

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Egon Larsen

MASTERS AND VICTIMS

Jews and Germans Between Wilhelm and Weimar

I knew Peter Gay from his book "Weimar Culture", published ten years ago—very good, considering that he must have been much too young to have experienced that period himself. In a footnote in his new work, "Freud, Jews and Other Germans: Masters and Victims in Modernist Culture" (Oxford University Press, 289pp., £5.50) he says that his father ran a selling agency for crystal and china in Berlin until 1938. This time the period of his studies is the 60 years between Wilhelm and Weimar, from the *Gruenderjahre* to Hitler. Peter Gay is now, after a distinguished academic career, Professor of History at Yale University and his present book is a collection of long essays first published by the Leo Baeck Institute, The Times Literary Supplement, and in other places and periodicals.

Anybody interested in Central European history from the last third of the nineteenth century to the first third of the twentieth century will find these essays riveting and full of food for thought, to a large extent on the "terrible question", as he calls it: how could it have happened? He looks at it from the Jewish point of view, but he also searches for clues in the general continuity—or discontinuity—of German history and cultural development.

Thus he tries to define, in his introduction to the essays, the nature of antisemitism, its growth in the Wilhelminian era: "German antisemitism is a cluster of behaviours with a single name. It ranges from social snobbery to a programme for systematic extermination: some of its carriers would merely stop short of welcoming a Jew to their families or their clubs, while others would exclude all Jews from the human race. The identity of the Jew under attack varied from place to place, time to time, purpose to purpose: in imperial Germany, many antisemites concentrated their venom on immigrant East European Jews, while others professed to see in every Jew, including the most completely assimilated, unpalatable characteristics. . . . Many found antisemitic arguments persuasive only in times of social dislocation or economic misery. Radical antisemites saw Jews as a bulwark of capitalism; liberal antisemites saw them mired in tribal exclusiveness; conservative antisemites saw them as rootless people bereft of tradition. . . . It follows that nineteenth-century German antisemitism, however unpalatable even at the time, however pregnant with a terrifying future, was different in kind from the twentieth-century variety. . . . Germany's Jews, then, had to navigate among conflicting, often bewildering social signals. . . . (They) had good reason to feel themselves, or aspire to feel themselves, to be Jewish Germans. They indignantly rejected all talk of a 'Jewish question' as a survival of primitive politics. In retrospect we know that . . . they were right: the so-called Jewish

question had no reality in isolation. It was part of, and clue to, that larger question, the German question".

The Problem of Assimilation

This, I think, needed to be said, even if 50 or more years too late. No less valid are Gay's ideas about assimilation. For the German Jews, he argues, it was not a theoretical but a practical matter. "German Jews", he writes, "thought and acted like Germans. The defence organisation they founded in 1893, the *Centralverein deutscher Staatsbürger jüdischen Glaubens*, proclaims, with its very name, a sturdy confidence in the prospects of assimilation: it was an organised body of German citizens of the Jewish faith, brought together by outside pressures, but made up of Jews proud of their citizenship and no longer afraid to profess their religious adherence in public".

They were encouraged, even before the turn of the century, in their attitude to Germany's cultural life: "Indeed, Germany's Jews made themselves into guardians of the German cultural tradition . . . they joined Gentile guardians in keeping watch and crying alarm". Gay recalls Theodor Fontane's surprise when his old chosen companions, the Prussian aristocrats, forgot his 75th birthday in 1894—but his Jewish admirers did not. He wrote a little poem about it, which was quite famous at the time:

Was sollen mir da noch die Itzenplitze!
Jedem bin ich was gewesen,
Alle haben sie mich gelesen,
Alle kannten mich lange schon,
Und das ist die Hauptsache . . . "Kommen Sie, Cohn!"

Still, even Fontane had "reserves of Jew-hatred in him" and wrote, not long after that affectionate poem, that he could not see any benign solution to the "Jewish question" in the German future: "It would have been better if the attempt at assimilation had not been made". Physical assimilation, he thought, might be possible, but "spiritual assimilation" never. This, says Gay, was an appalling document, and it was just as well for the peace of mind of the German Jews that it remained unpublished for decades.

Freud, the German and Jew

To my mind, Gay derails his train of thought occasionally, and unnecessarily, by throwing the obstacle of his favourite philosophical concept in its way: "modernism". The *modernist*, he explains, hates everything modern, from machines to mass culture; and he divides, for instance, Jewish writers of the 1920s according to this odd scheme: "Wassermann, who was a good Jew, was not a modernist; Sternheim, who was a modernist, was not a good Jew; and Lasker-Schüler, who was both modernist and Jew, made her mark in expressionism in the

company of Catholics, Protestants, and Teutonic atheists." So what, one is tempted to ask. But his essay on Freud is fortunately free from such deviations.

"It was not easy to be a Jew in imperial Austria", writes Gay, "especially a Jew with aspirations. In Vienna, especially at the end of the century, antisemitism was more than the confused broodings of psychopaths; it pervaded and poisoned student organisations, university politics, social relationships, medical opinions. To be the destroyer of human illusions, as Freud was by intention and by results, was to make oneself into a special target of the antisemite. 'Be assured,' Freud wrote in the summer of 1908 to his brilliant disciple, Karl Abraham, 'if my name were Oberhuber, my innovations would have encountered far less resistance. . . . Yet Freud persisted, both in doing psychoanalytic work and in calling himself a Jew. There is, in this loyalty, a kind of defiance. Freud was the opposite of religious; his view of religion as an illusion akin to neurosis applied to the faith of his fathers as much as to any other. He granted the existence of some mysterious bonds that tied him to Judaism, and he attributed his objectivity and his willingness to be in a minority at least partly to his Jewish origins. But there was another element in this equation. My merit in the Jewish cause', he wrote in 1926, 'is confined to one single point: that I have never denied my Jewishness'. To deny it would have been senseless and, as he also said, undignified. The Jewish bond he felt was the recognition of a common fate in a hostile world".

Yet in an interview he gave in the same year the Moravia-born, Viennese Jew Freud insisted: "My language is German. My culture, my attainments are German. I considered myself German intellectually until I noticed the growth of antisemitic prejudice in Germany and German Austria. Since that time, I prefer to call myself a Jew".

Germany, says Gay, "has often rejected the best that is in her". Ironically, her Jews had been "woven into the very texture of German culture" in Wilhelminian times; the country "dyed its Jews through and through, and they wore its colours—black, white, red—without apology, in fact with pride. It was not protective colouring, but their own. Or so they thought". This was, says Gay, German-Jewish self-perception in that era; one might call it rather self-deception, and the price to be paid was terrible, even among those who escaped the Holocaust. Gay lists some of the suicides: Kurt Tucholsky, Ernst Toller, Ernst Weiss, Walter Hasenclever, Walter Benjamin, Carl Einstein, Stefan Zweig, Alfred Wolfenstein. But "were not the roots of the murderous disease that killed them well exposed half a century before"?

Peter Gay calls his essays "first attempts at doing some of the work still required". The German cultural historian still has much to do. "That so much should still remain undone", he concludes, "is perfectly understandable: German questions, it would appear, are not German questions alone".

NEWS FROM GERMANY

BEER HALL FIGHT WITH NEO-NAZIS

More than one hundred members of the National Socialist "Action Front" from the whole of the Federal Republic attended the first national Hitler Memorial Meeting in Lentföhrden (Schleswig-Holstein) to unveil a Hitler Memorial Plaque. A similar meeting in Hamburg had been banned. The neo-Nazis, dressed in black shirts, boots and helmets, engaged in a battle with the small group of local policemen who were supposed to prevent clashes with political opponents and threw glasses, bottles, chairs and clubs at them. After police re-inforcements from Hamburg arrived on the scene, 20 neo-Nazis were arrested, and dangerous weapons, swastika flags and Nazi literature were confiscated. The meeting had been arranged under the slogan: "Justice for Adolf Hitler."

EUROPEAN MACCABI CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Teams from Britain, Belgium, Denmark, Israel and West Germany competed in Duisburg for the European Maccabi Football Championship. France, Holland and Switzerland teams had originally intended to take part, but cancelled their attendance at a later date. The Lord Mayor of Duisburg, Mr Krings, acted as host to the games and expressed his admiration for Israel. The Israeli team won the championship and received the cup donated by the City Corporation. The British team came second. During the celebrations in which the whole population of the town joined, it was acknowledged that this was the first event since 1933 in which Jewish teams from several countries had met in Germany.

LIFE SENTENCE FOR CAMP GUARD

After a trial which lasted more than a year, 57-year-old former SS member Friedrich Wilhelm Heinen in Saarlouis was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of three Jewish inmates of the Lemberg concentration camp and for aiding and abetting the murder of another five prisoners.

NAZI PAST OF A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

Mr. Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna, has accused Saarbrücken University of employing a professor with a Nazi past. Dr. Friedrich Karl Vialon, professor of domestic law, was in charge of the confiscated property of murdered Jews in Nazi-occupied Latvia. Mr. Wiesenthal possesses documents signed by Dr. Vialon, giving instructions for the disposal of such property and for the deportation of Jews to concentration camps. At his office in Riga, Dr. Vialon had arranged for the sale of tombstones from Jewish cemeteries and had obtained money from the life insurance policies of Jews murdered in camps.

DESECRATOR OF ANNE FRANK'S MEMORY

Heinz Roth from Odenhausen in Hesse, was fined ½ million DM (about £125,000) for printing and distributing pamphlets in which he said innocent German schoolchildren were forced to read Anne Frank's Diary, a spurious document concocted by a New York film author and Mr. Otto Frank, the girl's father who now lives in Basle.

