INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

SOLIDARITY AND IDENTIFICATION AJR GENERAL MEETING

The atmosphere prevailing at this year's well attended AJR General Meeting, held on 1 July at Hannah Karminski House, re-affirmed the strong attachment of the AJR members to the organisation which deals with all problems of direct or indirect importance to them. In his welcoming address, Mr. C. T. Marx. Chairman of the AJR, paid tribute to the memory of the friends we had lost during the year: the Executive member Mr. Ernst Sonnenberg, who was also Chairman of the Osmond House Committee, and the Board members Sir Ludwig Guttmann, widely known for his spadework for the paraplegics, Dr. Hans Neufeld, Chairman of the Revolving Fund Committee operating for several years to grant advance payments to needy refugees whose claims were not yet settled, and to Mr. E. Haymann, a member of the Board almost since the inception of the AJR.

Dr. W. Rosenstock, Director of the AJR, reminded the audience that the former refugees seldom had as much publicity as during the past weeks, when the internment of the "enemy aliens" 40 years ago was assessed in books, broadcasts and newspapers. To a large extent, it was the experience of the internment which in 1941 led to the foundation of the AJR as the representative body of the community. After the war, new tasks arose, and for many years the fight for restitution and compensation stood in the foreground. One of the decisive members of the team of legal experts and skilful negotiators was Dr. Walter Breslauer. His 90th birthday on 3 July served as a welcome opportunity to put our deepfelt gratitude to him on record. Though, on the whole, legislation had come to a conclusion several years ago, the AJR still received frequent enquiries, especially with reference to Social Insurance Laws and the taxability of German payments. As far as these questions are of a general nature, the office gives the required information. Otherwise it sup-Plies the enquirers with the names of lawyers and accountants experienced in these fields. The speaker paid special tribute to our Vice-Chairman, Dr. F. E. Falk, who has been helpful in many individual cases but, above all, has throughout the years effectively worked for the general improvement of the laws and regulations pertaining to the taxability of German payments.

Another problem now under active consideration was the enlistment of members of the com-Paratively younger generation. The Homes for people of our background would be required for many years to come, and the AJR would be needed for the contacts with the applicants, the care for the residents and the numerous questions of general administration. Quite a few somewhat younger people appreciated the work of the AJR but were reluctant to join because they could not consider themselves as refugees. Ways and means of overcoming this obstacle were at present being explored.

Lastly the speaker reported that the Executive had thoroughly discussed the continued publication of AJR Information. It was unanimously agreed that, in spite of the substantial costs, our paper was indispensable as the backbone of the organisation. Apart from giving information on subjects not adequately published in other journals, such as compensation, taxation and Personalia, AJR Information carried articles and book reviews on subjects to which we had a specific approach due to our antecedents. These were also of interest to members of the younger generation who, in accordance with the general trend in our days, were anxious to become familiar with the

roots of their community of origin.

Mrs. S. R. Taussig, General Secretary of the AJR, reported that as a result of the membership drive during the past months, so far 170 new members were enlisted (of a total 210 this year) and nearly £2,000 in extra revenue were obtained. She appealed to members to send in their contributions when they fell due. Regrettably, there were still a number of people who did not pay even after two reminders, thus causing additional and avoidable labour and expenditure for postage and paper.

Where help is needed

People continued to call on the Social Services Department for advice, employment, accommodation and support. The speaker also paid tribute to the work of the AJR Club run by Mrs. Margaret Jacoby and her aides de camp.

In our Old Age Homes Department the work involved from the date of the first application to the actual admission to a Home was complicated. Quite apart from the physical and medical prob-lems there was a great mental adjustment to be made and much help was needed for each individual. There were now considerable fund raising activities in the Homes to obtain the means for the Residents' Amenity Funds.

Sheltered accommodation in bed-sitting rooms was provided in three properties owned by the AJR Charitable Trust, Otto Hirsch House (Finchley), Marie Baneth House (Golders Green) and Hannah Karminski House.

