

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Walter Schwab

A CREATIVE PERIOD IN JEWISH HISTORY

Assessments in Leo Baeck Institute's Year Book

Not unlike the birthday annual that the young recipient excitedly grasps, turning the pages in eager anticipation of the item that appeals to his or her particular taste, the latest Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, like the previous volumes, comprises essays on such a diverse range of topics that every reader, scholar or layman, must find something of absorbing interest. Yet, if a choice has to be made—and there is no particular reason why it should, the introduction by Robert Weltsch should be compulsory reading for anyone concerned with the place of German Jewish culture in Jewish history. As Weltsch points out, Leo Baeck once said that the age-long existence of Jews in Germany could be compared in creativity and brilliance only with the Hellenistic and Spanish-Arabic periods of Jewish history.

In the context of German Jewish history special emphasis has always been laid on the Enlightenment and the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* which was, as it were, its most expressive feature. The Enlightenment itself was probably inevitable, but whether the fathers of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums* were clearly aware of what they were doing or the consequences of their endeavours is a more open question. A considerable body of scholars today are engaged in evaluating and clarifying this issue and it is this subject in particular that directly or indirectly permeates many of the essays in the present volume. For instance, Professor Schorsch in his essay "From Wolfenbüttel to Wissenschaft" shows that Jost was a true assimilationist and had little faith in the future of Judaism. However, in the immediately following essay Professor Glatzer gives a brilliant account of Jost's disgust with the Day of Atonement service in Jacobson's synagogue in Berlin in 1817. Based on his experiences there, Jost came to the conclusion that reform was a good idea but had not yet been well worked out. Zunz, however, had attended the same service some two years previously and had liked it, but then he was optimistic about the future of Judaism.

The same strain runs through the essays of Professor Angress, Dr Wistrich and Professor Mork. They are concerned with the political aspect of what is and was the fundamental problem. Having once broken the bounds of the ghetto and having enthusiastically adopted the host culture, what remained? Did anything remain except some vague allegiance to Jewry, if that? And, indeed, was the host culture itself prepared to accept the "immigrants" on their own terms or on any other terms that might be defined? By careful case-studies of individuals and/or groups, for instance, Wis-

trich's analysis of Franz Mehring, the underlying motivations become clearer and these are even more clearly expressed in Mork's essay on "German Nationalism and Jewish Assimilation" which draws valuable comparisons between the position of Jews in Bismarck's Germany and that of European immigrants to the United States during the same period. Angress, on the other hand has produced a highly readable article about Jewish Socialists on the eve of World War I, but having read it one wonders whether those Jews had a particular attitude, cohesiveness or consciousness derived from the fact that they were, indeed, Jews.

Emancipation and Acceptability

Political, religious and social emancipation with its accompanying problem of acceptability, cannot be divorced from economic realities. It is, therefore, most welcome that some part of Dr Grunwald's "Studies in the History of German Jews in Global Banking" is reproduced here, as well as Joachim Ronall's essay on "German & Austrian Jews in the Financial Modernisation of the Middle East." It is undoubted that German Jewish bankers spread all over the Western world and Grunwald's analysis of their emergence from the ubiquitous Court Jew is highly interesting. This would explain the reason for their becoming a "mass-phenomenon" in Germany and, as a result of economic and political ambitions and pressures, they have spread much further afield. It may, however, not be the whole story, for a similar but smaller process seems to have developed in the Far East, probably originating in Iraq, and the two processes need to be compared. Moreover, in some countries, Great Britain for example, although German Jews did occupy an important position in the international money market in London, they failed to make any impression onto the well-established country banks from which the main central banks developed.

Kurt Grunwald stresses the desirability of preserving family and business archives, and, as the result of his discovery of a pamphlet about the Josephs of Michelstadt, is able to give an account of three generations of Jewish bankers on both sides of the Channel. He tells us that Abraham Salomon's son Salomon started in 1877 as an apprentice in the Frankfurt firm of A. L. Schwartzschild Söhne. It so happens that five years before that an apprentice started in the banking firm of M. L. Schwartzschild of Frankfurt, successors to S. M. Schwartzschild founded in 1822, (any connection between these firms with such similar names?). This apprentice was Saemy Japhet, son of I. M. Japhet, composer and teacher at Unterrichtsanstalt der Israelitischen Religionsgesellschaft" in Frankfurt. Saemy Japhet

ISRAEL'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The climax of Israel's birthday celebrations in this country was the rally at Earls Court, which was attended by more than 80,000 people. Wide publicity to the anniversary was also given in the national press, television and radio. The assessments of Israel's position, which transpired through the mass media, were certainly not always uncritical but, in their majority, expressed admiration of the young state's achievements and understanding of its external and internal problems.

Views on particular political issues concerning Israel differ as widely among AJR members as they do among other sections of Jewry in this country and abroad. There is, however, one special thought which probably crosses the minds of many in our midst. Had there been a sovereign Jewish State in 1933, many Jews who sought in vain admission to countries of refuge and ultimately became victims of the Nazi extermination policy, would have been saved. To see things merely under this aspect would certainly be a particularistic approach to a historic event. Yet beyond this futile hindsight, we, like all Jews, salute the State on its 30th birthday and fervently hope that, notwithstanding the difficulties which have been part of its history since its foundation, it may be granted a peaceful and secure future.

All three TV networks devoted special programmes to Israel's 30th anniversary. On BBC-1's "Tonight", Denis Tuohy interviewed representatives of all strata of opinion on the Israeli Government's politics. On BBC-2, James Cameron reminisced about the birth of the State which he had witnessed thirty years ago and gave a sympathetic summing-up of the country's manifold problems. ITV transmitted the actual Jerusalem festivities, the splendid fireworks and the moving all-star open air concert of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra near the Western Wall in which Zubin Mehta, Daniel Barenboim, Isaac Stern, Rostropovitch and Leontyne Price appeared.

BBC-2 showed a programme on Israeli Television in its three-part series *A Tale of Three Cities* which praised the Israelis for their sophisticated use of the media and for resisting occasional governmental and political pressures. Israel and Jordan not only share an audience, but also the cost of maintaining the European satellite that serves them both. Thus, any attempt of leaving out compromising items is frustrated, because viewers can always watch them on the other service.

later founded the banking house of S. Japhet & Co. in London, as he recalled in his "Recollections from My Business Life" (privately printed, London, 1931). The firm is still in existence, though merged with others, but no member of the family is any longer connected with it.

The volume also contains many other essays of particular interest on varying subjects, as well as an extensive bibliography, compiled by Bertha Cohn, of "Post-War Publications on German Jewry" amounting to about 800 entries.

Leo Baeck Institute Year Book XXII. Edited by Robert Weltsch and Arnold Paucker, Secker & Warburg, 1977. £7.50.

NEWS FROM GERMANY

GOVERNMENT MEASURES AGAINST NEO-NAZIS

The West German Government announced plans to prohibit the sale of records of speeches by Hitler and Goebbels and of reprinted Nazi publications. Mrs. Antja Huber, Minister for Youth, Family and Health Affairs, said she was seeking an official ruling to brand the 16 long-playing records as "dangerous to youth". She also asked for a ban on the sale to minors of five recently published books of reprints from the Nazi Wehrmacht propaganda journal "Signal", dating from 1940-45. One thousand copies of an illegal Nazi paper were seized by German frontier guards on a train from Paris to Cologne. Its title was "Völkischer Beobachter".

Mr. Hans-Jochen Vogel, Federal Minister of Justice, has asked the Ministers of Justice of the various Länder to let him have a summary of court cases involving neo-Nazis. He said the time was past when neo-Nazi activities could be disregarded as unimportant.

The Ministry of Education in Lower Saxony has set up a committee to submit proposals for a curriculum including lessons on National Socialism, the persecution of the Jews and Israel to be introduced in all schools next autumn.

TEACHING ON TERROR REGIME

The Ministers of Culture of the German Länder have unanimously passed a decree that the Nazi period should be dealt with in all schools with particular intensity. In the Ministers' view, a solid knowledge of the latest past is indispensable to protect young people from the danger of embellishing the Nazi régime. The decision also stresses that it is the duty of the schools to act against the uncritical acceptance of trends aiming at playing down or even glorifying the Third Reich which, in fact, was a régime of dictatorship, genocide and inhumanity.

Radio Free Berlin has recently been broadcasting a number of programmes on "Everyday Life without Peace" in its school service. At the same time, several T.V. programmes on propaganda methods of the National Socialists are being shown to schools within the framework of a serial "German History under Examination".

OPINION POLL AMONG SCHOOLCHILDREN

In a recent radio programme devoted to the Jewish community, a member of "Aktion Sühnezeichen" said he had recently asked a number of schoolchildren: "What is a Jew?" Among the answers received were "A pagan", "a Roman Catholic", "people with hooked noses and dark eyes and hair" and "the Jews themselves are responsible for what the Nazis did to them, because they exploited the people". Jokes about Jews, even involving concentration camp stories, were frequently told in schools by pupils and teachers. A headmaster had said he could not do anything about it, as National Socialism was only on the curriculum of the last school year.

"HOLOCAUST" FOR GERMAN TV

Both German TV programmes competed for the American film about the Holocaust which has finally been acquired by the West German TV station and will be shown at the end of the year.

THE POLITICAL PAST OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

One of the most important German publishing houses, the Hamburg Jahrverlag, has sent a questionnaire to all members of the Federal Parliament asking them for details of their experiences in the Hitler Youth for a forthcoming book of documentation. One of the questions asked is: "Can you find any positive values in your time with the HJ?" Another item is the connection between experiences in the Hitler Youth and the present political and private life of individual members.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST NEO-NAZIS

In Cologne, more than 15,000 people, including resistance members from other European countries, asked in an impressive meeting for the disbanding of all SS organisations, the suppression of all Nazi activities and propaganda, and for a fight against the rehabilitation of Nazi ideas. More than two thirds of those present were young people. A march through the town included both concentration camp survivors and uniformed West German soldiers. They carried a banner which read: "Fascism never again! War never again!"