DOEBLIN EXHIBITION IN FRANKFURT

To mark the centenary of the birth of Alfred Doebelin, a Memorial Exhibition is to be held in the Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt/M. The displays comprise first editions, photos, letters and essays and mainly cover his years in exile in France and America (1933-45) and the period after his return to Germany (1945/57). (EGL)

GERMANS EXPECT ISRAEL TO WIN AGAIN

In a public opinion poll, a representative cross-section of the West German and West Berlin public was asked whether it believed if "in the long run, Israel will maintain its ground against the Arabs" or whether "the Arabs will one day be the winners." 40 per cent declined to comment, another 40 per cent thought that Israel could hold its ground and 20 per cent said that the Arabs would win eventually. 44 per cent said they were more on the side of the Israelis than of the Arabs, 7 per cent supported the Arabs, 33 per cent neither, and 16 per cent declined to comment. In a similar poll in 1970, only 29 per cent believed that Israel would win in the end, and after the 1973 war, 34 per cent were sure of the ultimate Arab victory, and only 26 per cent expected Israel to win.

NO SS RECORDS FOR JUVENILES

The West German Government has banned the sale of twelve records which glorify Nazi ideology and war, to young people. These records can no longer be advertised or displayed in shops. They include titles like "Hell, where is thy victory," "Call to arms" and "The Waffen-SS."

BUBER EXHIBITION IN WORMS

A comprehensive Martin Buber Exhibition has been arranged by the German Council of Christian and Jews, the German Friends of the Hebrew University, and the government of Rhineland-Palatinate. It will be open for three months and many visitors from all over the world have announced their visit, as it is a unique collection of exhibits which illuminate all facets of Buber's life, his translation of the Bible together with Franz Rosenzweig, his work for reconciliation with Germany and for good relations with the Arabs, his studies of Chasidim, and other scholarly work.

HISTORY OF A HERFORD FAMILY

The latest Herford Year Book (17/18 volume, 1976/77) carries an essay by Dr. E. A. Marsden about the history of the Herford Elsbach family and the development of the shirt factory Josef Elsbach & Co. At the end of 1932, the firm had about 1,000 employees. It was "aryanised" in 1938 and until 1952 run under the name "Herforder Wäschefabriken A.-G.". In 1958, the Elsbach A.G., equipped with new machines, had again a staff of 700. In 1964, one year after the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the firm, the members of the Elsbach family, spread all over the world, sold the majority shares in their possession to the Bekleidungswerke Adolf Ahlers G.m.b.H. Yet the name of Elsbach was retained as a trade mark. Several descendants of the Elsbach family live in Britain.

DOCUMENTARY ON PERSECUTION

In 1960, Gerhard Schoenberger's documentary work "Der gelbe Stern—Die Judenverfolgung in Europa 1933-1945" was published by Ruetten & Loening (Hamburg). It consisted mainly of authentic pictorial evidence, accompanied by quotations from official Nazi orders, and received wide publicity. The work has been out of stock for some time. An amended and revised edition has now been made available by C. Bertelsmann, publishers. As, unfortunately, anti-Jewish conceptions in Germany are not a matter of the past, and as doubts about certain statistical facts persist, the re-edited work will serve an important purpose. E.G.L.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle

TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN GERMAN PENSIONS

In our issue of October 1977 (page 9) we reported that West German Social Insurance benefits paid under Section 99 (replacing the former Section 100/101) of the "Angestelltenversicherungs-gesetz" (AVG) or under Section 1320 (replacing the former Sections 1321/1322) of the "Reichsversicherungsordnung" (RVO) would be regarded as not liable to income tax as from April 4, 1977 and this exemption would be applied by the Inland Revenue to all tax assessments in respect of pensions paid under these provisions that were not final and conclusive on April 3, 1977.

We are now advised by the Board of Inland Revenue that the above-mentioned time limit will not be applied. Application for repayment of tax paid in respect of the pensions paid under these German provisions may be made for all tax years concerned without restriction.

We would again mention that the tax-exempt pensions are only those which were granted in respect of contributions paid by Nazi victims in the German Reich *outside the area of the German Federal Republic and Berlin*. The pensions derived from contributions paid in Danzig or other territories annexed by the German Reich in 1938 and 1939—e.g. Bohemia, Moravia, certain Polish territories—if the recipient belonged to the German-speaking minority in those countries, are in the exempt category.

The reason for the exemption is, as previously mentioned, that these particular pensions are paid under a *discretion* given to the German authority (a "Kann-Vorschrift"). There is no *right* to them as there is to pensions granted in respect of contributions paid or credited in the area of the Federal Republic and Berlin. The pensions paid under Section 99 (or the former Section 100) AVG, or under Section 1320 (or the former Section 1321) RVO are therefore deemed, in the German law, *not to be social security payments* ("... gelten nicht als Leistungen der sozialen Sicherheit"). It is because of this special character that the Inland Revenue regards them as not liable to tax as income.

The German Award ("Bescheid") usually mentions in Appendix 6 ("Anlage 6") that the pension is paid under Section 99 (or Section 100) AVG—or Section 1320 (or Section 1321) RVO—where that is the case. The Inland Revenue will regard it as helpful if a translation of the relevant sentence or paragraph of the Award is supplied with the document or a photocopy of it, on making a claim for tax exemption or repayment by virtue of these provisions. F.E.F.

DR. MAX HACHENBURG

Information Required

The Municipal Archives of Mannheim are to prepare a biography of the lawyer Dr. Max Hachenburg (Mannheim 1860-Berkeley, Cal., 1951). Dr. Hachenburg emigrated to England in 1939 and lived in Oswestry (Salop) until 1946. The Archives are interested in any documentary or other particulars about his emigration and stay in England as well as about assistance he might have received in this country. Readers who can give information or suggest any personalities to be approached should write to: Stadtarchivdirektor Dr. Schadt, Stadtarchiv, P.O.B. 2203, 68 Mannheim 1, West Germany.

HOME NEWS

BOYCOTT BILL SHELVED

Lord Byers, leader of the Liberal Peers who is in hospital at the moment, has decided not to re-introduce his anti-boycott bill when Parliament reassembles in October. The Select Committee of the House of Lords which has been considering the bill for several months, has recommended a number of administrative measures to strengthen the anti-boycott attitude of the British Government and the business community which do not call for legislation. Government departments, British embassies, and trade missions abroad will be asked not to authenticate documents associated with the Arab boycott or to disseminate information on commercial opportunities to which restrictive boycott clauses are attached.

A MYSTERY VISIT

Dr. Fathi Arafat, brother of P.L.O. leader Yasir Arafat recently visited London, and it was alleged that he was the guest of the British Red Cross. Dr. Arafat is head of the Palestinian Red Crescent which, like Israel's Magen David Adom, is not recognised by the Red Cross. Representatives of the Red Cross emphatically denied that he had been their guest and said that, like many people from all over the world, he had paid them an informal visit trying to get information on various humanitarian issues on which he is working, on the training of doctors and nurses and similar items. The Council for the Advancement of Arab-British understanding are equally emphatic that he had indeed been invited by the Red Cross. Dr. Arafat is a member of the Palestinian National Council and head of the medical services on Malta.

CONCESSIONS TO IRISHMEN

The Israeli Embassy in London which also covers Eire, has informed the Dublin Government that holders of Irish passports will no longer have to apply to them for entry visas to Israel. They will receive their visas on arriving in Israel. Israelis visiting Eire must still apply for a visa at home before they can enter the country.

The Dublin City Council has decided by 26 votes to three not to invite the chairman of the Moscow City Council to visit Eire. The visit had been arranged when the previous Lord Mayor of Dublin visited the U.S.S.R., but objections were raised in protest against the recent sentences on Jewish dissidents.

EDUCATIONISTS REJECT RACIALISM

Several rabbis and Jewish community workers were among the one hundred educationists attending an annual conference which included members of the Christian, Jewish, Moslem, Hindu, Buddhist, Bahai and Sikh faiths, and of the Humanists. The chairman, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, said that their aim was to foster an inter-faith dialogue. The theme of this year's conference was "Marriage in the World Faiths". Rabbi Gryn distinguished between mixed marriages, when parties from two different religions each adhered to their own faith, and inter-marriage, where one party adopted the faith of the other. In its final resolution, the conference "welcomed with joy and hope our multi-cultural and multi-racial society" and affirmed that "the understanding of a person's faith or religion is fundamental to respect for him or her as a human being".

TEST-TUBE BABIES ACCEPTABLE

Both the Chief Rabbi and Rabbi Dov Marmor, a leading Reform rabbi, have declared that from a religious point of view there is no objection to test-tube babies, as long as it is absolutely certain that no parties other than the husband and wife are involved. Artificial insemination has also been regarded as acceptable, as long as the husband is the donor.

EXPANDING ISRAELI EXPORTS

At a meeting of the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce, the chairman, Mr. Lewis Goodman, said he expected the volume of two-way trade between Israel and Britain to increase to some £500 million during the next six months. Israel's export in the "four 'f's" (food, fruit, flowers and fashion) had grown remarkably well, whereas the two "e's" (electronics and engineering) were doing well, but could do better. Mr. Fred Worms, the treasurer, reported a deficit of under £2,000 and said there was need to double the membership of the Chamber which should be at least 2,500 instead of just over 500. Mr. Goodman expressed the hope that Israel would be "the technological gateway to the Arab world", if peace negotiations succeeded, and that this would present the trade with dramatic opportunities.