In Eleanor Rathbone House, jointly owned by the CBF and the AJR Charitable Trust, there were changes in the management due to the retirement of the resident superintendent. There would be, in future, a resident handyman caretaker and the internal management of the house would be in the hands of a person who had nursing and social work training; aided by the voluntary workers who had looked after the residents since the house was opened, she would work to increase communal activities and individual welfare for all the residents.

The speaker then gave a detailed account of the various activities for which voluntary helpers were urgently needed. Visitors were required for housebound lonely people as well as for residents of the Homes. This needs patience and reliability to turn up on the appointed date, remembering perhaps odd items of shopping that were promised

or a birthday. A run out in the car and help in doing shopping is a boon. Person to person relationships were of the utmost importance everywhere, and in the Homes visits from friends and relatives often fell short after an initial period. Escorts were also needed for residents' outings with the minibus which had recently been acquired for the Homes and Eleanor Rathbone House, An offer to accompany residents, once a week or once a month, usually from after lunch to about p.m., would be a great help.

There was also a need for drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels. They were needed once or twice a week, usually for two hours. Expenses could be refunded. The driver was also a valuable contact with housebound people, providing them with a welcome break in a long quiet day.

Lastly, some people might be willing to help on odd occasions only, such as accompanying a nervous person to hospital for an out-patient appointment.

The Financial Report was delivered by Dr. F. E. Falk, Vice-Chairman of the AJR, to-Hon. Treasurer, Mr. L. Spiro, was prevented from the professional comattending the Meeting due to a professional commitment out of town. Dr. Falk stated that in 1979 the income from subscriptions and donations had risen by about £2,800 from £34,500 to £37,300; whilst this was to be appreciated, it was under 10 per cent in a year, where inflation had arisen to 16 per cent and the expenditure correspondingly. The allocation from the Jewish Trust Corporation (through the CBF) had been reduced and a further reduction in 1980 had become necessary, because no further restitution monies The total income in 1979 were coming in. amounted to £49,400 (as against £48,800 in 1978). On behalf of the Treasurer Dr. Falk also mentioned that, whilst in previous years members used to pay within three weeks of the due date, the average period was now six weeks. He strongly

appealed to members for prompt payments.

On the expenditure side, the costs for AJR Information had risen from £8,900 to £11,500. Adding to this the overhead expenses, the expenditure for the paper amounted to £16,590. Altogether, the accounts for 1979 showed an expenditure of £52,950, an excess over income of £3.550.

To safeguard the work of the AJR for the future, an increase of membership was vitally important. Each of our members should bring us at least one new member.

Dr. Falk also referred to the reliefs which under the new budget were given to payments made under Covenant. The period had been reduced from seven to four years and those who pay tax at rates higher than the basic rate can deduct gross payments under Covenant from their taxable income up to £3,000 and thus reduce their tax

After the Financial Report, Dr. Falk briefly dealt with the taxability of German and Austrian pensions. The AJR had been active in this field since 1956 and many substantial concessions have been obtained since then. This year, the Executive

AJR GENERAL MEETING

Continued from page I

had decided that a further attempt should be made to obtain complete exemption for those German and Austrian pensions which under the 1974 Finance Act are tax exempt to the extent of one half. These are the Social Insurance pensions—except certain categories which are already 100 per cent exempt—and Public Service pensions. A Memorandum had been submitted to the Treasury and copies had been sent to certain prominent and sympathetic MPs.

The Financial Report was unanimously adopted. In the ensuing elections, the members of the Executive and of the Board, listed in the June issue of AJR Information, were re-elected. Furthermore, the following members were coopted to the Board: Dr. Alice Apt, a retired senior mistress at the North London Collegiate, who has been associated with the AJR and other organisations of former refugees for many years; Mr. Richard Fisher, President of the B'naï B'rith Leo Baeck (London) Lodge; and Dr. Hans Freund, Hon. Secretary of the Leo Baeck Lodge and teacher at the Yehudi Menuhin School.