In Fürth a citizens' committee was formed, under the chairmanship of the mayor of the town, to protest against neo-Nazi pamphlets, daubings on the synagogue and desecrations of tombstones which had been going on for some time. One group of neo-Nazis had announced that it would nominate Rudolf Hess as its candidate for the European Parliament. As the public prosecutor did not take any action, more than one hundred school teachers brought a criminal charge against the known perpetrators of these misdeeds.

In Göttingen, some 3,000 young people protested against a meeting of the NPD in the local town hall, shouting "Nazis keep away from our city". Similar demonstrations took place in Hamburg and Kulmbach.

In Veitshöchheim near Würzburg, Major-General Bastian, commander of a tank division of the Federal Army, banned any contact between the "Kampfband deutscher Soldaten" and his division and asked the leader of the Kampfband to stop calling him "comrade". He also banned the playing of Hitler's favourite march, the "Badenweiler Marsch" which had been played in a neighbouring village by a so-called folklore group to shouts of "Bravo Hitler" and "Hitler, go on".

When a school in Scharmbeck near Bremen was daubed with swastikas and anti-Jewish slogans, the headmaster at once ordered lessons on the subject "The Jewish Question and National Socialism" to be taught in all forms. Several classes volunteered to remove the daubings.

PROSECUTIONS AND ARRESTS

The Koblenz Public Prosecutor has started proceedings against six members of the right-extremist "German Viking Youth" who were shown on TV during a summer camp singing the Horst Wessel Song and shouting "Judah Perish" and "We die for Adolf Hitler".

Five men were arrested in Dörpstedt near Schleswig for taking part in an attack on a Dutch NATO unit, combined with a theft of arms. They are also suspects in several other arms thefts and in a bank robbery.

UPROAR IN OBERAMMERGAU

Heated discussions are going on among the population of Oberammergau after the recent decision by the local council to disown a reformed version of the traditional Passion Play and to use the widely criticised traditional text with its antisemitic connotations for presentation in 1980. Supporters of the reform version have declined to be involved in the forthcoming production. They maintain that the council's decision will mean the end of the Passion Play which has been performed every ten years since 1633. They say that the old text is antiquated and emphasises the collective Jewish guilt for the death of Jesus. The reformed text, written by a monk in the eighteenth century, laid guilt allegorically on all mankind. The leader of the traditionalists, Mayor Ernst Zwink, now faces a race against time to produce the play for 1980. Rehearsals usually take at least two years.

YAD VASHEM HONOURS HAMBURG'S NAZI VICTIMS

All former citizens of Hamburg who now live in Israel were invited to a special ceremony at the Memorial of the Holocaust, Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, when the Federal German Ambassador to Israel, Klaus Schuetz, handed over a facsimile edition of the book "The Jewish victims of National Socialism in Hamburg" to the Chairman of the Yad Vashem Board. The book, which was produced by the Senate of the Free City of Hamburg, carries the names of 6,000 deported Hamburg Jews, based on the material found in the State Archives. The original of the work, which is deposited in the Museum fuer Hamburgische Geschichte, was designed by the graphic artist Professor Werner Bunz. A smaller issue of the list was published about 13 years ago. It was edited by the late Harry Goldstein, himself a witness of the happenings and after the war Chairman of the Hamburg Jewish community; the book also carries a report about the deportation measures of the Gestapo during the years 1941/5 written by the late Dr. Plaut (1901-1974) the last head of the "old" Jewish community.

(EGL)

MAIDANEK LAWYER'S RUSE

During the Maidanek trial, an Israeli witness, Mrs. Gelbard, identified a defence lawyer, 36-year old Mr. Bock, as a man who came to her home in Israel four years ago, pretending to be a journalist who was writing a book on Jewish suffering under the Nazis. Other Israeli witnesses subsequently also recognised him. He is defending "Bloody Brigit", 57-year old Hildegard Laechart who was a guard at Maidanek concentration camp and is accused of complicity in the death of nearly 2,000 prisoners. Mr. Bock appeared in the recent Panorama programme "Turning a blind eye to murder" where he doubted the existence of the gas chambers. When members of the Court visited Israel and Poland to question witnesses unfit to travel, both countries refused to admit Dr. Bock. He was barred from Israel because it had become known that he had visited the country before the trial, masquerading as a journalist, student or private detective to seek information about Maidanek, claiming that he was trying to bring guilty people to justice. The Israeli authorities lodged a complaint with the German Bar which was not acted upon. In the early stages of the trial, Mr. Bock had attempted to discredit a German historical expert Dr. Scheffler as biased, because he had consulted Jewish "mentors" and visited the Wiener Library in London.

After strong criticism from many quarters, Mr. Bock asked to be released from his brief, and his request was granted. He said that an "unprecedented press campaign" in West Germany and abroad had led to his decision.

ESCAPE OF NOTORIOUS EXTREMIST

Former lawyer Manfred Roeder who had been repeatedly sentenced for his right-extremist activities and who was to appear before a Frankfurt Court for threatening the former Prime Minister of the Palatinate, has disappeared. A prison sentence pronounced on him in Flensburg some months ago, has never been enforced. The Federal Prosecutor has contacted Interpol in order to establish his whereabouts.

GIPSIES' REVENGE

A gipsy father and his two sons who chased several former S.S. men through the streets of Würzburg and beat them up, were sent to jail for nine and 15 months respectively. The gipsies were protesting against an S.S. rally in the town. Gipsies were as ruthlessly persecuted by the Nazis as were the Jews.

HOME NEWS *Anglo-Judaica*

CALLAGHAN REJECTS PRO-ARAB ACTION

When Mr. Callaghan reported to the House of Commons that the nine Common Market Foreign Ministers had deplored all recent acts of violence in the Middle East and emphasised that the peace process should be maintained, a pro-Arab MP, Mr. Andrew Faulds, suggested that Britain should support self-determination for the Palestinians, irrespective of decisions reached by other Common Market Governments. Mr. Callaghan replied that his government's views were well-known, but "we should not go out individually and severally on this. The combined efforts of the Nine will be more likely to yield results than if individual States were to declare their own positions".

In a letter to the chairman of the Zionist Federation, Mr Eric Moonman, MP, Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said there would be no change in the Government's policy of tolerating, but not formally recognising, the presence in Britain of representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The PLO office, in premises shared with the Arab League in Mayfair, was set up in 1972 by Said Hammami who was murdered by an Arab assassin last January. Dr Owen reiterated the view held by previous governments that, under British law, any organisation is entitled to establish a representation in this country, provided it does not engage in unlawful activities.

YOUTH SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL FRONT

A survey conducted by the magazine "New Society" and financially supported by the Board of Deputies, found that nearly one in four young white people in South Hackney and Shoreditch support or are prepared to support the National Front. Its chairman, John Tyndall, has chosen the constituency to stand for Parliament.

LORD MANCROFT'S STORY

Mr. Abdul al-Mudaris, secretary-general of the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce, claimed in his testimony to a Select Committee of the House of Lords that the Arab boycott of Israel was not directed against Jewish individuals or companies. The Select Committee was set up to consider the Foreign Boycotts Bill sponsored by Liberal Leader Lord Byers. Lord Mancroft reported to the Committee on his enforced resignation from the London Board of the Norwich Union Insurance Societies and from the chairmanship of the London Chamber of Commerce in 1963 and 1964 respectively. He said he did not wish to open old wounds, especially as for many years his father and grandfather had been closely associated with the Norwich Union where he was still insured. In 1963, he had also been a director of Sir Isaac Wolfson's Great Universal Stores and its travel company, Global Tours. He had been chairman of Global's newly opened branch in Tel Aviv. He was then approached by a senior executive of the Norwich Union who expressed his fears that because of him, the Arabs might refuse to do business with the company. He had "resigned reluctantly", but his resignation could have been forced on him in any case. Although "all hell broke loose in the press and in Parliament", he had remained silent in order not to hurt old friends. At the time, he was told that the Arabs had been unaware of his Jewish origins. After he had accepted the invitation to become chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce, it was indicated to him that his presence would not be welcome, because the Chamber was doing more business with the Arabs than with Israel. The invitation was then withdrawn.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

BISHOP ACCUSED OF ANTISEMITISM

Dr. John Robinson, Assistant Bishop of Southwark, who also teaches theology at Trinity College, Cambridge, has disputed reports that he gave a sermon full of anti-semitic remarks in Richmond, Virginia. The address was broadcast on local radio and in a broadcast reply, Rabbi Bruce Kahn alleged that Dr. Robinson had said that "Jews are now and have always been engaged in unjustifiable religious wars", and that "Israelis have forgotten the pains of persecution and now persecute Palestinians". The Roman Catholic Bishop in Virginia said that his views were "racist, bigoted and a direct insult to the Jewish community". Dr. Robinson, however, said that he had received many messages of congratulation and that his remarks had been "terribly distorted". He had said that the reprisals visited on Lebanese villages "seemed out of proportion, like German reprisals on Czech villages". Israel could not be a Jewish State if she absorbed the West Bank. He added that he had visited Israel shortly before he went to the United States, and much of the criticism he voiced, had been made by Jews in Israel as well.