NEW OPENINGS FOR STUDENTS

The Polytechnic of North London and Jews' College have agreed on a new course for Degrees of B.Ed. and B.Ed. (Hons.), which will take three and four years respectively. Recipients will be qualified to teach in any State school and with special qualifications in Jewish schools. Students will be encouraged to spend a year in Jerusalem before entering on the course which will be taught at the Polytechnic for educational matters and at Jews' College for specific Jewish studies.

The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture has established scholarships for young North African Jews to study at Judith Lady Montefiore College in London, and for young French and North African Jewish girls to study at the Gateshead Teachers' Training College for Girls in order to serve later on in their home countries as rabbis and teachers, and in community services. The Board of the Foundation has allocated some £870,000 for a variety of Jewish cultural programmes in more than 15 countries, including some in Eastern Europe.

DEMONSTRATION AGAINST SOVIET INJUSTICE

At a meeting held at the London Coliseum by the National Council for Soviet Jewry, distinguished actors like Sir John Gielgud, Yvonne Mitchell, Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Elizabeth Bergner and many others gave over 20 readings in support of the campaign. All of them were concerned with the agony of the spirit caused by loss of freedom.

Anglo-Judaica

Dedication of Memorial Window

To honour the memory of her four children who perished with countless others in the Holocaust, Mrs Ilse Joseph, M.B.E., has donated a Memorial Window to the Liverpool Progressive Synagogue. The Dedication Service will be held on October 8. A professional violinist, Mrs. Joseph for several decades gave recitals and talks to many organisations in various countries to serve the cause of understanding between nations and different religious denominations.

Search for a German Hero

Since the end of the war, 68-year-old Leon Belmont, a retired Edgware businessman, tried to find the German officer who saved him and his family in wartime Belgium. They had lived in Belgium since 1929, and Mr. Belmont owned a leather clothing and sportswear factory. In 1941, a German officer, Dr. Hans Geith, had bought some leather goods from him. Six months later, Dr. Geith risked his life to provide the Belmont family with forged travel documents which gave them a new name and nationality and enabled them to drive to unoccupied France from where they came to Britain in 1943. To find his benefactor, Mr. Belmont took part in two German language broadcasts, but learned subsequently that Dr. Geith had died in 1970. He is now corresponding with Dr. Geith's family, trying to show his gratitude.

Israeli War Victims' Visit

Professor Sir Ludwig Guttmann welcomed the Israeli team which took part in the Stoke Mandeville Games for the Paralysed. Arieh Fink, president of the Israeli Sports Association for the Disabled, said that the Israeli Government regarded sport as an integral part of the rehabilitation process for war victims.

The thirty-four competitors between them won 14 gold medals, 15 silver, and four bronze. Per capita, Israel has the largest number of disabled persons in the world.

Another thirty war wounded visited Edinburgh and were entertained by Wizo and B'nai B'rith which gave a public dinner to honour them. The meal was followed by the singing of Israeli folksongs.

Nurses for Israel

"Project 67" is the name of a scheme which enables British nurses to work at the Jerusalem Hadassah Hospital for three months. Negotiations with other hospitals in Tel Aviv, Beersheba and Kfar Saba, are under way. The first group of 20 nurses, two of whom are Jewish, is flying out in August. They must pay for their El Al flight, but will receive pocket money while working at the hospital and will be given opportunities to tour the country. Departure dates for future groups are fixed as far ahead as May 1979.

Kaliver Rebbe in St. John's Wood

Rabbi Menachem Mendel Taub, attired in his gold-decorated long silk coat presided over a service in the St. John's Wood Synagogue, attended by hundreds of members of the congregation and by the Chief Rabbi. Many of his followers accompanied him on his walk from Golders Green to the synagogue, where he addressed the community in Yiddish saying that it was necessary to have an affluent community to benefit Jewish youth. The Rebbe is a survivor of the Warsaw ghetto and of Auschwitz.

Shop-lifting Footballer

22-year-old Shuman Mesika, an Israeli footballer, was fined £100 for shoplifting. He had stolen a pair of sports shorts, worth £2.75 from Selfridge's. Police told the court that he was a young man of excellent character who had come to England on tour with an Israeli football team.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Carter backs Goldberg

In a recent speech, President Sadat said that Mr. Arthur Goldberg, who was American ambassador to the United Nations in 1967, was a Zionist, and that "if Carter had been in power in 1967, without Goldberg, we Arabs would not have suffered what we suffer today". President Carter responded by presenting Mr. Goldberg with the Presidential Medal for Freedom, stressing that as ambassador, Mr. Goldberg had displayed a standard of purpose which was an inspiration. He had helped to frame the UN resolution 242, now the acknowledged basis for ultimate agreement in the Middle East.

Auschwitz Memorial in Cathedral

The Bishop of the Episcopal Church of New York held a service of remembrance for the 6,000,000 victims of the Holocaust in the Cathedral of St. John The Divine and dedicated an "Auschwitz Memorial Figure" sculpted by Elliot Offner. It is the first such memorial in a Christian Church in the U.S.

Better late than never?

Some months ago, Congress set up a special commission for the tracing of Nazi criminals who had hidden their past and become U.S. citizens after the last war. Its chairman is a lawyer, Martin Mendelsohn, born an American, whose parents immigrated from Austria in 1890. He stated that there were about 160 suspects, most of whom came from the Ukraine, Romania, and Yugoslavia. If the case against them is proved, they will be deprived of their citizenship and deported.

Citizenship Withdrawn from Gestapo Member

In Chicago, a federal judge deprived 55-year-old Frank Walus, a German-born Pole, of his citizenship for having told lies about his membership of the Gestapo in Poland and his complicity in the murder of at least ten Jews. He will appeal in order to delay his deportation. An Orthodox Jew, Mr. Gassel, is suing the US Marshal's Chicago Office because he was not allowed to attend the trial, having refused to take off his skull-cap to enter the courtroom.

CIA Employed Leading Nazis

The General Accounting Office of Congress has published results of an investigation which revealed that in the early 'fifties the CIA employed a number of leading ex-Nazis as consultants on the Eastern block. One of them was a high official in Hitler's Foreign Office who was subsequently, after his return to Germany in 1953, tried as a war criminal.

Protest against Conversion Attempts

The American Jewish Committee has protested against the activities of the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church which has published a manual for the conversion of Jews and resolved to intensify its missionary efforts.

CAMPS

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PETER C. RICKENBACK

ARGENTINA TO FREE JEWISH EDITOR

Argentina's Supreme Court has ruled that the Military Government has no right to detain Mr. Jacobo Timmermann, the Jewish founder and editor of the influential newspaper "La Opinion" which is now run by the Government. After a year in prison, Mr. Timmermann was released in April, but remained under house arrest. He was arrested in 1977 and accused of supporting members of Left-wing terrorist groups. A military court decided in October that there was insufficient evidence for these charges, but that he should be detained for using illegal funds to gain control of the paper. The Board of Deputies of British Jews and other international Jewish organisations appealed repeatedly on his behalf.

Mr. Richard Maas, president of the American Jewish Committee has sent an appeal to President Videla of Argentina to allow Mr. Timmermann to emigrate to Israel.

CANADA

Jewish Bomber Sentenced

Twenty-year-old Joseph Schacter, an Orthodox Jew, was sentenced to 90 days' jail and ordered to do 200 hours of community service for exploding a bomb two years ago on the doorstep of Don Andrews, the former head of the neo-Nazi Western Guard. The judge said Schacter was sincere, but immature and stupid, and allowed him to serve his term at weekends in his home town of Orillia, Ontario. Schacter complained that after his arrest he was severely beaten and insulted by other prisoners in Toronto jail, when he wrapped a towel round his head as he was not allowed to wear his skull cap. His victim, Don Andrews, is serving a two-year jail term in Kingston penitentiary.

Walter Trier Exhibition

Forty water-colours by Walter Trier, the unforgotten cartoonist of "Die Dame" and "Uhu" and illustrator of Erich Kaestner, are exhibited in the Walter Trier wing of the Ontario State Gallery. Walter Trier spent the war years in England and was a frequent contributor to "Lilliput" and the "Daily Herald". He went to Canada in 1947 to be near his daughter who had married a new Canadian, Nikolaus Fodor. The water-colours are illustrations to Kaestner's "The Conference of Animals", the last book on which they worked together. Further exhibitions are to follow.

MISUSE OF AUSCHWITZ FILM

More than 60 German and Jewish radio listeners in Sydney have protested against the methods of a local football coach who showed his players a film on the murder and burial of Jews in Auschwitz, to instil in them a "killer instinct" before the match, as he explained over the radio. He added that he had told them: "Just imagine that was your father, mother, son or daughter, and go out to revenge them".

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NATIONAL FRONT IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Afrikaans pro-Government press has called for action against the National Front which it described as an "import from Britain which we do not need." They had distributed pamphlets aimed at disturbing friendly ties between South Africa and Israel. The National Front is in the forefront of the campaign against the opening of the Breytenbach Theatre, where "Golda," the film about Golda Meir's life, is shown to all races. Posters advertising the musical have been daubed with red swastikas.

HOLLAND

Conference of Progressive Judaism

The main theme of the 20th conference of the World Union of Progressive Judaism, held in Amsterdam, was the Holocaust. The delegates, who included Rabbi Dr. Albert Friedländer, London, and Dr. Peter Kirchner, representing the East Berlin community, proclaimed their belief in the goodness of mankind as expressed in the Diary of Anne Frank. Dr. Friedländer introduced Utrecht-born Rabbi Edward van Voolen, a graduate of Leo Baeck College, London, and a specialist in art history, who has been appointed by the Dutch Government as curator of the Amsterdam Jewish museum. In London, he served the Ealing Liberal Synagogue as a student minister. Dr. Kirchner presented to Chief Rabbi Meir Just of Amsterdam some of the 5,000 old Dutch Jewish documents recently found in the little-used Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue in East Berlin. The rest of the collection will be returned to Holland by the East German authorities.