Rabbi Gryn on Religious Dialogue

After the conclusion of the General Meeting, Rabbi Hugo Gryn gave a stimulating lecture on the subject "Religious Communities in Dialogue-Opportunities and Frustrations". He recalled the foundation of the Council of Christians and Jews during the war, when, under the impact of the events on the Continent, the idea of tolerance and mutual understanding between Christians and Jews was promoted. At that time, different approaches to basic questions were hardly under discussion. In our days, however, we are faced with innumerable problems of religious policy. Among them are the Roman Catholic attitude to abortion, the activities of Protestant missions and, at a different level, the Sikhs' claim for wearing headgears and the Islamic teaching by which Mohammedan children were not permitted to wear gym shoes at school. All these questions, the speaker said, were sensitive points which played their part in the discussions between the representatives of the various religions. Rabbi Gryn dealt in detail with the attitude of the Roman Catholic Bishops and Archbishops during the war. He recalled that in 1944, when it looked as if the deportations might be extended from Jews to Christian "Mischlinge", one archbishop inter-vened, but solely on behalf of the Christian "Mischlinge", thus condoning the deportation of the Jews. Similarly, another Prince of the Church declined to intervene against the deportation of the Jews on the ground that their fate was a penalty "for killing the saviour". Rabbi Gryn quoted from several recent publications, one of which, written by a leader of Naturei Karta, claimed that the Holocaust had been brought about "by Zionists and Reform Jews". On the Jewish side it had to be realised that partners of the dialogue were not only Christians but also followers of other religions. Such dialogues were not just public relations exercises or cosmetic operations. They called for an adequate equipment with a knowledge of the partners' teachings. The speaker expressed his doubts whether Jews were always fully equipped for discussions at this level. At the end he also dealt with the antagonism between godliness and technological secularism which he equated with the choice of mankind between life and death.

The ideas propounded by Rabbi Gryn, of which only few examples can be mentioned in this report, were echoed in a most apposite Vote of Thanks, moved by Mr. Max Kochmann, JP, member of the AJR Executive.

SCHMIDT HONOURS GOLDMANN

Volume XXXX No. 8

The 85th birthday of Dr. Nahum Goldmann was celebrated at a dinner in Amsterdam given by the World Jewish Congress. As an undogmatic thinker and a skilful negotiator, Nahum Goldmann has attained a unique position in Jewish life. Born in Lithuania and brought up in Germany, his personality has been equally shaped by his Eastern Jewish background and the cultural values of the West. It testifies to his standing that, in spite of a particularly heavy timetable, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt made a point of attending the dinner to pay tribute to Dr. Goldmann as the architect of reconciliation between Germany and the Jews. The guests also included the Dutch Prime Minister, Mr. Andries van Agt, the German Foreign Minister, Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and other leading German politicians. Israel was represented by a senior Foreign Ministry official and a counsellor of the Embassy to Holland. The guests from Britain included the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jakobovits, and Mr. Greville Janner, QC, MP, president of the Board of Deputies.

Accepting the Nahum Goldmann Silver Medal for Services to Peace and Human Rights the Chancellor pledged that the lessons of the Nazi days would never be forgotten. "If we are to live up to our moral obligations," he stated, "then we must guard and foster Jewish-German relations, particularly in Germany." Young Germans, having never experienced war, found the slaughter of six million Jews in the holocaust incomprehensible. His Government would continue to pass on to them the message that it must never happen again.

Schmidt also told his audience that Palestinian self-determination should be part of an overall Middle East peace settlement, in which Israel must be allowed to live behind secure frontiers. West Germany advocated "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people freely to determine their own affairs within the framework of an order acceptable to all."