KARL MARX'S GRAVE DESECRATED

Red, white and blue paint was poured over the memorial to Karl Marx in Highgate Cemetery. At the foot of the tomb, a leaflet was found which attacked the Communist Party as a Jewish conspiracy and named various party officials as being Jewish. People were asked in the leaflet to write to an address in Lisburne, County Antrim, Ireland.

SCIENTISTS' SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

Professor Sir Ernst Chain and Professor A. J. Zuckerman are among the signatories of a letter sent to Israel expressing strong support for the government's fundamental policies, including "no return to the 1967 borders", the prevention of the establishment of a Palestinian State on the West Bank and the rejection of any Egyptian effort to "dictate unilateral peace plans".

WARSAW GHETTO EXHIBITION

The Polish Cultural Institute held an exhibition of Warsaw Ghetto photographs to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Rising. A film "Requiem for 500,000" was shown on the anniversary itself.

50 Years Hendon Synagogue

The Chief Rabbi Dr. Jakobovits gave the address at the service to commemorate the Synagogue's Golden Jubilee which was also attended by Lord Fisher, president of the Board of Deputies and the Emeritus Chief Rabbi Sir Israel Brodie. A message from the Queen was also received. Dr Jakobovits said the synagogue had inherited the religious traditions of the Jewish East End.

New Schools and Homes

A new secondary school for Jewish boys is being opened in Golders Green by the Menorah Foundation. It will have seven classrooms, two laboratories and two large halls for a library and a gymnasium. It will be inaugurated in September. 35 pupils have so far been accepted. The school will be fee-paying, but there are some scholarships available. The rebuilding will cost about £85,000.

In the same neighbourhood, the Beth Hamedrash in Highfield Avenue will be enlarged and rebuilt. It was the first Chasidic Beth Hamedrash in Golders Green and was founded in 1939 by the late Rabbi Yissochor Dov Hager whose name it still bears. A grandson of the founder is now rabbi of the synagogue.

The first Jewish Abbeyfield House in Walm Lane, Willesden was opened by Lord Goodman, patron of the society. The house provides bed-sitter accommodation for seven lonely old people and a warden living on the premises. Rabbi John Rayner, senior minister of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, consecrated the house which cost a total of £70,000.

Building work has just begun on a £250,000 youth centre adjoining the Western Synagogue in Crawford Place which will have four open-plan classrooms, a coffee bar and facilities for discos and other social activities. Rabbi Dr. Turetsky, minister of the Western synagogue, said the centre should provide a much-needed focal point for Jewish youth in the West End of London, and also a place for young Jews from all over the world to visit when they are in London.

Two Jewish Grammar Schools in Manchester will benefit from a £1.2 million fund set up by the Greater Manchester Council for assisted places at independent schools. It will take the form of scholarships for children accepted by the schools whose parents find it difficult to afford the fees. Fees at the Manchester Jewish Grammar School will be £750 to £800 next year.

Camp Survivor's Crimes

In the recent court case, when Henry Oberlander and three accomplices were given lengthy prison sentences, Oberlander said he had hundreds or perhaps thousands of different passports. He was a Jew from Czechoslovakia who spent most of the war in concentration camps from where he escaped more than once. Afterwards he had helped others to escape from the country with the aid of forged passports. He added that for many years he had pursued the notorious Auschwitz Dr. Josef Mengele whom he eventually tracked down in Paraguay. He got close enough to kill him, but not to kidnap him and take him to Israel as he intended. The crime for which the four men were sentenced was an international plot to swindle banks with forged or stolen documents. The prosecution said that if they had succeeded, the West's banking system might have been destroyed.

Optician and Rabbi

Mr. Jechiel Galas who has provided spectacles to Jews in and near Golders Green for many years, has emigrated to Israel. An optician by profession, he was also "honorary" Rabbi to the Bridge Lane Beth Hamedrash and a writer and lecturer of great erudition.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Controversial Degree for Begin

600 people signed a petition protesting against the award of a doctorate to Mr. Begin by the Northwestern University in Illinois because he was dubbed a terrorist. When a poll among students was taken, 900 were in favour and 1,200 against granting the degree. Mr. Elie Wiesel, the writer on the Holocaust, said Mr. Begin should in any case have refused to accept it, because one of the teachers at the university was Arthur Butz, the author of "The Hoax of the Twentieth Century" in which he claims that the Holocaust never happened, it had been invented by the Jews. At the time the Jews of Chicago showed their disapproval by refusing to send donations to the university.

Leading US Jews in "Peace Now" group

Thirty-six American Jewish writers, rabbis, scholars and others, including Nobel prize winning author Saul Bellow, have signed a message of support sent to the Israeli "Peace Now" movement. Another signatory is Rabbi Dr. Joachim Prinz. In their message, they confirm their life-long support for Israel, but state that they are disturbed by the fact that Israel government policy has made it easier for the Carter administration to win support for their distressing and dangerous Middle East policies and has provided Western Nations with excuses for their apparent readiness to abandon Israel.

Rabbi preaches in Church

Rabbi Ronald Sobel of the New York Temple Emanuel preached in the Riverside Church, urging the congregation of several thousand to examine their lives and remove any feelings of antisemitism and racism. Dr. Coffin, the church's minister, said Rabbi Sobel had been received to commemorate the six million and prayed for blessings on the rabbi and his congregation. After the service, yellow stars were distributed to the congregation.

Two thousand people attended a service conducted by 18 rabbis and Christian ministers in a football field in Skokie, near Chicago, where the National Socialist Party of America had planned a march on Hitler's birthday, prevented by legal action taken by town officials and a Holocaust survivors' committee. The town has a large Jewish population.

Dachau's Liberation remembered

A packed congregation attended a service in New York's Temple Emanu-El to commemorate the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. 24 black-veiled women survivors of concentration camps lit six groups of memorial candles, one for each of the six million victims. A retired US Army colonel, Mr. Walter Fellenz, of Texas, choked back sobs when he described the scene as his troops liberated Dachau. They found thousands of corpses stacked in cattle-trucks and were so horrified that when they discovered 17 of the SS guards, they lost control of their emotions and shot the guards thousands of times. Their bodies were thrown on the camp fence.

Jewish Homosexuals

In the Rabbinical Assembly, the Conservative Rabbi Schwarz spoke against the congregations of homosexuals of which twelve existed in the US and in Israel. He said there were an estimated 120,000 Jewish homosexual men and women in the US.

CAMPS

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ARGENTINA

Archbishop Capucci's anti-Zionist Campaign

Archbishop Capucci who was freed from imprisonment in Israel at the special request of the Pope, is visiting the Greek Orthodox communities in Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela and telling them that he is fighting "expanding Zionism" as a priest taking part in the Arab struggle to bring back the Palestinians "to their land". He celebrated a mass in Buenos Aires Cathedral which was attended by the ambassadors of Libya, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt. In 1974 he was jailed for 12 years for smuggling weapons for El Fatah into Israel.

Call for harmony

Mr. Hector Caram, editor of the Arab language periodical "Assalam" and Mr. Herman Shiller of the Spanish-language supplement of the Yiddish daily "Di Presse" issued a joint appeal to their communities to end "warlike confrontations in the Middle East" and to live together in harmony.

NATIONAL FRONT IN S. AFRICA

Jack Noble, an immigrant to Johannesburg from Britain, has launched a branch of the National Front. His press secretary John Dewar said the Front tended to attract people who at one time or another in Britain had sympathised with the Nazi party. "We cannot throw them out", he added, "because we need them".

Another racist group, the Anglo-Afrikaner Bond, was founded by 57-year-old Rudolf Schmitt who immigrated from West Germany 13 years ago. He said he had belonged to the Hitler Youth not because he had to, but because he had wanted to. He came to South Africa to find "the right kind of discipline" which, according to a recent statement of his, is now "being broken down by people who support the mongrelisation of South Africa".

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN CO-OPERATION

The first session of the seventh annual general meeting of the International Catholic and Jewish Liaison Committee was held in the Toledo El Transito Synagogue, founded in the fourteenth century and now a museum of Sephardi culture. Cardinal Gonzalez, the Primate of Spain, opened the conference. The further working sessions of the Committee were held in the Madrid Jewish Communal Centre. Cardinal Vicente Enrique y Tarancón attended the Sabbath service and a dinner given by the Jewish community. The discussions ranged over a wide field: the improvement in teaching about each other's religion, the recent Israeli law on conversions, the resurgence of Nazism and antisemitism in Germany and elsewhere, and the first contacts between Moslems and Jews. In a broadcast by Vatican Radio which gave a detailed report on the conference, it was announced that Catholic schoolbooks would be drastically revised to remove any trace of hidden antisemitism.

LINK BETWEEN WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS AND B'NAI B'RITH

After many months of negotiations, the leaders of the World Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith issued a joint statement in Geneva stating that, as a major contribution to the cause of Jewish unity, they have entered into a "special relationship". B'nai B'rith will appoint observers to the WJC board, executive and general council. They will take part in discussions, but have no voting rights. Mr. David Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith, said the Lodge would maintain its complete autonomy and be free to act according to the dictates of its conscience. The WJC represents Jewish communities and organisations in 63 countries.

THE NETHERLANDS

Plans to attract Arab visitors

After a storm of protest, tour organisers had to drop their plans to attract more Arab visitors to Amsterdam by omitting all the city's Jewish sights. An Egyptian businessman, Mr. A. I. Farouk, had suggested encouraging Arab visitors who were sick of England because it "is full of other Arabs and swindlers who are only after Arab money".

Acceptance of Boycott?