Dutch Nazi Arrested in Germany

In April 1949, a Dutchman, Siert Bruins, was sentenced to death by a Groningen Court for having taken part in the execution of Dutch resistance fighters and for having murdered two Jews and two resistance fighters on 25th April, 1945. At that time, Bruins had fled to Germany where he lived in hiding, taking the name of Siegfried Bruns. With the help of Simon Wiesenthal, the self-appointed accuser of Nazi criminals, he was recently traced in Hagen, Westfalia and extradited to Holland.

FRANCE

Nazi Appeal Rejected

The Strasbourg European Commission for Human Rights has rejected an appeal by 69-year-old Joseph Kotaella, one of three Nazi criminals serving life sentences in a Dutch jail. Kotaella had been chief of Amersfoort concentration camp between 1942 and 1945, and was convicted of killing inmates during a trial after the war. He was partly paralysed after a stroke in 1973 and applied for release, because in 1966 another war criminal serving a similar sentence, was freed on health grounds and returned to West Germany. He accused the Dutch Government of inhumanity for not responding to his pleas for mercy in 1971. The commission pointed out that the death sentence on Kotaella had already been commuted and that it was the prerogative of the Dutch Government to grant or deny a pardon.

Antisemitic Incidents in Nice

The walls of the Chief Rabbinate in Nice were recently daubed with the words "Death to the Jews." Models of soldiers in Nazi uniform giving the Nazi salute are widely displayed in toy shops.

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Margot Potlitzer

REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST

Jewish refugees from Germany who came to Britain as adults, with a career at some stage in ruins, with a shattered past, and an insecure future, tended to look with some envy at a younger generation, those who had come as children and seemed to enjoy the benefits of an English education. It was assumed that they at least had escaped the emotional and cultural shock which their elders had experienced. This assumption, however, was refuted when, in 1966, Karen Gershon published her collective autobiography, "We came as children", revealing that the trauma persisted even for those who were very young when they arrived and who for the greater part had been transplanted into a homogeneous British environment. The book started a discussion which is still continuing. One of the recent contributors to it is Eva Figes, now in her forties, a gifted writer with a number of well-received books to her credit.

The publication of her latest book "Little Eden" was preceded by an article of hers which appeared in a prominent place in the "Observer", entitled "The long passage to Little England", and in which she explained: "We came in March, 1939. . . . To all intents and purposes I was young enough to adapt completely to my new country, but I have never become really English". She went on to say that to this day she is moved to anger by her English friends' lack of any real vision of the continuing horrors of man's inhumanity to man, that the same friends frown on her "un-English" bouts of enthusiasm and her lack of politeness to celebrities who, in pre-war days, had fascist leanings. Despite the fact that she graduated in English at an English university, as a writer she feels she has more in common with post-war European writing than with anything produced in England. As she puts it: "A piece of shrapnel lodges in my flesh, and when it moves, I write".

As a writer, Eva Figes has created an un-

mistakable style of her own. Her previous books, in particular her Kafkaesque novel "Konek Landing", are all affected by the European experience. "Little Eden" is written on two levels: on the surface, it describes her happy days as a war-time evacuee in a stimulating, though rather Spartan, school in Cirencester, her reactions to a recent visit to that town, and discoveries about its history. Below that surface, the shrapnel moves. She came to this country with her parents and young brother, at the age of seven, from a comfortable background in Germany where nursemaids and loving grandparents had shielded her from any realisation of the happenings in Nazi Germany. She was unaware of the November pogroms in 1938, of her father's stay in a concentration camp, and of the reasons for the family's emigration. Her parents did everything to keep their children in this state of ignorance, even after they arrived in this country.

In her English primary school, Eva felt persecuted as a foreigner, especially after the outbreak of war. She felt she would never live down the image of the foreign child with scarcely a word of English and with conspicuous clothes unlike anything worn by her Kingsbury classmates. By the time she was a boarder in Cirencester, she had lived down the disadvantages and begun to discover the beauties of English language and literature, but she was deeply hurt when one of her competitors for excellence at that school told her that she was a Jew, and as a Jew she could not believe in God. She had never heard the word "Jew" before and for years the wound inflicted by that girl rankled in her mind. After her father had joined the pioneer corps and her mother found a job in London, she returned to live with her. In the meantime, news of the relatives left behind in Germany had reached her parents, but Eva only began to understand what it was all about, and why

her mother had been upset and irritable for a long time, when she was sent alone—obviously in 1944—to watch the Belsen film. Only then did she begin to understand what it meant to be a Jew and what had happened in Germany.

Eva Figes' story is not easy to accept, even taking for granted that the parents for their own good reasons, acted as they did. Was it really possible for an unusually intelligent girl with a continental background not to have heard or read anything about the persecution of the Jews before 1944? We have to take her word for it.

"Little Eden" raises a lot of doubts in people who have shared the experiences of those days, but it is written with the skill and mastery of language we have come to expect from this writer, even though the two strands of the story do not always fuse, and one could have done without some of the second-hand guide-book information about Cirencester.

Eva Jones' traumata are of a different nature. She belongs to an earlier generation, and her transition to the English scene was particularly hard and difficult. She came to England in 1940 after a hazardous flight from occupied France to Spain. Her first novel "Thirteen" (reviewed in this paper in December, 1976), did not appear until she was 60. It was a widely acclaimed success in this country as well as in the United States and several European countries. Amongst other things it revealed that she, too, has a way with words. Her second book "Double-Decker"† as is often the case with the second book of promising writers, is more problematical because more experimental. A third novel is about to appear any day now, and a fourth is nearing completion.

"Double-Decker", too, is written on at least two levels. The first part largely uses autobiographical material, unfortunately interspersed with rather wild flights of fancy. Unfortunately, because those of us who have shared her background, if not her adventurous experiences, feel certain that some things cannot have happened the way she says. This would, of course, not matter in a book that was clearly all fiction in which historical happenings just provided the scenery, but not in one that accurately describes these happenings on a personal level and then distorts them by psychological improbabilities. To quote but one example: what Jewish family, or even what family whatsoever, would in 1933 have allowed their headstrong 18-year-old daughter to leave home for good and to go to Paris without the means to pay for a single night's stay there, and would subsequently have failed to send her money? In 1933, this was quite easy, and it is well known that many families accumulated some small amount of money abroad for their own eventual emigration, by regularly, and with official permission, transmitting money to sons and daughters studying abroad. There are many more discrepancies of this kind which is rather a pity, because the story itself is unusual enough and very well told.

The second part of the novel, though equally readable, is pure fancy: there is a fictitious and not quite believable long-suffering husband of the heroine, there is a lot of experimentation with more or less fashionable cults, and all this as well as the structure of the "Double-Decker", is held together by her search for the long-lost love for whose sake she left home in the first place, and who when she finally meets him again, proves the ultimate disappointment, a disappointment which helps her to come to terms with the reality of her life and marriage. Her obstinate, if ineffectual search for him, is the main weakness of the story itself. The heroine is not allowed to

Continued on page 6.



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Remembrance of Things Past

Continued from page 5.

mature so that after an eventful life, a number of casual affairs and marriage to a kind and caring husband, she still expects to be reunited with the young revolutionary musician with whom she spent a few rapturous hours as a teenager in Berlin.

Eva Jones' strength is her ability to describe situations, feelings and adventures. As long as she uses her considerable talent in doing so, she holds her readers spell-bound. She has remarkable powers of observation and it is to be hoped that she will display them to better effect in her future books which we eagerly await.

There is little of the past in the poetry of Gerda Mayer who came to England from Czechoslovakia as a girl of eleven just before the war. She has recently published a small volume in the Chatto "Poems for the Young" series†, and most of them are firmly rooted in her English environment. Many of them are rather beautiful and deserve to be read by people of all ages—in fact they are certainly not meant for the very young. From time to time there are echoes of the past as in the poem "Fragment":

My father lifted
a mouth-organ up
to the wind on the hill
and the wind of Bohemia
sighed a few
frail and blue notes. . . .

In another poem "Bible Stories" she concludes:

But Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
and the rest of the biblical crew
and my grandfather, the solicitor,
was everyone a Jew.
The swastikas of my childhood,
chalked upon the wall,
the rain and the years have washed them
away,
and the Bible survives them all.

It seems that the past left its imprint even on an eleven-year-old who found a new home and a new language and became a poet.

* Eva Figes, *Little Eden. A Child at War*. Faber and Faber, London and Boston. 1978. 140 pp. £4.50.

† Eva Jones, *Double-Decker*. Bachmann & Turner. 1977. 191 pp. £4.50.

‡ Gerda Mayer, *The Knockabout Show*. Chatto & Windus, London. 1978. 32 pp. £1.78.

Michael Rosenstock (Toronto)

STRAINED RELATIONS

Assessment of a Canadian Controversy

Relations between Jews and Christians have often been far from fraternal, but their disputes rarely lead to legal action. This, however, is what happened in Canada in 1972, when a Christian clergyman started libel proceedings against a B'nai B'rith official and a B'nai B'rith paper for accusing him of antisemitism and B'nai B'rith countered with a libel charge against the clergyman, the journal he edited and the church to which he belonged. In the event, both charges were later withdrawn, but they still represent the high water mark of a distressing battle which went on for a number of years. It has now become the subject of a book written by a rabbi who is also an experienced journalist*.