DISCUSSION AT ASCHAFFENBURG

For the last three years, the Aschaffenburg College of Further Education has invited prominent men and women to discuss one particular subject. This year's subject was "Germans and Jews-Wounds, Realities and Methods". Former Aschaffenburg Jews from Israel, America, Britain and other countries had been invited to attend, and 80 of them accepted the invitation. journalist Guido Knopp organised the talks. He asked the participants in the discussion: How do Jews and Germans expect the German-Jewish relationship to develop? Most speakers agreed on one answer: a new generation, both in Germany and in Israel, must learn more about the murder of Jews by the Nazis and of its long lasting effects to the present day, in order to come together in a meaningful dialogue. J. P. Stern, professor of Germanic Studies at London University, spoke on "Symbiosis without Hope" and explained that after the enlightenment the Germans had accepted tolerance and reason for all things intellectual and spiritual, but had not extended it to the field of politics. This created a relationship between Germans and Jews which was predominantly intellectual, unworldly and theoretical. In order to obtain consensus, the Jews were expected to give up their old customs, judgments and attitudes. It was a tragical irony that at the hour of their greatest need, German Jews spoke the language of their torturers, because they had no other. Their social structure did not differ from that of their non-Jewish neighbours, but they differed from them in being powerless. Professor Stern was contradicted by Shalom Ben Chorin, Jerusalem, a protagonist of German-Jewish reconciliation, who said Stern had not mentioned the fact that even in the Thirties. Jews had been aware of their identity and had gathered in religious or zionist groups.

Professor Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich, Basel, director of European B'nai B'rith, did not agree either. His subject was "Strangers in their own Country?" He said, earlier Jews had never been integrated as citizens, but Jews born after 1945 no longer felt as if they were sitting on packed suitcases. The number of Jews at present in Germany—some 30,000—was too small to serve as a scapegoat. The problems of Jews and Germans were hard to solve, but not hopeless. He said: "The tattooed Auschwitz number which the grandson sees on his grandparents' arms will prevent him from ever forgetting what had been done to the Jewish people, but he would have enough distance from the events to be unbiased and free within his bounds, to contribute to a solution."

Werner Nachmann, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said that during the first 20 years it had been difficult to explain abroad that Jews wanted to and were able to live again in Germany. These times had passed, and even the young, though belonging to Zionist organisations, intended to stay.

German-Israel Relations

Asher Ben Natan, first Israeli Ambassador to the Federal Republic, said diplomatic relations between Israel and Germany depended on the special obligations Germany had towards the new State. This had unfortunately changed, nowadays each declaration by the Federal Government on the Middle East question was criticised in Jerusalem and applauded in Beirut and Damascus. One day, the Federal Republic would have to put its cards on the table, and he feared that might mean the end of the dialogue. Klaus Schütz. former Mayor of West Berlin and at present Germany's Ambassador in Israel, tried to explain that his government aimed at a comprehensive peace solution, guaranteeing both Israel's security and self-determination for the Palestinians. "But" he continued, "we Germans have not understood what the holocaust means for the relationship between Germans and Jews: for the Jews, it is the central event of their existence." There could not be recognition of the PLO as long as it did not recognise Israel's right to exist. Latent antisemitism, he admitted, still existed in Germany.

Lenelotte von Bothmer, a member of the Federal Parliament and chairman of the German-Palestinian Society, said she was not an antisemite because she supported the rights of the Palestinians. Ben Natan replied that anybody who called himself anti-Zionist today was pronouncing a belated death sentence on hundreds of thousands of Jews who were only saved, because Palestine existed. Zionism meant the self-determination of the Jewish people, and only Jews had the right to oppose it.

A former Aschaffenburg Jew said in the discussion that just two months ago he and his wife had been determined never to return to Germany from their present home in America. He had come because, like Anne Frank, he ultimately believed in the good in man. Another former Aschaffenburger, Fred Freund from New York, held a Sabbath eve service in the open air on the spot, where the old synagogue once stood. He and the other guests from abroad told members of the present-day population, what Aschaffenburg and its Jews had been like in their day and brought an element of realism to an otherwise very academic and theoretical situation.

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HOME NEWS

REUNION OF NAZI SURVIVORS

A special re-union of Jewish survivors of the A special re-union of Jewish survivors of the Nazi concentration camps from all over the world is to be held next June in Jerusalem. The plan was announced by Mr. Ernest Michel, Chairman of the organizing committee, on a visit to London to enlist the co-operation of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, which has agreed to handle the United Kingdom arrangements for this international operation based in New York. Professor Elie Wiesel and Mme. Simone Veil, president of the European Parliament, both of them camp survivors, will act as Honorary Chairmen of the gathering. Participants are to be asked to record their own and their families' experiences of the Holocaust on tapes to be deposited at the Yad Vashem Museum. It is also proposed to construct a monument of stones engraved with the names of the survivors and their relatives.