According to CIDI, the Information and Documentation Centre on Israel in The Hague, no country has conformed with Arab boycott demands to the same degree as Holland. Despite the fact that no firm had suffered for refusing to comply, 13 important Dutch firms had done everything demanded of them by the Arabs. There were no governmental counter-measures, except for an instruction to local authorities not to issue official documents confirming that would-be exporters to Arab countries were not of Jewish origin. On the other hand, chambers of commerce and the Ministry of Trade readily issue certificates that goods are not of Israeli origin. Several members of the Dutch Parliament have demanded an urgent debate on the subject.

Churches assist Synagogue Restoration

Rabbi Menachem Fink, minister of the St. John's Wood Synagogue, officiated at the reconsecration of the Leyden Synagogue which dates back to 1756. The building, which was falling into ruin, was repaired and restored after the Dutch Government, together with the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches in Holland, had raised the money needed—£150,000. In his address Rabbi Fink said: "The pulpits of Dutch churches, for so long in the past used to spread antisemitism, are now being used to urge the faithful to collect money for a synagogue. We are indeed approaching messianic times".

AUSTRIA

Neo-Nazis arrested

Eighteen-year-old baker's apprentice Josef Kiendl and 20-year-old tractor mechanic Josef Pommer were arrested for a bomb attack on a town hall in Leibnitz. They explained that they had wanted to draw attention to the 40th anniversary of the Anschluss. They had made preparations to make other bomb attacks on Hitler's birthday. Both said that they were filled with admiration for National Socialism. They had learned about the programme and the ideas of the Nazis in their school history lessons, and had become enthusiastic about them. In their flat, a vast array of bombs, detonators, and other material for terrorist attacks was found as was also "Mein Kampf" and other Nazi literature. They said they had intended to set up a terrorist group in Styria.

Stamps commemorate Jews

Three Jewish personalities will be remembered on Austrian stamps this year. The first one, which has just appeared, shows the Viennese writer Egon Friedell who, in March, 1938, jumped out of the window of his flat to escape arrest by the Nazis. The other two stamps will feature Lise Meitner, the atomic scientist, and Victor Adler, founder of the Austrian Socialist Party.

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Erich Gottgetreu (Jerusalem)

GERMAN JEWS IN ISRAEL

A History of their Integration

Under the heading, "Heimkehr ins Unbekannte"* Gerda Luft has written a book about the immigration of Jews from Germany to Palestine from 1933 to 1939. The authoress is one of Israel's most experienced journalists, having over half a century covered the local scene as correspondent for leading European papers, and, for a considerable period, as a writer on parliamentary and economic affairs in "The Jerusalem Post". Of German-Jewish stock, she was particularly competent to write this fact-laden combination of reportage and essay on that dramatic chapter of pre-Israel history: the Jewish immigration from Germany after Hitler came to power. Complementing her personal memories through research based on a wealth of newspapers and documents and over one hundred interviews, her investigation leads up to the Second World War, when the flow became a trickle.

Early in 1933, the German Jews began to realise that Hitler meant what he said. Yet at that time, the German Zionist Organisation was not prepared for the impending catastrophe. Owing to the restrictive policy of the British authorities in Palestine, the number of immigration certificates was totally inadequate. "Dozens, nay hundreds of people demanded help and I could do nothing but hand them leaflets", one of the secretaries of the Berlin Zionist office recalled. Gerda Luft adds: "It was only later that the Zionist Organisation became an address to which one could turn, while the *Jüdische Rundschau*, its organ, gave strength and guidance to the perplexed".

Gerda Luft estimates that some 50,000 Jews from Germany had settled in Palestine by the beginning of the Second World War. (There

is reason to assume that the figure was higher.—The Ed.) The uncertainty and anxiety as to the fate of those left behind did not help them in their integration and acculturation—a very complicated process in any case. Most of them had come from a bourgeois middle-class milieu and had great difficulties in finding their way in a rather underdeveloped country with strange mores and, to most, an incomprehensible tongue, though they worked hard to learn it. While previous groups of newcomers, like those from Russia and Poland, had found a considerable number of "landsleute" upon arrival, there was no shock absorber for German Jews: of the 234,000 Jews in Palestine in 1933 there were only 2,000 from Germany.

Initial Difficulties

Initially, there was even some resistance to the establishment of an immigrants' association of and for German Jews, as Zionist theory favoured the melting-pot ideology. Before long, however, the Hitachduth Oleij Germania—later expanded to include all immigrants from Central Europe—and its weekly "Mitteilungsblatt (MB)", of which Gerda Luft is the leader-writer to this day, became one of the pillars of support for German Jews in the country. The other pillar was the Central Office for the Settlement of German Jews in Palestine, initiated by the 18th Zionist Congress of 1933 with Chaim Weizmann as chairman; eventually it was merged with the German Department of the Jewish Agency.

It was Henrietta Szold who started the first great fund drive for the gigantic task facing the "German Department", devoting

to it the same combination of enthusiasm and planning with which she organised "Youth Aliyah", the initial idea for which came from Recha Freier of Berlin. It is particularly interesting today that a very large contribution to the initial fund drive for the settlement of German Jews in Palestine came from Egyptian Jewry.

The principle stressed by the organisers of the absorption of German-Jewish immigrants—Arthur Ruppin and Werner Senator—was that the monies collected for the purpose should not be spent on charity but on productive projects like loans for farm installations, workshops for artisans and for building houses in kibbutzim and moshavim. In line with the Zionist back-to-nature ideology, priority was given to agriculture. Even the realist Arthur Ruppin believed that about one-third of the Jewish population should work on the land. But when, eventually, 15 per cent of the German-Jewish immigrants—very few of whom had ever been on a farm in pre-Hitler days—were absorbed in agriculture, this can be considered as quite a good result. Some of these new farmers found their homes in one of the twelve villages they themselves established, others entered co-operative villages or kibbutzim. Much toil and sweat—though many rewards, too—were involved in this "Umschichtung".

For a variety of reasons the German-Jewish immigrants made only a modest impact on the political leadership of the Yishuv and the top ranks of the army, but they made a major contribution, materially and by their traditions, attitudes and ideas, to the development of the country, particularly in trade and commerce. After the foundation of the State of Israel, they provided the first Minister of Justice, a number of leading judges, the first State Comptroller as well as his successor, and many officials. They helped to modernise medicine and medical research and influenced the reform of the Hebrew University through a blending of European with American traditions—not to speak of their contribution to music and the arts. Relatively small was the influence on Hebrew poetry and drama, largely because of the language problem, but German Jews (and their sons) played an important part in the modernisation of the press and the publishing industry.

Gerda Luft asserts that, though in the beginning settlement in Palestine meant for many German Jews not more than a flight to an underdeveloped primitive land, most of them succeeded over the years in putting down roots at least through their children, among whom "mixed marriages" with youngsters from other communities, including the oriental groups, are quite frequent. School, army and university are usually the meeting ground for the people of the melting-pot.

But the elderly "Yeckes" have also made progress in feeling at home at last—even if they find it much easier to read the "Jerusalem Post" or the "Israel-Nachrichten" instead of a Hebrew paper, as patriotism and grandfather Eliezer Ben-Yehuda demands. Gerda Luft comments: "The man who grew up with Plato and the world of the Akropolis and today is immersed in the study of the Bible and the Near East archaeology, has developed a new feeling for this region as his homeland. If striking roots like this is a measure of the degree of homecoming—then the immigration from Germany has succeeded".

This reviewer tends to confirm this conclusion. He recalls the somewhat ironic question that was put to a typical German-Jewish immigrant in the 'thirties: "Did you come from Germany or from conviction?" And the honest answer: "I came from Germany to emigrate from there and to immigrate here. But it became a conviction".

* Gerda Luft: Heimkehr ins Unbekannte. Vorwort von Willy Brandt. Hammer Verlag, Wuppertal 1977. 141 pp.

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Julius Carlebach

THE HISTORY OF AN HISTORIAN

Heinrich Graetz, the foremost Jewish historian of the nineteenth century, was born on October 31, 1817. A controversial figure from the moment that he first appeared in print, he remains popular, influential, but no less controversial in our own time. We now have a scholarly and comprehensive edition of his *Diary and Letters** edited by Reuven Michael.

Graetz was born in Xions in Posen, on the boundary of East and West Europe and spent most of his life in what is now Poland, but was then Prussian territory. This geographical marginality was reflected throughout his career in all facets of his life. The son of a butcher whose great ambition it was to have learned sons, Graetz received a traditional Jewish education which inspired a lifelong devotion to Judaism in him, but he also developed, even in his early years at a Yeshivah in Wollstein, an insatiable appetite for a general education, which he provided for himself by studying Greek and Latin, French and English. He read voraciously, was inspired by Wieland, influenced by Rousseau, delighted by Börne and Heine and enchanted by Greek mythology. But he hated Jewish mysticism. He was desperately poor and maintained himself by making the "tour" (eating on a rota basis with different families who offered hospitality to boys to enable them to study, a practice also known as "Freitisch"), and by giving private lessons to uninterested boys and flirtatious girls. He despised money and, like his contemporary, Karl Marx, those Jews who constantly pursued it, yet haggled with a coach driver over the cost of a journey to save two or three pennies. He was shy to the point where he could not speak when invited to a meal, yet filled with an arrogant conviction of his own importance. He frequently bemoaned his harsh fate and indulged in ferocious bouts of despair, whilst sharply criticising the struggles and efforts of others equally driven to find security and recognition.

In the *Diaries* we first meet Graetz in 1833, when he is a Yeshivah-Bachur of 16. They end in 1856, when Graetz, now happily married to Marie Monasch, daughter of the famous book-printer of Krotoschin, is safely ensconced as lecturer in Jewish History in the Jewish Theological Seminary of Breslau. Most of the years covered by the *Diary* are unhappy, years of frustrated ambition, financial plight and strained relationships. In that respect the *Diary* forms a strong contrast to the *Letters*, which show a man of established reputation in discourse with many famous figures of his time, from Karl Marx and Moses Hess to Zvi Hirsch Chajes and the family of Henrietta Szold. We look to the *Letters* for details of ideas and relationships, that link a scholar with his contemporaries, but how much does the *Diary* reveal to us, written as it was during Graetz's formative years, about the processes which turn a restless youth into a great historian.