If the church in question had been an insignificant extremist sect the dispute would not have raised many eyebrows, but it was the exact opposite. It was the United Church of Canada, the country's largest Protestant church and one with a much admired tradition of social action, known for its outspoken support of unpopular minority causes, including the admission of Jewish refugees during the 1930s. Its official stand on the Israeli-Arab conflict is scrupulously fair. Nevertheless, Jewish spokesmen have repeatedly accused it of condoning antisemitism by refusing to muzzle the maverick editor of *The United Church Observer*, an undeniably intemperate man who has made the cause of the Arab refugees his own, to the virtual exclusion of all other considerations. Jewish leaders were unwilling to accept the argument that *The Observer* was not an official vehicle for church policy and that to limit its editorial freedom would be a violation of democratic principles.

The dispute reflects little credit on either the Jewish community or on the editor who was attacked. On the one hand, hysterical Jewish over-reaction almost turned the editor into a martyr and certainly strengthened his case more than he deserved. On the other, his overheated journalism, his gratuitous use of biblical allusions and his surprising ignorance of the nature of antisemitism gave the case against him a certain spurious plausibility.

Nevertheless, it is disturbing to think that even a more balanced critic of Israeli policy would probably also have been accused of antisemitism since, with their psychological dependence on Israel, far too many Jews regard any attack on her policies as a threat to their rather confused and precarious sense of identity. This, at any rate, is the conclusion to which Rabbi Slonim's analysis of Jewish attitudes leads the reader. This is virtually confirmed later on in the book, when we learn that no less than three former moderators of the United Church have been accused of antisemitism at one time or another. While the charge strikes one as absurd, one can at least see from statements quoted, why relations between the Jews and the United Church might be a little cool. Rabbi Slonim may well be right when he sees in them an ethnic majority's lack of understanding of an ethnic minority's fears, a classic liberal mistrust of nationalism and an impatience with Jewish particularism. Significantly, one of the former moderators sees nothing qualitatively unique in the Holocaust but regards it as only different in degree from other examples of mass cruelty.

It is sobering to think that, up to a generation ago, a conflict between the Jewish community and a church with the United Church's social philosophy would have been inconceivable. No doubt there is a message here for both sides, but it is tempting to conclude that the message for Jews is both longer and more complex.

* Reuben Slonim, *Family Quarrel; the United Church and the Jews*. Toronto, Clarke, Irwin & Company, 1977.

The Hutchinson History of the World

It is not easy to give even a broad prospectus of world history in the space of 1,100 pages without major omissions and suppressions†. Dr Roberts has, however, done a good job within the limitations imposed on him and has not forgotten that the world extends beyond Europe and the U.S.A. The volume is well produced, profusely illustrated and well worth the money. WALTER SCHWAB

† *The Hutchinson History of the World*. J. M. Roberts. Hutchinson & Co. £9.95.

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18. Sept. Dr. Gerald Tausz: "Burma, the Past and the Present" (with colour slides).
25. Sept. Mrs. Anneliese Braun: "Transcendental meditation, as taught by the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi".
- 2.-23. Oct. Schliessung des Hannah Karminski House. Juedische Feiertage.
23. Oct. Dr. Ruth von Schulze-Gaevernitz: "Die fruhen Entdecker Britanniens in Griechisch-Roemischer Zeit. Pytheas, Caesar, Agricola".
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Ena Steiner

ALBAN BERG'S OPERA LULU

As recounted in my short article dealing with Alban Berg's opera Lulu (AJR Information, November, 1977) the composer had died on December 24, 1935, without having been able to complete the orchestration of the third act. As a last service of love to his dead friend, Schoenberg, who had only recently emigrated to the United States, had suggested to Berg's widow that he would complete the opera, an offer he had to withdraw after he had read the libretto (derived from Wedekind's plays "Erdegeist" and "Buechse der Pandora") and the short score. The reason given by Schoenberg was that the work was more difficult and required more time than he had at his disposal. For some time, however, it has been known that a letter existed, which Schoenberg had written to his former pupil and friend, Erwin Stein, dated March 9 and 11, 1936, in which the real reasons for his refusal were given. Mr. Lawrence Schoenberg, the composer's son, who lives in Los Angeles, has kindly authorized me to publish this letter, and since the original German is not likely to pose any problem to the readers of this journal, I am quoting it as it was written by this great Jewish composer, who had our problems so much at heart:

"Herrn Erwin Stein
XVIII. Wilbrandtgasse 43
Wien

9. Maerz 1936

Lieber Stein, ich danke Ihnen sehr fuer Ihren Brief vom 17.1.36. Ich war solange ohne Nachricht ueber Bergs Tod und konnte hier gar nichts erfahren. Ich glaube doch, dass er umgebracht worden ist durch falsche Behandlung. Allerdings: wer ist schuld? Fast scheint es mir, dass der erste Arzt recht gehabt hat und die Operationen ihn getoetet haben. Es ist furchtbar traurig.

Heute erst erhalte ich von Ass. Music Publishers die Mitteilung, dass sie mir die Materiale zu Bergs Oper senden. Seit Ihrem Brief warte ich immer nervoeser auf diese Sendung, welche ich hoechstens eine Woche nach Ihrem Brief haette erwarten koennen und kann nicht verstehen, warum das solange gedauert hat, da ich weiss, dass Photocopien in wenigen Tagen fertig sein koennen und nicht einsehe, warum man alles auf einmal senden musste und mir nicht wenigstens Teile vorher zur Veruegung stellen konnte. Ich habe ja gar keine Ahnung von dem Schwierig-

keitsgrad dieser Aufgabe und weiss noch nicht, ob ich sie ueberhaupt wuerdig, Bergs und meiner selbst wuerdig, loesen kann. Bergs Konzeption ist von der meinigen grundverschieden. Waehrend ich absolut zu gemeinsamer Wirkung verbundene Orchesterstimmen erfinde, ist seine Denkkungsart doch entschieden pianistisch. Nun aber hat er es verstanden, das in aeusserst wirkungsvoller Weise fuer Orchester umzusetzen und hat in allen Faellen den Charakter und die Stimmung ausdruecken koennen, die er gemeint hat. Das vor Allem, weil sie ihm bekannt und weil er von ihr dominiert war.

Schauen Sie z.B. Seite 20 der Lulu-Stuecke an. Die Baesse sind die linke Hand eines Klaviersatzes. Oder Seite 38-40, eine Stelle, die uebrigens sicher sehr schoen und charakteristisch klingen wird.

Als ich hier hielt, kam gerade das Paket mit den Materialien. Ich stuerzte mich sofort darueber und konstatierte zunaechst, dass noch 3/4 des dritten Aktes uninstrumentiert sind. Dann sah ich, dass die Partitur oder besser der Klavierauszug der fruerehen Akte nicht mitgekomen war, so dass ich nicht herausfinden haette koennen, welche Motive oder Stellen bereits fruher vorkommen und in der Wiederholung genau oder variiert zu verwenden waeren. Ferner sah ich, dass Teile des Particells fast unentzifferbar haette. Dann sah ich, dass Berg in der Verwendung der Reihen wesentlich anders vorgeht als ich: Oktavenverdopplungen etc., so dass die Aufklaerung unleserlicher Noten unendlich erschwert wird. Daraufhin wusste ich, dass an eine Einhaltung dieses Termines auch dann nicht zu denken waere, wenn ich meine ganze Arbeitszeit dieser Sache widmen koennte. Aber, wie Sie begreifen werden, wenn ich schon bereit bin, auf jede eigene Arbeit waehrend dieser Zeit zu verzichten, so kann ich diese Zeit nicht aussparen, die fuer meinen Broterwerb erforderlich ist und fuer viele, viele unangenehme, aber unabweisliche Abhaltungen.

Das aber alles sind nicht die Gruende, warum ich die Arbeit nicht machen kann. Denn ich war von Anfang an zu jedem Opfer bereit und haette alles moegliche getan, um zu einem eventuell nur wenig verschobenen Termin fertig zu werden.

Sondern, nachdem ich mich zuerst in den Noten ein bisschen orientiert hatte, begann ich das Textbuch zu lesen und fand im 3. Akt, Seite 46, Zeile 13: . . . der Saujud, und Zeile 15: . . . immer mehr ins iuedelnd (sic) verfallend. Im Particell steht, von Bergs Hand, anstatt der zweiten Bemerkung: (mauschelnd). Die Musik drueckt durch die kreischend hohen Toene das Ueberschlagen der Stimme und durch tiefe 16-tel das Gemauschel (symbolisch) aus. Ich verschaffte mir Wedekinds beide Originale, in welchen der Generaldirektor den Namen Puntschu fuehrt und auch juedische Redewendungen gebraucht. Aber die beiden, das Juedeln respektive Mauseheln verlangenden Anweisungen kommen nicht vor, sondern sind Zutaten Bergs, welche ihm leider bei den Nazis nicht genuetzt haben. Ob er sichs davon versprochen hatte? Vielleicht haette ich in der Vornazizeit das zwar als unangenehm empfunden, aber, da ja dieser Puntschu bei Wedekind kaum unsympathischer ist als seine anderen Heldenfiguren, keine Konsequenzen daraus gezogen. Aber heute, gleichviel, ob Puntschu sympathisch ist oder nicht: right or wrong, it's my country. Und man kann wirklich nicht von mir erwarten, dass ich mich fuer diese Stelle so begeistere, als noetig ist, um diese Verhoehnung eines 'Schuftes, weil er Jude ist' durch meine Instrumentation zur hoechsten Charakteristik zu bringen. Wobei nicht zu vergessen waere, dass man auch diesen Schuft auf dem Theater, so wie die anderen Schufte, noch weit charakteristischer

durch seine spezielle Gemeinheit charakterisiert haette als durch sein Mauseheln, so wie ich ja zoegern wuerde, einen falschen Kerl durch polnischen Akzent oder einen Maulhelden durch preussischen auszudruecken.