The focal point of the four-day gathering will be a "survivors' village" to be established in the centre of Jerusalem, in which tents named after former concentration camps will be gracted. Each

former concentration camps will be erected. Each will contain a list of the present survivors (from Belsen, Buchenwald, Auschwitz, and so on) with the aim of helping those attending making easier contact with one another. Participants are to be asked to bring with them personal relies of their incarceration, add uniforms, vallow, badges, times incarceration—old uniforms, yellow badges, tin eating-plates—to be deposited at Yad Vashem. Among the planned events is a torchlight procession of survivors and their families from the Knesset to the Western Wall. Countering criticism that the plan is somewhat macabre, Mr. Michel states that the convention will be placing much of its emphasis on the children and grandchildren of survivors, thus adopting a positive attitude to their past suffering.

PRO-ARAB TORIES

Some 30 Tory MPs have joined the Conservative Middle East Council, a new pro-Arab parliamentary pressure group under the leadership of Lord Chelwood, formerly Sir Tufton Beamish, who, during his 30 years as an MP has always been a critic of Israel and a champion of the Arab cause. The vice-chairman of the Council, Mr. David Crouch, recently went to Beirut together with Mr. Andrew Faulds, the most vociferous pro-Arab among Labour MPs, to meet Yasir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

TECHNION DEGREE FOR SIR MICHAEL SOBELL

At a luncheon at the Savoy, given by the British Technion Society to launch the Sir Michael and Lady Sobell Chair in Electronics at the Haifa Technion, an appeal for which amounts to about Technion, an appeal for which amounts to about £150,000, an honorary science doctorate was conferred on Sir Michael by Mr. Amos Horev, president of the Technion. It was the first time that the Technion had bestowed a degree outside Israel. The chairman of the Society, Mr. Edgar Astaire, announced at the same time that last year's appeal target—£300,000—to rebuild the firedamaged Churchill Auditorium had been reached. The auditorium will be rededicated in the presence of Mr. Winston Churchill, MP, and Mrs. Churchill. Mr. Horev said that Sir Michael's legendary philanthropy was combined with "an unerring eye for giving money where it will do unerring eye for giving money where it will do
the most good". After his meteoric career in
Britain's electronics industry, it was fitting that
the Technion should commemorate Sir Michael's

CAMPS

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PUBLIC ORDER ACT Amendments Proposed

In a response to the Government's Green Paper. "Review of the Public Order Act 1936" the Board of Deputies of British Jews has submitted a memorandum calling for the authority to ban political marches and processions to be trans-ferred from the Police to the Home Secretary. It also recommends that the activities of organis-ations like the National Front be restricted by prohibiting marches "whose purpose is, or effect

prohibiting marches "whose purpose is, or effect would be, to intimidate, insult or humiliate any ethnic group or to cause racial disharmony."

The memorandum describes the present law as inadequate and states that it has failed to prevent serious outbreaks of violence. It also draws attention to the effect of racist marches on racial and ethnic minorities "both in their attempt to integrate into society and to live in racial harmony with their neighbours and, most important, the preservation of their dignity as individuals in the face of extreme provocation and humiliation."

NATIONAL FRONT'S THREE-WAY SPLIT The National Front, which suffered the defec-The National Front, which suffered the defection of two senior members of its Directorate, Mr. Andrew Fountaine and Mr. Paul Kavanagh, at the end of 1979, faces another breakaway grouping calling itself the New National Front. This is led by former NF Chairman, John Tyndall who has formed it because he feels that the parent party is in ruins. Its main aim is to obtain the resignation of Martin Webster, activities organiser of the original movement. Tyndall's New National Front claims the support of a number of branches "disgusted with the internal situation in the Party." while Fountaine and Kavanagh, who were expelled from the NF Directorate say they have attracted from the NF Directorate say they have attracted more than 2,000 members of the Party to their ranks. The deputy chairman of the National Front, Richard Verral, has admitted to a fall in the number of people renewing their membership this year, but added that new recruits were still joining the president of the the organisation.