In view of the controversies which have raged around Graetz's approach to history, it does not really come as a surprise to discover that Graetz did not train as, nor did he set out to be, an historian. The ambition of his youth was to serve his people, to contribute meaningfully to the life and destiny of his people. Significantly, the task, as it eventually defined itself in his mind, was to record the story of the Jews not in the first instance as

history but *through* history.

His focus was Judaism, not the Jews and it was only in pursuit of the idea of Judaism (could anyone reared in the great Hegelian era do less?) that Graetz emerged as a gifted historian of the Jews. Accordingly he has been attacked by theologians and historians alike and the debate about his concept of history continues. Throughout his career Graetz insisted on describing events from a perspective which was rooted within Judaism. He insisted on treating Judaism as a unity, a single manifestation of Law (Torah) Land (Eretz Israel) and people. Inevitably the result, the "Leiden- und Gelehrten-geschichte" was attacked by the staunch defender of Orthodoxy, S. R. Hirsch as too superficial, by Abraham Geiger, leader of the Reform movement as "stories but not history"—by the German historian Treitschke as narrowly particularist and essentially alien. Later Jewish historians like Dubnow and Baron, whilst acknowledging his pioneering work, have also attacked his "isolationist approach to history", have charged him with ignoring even the most important links with world history. Many others, even recent writers have complained of Graetz's lack of archival and similar source materials though some, like Max Wiener and Hans Liebeschutz, have been moved to defend Graetz.

Perhaps the greatest argument has raged around Graetz's "national" conception of Judaism, a notion as unacceptable to Dubnow and Baron as it was to most German Jews in the last century, but as exciting to Israeli historians as it was to Moses Hess. Yet Albert Lewkowitz was probably right when he denied that Graetz's nationalism was "weltlicher Nationalismus," it was a part, albeit an inseparable part of the idea of Judaism, which had little in common with the European concept of nationalism, or indeed with the secularised version of the modern Israeli idea of peoplehood without religion.

Whilst it is true that Graetz paid scant regard to economic and social factors in religious, intellectual and even political history, it is equally true that at the time that Graetz wrote, his emphasis on Jewish intellectual achievements and on persecution were, if not entirely adequate—absolutely essential. Jewish history in particular was manipulated during the nineteenth century by all sections of the social and political spectrum with brutal superficiality—from Hegel, Strauss and Feuerbach to Bruno Bauer and Marx.

Christian theologians, conservative politicians and social ideologues freely judged and condemned both Jews and Judaism without recourse to the facts of Jewish history or the extensive literature of Judaism. Graetz was pugnacious enough and had the right background to turn the tables on his opponents by constructing his Jewish history, as a "phenomenology of spirit", in which spirit was depicted as a unique but not necessarily exclusive manifestation of Judaism. It is certainly of some interest that until the advent of Hitler, the only German scholar to acknowledge the Graetzian conception in principle as a legitimate one was Max Weber, whose early death prevented him from attempting an analysis of rabbinic Judaism derived from Jewish sources, the basic raw materials used by Graetz.

The *Diary* has little enough to say on these issues, though the longest and most incisive entries concern the events of March, 1848, and show the writer as a keen observer and a model

historian with a brilliant ability to weave many complex issues and events into a single narrative. The young diarist is preoccupied with finding a place, a role, a function for himself. To this end he qualified and for a short time worked as a teacher. He also strove to become a rabbi, but could not overcome his dislike of the rabbinate or his inability to preach sermons. His "Wanderjahre" were inordinately long, because the real difficulty for Graetz lay not in the nature of the teaching or ministerial professions, but in the discipline of employment, in the responsibilities of office. Even at the age of 28 he described employment as a loss of freedom, a form of death, and it was not until he married in 1850 that he finally conceded defeat in the battle between freedom and duty, but he insisted that "I was forced into that decision without knowing how". For all that, an irony of fate decreed that only by accepting "defeat" did Graetz gain the opportunity and the conditions necessary for his emergence as German Jewry's foremost historian.

Graetz established and indeed discovered himself as an historian through his programmatic essay "The Structure of Jewish History" (1846), but could not reference at all to the writing of this essay and only the scantiest reference to its publication, which he welcomes because it earned him a little money and thus made it possible for him to buy a little present for his fiancée Mariechen. Nevertheless it was this essay which led him to write his monumental, eleven volume *History of the Jews* on which his fame and reputation were to be built.

Perhaps the strongest impression made by this remarkable volume is of the indelible marginality which seemed so dominant in the life and works of Graetz. Rooted as he was in the German-Jewish tradition, he oscillated now gently, now violently in love-hate relationships with men like Samson Raphael Hirsch and Zacharias Frankel, relationships which encompassed their wives, but not always their achievements. It was possible for Graetz to belong to Polish Jewry and despise it, to love Greek mythology and abhor Jewish mysticism. The marginal man was a clever man and a good man but he was not always a wise man—could he have been less than controversial?

It may seem churlish to conclude a review of such a fascinating book with criticism, but a couple of points need to be made. The *Diary*, the Editor tells us, contains four-fifths of the existing manuscript. No reasoned argument is presented for the portions left out. These include a quarrel between Graetz and his family over a Jewish tradition seen as superstition and some of Graetz's reports on S. R. Hirsch's exegesis, subjects which, on the face of it ought to have been included. On p. 81 FN 270, either the Hebrew or the German translation is incorrect. On p. 194 the Eve of Succoth (Tabernacles) is given as 29 July. This cannot be correct.

Dr. Carlebach is Reader in Sociology at the University of Sussex.

MEMORIAL FOR EBERSTADT SYNAGOGUE

A memorial stone for the synagogue of Eberstadt near Darmstadt which was burnt down by the Nazis on November 22, 1938, was inaugurated by the present Lord Mayor, Mr. H. W. Sabais, who said it was a duty and an honour to remember the millions of Jews killed under the Nazi régime. The memorial stone was to remind future generations of the evil consequences of fanaticism and blind hatred. As representative of the Jewish communities of the Land Hessen, Professor Dr. Herbert Lewin thanked the town for the memorial which was to keep alive the memory of a guilt of the fathers among children who had no share in it.

* Heinrich Graetz — *Tagebuch und Briefe*, Edited by R. Michael. Schriftenreihe Wissenschaftlicher Abhandlungen des Leo Baeck Instituts—J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck) Tübingen 1977. DM 120.

THE ISRAELI SCENE

NEWS FROM THE EAST

DIASPORA MUSEUM IN TEL AVIV

The Bet Hatefutsoth, the Museum of the Diaspora at Tel Aviv, is World Jewry's present to Israel on her 30th anniversary. It is one of the most modern and technically pioneering museums of the world with mini-cinemas, slide shows, video-booths and a planetarium where the sky shows Jews throughout history instead of stars. There is also a computer which can answer questions on any Jewish subject. The Columbia Broadcasting System in co-operation with Michael Kustov, an associate director of London's National Theatre, are producing a film on the museum shot in Israel and in Britain where many of the exhibits were made. They include models of 18 synagogues in Poland, Russia, China, Philadelphia and Europe. The London workshops have not only faithfully reproduced the various synagogue Arks, but also details of the chandeliers.

STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST

A Max Haber Chair for the study of the Holocaust has been established at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Gideon Hausner, prosecuting counsel against Eichmann, said during the inauguration ceremony it was important to keep alive the memory of the destruction of European Jewry because the world was ready to forget it. Such research had to be done in Jerusalem, the centre of the Jewish past and present.

GERMAN PRO-ISRAELIS KILLED BY BOMB

In Nablus, two German social workers who were visiting Israel with a group of *Aktion Sühnezeichen* were killed by a time bomb thrown into their parked car. The Israeli government sent messages of condolence to the parents of the two young people and to the Federal German Government. The Berlin centre of *Aktion Sühnezeichen* said this act of terrorism had again shown the need for reconciliation and its members would continue their work for reconciliation with Israel and for better relations between Arabs and Jews.

FREE SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Knesset approved a bill which raises the school-leaving age from 14 to 15 and introduces free education in the upper forms of secondary schools. Earlier educational stages have always been free.

PATIENTS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES

Since 1971, 6,000 Egyptians, Libyans, Jordanians, Syrians, Lebanese and Gulf State Arabs have received treatment in Israeli hospitals, and they are still coming. They either fly in from Europe or cross into Israel from Jordan. Most of them come after hearing a weekly programme on Israel's Arabic-language radio. The majority seek treatment for eye and skin diseases.

DEATH OF POLISH UNDERGROUND LEADER

Mr. Adolf Abraham Berman, a leader of the Jewish anti-Nazi Underground in Poland during the Second World War, who became a member of the Knesset after his emigration to Israel, has died aged 72. His elder brother Jacob, a Polish Communist, was deputy Prime Minister of Poland from 1952 to 1956 and now lives in retirement in Warsaw. As a student, A. A. Berman edited the Polish language and the Yiddish language publications of Poale Zion. In the Warsaw ghetto, he was a leader of the anti-fascist block. When most of the ghetto inhabitants had been deported to the Treblinka extermination camp in 1942, he moved to the "Aryan" district of Warsaw and represented the Underground Jewish National Committee with the Polish Underground organisations. He emigrated to Israel in 1950 after a short spell as president of the Central Committee of Polish Jews.