Ich glaube, Sie sollten Frau Berg keinen anderen Grund angeben, als den ich in dem beiliegenden Brief an die U.E. vorschuetze. Auch halte ich es fuer ueberfluessig, dass die Oeffentlichkeit etwas davon erfahrt, obwohl ich persoendlich das ruhig auf mich naehme. Aber ich will Berg in keinem, auch nicht in meinem Kreis schaden und vor Allem: ich will die Moeglichkeit haben, ihm das selbst zu vergessen. Denn es tut mir leid, dass ich heute nicht mehr imstande bin, Judenhass durch Liebesdienst, den ich ihm gerne erwiesen haette, zu vergelten. Ich ueberlasse es Ihrer . . . (unleserlich), ob Sie Kalmus oder Winter meine Gruende (im Wortlaut) mitteilen wollen oder sie bloss bei dem lassen, was ich der U.E. (Universal Edition.—Ed.) schreibe. Verstehen Sie mich recht: ich bin gerne bereit anzunehmen, dass Berg das aus allerdings schwerverstaendlicher Gedankenlosigkeit getan hat, obwohl es in der Zeit weitgehendster Judenverfolgungen kaum glaubwuerdig erscheint, dass einer an das gar nicht denkt, was seine Freunde es denken macht. Aber Gedankenlosigkeit zugegeben: so erscheint mir Mauseheln heute gewiss eher ehrwuerdig, als Symptom von Schufferei, wo ich sovielen Ehrwuerdige kenne, die mauseheln und von sovielen weiss, die durch nichts anderes als durch ihr Mauseheln der Ehre des Martertodes wuerdig befunden worden waren. Soll ich mich nun daran inspirieren, zur Instrumentation einer Musik, die eine besondere Art von Gemeinheit bereits durch den Umstand gekennzeichnet findet, dass diese Person ein Jude ist, da sie mausehelt?

Es tut mir sehr leid, dass durch mich eine Verzoeigerung der Instrumentation entsteht, aber ich konnte das nicht vorher sehen. Ich hoffe trotzdem, dass ein Anderer das noch rechtzeitig wird fertig machen koennen, insbesondere, wenn er gute technische Informationen von Ihnen oder Reich erhaelt, die fuer mich nicht rechtzeitig erhaeltlich, wenn ich sage, dass ich beinahe sicher bin, dass ich diesen Termin nicht haette einhalten koennen und bei aller Opferbereitschaft nicht sicher bin, ob ich (ein) Jahr verlieren darf, heute, wo ich bald zweiundsechzig bin und nur eine beschaenkte Anzahl von Jahren fuer meine eigene Arbeit uebrig habe. Aber

Continued on page 8, column 1.

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ALBAN BERG'S OPERA, LULU

Continued from page 7.

nochmals: das hat mich nicht zu dieser Ablehnung bewogen.

Nun danke ich Ihnen noch fuer die lieben Briefe, die Sie mir aus diesem Anlass geschrieben haben und bitte Sie, doch mehr und oeffter, solange man noch miteinander kommunizieren kann, und von sich selbst zu schreiben, was mich immer sehr interessiert.

Viele herzliche Gruesse Ihnen, Ihrer Frau und Ihrer Tochter von meiner Frau und mir. Unsere Nuria ist auch schon bald vier Jahre alt und sehr, sehr lieb.

Ihr

Arnold Schoenberg

On April 30, 1936, Erwin Stein replied, pointing out to Schoenberg that Berg had written his libretto in pre-Nazi times, and that he (Stein) was sure that it was "only" thoughtlessness on Berg's part that was responsible for the offensive passage in the third act of the opera. Stein also informed Schoenberg that Zemlinsky (Schoenberg's brother-in-law, who still lived in Vienna at that time), after initial enthusiasm, had refused to complete the opera, and that Webern was still studying the score. This too, as we know, did not lead to the desired result, and Lulu was first performed as a fragment on June 2, 1937, at the Stadttheater in Zuerich.

The opera, now at last completed by the Viennese composer, Friedrich Cerha, in collaboration with Pierre Boulez, will be performed in Paris on February 24, 1979 (Boulez conducting and Patrice Chereau producing), and with Boulez' forthcoming documentation, giving information about the completion of Lulu, we should soon know more of what has been going on lately behind the scenes. As I said before; let us hope a tactful solution of Schoenberg's problem has been found.

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LONDON INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE CONFERENCE

A well attended Folklore Conference with the participation of scholars from all over the world was held from July 17 to 21 at the Royal Holloway College, University of London, Egham, Surrey, to mark the Centenary of the British Folklore Society in which eminent Jewish folklorists, such as Joseph Jacobs and Moses Gaster, once played a prominent role. The participants included eight Jewish scholars from U.S.A., Israel, Yugoslavia and England who dealt with current and traditional topics in the domain of Jewish folklore. In particular, mention should be made of the contribution by Prof. Dov Noy of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem on "Jewish Symbols, Ancient and New", Issachar Ben-Ami "Miraculous Wartime Legends", Olga Goldberg "The Folk Artists in the Yemenite Jewish Community", and Haim Schwarzbaum's interesting paper on "International Folklore Motifs in Ibn Zabara's 'Sefer Shashuim' of the 12th Century"—all from Israel. Prof. Dan Ben-Amos (University of Philadelphia) spoke on "The Concept 'Motif' in Folklore" and Dr. J. J. Maitlis of London read a paper on "The Didactic Story in the Old-Yiddish Folk Literature." The presidential address was given by Prof. J. R. Porter (University of Exeter).

A Liberal Congregation in Zurich

The Zurich Section of the "Vereinigung fuer religioes-liberales Judentum in der Schweiz", which for a number of years held special services on Friday evenings and holydays, has constituted itself as an independent liberal congregation. It now holds regular services in the Hall of the "Kaufleuten"-Haus and maintains a religious school. The new congregation is also negotiating about the acquisition of a site for a cemetery. E.G.L.

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AT THE DAWN OF INTEGRATION

An Important Demography of
German-Jewish Past

The second volume in the series* published by the Institute for German History at the University of Tel Aviv is by Professor Jacob Toury, born in Beuthen, and now Professor of Modern History at the University of Tel Aviv.

In this volume Professor Toury has devoted himself to a study of the period 1847-1871 and his researches are based on much archival material, the contemporary press and unpublished autobiographies. He deals successively with the level and distribution of the Jewish population in the period under review, social integration and assimilation, the communal organisation and the legal framework of emancipation. The text is interspersed with numerous tables from which many of the author's conclusions are derived.

This is a scholarly work and an essential tool for anybody seriously engaged in the study of this period.

* Jacob Toury: Soziale und politische Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland 1847-1871. Zwischen Revolution, Reaktion und Emanzipation. 2. Schriftenreihe des Instituts für Deutsche Geschichte. Universität Tel Aviv. Droste Verlag, Düsseldorf, 1977. DM 78.

"Sunrise Over Hell"

Here is another account of the Warsaw uprising, Auschwitz and the rest*, told in the form of fiction but omitting none of the gruesome details and brutalities perpetrated on the Jews, including those perpetrated on them by other Jews. The style of the English version is, to put it mildly, dated. Compulsive reading for those who cannot have enough.

* Sunrise Over Hell. By Ka-Tzetnik 135633, translated from the Hebrew by Nina De-Nur. W. H. Allen. £3-95.

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THE ISRAELI SCENE

INCREASE IN IMMIGRATION

During the first six months of 1978, immigration into Israel increased by 24 per cent, compared to the same period last year. 5,100 of the 11,400 immigrants came from Soviet Russia, 55 per cent more than last year.

CUT IN PHONE CHARGES

Half-price direct dialling between Israel and Britain between 1 a.m. and 8 a.m. Israeli time (one hour earlier than British summer time) has been agreed upon. A direct call will be about 65p plus VAT instead of £1.30 plus VAT a minute.

MORE FLIGHTS TO THE US

After months of haggling, Israel and the United States have reached an agreement allowing El Al to fly to Boston, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Miami, and in return allowing an unlimited number of charter flights from the US to Israel. As a result, fares between the two countries will be considerably reduced.

"HOLOCAUST" FILM TO BE SHOWN

Despite objections from survivors of the concentration camps, the American Holocaust Film will be shown on Israeli TV in the near future. The authorities decided that its educational value was too great to be overlooked.

OBJECTIONS TO AUTOPSIES

Some 1,000 ultra-Orthodox men and women demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem supporting the Agudat Israel party's demand for a ban on post-mortem examinations.

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION WITH PORTUGAL

Israel and Portugal have signed an agreement on agricultural collaboration and the utilising of water and fish resources in both countries.

KING SOLOMON'S JUDGEMENT NEEDED

When two young mothers were recently discharged from the Haifa Rambam Hospital, they were by mistake given each other's baby. When hospital doctors established without doubt that a mistake had been made, both refused to give up the babies to whom they had become deeply attached whilst nursing them for six weeks. The Attorney General's office has been asked for a legal opinion.

ACADEMIC HONOURS FOR WAR INVALID

35-year-old Mr. Yekutiel Gershoni who lost his sight, his hearing and both his hands when a mine he was defusing in the Jordan Valley exploded, has since taken his BA degree in Middle East and African history and his Master's degree on Italo-Ethiopian relations at Tel Aviv University. He is now studying for his Ph.D. with a thesis on Liberia at the Hebrew University and has recently visited London to collect material for it. He has also visited the Ivory Coast and Liberia.