WAR HEROISM NO EXCUSE FOR CRIMES

Henry Oberlander, a wartime Jewish resistance worker, now a naturalised American businessman, was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment at the Old Bailey in June 1978 for his part in a worldwide fraud plot, involving the use of false passports and documents. The Court of Appeal rejected his plea that, as he is 54 and in ill-health, he should have been given more credit for his heroism in rescuing Nazi victims in Europe.

LORD FISHER REMEMBERED

At the Silver Jubilee celebration by the British Friends of Bar-Ilan University, the honorary doctorate which was to be conferred on the late Lord Fisher of Camden, was given to his widow instead. Rabbi Professor Emanuel Rackman, the university's president said that "none of Anglo-Jewry's great sons has nearly matched Lord Fisher's triumph over personal tragedy and physical affliction, his total dedication to causes great and small, Jewish and secular, national and international." Mr. James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, was the guest-speaker who stressed that he considered it a great privilege to join in the anniversary of one of Israel's great universi-ties. The British were fortunate to have the skill, industry and appreciation of the arts and sciences that Jews had brought to this country.

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ANGLO-JUDAICA

Half-Arab's unfair dismissal Claim Upheld

The Employment Appeal Tribunal has upheld an earlier industrial tribunal's judgment that the Heron Corporation had been guilty of unlawful racial discrimination in its refusal to appoint a man with an English mother and Arab father as personal chauffeur to its Jewish managing director. At the original presentation of the case, which was supported by the Commission for Racial Equality, it was claimed that the man, Mr. Norman Commis, had been placed on the short-list for the job, but on being sent for interview at the Chairman's home had been unable to see him because Mr. Henry Ronson was ill at that time. He was interviewed instead by Mrs. Ronson, whom he claimed told him: "I am sorry, I do not mean to offend you, but I do not employ Arabs because I am Jewish." am Jewish

Mr. Thayne Forbes, counsel for Heron, said that the original tribunal had been informed of police warnings to prominent Jews to be wary of Arabs. Mrs. Ronson had been concerned to pro-Arabs. Mrs. Ronson had been concerned to protect her sick husband and knew that their son, Gerald, was on a list of people likely to be subject to Arab threats. Pronouncing judgment, Mr. Justice Slynn stated that while this concern was understandable, the industrial tribunal had been correct in ruling that the company had discriminated against Mr. Commis under section 4(1)(c) of the Race Relations Act, 1976 and that its award of £271 in compensation was justified.

At the annual meeting of the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre's British Council, Professor David Maeir, its director general, said that the hospital had moved to its new home, 30 per cent of which remained unbuilt. Money was urgently needed as health and welfare were very low on the list of Israeli Government priorities. Mr. Martyn Gor-don, treasurer of the London council, said there had been an increase of £270,000 over the pre-vious year's donations, largely due to a single large donation from Eire. Total income was £752,600. Lord Mishcon, chairman of the council, promised to set up more fund-raising committees.

A modern Mikva

The United Synagogue has opened its first ritual bath for some decades near the Kingsbury Synagogue. It has three bathrooms in lilac, green and lemon, and two blue-tiled mikvot. Hair-dryers are also available. It cost £55,000 to build and another £6,000 a year to run. At present three to five women a day pay £1 a time to use the facilities. A telephone will shortly be installed.

Tito Gobbi Sings for CBF

Tito Gobbi, the famous baritone who has officially retired, attended a meeting organised by the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief at the West London Synagogue and delighted his audience with reminiscences of his long and eventful career, illustrated by excerpts from his best-known performances. He stressed his support for humanitarian causes such as CBF and spoke of his two visits to Israel, saying that he believed that the Jews "should have their own homeland, especially after their recent history of suffering." His fellow-guest at the meeting was Miss Ida Cook, well-known for her courageous action, together with her sister, to rescue 29 German Jews and assist many others. Miss Joan Stiebel, consultant to the Jewish Refugee Committee, said that she herself and the Cook sisters could claim to be among the oldest in the refugee business. Dame Eva Turner, the singer, thanked Mr. Gobbi for his appearance which raised £750 for CBF. at the West London Synagogue and delighted his

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

"Halt Settlements" says Israel's Friend

The influential Chairman of the US Senate's Foreign Relations Sub-Committee on the Middle East, Senator Richard Stone, has urged Israel to announce a moratorium on any additional settle-ments in the West Bank. A firm friend of the Jewish State, he has called for a review of all settlements "on the basis of both social accept-ability over the long run and military necessity over the medium and short run."