STAFF CUTS AT UNIVERSITY

The administrative staff of the Hebrew University has been cut by 15 per cent, and maintenance and services have been reduced by 50 per cent during the last three years. Mr Avraham Harman, president of the university, told the board of governors that this had been done in order to maintain the academic staff at its 1973 level. In that year, after the Yom Kippur war, government grants for higher education had been cut. However, the university was now so short of funds that it was unable to employ young scientists.

A Judaica and Art auction, organised by the British Women Friends of the university at Sotheby's, produced enough funds to establish 200 student scholarships.

EXHIBITS AT HANOVER FAIR

For the last two years, Israel has taken part in the Hanover Fair which is leading in the technological field. This year eight firms have jointly exhibited their products including innovations in refrigeration, air-conditioning and solar heating technology, and met with great interest.

PROTEST AGAINST BULLFIGHT

A bullfight will take place in Israel in the next few weeks. In 1955, a planned bullfight was prohibited by the late Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog, but since then public opinion seems to have changed. The London-based Society for Animal Welfare in Israel sent a cable to the Minister of Internal Affairs expressing abhorrence at the project. Miss Silverman, the society's honorary secretary said it was very unacceptable to introduce such a barbarous form of amusement in a civilised country where no tradition exists.

CENTRE FOR BATTERED WIVES

In Herzlia, a centre for battered wives and their children was opened. It will be followed by another one in Haifa. According to a leading criminologist, Dr. Menachem Amir, there are more than 30,000 cases of wife-beating in Israel every year.

JORDANIAN BAN ON SONG CONTEST

As there is only black-and-white TV in Israel, many Israelis watched the recent Eurovision song contest on the Jordanian coloured programme. However, as soon as the victorious Israeli team Alphabeta appeared, the Jordanian TV service switched over to advertisements. Israeli and Jordanian viewers who wanted to watch the outcome, had to switch over to the Israeli service where they saw the Israeli team win.

MECCA PILGRIMS SANCTIONED

For the first time since 1948, Moslems living in Israel will be allowed to take part in the pilgrimage to Mecca.

ISRAELI FOOTBALLERS DISAPPOINTED WITH BRITAIN

Israeli football officials blame Britain for the non-admission of Israel to the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA). At the Association's congress in Turkey, 16 votes were in favour of Israel's admission, but the 4 British members abstained and prevented Israel from getting the necessary 75 per cent majority vote.

MIDWIVES' CONGRESS

About 400 midwives from Britain are expected to attend the international midwives' congress in Jerusalem in August.

JEWISH PAVILION IN AUSCHWITZ

A pavilion at Auschwitz, commemorating the Jews murdered at the camp by the Nazis, was opened in the presence of organisations of Camp Survivors and other Jewish organisations from all over the world, by Mr. Smolen, director of the Auschwitz museum. The Polish government was represented by the chairman of the State committee for preserving monuments of the martyrdom and struggle during the Nazi occupation. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, founder president of the World Jewish Congress, said he found the pavilion most impressive and added that it repudiated the "absurd and malicious campaigns in various countries" where "so-called experts have the audacity and impudence to deny the liquidation of six million Jews". A 30-member Israeli delegation was headed by Gideon Hausner, the chairman of the Yad Vashem board.

The delegations also attended the functions marking the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Twenty-two Polish citizens were honoured by the Yad Vashem for having risked their lives to save those of Jews. There were also ceremonies in the Treblinka, Sobibor, and Bialystock death camps.

HUNGARY REMEMBERS SWEDISH DIPLOMAT

One of the main thoroughfares in Budapest has been named after the Swedish diplomat Waldemar Langlet who during the last war helped to save some 100,000 Hungarian Jews from deportation and death.

JEWISH STUDIES IN VIENNA

For the first time, Vienna University has introduced a course on antisemitism as part of its humanities curriculum. The historian Dr. Fritz Werner will give the lectures within the framework of the Institute of Jewish Studies. The response from students has been unexpectedly great.

TV PROGRAMMES ON ISRAEL

Mr. Jeremy Isaacs, director of programmes, Thames Television, denied charges of bias against Israel, which had been raised by Lord Mishcon on behalf of the Board of Deputies. He said that the recent feature on Israel's military action in Lebanon had shown what had happened in Southern Lebanon "however unpalatable that may be". Israel's military action had been a blunt instrument which had caused many civilian victims while the PLO forces had largely escaped. Mr. Isaacs agreed that it would have been better to have mentioned the PLO bus raid on the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway at an earlier stage of the programme, but he did not think that this disturbed its overall balance. Dr. Rhodes Boyson, M.P. for Brent North, in response to protests from his constituents, wrote to the Independent Broadcasting Authority protesting that the programme "was biased in favour of the PLO and against Israel".

BEQUESTS

Mr. Fritz Hermann Bachmann, of Hampstead, who died last October, left £150 to the Association of Jewish Refugees, and £100 each to the Home for Aged Jews and the Cancer Research Fund.

Mr. Josef Nussbaum, of Highgate, who died last July, left £250 to the Otto Schiff House Residents' Comfort Fund, and equal amounts to Hammerson Memorial House, Jewish Child's Day, and the Home for Aged Jews. He left £2,500 each to the Shaare Zedek Hospital and the Yeshiva Rabbinical College in Jerusalem.

Mr. Leon Braun who died in Otto Schiff House, Netherhall Gardens, left his National Savings Certificates to the Central British Fund to benefit Otto Schiff House.

ART EXHIBITIONS

A BERLIN-BORN PAINTER

Frank Auerbach Exhibition

The first major retrospective exhibition of the work of Frank Auerbach (described by the "Sunday Times" as "one of Britain's few major painters") is being held at the Hayward Gallery from May 4 to July 2 under the auspices of the Arts Council of Great Britain. There was also another exhibition of his work at Anthony D'Offay's Gallery, until May 18.

Auerbach was born in Berlin in 1931 and sent to boarding school in England at the age of eight, spending his holidays with his cousin, Gerda Boehm. In 1947 he came to London and studied under David Bomberg at the Borough Polytechnic, later moving to St. Martin's School of Art and then to the Royal College of Art where he worked for three years.

The exhibition on the top floor of the Hayward Gallery is very exciting and clearly demonstrates the artist's intense struggle to release one or more impressions of his subject. The works include views of Primrose Hill from various vantage points at different times of the day and of Mornington Crescent. There are also a number of portraits of his cousin. Without any doubt this exhibition is an experience not to be missed.

ALICE SCHWAB

HAPPY PICTURES

Mrs. Lily Freeman is not content with looking at and admiring nature, she is driven to give her impressions visible shape and form. She recently had an exhibition at the Gloria Gallery which ended on May 5th. Born in Vienna she left the city in 1938 and fled to this country two years later. In spite of some gruelling experience she did not lose her sense of the beauty of trees, flowers, and the urban landscape. Her works are happy pictures, she herself said. She travelled to exciting places. In her exhibition we saw canvasses painted in Kenya, France, Spain etc., and last but not least in Hampstead. I particularly liked "Englands Lane". Two buildings stand out: one in yellow and the other one in a rose colour. They form a perfect and enjoyable harmony. Just like her pictures of Bruges, they all exude stillness, often in a riot of colour. I was reminded of Renoir's saying: "For me a picture must say something pleasant, joyful and pretty . . ."

A.R.

JEWISH RITUAL SILVER

An Exquisite Exhibition

It is a pleasure to review this exquisite small exhibition of Jewish ritual silver associated with the Jewish community, held at the Victoria and Albert Museum, which spans a period from the late seventeenth century up to the contemporary age, although the emphasis is on the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and on contributions in the cultural field by the Sephardi community. Whilst this writer believes in the existence of Jewish art—however difficult to define—this exhibition is devoted to the crafts, and Jewish patronage in this field. Two main contributions emerge, those connected with civic ceremonial, and those based on religious ritual. The latter include seder plates, kiddush cups, rimmonim, Hanukka lamps and other related objects, the former a series of salvers and cups offered by the Sephardi community to a succession of Lord Mayors of London.

The most outstanding exhibit by size as well as workmanship is probably the Montefiore centre piece for a table, dedicated to the exploits of Sir Moses Montefiore, the great philanthropist. Three-dimensional statuettes

as well as reliefs adorn the "monument" which is dated 1843. Iconographically, allusions to the Bible are paralleled by scenes from the life of Sir Moses, who appears hatless in a quasi-Napoleonic pose when confronting Gentiles, but is hatted in synagogue, and when seen with his Jewish brethren.

The exhibition may well arouse bitter-sweet feelings among the readership of AJR Information. We have experienced creative and less creative assimilation in our past, and we may wonder at the self-assurance and joyful ostentation of the Victorian age. This period is remote from to-day's problems, but perhaps for this reason, is gaining increased popular appeal. We strongly recommend a visit to this splendid and thought-provoking exhibition, which will remain open until July 9.

HELEN ROSENAU

A HISTORY OF THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIE

"Philharmonie und Philharmoniker" is the title of a recently published work by Dr. Wolfgang Stresemann (Stapp-Verlag, Berlin 1977). The author, Doctor of Law and professional conductor, is the son of the late Gustav Stresemann; his mother was of Jewish origin. Wolfgang Stresemann recalls the names of the conductors, and soloists who appeared in the old building of the Philharmonie in the Bernburger Strasse, which was bombed in 1944. From 1933 onwards artists of Jewish origin, e.g. Schnabel and Kreisler, Menuhin and Huberman, were no longer permitted to appear, and works by Mendelssohn and Mahler and other Jewish composers were forbidden. Furtwaengler protested against these restrictions as well as against the dismissal of Jewish members of his orchestra. He resigned in 1934 but was requested to resume his work in 1935.