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MISCELLANEOUS

HILDESHEIM SYNAGOGUE

Original Photograph of Pogrom Night

When during the notorious events of November, 1938, the synagogue of Hildesheim was set on fire, a local photographer by the name of Theo Wetteran, who happened to be present, secretly released the trigger of his camera, and thus secured this unique pictorial document of the burning place of worship. Only recently, almost more than 40 years after the event, the photograph appeared in public, when Wetteran made it available on the occasion of a photographic exhibition in Hildesheim. The picture shows clearly the outlines of the synagogue with the flames licking the windows.

The synagogue was built in 1849. Collections from amongst the Christian population had contributed to the cost of building; it had existed for almost 90 years. The Jewish congregation of Hildesheim and their former place of worship can be traced back to the fourteenth century. The relationship between the Christian population of the old bishop's see and the Jewish inhabitants had always been exemplary, even right into the times of the persecution in the years after 1933.—J.L.

FOUR RABBIS OF ESSEN

The Director of the Municipal Archives of Essen, Dr. Hermann Schroeter, has been commissioned by the Essen City Council to write a history of the former Essen Jewish community. At its peak time, there lived 5,000 Jews in Essen, and at the outbreak of war their number had been reduced to 2,000.

Whilst Dr. Schroeter will require some time to trace and peruse the widespread material for his monograph, he has marked the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the State of Israel by publishing the profiles of four former Rabbis of Essen in his local historical Quarterly "Das Muenster am Hellweg". The rabbis described in the well-illustrated article are Dr. Salomon Samuel (Culm 1867—Theresienstadt 1942), Dr. Paul Lazarus (Duisburg 1888—Haifa 1951), Dr. Emil Bernhard Cohn (Berlin 1881—Los Angeles 1948) and Dr. Hugo Hahn (Thiengen/Baden 1893—New York 1967). Whilst three of the articles are reprints from previous publications, the article about Dr. Samuel was written at Dr. Schroeter's special request by the rabbi's son, the music teacher and organist Hans Jochanan Samuel (1901-1976) shortly before his death in Israel.

Previous editions of the Quarterly carried articles about the Hirschland family (1977), a brief history of the former Jewish community Essen-Steele (1975), and, in 1970, some reminiscences by Alice Stern de Neumann (Mexico, formerly Essen) about the "Synagogen-gemeinde Essen von 1933-1940". E.G.L.

POLAND COMPLAINS

The head of the Polish Commission for the prosecution of Nazi criminals complained in the press that the Federal Republic was lax in instigating and pursuing trials against Nazi criminals. Since 1965, there had been 11,000 investigations and 5,000 trials of this kind in Poland, and some 150,000 documents had been passed on to the legal authorities in West Germany, Berlin and Austria, but since 1958, only 134 persons had been tried for crimes committed in Nazi-occupied Poland. Most of the leading SS men were still at liberty and unchallenged.

A GHETTO EDUCATION

Mr. William Frankel, former editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*, now a contributor on Jewish affairs to "The Times", said at a meeting of the Zionist Federation Educational Trust that Jewish education seems to be preparing children to live like their fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers in the ghetto life of the 19th-century from which even some textbooks survived. Jewish rabbis, like the ministers of the Christian churches, should make attempts to help their congregations to reconcile religion with present-day life. The Chief Rabbi should not have accepted a curtain for the St. John's Wood Synagogue from the Koliver Rebe, because "behind the curtain is no longer the place for Jewish women."

"HABONIM" COMMEMORATES MARTIN SOBOTKER

To mark the first "yahrzeit" of its late director, Martin Sobotker, the Congregation "Habonim" (New York), founded by refugees from Central Europe, consecrated a Torah scroll in his memory. The acquisition of the scroll was made possible by a fund raised after Sobotker's death in honour of this "shining example of a Jewish civil servant," as he was once called. Martin Sobotker started his Jewish activities in the German-Jewish youth movement in Berlin and later became a senior official of the Jewish community, where his experience as a social worker and his administrative gifts were of great benefit. After his immigration to the US he was for a very great number of years director of the Habonim Congregation. E.G.L.

A NEW THEODOR WOLFF BIOGRAPHY

Under the title "Der Chef-Redakteur Theodor Wolff—Ein Leben in Europa 1868-1943" Dr. Wolfram Koehler has written a biography of the great publicist (Droste-Verlag, Duesseldorf). The work is mainly based on the literary estate of Theodor Wolff which is deposited in Paris. Theodor Wolff emigrated to France, when the Nazis came to power. In 1943 he was arrested in Nizza and taken to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. He died in the same year of exhaustion in the Berlin Jewish Hospital. The fact that Dr. Koehler's book is the third assessment of Theodor Wolff's life and work indicates the importance attributed to him. In 1968, Gottfried Schwarz wrote about "Theodor Wolff und das Berliner Tageblatt" and, in 1976, Bernd Soesemann included an essay about him in his work "Das Ende der Weimarer Republik in der Kritik demokratischer Publizisten". E.G.L.

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STIMME EINER DICHTERIN

Im I. G. Blaeschke Verlag, Darmstadt ist aus dem Nachlass einer bisher unbekanntenen Dichterin, Leonie Spitzer, ein Kleiner Gedichtband, "Wandlungen der Liebe" (12-50 D.M.) erschienen. Er wurde mit Unterstützung von Ruth Davidovits und Erna Hollitscher veröffentlicht. Aus dem Nachwort von Helene Adolf erfährt man, dass die Dichterin schon 1940 in Oxford, wo sie im Exil lebte und als Lehrerin tätig war, gestorben ist.

Der Titel des Gedichtbandes ist glücklicherweise gewählt. In den zwischen 1913 und 1940 entstandenen Gedichten von Leonie Spitzer wandelt und leuchtet sich die Glut und Leidenschaft einer irdischen Liebe nach dem Tode des Geliebten allmählich zur reinen Gottesliebe:

Ich war die Gebende, als ich dir Liebe bot.
So trat zur Zeit
der Vaeter wohl ein Bettler an die Schwelle,
mit staubigem Gewand und Haar.
Man gab mitleidig ihm ein Brot.
Und erst als er zum Gehen sich gewandt
hat man im frommen Schreck erkannt
an seines Angesichts strahlender Helle—
dass es Gott selber war.

Aus diesen Strophen wie aus fast allen anderen Gedichten tritt uns das Bild einer zart und innig, aber auch leidenschaftlich liebenden jungen Frau entgegen, deren schwärmerische Empfindungskraft von den Ahnungen einer höheren, ausserirdischen Liebe durchzogen ist. Ihre Gedichte sind auf einen oft volksliedhaften oft herben und strengen Ton gestimmt. Wer dafür empfänglich ist, wird davon vielfach berührt, oftmals gerührt sein.

F.W.

NOVEL ABOUT A FRONT-LINE FIGHTER

David Shaltiel is known for his role as commander in charge of the defence of Jerusalem during Israel's War of Independence, who who later held various diplomatic posts in Latin American and the Western Europe capitals. The biographical novel "Die Himmelsleiter" by Willy Prins (Publishers: Christians Verlag, Hamburg, 1977) concentrates, however, on the earlier part of Shaltiel's life and tells a fascinating story, legitimately combining facts and fiction. David Shaltiel was born in Hamburg into an Orthodox family; his father was Sephardi, his mother Ashkenazi. Obedience and respectability were not among David's characteristics; he was strong-willed, independent-minded and even naughty. After a stay in Palestine, he served in the French Foreign Legion. He then returned to Palestine where he joined the Haganah. He was sent to Europe to organize rescue work for refugees. Later on, he headed an arms smuggling ring and proved to be a highly able, courageous and dependable underground worker.

Willy Prins, a truly multilingual and cosmopolitan author, with a solid Jewish background, was born in Antwerp, educated there at German schools and has already published several volumes of fiction in French; he lives now, in active retirement, at Chailly-sur-Clarence on the Lake of Geneva. As in his other writings he combines basic factuality with a lively imagination. The result is a well told story about one of the devoted fighters from the ranks of Diaspora Jewry who essentially contributed to the establishment of the Jewish State.

F. L. Brassloff

NUERNBERG'S LORD MAYOR

Memoirs of the late Hermann Luppe

It is one of the tragedies of political life that the courageous Lord Mayor of Nuernberg, until 1933, Hermann Luppe, lost his life in an air raid on Kiel at the beginning of April, 1945, when the Allied victory was already imminent. Had he survived, he would certainly have played an important and constructive role in post-Nazi Germany. Posthumously, his memoirs ("Mein Leben") were published last year by the Municipality of Nuernberg in co-operation with Dr. Mella Heinsen-Luppe. After having held office in Frankfurt as Deputy Mayor, Luppe was appointed Lord Mayor of Nuernberg in 1920. He held this office until he was dismissed by the Nazis in 1933. He was an uncompromising fighter against the Nazis and as early as 1924 described Streicher as a dangerous psychopath. Born in Kiel as the son of liberal parents, he had already Jews among his friends in his youth. Later, when he became a public personality, he was in constant personal contact with leading Jewish and non-Jewish politicians. The great number of friends mentioned in the memoirs include, among many others, Hugo Preuss, Ludwig Haas, Fritz Elsas and the Nuernberg City Councillors, Richard Kohn and Max Suessheim. As late as 1937, he spoke at the funeral of a Jewish friend, the brother of the former Frankfurt lawyer, Dr. Max Hermann Maier, whose memoirs were reviewed in our February, 1977, issue.

E.G.L.