"I support a military settlement concept," the senator claims, "and I support the right of people of the Jewish faith to settle and buy property anywhere in the Middle East, not just in the adminis-tered territories." But this attitude was far removed from that of the Gush Emunim, whose policy was counter-productive to the "chance to make a safe and just peace for Israel."

Holocaust Institute at Brandeis University

Dr. Bernard Wasserstein, 32, senior lecturer in modern history at Sheffield University and author of "Britain and the Jews of Europe 1939-1945" (reviewed in the December 1979 issue of AJR Information) has been appointed director of the permanent institute to examine the causes of the Holocaust, set up by Brandeis University. Dr. Laszlo Tauber, a Washington surgeon who survived the war in a Hungarian forced labour camp, has provided about £375,000 for the institute, which will be named after him. Dr. Marvin Bernstein, president of Brandeis, said: "Important as they are, we no longer need collections of memoirs by survivors, pictures of concentration camps or research into the mechanics of Hitler's final solution. . . . What is needed now . . . is an attempt to account for what happened." The institute's studies will cover the period from Napoleon's emancipation of the Jews to the Holocaust. Dr. Tauber who has amassed a real estate fortune of about £130 million, was brought to the US by Dr. Abram chancellor of Brandeis. Abram Sacher, the founder and

Jewish Votes for Nazis

In the North Carolina Republican primary for the office of Attorney-General, Harold Covington, the American Nazi Party leader, received many votes in predominantly Jewish areas. However, the successful candidate was Keith Snyder, a former federal prosecutor. The American Jewish Committee stated that many Jews might have voted for Covington in error, thinking that Snyder with his German-sounding name, was the Nazi his German-sounding name, was the Nazi candidate.

Reagan's Plans

Mr. Ronald Reagan, the Republican Presidential candidate, has assured Egyptian officials, that, if elected, he will pursue a "comprehensive" peace agreement in the Middle East, encompassing the Palestinians.



Arab Mayors in Synagogue

Mr. Kawasma, former mayor of Hebron and Mr. Milhel, mayor of Halhoul, who were deported from Israel after the murder of six Jewish settlers in Hebron, addressed a gathering of some 300 Jews in Temple Sinai, a major Washington Re-form Synagogue. Their appearance was organised by the Palestine Human Rights Campaign, the Palestine Congress of North America and other pro-Palestinian organisations as well as several Jews active in the "Peace Now" movement. A dozen Jewish Defence League members and other right-wing Jewish activists were evicted from the synagogue when they tried to prevent the two from speaking. The mayors denounced Israel and said that the PLO was the sole representative of the Palestinians. Mr. Haim Baram of Israel's Leftwing Shelli Party accompanied the mayors and spoke at the meeting.

Jesuits expand Jewish Studies

The University of San Francisco, a Jesuit institution, has launched a fund-raising campaign to expand its already strong Jewish studies programme. Founded after the gold rush in 1855, the university offers seven Jewish study courses, whose 300 students include a number of Saudi Arabians and Iranian Moslems. There is also an annual summer programme at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Einstein MS saved by Safe-Cracker

In 1934, Albert Einstein presented a manuscript, describing in a single equation the properties of gravitation, electro-magnetism and nuclear regravitation, electro-magnetism and nuclear re-actions, to the Brooklyn Jewish Centre in New York which was then establishing a library of books banned by the Nazis. In the Sixties, the collection was given to the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, but the manuscript was overlooked. It was in an old safe for which the combination had been lost. Before sending it to combination had been lost. Before sending it to the rubbish collectors, the centre's officials re-cently asked a professional safe-cracker to open it. This led to the re-discovery of the manuscript which will now be put on sale and is expected to fetch about £12,000.