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BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

HERBERT STRAUSS 60

On June 1, Dr. Herbert Strauss, Executive vice-president of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, will celebrate his 60th birthday. Born in Wuerzburg, he studied at the Lehranstalt fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums from 1936-1942. He was also Auxiliary Rabbi of the Berlin Jewish community during the crucial years 1940-1942. After having lived underground for some time, he and his wife escaped to Switzerland. In 1946, he obtained his doctorate *summa cum laude* at the University of Berne. In the same year, he emigrated to the United States. He is now Professor of History at the City College, New York. His scholarly standing is also reflected in the fact that he holds fellowships with several societies, among them the Leo Baeck Institute (New York).

Herbert Strauss's writings cover a wide range of subjects related to American and contemporary Jewish history, including the Holocaust and its aftermath. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Berlin Jewish post-war community (1970), he edited a widely recognised symposium "Gegenwart im Rueckblick" to which many well-known scholars and communal workers contributed essays and personal reminiscences. He also wrote an important analysis of "The Immigration and Acculturation of the German Jew in the United States," published in the Year Book 1971 of the Leo Baeck Institute. He is now, as project director, engaged in a scheme under the auspices of the "International Biographical Archives and Dictionary of Central European Emigrés," which aims at recording particulars about personalities who were forced to leave Central Europe as victims of Nazi persecution and who attained recognition in their countries of resettlement on account of their achievements in the fields of scholarship, science, economics or public life.

In his capacity as Executive vice-president of the Federation, the American counterpart of the AJR and one of the constituent organisations of the "Council of Jews from Germany" Herbert Strauss has been active in all affairs which concern the Central European immigrants both in the U.S. and in general. The great number of American Jewish organisations in which he holds office reflects the standing he has established not only for himself but for the benefit of the Federation. The research on the history of immigration, which is now going on under the auspices of the "Council" in the main countries of resettlement, is to a high degree due to his initiative.

Herbert Strauss's work within the "Council" has resulted in bonds of friendship with his fellow workers all over the world. Considering the unavoidable preponderance of the elder generation among the office holders of the "Council", his youthful approach to the problems of the day is an additional asset. We wish him health and undiminished vigour in the continuation of his widespread activities. Happy birthday, dear Herbert.

WERNER ROSENSTOCK

DR. WALTER ZANDER 80

Dr. Walter Zander, who will celebrate his 80th birthday on June 8, is well known in Anglo-Jewish life by his work as Secretary of the Friends of the Hebrew University, an office he held from 1944 until his retirement in 1971. During his 27 years of service he built up the organisation of the "Friends" from small beginnings to its present strength. He was particularly qualified for the job, because he is one of those rare personalities who combine a high scholarly level with administrative abilities.

Born in Erfurt, he practised as a lawyer in Germany and was also the editor of a standard work in the field of company law. He came to this country in 1937.

Since 1971, Dr. Zander has been an Associate Fellow of St. Anthony's College, Oxford. In his research work he specialises on Middle Eastern Studies. One of his books deals with "Israel and the Holy Places". His profound knowledge of the problems involved became manifest anew only recently, when he spoke at the inaugural meeting of this year's Jewish Book Week. The lucid and vigorous way in which he dealt with this complicated subject left a deep impression on the audience.

Dr. Zander has retained his close connections with the Hebrew University. After his retirement he was appointed an Alternate Governor and later an Honorary Governor of the University; this year, he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship.

Relieved of the burden of the day-to-day office work, Dr. Zander has used his spare time for constructive research, especially on the position of the Christian churches in Israel. Like the past Chairman of the "Friends", the late Professor Norman Bentwich, he has also always worked for a peaceful relationship between Jews and Arabs.

Dr. Zander has the good fortune of being blessed with four gifted children, all of whom have achieved success and wide recognition in their particular professions. The AJR, of which he has been an interested member throughout the years, joins his numerous friends in wishing him health and undiminished enjoyment and success in his creative work for many years to come.

W.R.

PRIZE FOR JEWISH SCIENTIST

The German Society for Clinical Chemistry awarded the Boehringer Prize for outstanding achievements in the field of biochemical analytics to Professor Shmuel Shaltiel, Rechovoth, Israel and the Swedish researcher Professor Porath.

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PERSONALIA

HON. DOCTORATE FOR MR. A. HUBERT

Recently, two honorary doctorates of philosophy were awarded by Bar-Ilan University. One recipient was Israel's Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, the other Mr. Arthur Hubert, OBE, FRSA (St Annes) in recognition of his outstanding support of Torah institutions. Mr. Hubert, who was born in Schluechtern, came to this country in 1939. After his release from internment, he worked as a nightwatchman and later for several years as a storeroom assistant. He is now Chairman and Managing Director of a leading enterprise in the metal trade, Tom Martin Metals Group Ltd, in Blackburn. For many years, Mr Hubert has been a most generous benefactor of public and Jewish causes. His numerous offices include the presidency of the Gateshead Federation for Torah and a life governorship of Manchester Yeshiva. Yet his relationship to Jewish causes is not restricted to financial support: he is actively involved in all efforts aiming at the preservation of the spiritual values of Judaism. By his signal services to Anglo-Jewish life Mr. Hubert has, at the same time, added lustre to the community of former refugees. He is also a long-standing interested member of the AJR. We extend our sincerest congratulations to Mr. Hubert on his latest, well deserved distinction.

APPOINTMENT OF QC

Forty-one-year-old Mr. A. R. B. Hallgarten was appointed a Q.C. He studied at Downing College, Cambridge and, on account of the outstanding results of his legal examination, was elected a Senior Harris Scholar. He was admitted to the Bar in 1961 and, at the end of that year, was awarded the Major Barstow scholarship, the highest distinction of the Inns of Court. Mr. Hallgarten is a son of our Board member, Mr. S. F. Hallgarten.

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IN MEMORIAM

RUDOLF APT

On April 19, Mr. Rudolf Apt died in his 96th year. He was a devoted worker for the community of German Jews, both before and after his emigration. Born in Dresden, he was head of a firm in the metal trade, founded by his father. His honorary offices in Jewish life included the Board membership of the Jewish Central-Verein. In this capacity he fought for the rights of the German Jews, a task which called for particular courage when the Nazis came to power. On innumerable occasions and at risk to his own safety, he intervened with the authorities, protesting against measures which exceeded even the discriminating regulations then in force or pleading for the release of a fellow Jew from prison or concentration camp. Eventually, in the course of the November, 1938, pogroms, he himself had to endure the cruelties and humiliations of Buchenwald.

When he came to this country, he first had, like most of us, to go through difficult times. Yet by his expertise and integrity he succeeded in re-establishing himself in his trade. At the same time, he took an active part in the work of organisations founded by and for the German-Jewish refugees. He was a board member of the AJR since its inception in 1941 and, as long as his health permitted, regularly attended the board meetings and contributed to our deliberations. He was also closely associated with the Belsize Square Synagogue and, for many years, chairman of its welfare committee, and with the B'nai B'rith Leo Baeck Lodge. He always took a human interest in the well-being of his fellow workers, and these feelings quite naturally developed in bonds of friendship with many in our midst.

The last years of his life were overshadowed by the illness of his wife, who predeceased him last year, and the death of his son. Yet he could rely on the devotion and love of his two daughters, and he was proud of his two grandchildren. His numerous friends feel united in their sense of loss with his family and

will always remember him with gratitude and affection.

At a memorial service in the Belsize Square Synagogue on April 30, conducted by Rabbi J. J. Kokotek, tributes were paid to Rudolf Apt by Dr. F. Levy on behalf of the Synagogue, Mr. W. Lewis on behalf of the Lodge, Dr. W. Rosenstock on behalf of the AJR, and Mr. K. Frankenschwerth, a personal friend.

W.R.

PINHAS ROSEN

Pinhas Rosen (formerly Felix Rosenblueth), who was a member of the Israeli Government as Minister of Justice from 1948 until 1961, has died in his 91st year. He spent his formative years in the "Blauweiss" and the KJV and was a president of the German Zionist Organisation at the beginning of the 'twenties. In 1923 he went to Palestine, where he practised as a lawyer. When the big immigration from Germany started, he was for many years president of the Organisation of Immigrants, Hitachduth Oley Germania (now Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa). He also joined the Jerusalem Board of the Leo Baeck Institute a few years after its foundation. He kept his contacts with both organisations as well as with the "Solidaritaetswerk", also founded by Jews from Central Europe, up to the end of his life.

ARNOLD BENDER

One of the most imaginative and original writers among German-born refugees living in Britain, Arnold Bender died after a long illness at the age of 74. Brought up by his Jewish parents at Dortmund, he became an enthusiastic *Wandervogel*, complete with guitar and rucksack and with an urge to write poetry. His first verses appeared in the local press in 1925, and he became "resident poet" with the *Dortmunder General-Anzeiger*. He emigrated in 1934 to Scandinavia and wrote his first, autobiographical novel, *Winter in Schweden*, which some of our readers may re-

member because it was serialised in *Die Zeitung* during the war; Bender was awarded the Thomas Mann Prize for exiled writers for this work, which was also published in English and French. Further novels—*Livius* and *Der Brückenheilige*—appeared in French translations, and Bender himself, who married an English teacher, translated a number of works, the most important among them being *Désirée*, into English. He was also a frequent contributor to *Die Zeitung*, *Time and Tide*, and the *Manchester Guardian*.

