austrians with his waltz-operetta "Die Faschingsfee".

Professor humoris causa? Within the framework of German Television's "Witzakademie", the series starred "Professor" Theo Linggen, who is still a favourite with the public.

Birthdays. Celebrations last month for Maria Jeritza, unforgotten Vienna "Kammersängerin" 1913-1935, now living in the United

States, who is 90; for Luis Trenker, "King of the Mountains", who is 85 and still mountaineering; and for German comedian and writer Werner Finck (75). Lil Dagover, discovered by Erich Pommer, once pronounced the most beautiful German film actress, now retired, celebrated her 80th birthday.

Obituary. Rosette Anday, Budapest-born contralto of the Vienna Opera from 1921 to 1938, and again 1945-1961, has died in Vienna. She was 74. S.B.

SCRIPTWRITER FOR CONRAD VEIDT 80

Film writer and lecturer John H. Kahan recently celebrated his 80th birthday. He was born in Vienna, the son of a rabbi and Talmudist, and came to England in 1935 as scriptwriter for Conrad Veidt for whom he had previously written films in Berlin. In Berlin he also published a book on the "Art of the Film" which is still considered a classic. Over here he worked in films and radio and provided many gags for Tommy Handley's "Itma".

FILM PRESIDENT

Mr. Sidney Shurman of Hendon, a member of Hendon Synagogue, has been elected president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association of Great Britain and Ireland.

NO BEST-SELLER

David Irving's book "Hitler's war" which was reviewed in our October issue, sold only about 4,000 copies by midsummer. Twice as many people bought John Toland's biography "Adolf Hitler" which states that Hitler did know and was responsible.

Letter to the Editor

EXPERIENCES OF FORMER REFUGEES

Sir,—I would be grateful for the courtesy of your columns in obtaining help from former refugees who came to this country from Germany in the 1930s. I am engaged in a research project at Warwick University concerned with the life experience of those German-born Jews who have come to live in London since their flight from Nazi Germany. I would like to talk to any of your readers about their attitudes towards Britain and Germany and to discuss with them general questions of a more personal kind. Any information given, would, of course, be confidential.

I am a German of the younger generation (b. 1941) whose family now lives and works in this country. I hold a degree from Freiburg University and have in recent years been involved in occasional editorial work for the Leo Baeck Institute. It is through this work that I came to feel that a study on this subject would be a valuable undertaking. May I add that my work is not a duplication of the one undertaken some years ago by Mrs. Pottlitzer under the auspices of the AJR. It has a different focus and is exclusively concerned with the London community.

(Dr.) MARION BERGHAHN

24 Binswood Avenue,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire.

LEGACY FOR AJR

Miss Grete Sonnenberg, of Hampstead, who died last March left about £25,000, the bulk of her estate to be equally divided between the Association of Jewish Refugees and the minister of New Liberal Jewish Congregation in Hampstead, for such charitable purposes as he sees fit. As we already mentioned in the obituary note published in our May issue, Miss Sonnenberg was for several years a devoted staff member of URO.

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