LARGEST COLLECTION OF JUDAICA

Max Berger, a Polish art expert who came to Vienna in 1950, has since that time succeeded in assembling the largest collection of Judaica in the world in his private museum in Vienna's Schottenring. It contains over 3,000 exhibits from many centuries, including anything to do with Shabbat rituals, coins, manuscripts, paintings and a 12,000 volume library.

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

Goodfriend.—Mr. Frederic Goodfriend of 11 Shirehall Lane, London, N.W.4., will celebrate his 75th birthday on September 6.

The AJR CLUB extends its heartiest congratulations and good wishes to its dear members: Mrs. Lilli Katz and Mr. Ernest Laszlo on the occasion of their 80th birthday and to Mrs. Jetty Roberts on her 70th birthday.

Deaths

Berlowitz.—Eva Berlowitz (née Masie) of 31 Leigh Gardens, London, N.W.10., died on July 4. A sad loss to her husband and sister and her many relatives and friends.

Clifton.—Eugen Clifton (formerly Cohen, Duesseldorf) passed away peacefully on July 25, aged 83 years. Sadly missed by his devoted wife Lotte and son Gerald, daughter-in-law Carole and grandchildren Mark and Anthony as well as relatives and friends everywhere. B5, Kenilworth Court, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16.

Dawidowicz.—Mrs Anita Dawidowicz died on August 16. Deeply mourned by her sister-in-law, the Marie Schmolka Wizo Group and all her friends.

Shubert.—Erna Shubert, formerly of Vienna, passed away on August 14. Deeply mourned by her sister-in-law and friends.

Wallace.—Michael Norman Wallace (formerly Kurt Wreschinski, Berlin—Meseritz—Birmingham) died on July 21 after a long illness, bravely borne. Sadly missed by all his family and friends who loved him so much. Mrs. J. Wallace, 8 The Boltons, Priory Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.

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Schlamm.—Martin Schlamm, formerly Breslau, would like to get in touch with people who knew him in Breslau. Box 740.

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OBITUARY

MRS. MIRIAM WARBURG

Mrs. Miriam Warburg, née Goldberg, who has died in Strasbourg, was a refugee who during most of her life worked for the rescue and rehabilitation of Jewish children. For more than twenty-five years, she was general secretary of Children and Youth Aliyah in Britain. After the war, she joined the Jewish Relief Unit and worked at the Fohrenwald Displaced Persons Camp to help children to emigrate from there and contracted severe illnesses which lasted all her life, but which she did not allow to interfere with her work. When she married Dr. Gustav Warburg, the B'nai B'rith representative at the United Nations in Geneva, she was made the representative of the International Council of Jewish Women at the Economic and Social Council of the UN. Later she moved to Strasbourg with her husband, and both worked for the Council of Europe. Mr. Warburg, the author of an early textbook on Nazi legislation, died in 1970.

WERNER BIER

Mr. Werner Bier who has died in Leeds, aged 57, was active in many communal Jewish causes, particularly so in the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women. He came to this country from his native Cologne in the late thirties and served with the Armed Forces during the war. He considered it his life's work to strive for racial harmony and to fight discrimination against Jews and coloured immigrants. He was a leading member of the Leeds Community Relations Council, of the Committee for Soviet and World Jewry, the Council of Christians and Jews, and the police liaison council.

PHILIPP CROMWELL

Philipp Cromwell who died last month, aged 84, was an unusually gifted lawyer, much loved by the many who benefited from his legal advice and human understanding. He gave up a promising and successful career in his native Nuremberg to come to Britain in 1933. After brilliant results in the bar examination, he became a member of Grays Inn, but there was no future for refugee barristers. After his naturalisation he became a solicitor; his main post-war work, however, was concerned with securing restitution and indemnification for many clients. He excelled in achieving success in seemingly hopeless cases, due to his tenacity and his unsurpassed knowledge of the intricacies of German law. He maintained offices in London and Nuremberg until he became incapacitated after a street accident. During the war he was one of the most popular and helpful honorary consultants in the AJR's legal advice scheme and often continued to advise people in his own time and free of charge.

Outside the law, he had wide interests, he loved classical music and could whistle whole symphonies from memory, he had a strong appreciation of art and was a dedicated botanist, delighting in visits to Kew Gardens where he identified and studied rare plants.

He is survived by his widow Lotte who faithfully supported him through the early lean years and devotedly nursed him during his difficult and protracted last illness. He died in the home in Wimbledon where the family had settled in 1934 and where over the years countless friends have enjoyed generous hospitality. M.P.

JIMMY NADLER

Mr. Jimmy Nadler, deputy head of the BBC's South European Services, has died at the early age of 52. He was born in Danzig and left with his parents for Palestine at an early age. In the 1940s he came to England and graduated from Exeter University. He worked for the BBC since 1952 and was concerned with broadcasts to Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Turkey.

PERSONALIA

PROF. RICHARD RADO, F.R.S.

Professor Richard Rado, Emeritus Professor of Pure Mathematics in the University of Reading, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Professor Rado was born and educated in Berlin and came to this country as a refugee.

REFUGEE SCHOLAR HONOURED

Eminent British and German scholars have contributed to a book "Donum Gentilium, New Testament Studies" in honour of David Daube, published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford. The editors warmly praise the learning and personal character of this scholar who came from Freiburg in the thirties and who has made a significant contribution to the knowledge of the Jewish background of the New Testament.

NUREYEV'S CONTRIBUTION

After a gala performance of the ballet "Sleeping Beauty", arranged by World Jewish Relief, the former Central British Fund, the organisation benefited by £10,000. Rudolf Nureyev, the star of the performance, also signed souvenir brochures, a few of which are still available at the WJR offices.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

One of the most brilliant German films, yet little known to a whole generation, was "Münchhausen" (1942), written by Erich Kaestner who in those days had to use a pseudonym. The film, lavishly produced for the 25-year UFA jubilee, has been re-issued and technically improved. It features *Hans Albers* in the title part, and includes a host of names from Brigitte Horney and Leo Slezak to Hans Brausewetter, Ilse Werner and Hans Junkermann.

Hamburg. The original comedy "Alt Heidelberg" by Meyer-Foerster (which later provided the story for Romberg's musical "The Student Prince" and the famous song by Fred Raymond) had a surprisingly long and successful run at Hamburg's Ernst Deutsch Theatre.

Tit-bits. In view of the very difficult and internationally experienced problems in producing opera, there are rumours of a future amalgamation of the Duesseldorf Rhine Opera and the opera house in Cologne, with two separate orchestras but only one ensemble of singers.—The Vienna "Josefstadt" prepares Schnitzler's "Leutnant Gustl" for the new season, an almost classic story which was dramatised by Ernst Lothar during the last years of his life.

Memoirs of an Actor. "Das Leben verspielt" is the name of an autobiographical book by *Ernst Schröder*, published by Fischer-Verlag, a book which combines serious views of the joys and troubles of acting with vividly humorous anecdotes from the world of stage and screen.

Birthdays. The almost "miraculous" German bass, *Kurt Boehme*, celebrated his 70th birthday. This very active Munich "Kammersänger" is working like a youngster, and sang his most famous part, the "Ochs von Lerchenau" for the 500th time this year. He still appears regularly in Wagnerian and Richard Strauss opera parts, and denies any intentions of retirement.—*Hans Lang*, the Austrian hit-composer ("Mariandl", "Rose vom Woerthersee", "In Langenlois") who has innumerable film songs to his credit, also reached the age of 70 this summer.

Obituary. *Werner Finck*, actor, author and cabarettist, who has died in Bonn, at the age of 76, was a man who stood true to his convictions, and not surprisingly, spent some time in a concentration camp. When he visited London after the war, he gave a brilliantly humorous account of his experiences under the Nazis at a function of the AJR in the Embassy Theatre and at the old "Blue Danube Club" in Finchley Road. He belonged to the elite of German comic actors and was one of the great characters of this century's theatre.

S.B.

Donations for Israel

Yehudi and Hephzibah Menuhin were the soloists at a gala concert at London's Fishmongers' Hall in aid of the Jerusalem Foundation whose funds are used to advance the cultural, social, educational, and community life of Jerusalem. The concert, where Jerusalem's mayor Teddy Kollek was the guest of honour, raised £15,000. This will be used to enable every schoolchild in Jerusalem to attend a theatrical performance, a concert and the Israel Museum at least once a year.

£100,000 was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Abrahams to Wizo to open a crèche at the Haifa Rambam Museum so that badly needed nurses can return to work.

Belatedly but not less cordially we extend our sincerest congratulations to our friend Erich Gottgetreu, who celebrated his 75th birthday on July 31. A journalist of high standing, he started his career as member of the editorial staff of the Social Democratic "Luebecker Volksbote". In those days, Willy Brandt was employed as a messenger of the paper, and it was Erich Gottgetreu who trained him as a reporter. Since then, there has been a close relationship between the two. When the Nazis came to power, Erich Gottgetreu, who had no Zionist leanings before, decided to emigrate to Palestine. After initial difficulties which almost every newcomer had to face, he became correspondent of the "Associated Press" in 1942. He held this office until he retired in 1968. Yet his activities have not decreased. His feature articles are published in Germany and many other countries. "AJR Information" too may consider him as one of its contributors. Only recently, in June, he reviewed Gerda Luft's book on the immigration and integration of Jews from Germany in Israel. His articles are never matters of routine but always based on a wide background knowledge and excel by their original formulations. We wish Erich Gottgetreu health and many more years of undiminished creativity.

W.R.

Letter to the Editor

GEORG HERMANN RENAISSANCE

Sir.—With reference to your recent notes it might be of interest to your readers that the following novels have now been published in paperback editions by Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, Frankfurt/M: "Jettchen Gebert", "Henriette/Jacoby" and "Kubinke".

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