After serving for five years in the British army, he became an evening-class lecturer for the Universities of Nottingham and Manchester. In 1953, the Benders took over a little old café in Rye, Sussex, mainly catering for tourists, and later moved to Port Isaac in Cornwall. Arnold Bender's last major work was a well-researched and amusing analysis of British life, *Die Engländer*, which was published in Frankfurt and broadcast by the German-language BBC service.

Bender, who was a member of the PEN Centre of German-speaking Authors Abroad, was much attracted by the religious philosophy of the Quakers. He was a warm-hearted, lively man whom we shall miss very much.

E.L.

NEW FRANKFURT SYNAGOGUE

Representatives of the government, the city administration and the Churches attended the inauguration of the new synagogue in the Frankfurt Old Age Settlement which houses over 300 people in different kinds of homes and special flats for senior citizens. Minister Karry of the Hesse Government said that the Settlement was built on a piece of land which had formerly housed the Gagernstrasse Hospital, one of the foremost hospitals in the country before 1933 which had been a refuge for many of the persecuted after that date. 5,000 Frankfurt Jews had been deported to Theresienstadt and only 148 of them had returned in 1945—a fact which would be remembered by all those who had lived through those times.

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 conveys heartiest congratulations on their special birthdays to: Mrs. Louise Berg, Mrs. Bertha Kremmer and Mrs. A. Lee.

Rothholz.—Mr. Siegfried Rothholz, Edgware, celebrated his 79th birthday on May 10.

Deaths

Bender. — Arnold Bender died peacefully on April 16 after a long illness, gallantly borne. Much loved and adored brother of Hilde and Rudi (Florida). Writer, journalist and former lecturer at the University of Manchester. Very much missed by his devoted sister, Hilde Gibbs, 87 George Street, Salford, M8 6FP.

Blum.—Mr. Hans J. Blum, of 16 Mayflower Lodge, Regents Park Road, London, N.3, passed away peacefully on May 1 at the age of 95. Sadly missed by his wife, family and many friends.

Falk.—Mr. Ernest Falk passed away peacefully on May 10. Deeply mourned by his family and friends.

Deaths

Hahn.—Robert Hahn passed away suddenly on April 28. Deeply mourned by his wife, Rita, daughter Rita, son-in-law Kurt, grandsons, Steven and Laurence, sister, Helene, relatives and friends.

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MISCELLANEOUS

PROFESSOR RICHARD LOEWENTHAL HONOURED

To mark the 70th birthday of the politologist Dr. Richard Loewenthal, professor emeritus of the Free University in Berlin, a symposium on the subject "What does democratic socialism mean for present industrial societies?" was held in Berlin. The function was attended by about 40 scholars. After the end of the symposium, Professor Loewenthal was presented with the Ernst Reuter Plaque by the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Dietrich Stobbe. Together with Willy Brandt, Richard Loewenthal published the first Ernst Reuter biography in 1957.

After 1933, Professor Loewenthal lived in Czechoslovakia, France and Britain. He was, for many years, correspondent for Reuters and also on the staff of the London "Observer".

E.G.L.

JETTCHEN GEBERT ON THE BERLIN STAGE

A dramatised version of Georg Hermann's novels "Jettchen Gebert" and "Henriette Jacoby" had its première at the Freie Volksbühne, Berlin, but met with strong criticism for its failure to depict the Jewish background in a way to make it come alive for a younger generation completely ignorant of it.

SCHOLAR'S TOUR

Our friend and contributor Dr. J. J. Maitlis recently visited the United States and Canada, where he was invited to lecture at the Hebrew Union College, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Columbia University and various other colleges and learned institutions. His topics included East European Jewish history and Jewish folk literature. He also read a paper on an old-Yiddish Midrash to the "Sayings of the Fathers", which has just been published by the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Jerusalem.

JEWISH PEDAGOGUE REMEMBERED

To commemorate the progressive pedagogue, Dr. Kurt Loewenstein (Bleekede 1885-Paris 1939), a plaque was recently unveiled on his former dwelling place in Berlin-Neukoelln. Loewenstein, who was also a founder of the "Kinderfreunde" movement, was a member of the Berlin City Council from 1919/21 and later became "Stadtschulrat" in Neukoelln. He was, with short interruptions, a Social Democratic Reichstag Deputy from 1920 to 1933.

E.G.L.

WALTER MEHRING RETURNS TO BERLIN

For the past 20 years, the writer Walter Mehring has been living in Switzerland and in Munich. Born in Berlin, he was recently awarded the title of Hon. Professor by the Berlin Senate. It is expected that the 81-year-old author will shortly move to Berlin. Mehring escaped to France in 1933 and ultimately found refuge in the U.S. After the war he went back to Europe. The complete collection of Mehring's works is going to be published by Claassen-Verlag (Duesseldorf).

E.G.L.

BRITAIN AND ZIONIST MOVEMENT

Survey of Documents

The British Academy has commissioned a major survey of unpublished manuscripts on Anglo-Jewish relations between 1914 and 1948, embracing the whole period of the British Mandate. Its purpose is not to collect, but to locate letters, diaries, memoirs and records of Anglo-Jewish organisations involved in the Zionist movement. Sir Isaiah Berlin is chairman of the committee which is steering the project and advising the Anglo-Palestine Archives' research officer. All principal libraries in Britain have promised their cooperation.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

More "Threepenny Opera." Brecht's "Dreigroschenoper" appears to have become something like a modern "classic," although interpretations vary widely. In a performance by the Belgian National Opera, the action is transposed to a red-light district of Berlin in the Twenties (Mack the Knife becoming a sort of guerilla fighter), whilst a Viennese version at the Akademietheater sticks to the original as it was first given in 1929.

Berlin. Bernhard Minetti and Curt Bois are in the cast of Shakespeare's "Tempest" at the Schillertheater; this theatre also presented a new play by Gerlind Reinshagen "Leben und Tod der Marilyn Monroe."

50 years ago, 1928 saw Carlo Menotti and his family moving to the United States where Menotti became one of the most successful contemporary opera composers. His opera "The Consul", for which the composer received the Pulitzer prize, is the only work which has treated the tragedy of the modern refugee problem in serious musical fashion.

Peter Herz the popular author, librettist and cabarettist visited his friends in London, and was received with enthusiasm at a special afternoon recital at the AJR Club in Hannah Karminski House.

Birthdays. German film actress Camilla Horn was 75 last month. Boris Christoff, the Bulgarian bass, equally at home in Europe and in the United States, recently became 60; he has been called the "singing actor" as he uses his great voice with strong dramatic skill.

Obituary. Composer and pianist Peter Igelhoff has died, aged 74; he was born in Vienna but began his career in Berlin at the "Scala" and at the "Kabarett der Komiker." His songs have become European evergreens; his last

work, the musical "Geld regiert die Welt" will have its autumn premiere in Koblenz. Ewald Balsler, one of the Vienna Burgtheater "Greats," has died at the age of 79. Balsler was a member of the "Burg" for nearly 50 years where his most famous parts were the classics, including Wilhelm Tell and Faust. His last role was Pastor Manders in Ibsen's "Ghosts" in 1976. He was also associated with the Dusseldorf Schauspielhaus for a long time. S.B.

Letter to the Editor

THE LATE SIEGFRIED BREUER

Sir,—Referring to your April issue, may I use the opportunity to suggest the correction of an impression given of my late friend Siegfried Breuer. You mentioned him when you reported on his son Jacques, now appearing in Schnitzler's "Liebelei" in Munich.

Siggy, as he was called, and I shared a flat with others at 200 Kurfuerstendamm above the offices of the Reichsbund juedischer Frontsoldaten and the Café Dobrin. He accepted the risk of our continued friendship and we stayed at the same flat until well into 1938(!), i.e. well after the Nuremberg Laws and also continued the employment of a visiting "aryan maid". Siggy was an enthralling teller of Jewish jokes. But he also kept me well supplied with the latest anti-Nazi stories, which amused the actors of the "Deutsche Theater", where he appeared at that time. I saw Siggy last when he portrayed the Romanian Professor in the "Third Man". Unfortunately, he died before I could re-establish contact. It is in fairness to a dead friend that I have to correct an insinuation and I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to do so.

P. YOGI MAYER

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REFUGEE INDUSTRIALISTS

Mr. Herbert Loebel, OBE, BSc, MPhil, has drawn my attention to a few errors which have crept into my report on his thesis in the May issue of AJR Information. I am glad to learn that he is not retired, but on the contrary in the process of building up a new enterprise. The firm, founded by Lord Schon and Mr. Fred Marzillier in 1939, is Marchon Products Ltd; Solway Chemicals Ltd became a subsidiary company at a much later date. The one firm which was set up with a capital of £250,000 was started after the war, mainly with money provided by Sir Isaac Wolfson's GUS, whereas the funds available to industrialists who came before the war, were very small. Mr. Loebel suggests that the average did not exceed £1,500. Mr. Loebel also says that the Home Office did accept the procedure proposed by the Ministry of Labour in 1936, and that the cases where it did not, were the exceptions that confirmed the rule. According to a statement by the Home Secretary in February, 1939, 200 out of 300 refugee firms started in the United Kingdom, were located in the Special Areas. Mr. Loebel guesses that about 75 of these hundred firms were started between 1933 and 1936, so that only 25 out of 225 firms set up after the New Policy of 1936 was agreed between Government Departments, were set up outside the Special Areas. He also says that I should have mentioned the valuable work done by the Refugee Industries Committee which might deserve a monograph of its own. Unfortunately, the Committee's files were destroyed after it closed down in 1953, but Mr. Loebel has been collecting papers from people who were in touch with the committee and would be grateful to anyone still in possession of such papers to come forward.

I was glad to learn that the examiners who granted Mr. Loebel his degree, made a strong recommendation for publication, and negotiations are at the moment under way. M.P.

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