A Convert's Pride

Mr. Paul Johnson of Los Angeles, a Baptist, recently converted to Judaism and married a Jewish girl. To announce the event, he obtained a new licence plate for his car which reveals the

JEWISH INTELLECTUALS' PLEA IN IRAN

Jewish intellectuals in Iran have appealed to President Bani-Sadr to halt the persecution and discrimination directed against the Jewish community. Despite appeals by leading world statesmen, a Jewish merchant, Albert Daniel-Pour, was executed for, among other charges, importing honey from Israel: another was put to death because of his association with the Committee of the Teheran Jewish Congregation. Before the revolution 80,000 Jews resided in Iran, now some 50,000 remain. Despite Ayatollah Khomeini's repeated declaration that Iran's Jews would be repeated declaration that trans yews would be treated fairly, the passports of Jews who have visited Israel are impounded; Jews have been sacked from senior posts in the civil service and at the universities: anti-semitic items in the Press are now commonplace; and international Zionism and Israel are accused of plotting to overthrow the Government. The economic situation of the community is still held to be tenable and if they care to brave the capriciously-used "black lists of enemies of the revolution" in operation at Teheran airport they can still leave the country.

THE JEWS OF AFGHANISTAN
There are now probably about 100 Jews left in
Afghanistan. Since the 1920s an estimated 6,000 Afghan Jews have settled in Israel, 4,000 of them since 1950. The last eight Jewish families in Kabul applied for exit visas to Israel in January. If they are allowed to leave, this will mean the end of a millenium of Jewish settlement in Afghanistan. Until 1918, they lived in ghettos.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

FRANCE

Sephardi Chief Rabbi elected

85-year-old Chief Rabbi Dr. Jacob Kaplan will retire in January 1981. Algerian-born Rabbi Rene Sirat, professor of Hebrew at the National School for Oriental Languages, was elected as his successor. The appointment of a Sephardi Chief Rabbi was expected, as 60 per cent of Jews in France have a Sephardi background. Rabbi Sirat has been successful in introducing the teaching of Hebrew language and literature at most French universities

European MPs for Soviet Jews

During a Paris conference on the situation of Soviet Jewry, nearly 50 MPs from 14 countries, including Britain and Israel, decided to set up a permanent European committee to co-ordinate future efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews. Mr. Ivan Lawrence, Conservative MP for Burton, produced a petition signed by more than 120 British professors and lecturers, appealing to Unesco to urge the Soviet Union to abide by the Unesco Convention against Discrimination and allow the teaching and study of Jewish culture and Hebrew. A "Friendship with Israel" group recently estab-

lished at the European Parliament in Strasbourg already has 100 members from all parties in the nine countries in the E.E.C.

Poll shows pro-Arab Sympathies

According to a recent opinion poll, every second French citizen supports President Giscard d'Estaing's demand for Palestinian self- determination. 20 per cent declared their sympathies for Israel, 8 per cent for the Arab countries. Four years ago, a similar poll showed 40 per cent sympathy for Israel and only 4 for the Arabs.

End Terrorist Arm-Supply Call

The Spanish Government has appealed to a number of Arab countries to use their influence with the Palestine Liberation Organisation to stop the supply of arms, explosives and advisory experts to the Basque separatist movement.

AUSCHWITZ COLLOQUIUM IN STOCKHOLM

The recent annual meeting of the International Council of Christians and Jews took place at Sigtuna, Sweden, within the framework of a three-day colloquium on "Faith after Auschwitz: the Impact of the Holocaust on faith and theology in Judaism and Christianity." Sir Sigmund Stern-berg, who is joint-treasurer of the CCJ in Britain, elected Chairman of the international organ; Goss, joint Chief Executive of the British organisation, was elected ICCJ treasurer. Rabbi Dr. Albert Friedlander, minister of the Westminster Reform Synagogue, was among the colster Reform Synagogue, was among the col-loquium participants. The conference pledged support for the Holocaust Memorial Foundation in Britain.



Stefan Bukowitz

ROBERT STOLZ CENTENARY. (1880-1975)

Master of popular Music-Friend of the Jews

This is a summer of manifold celebrations for the undisputedly last creator of the typical Vienna operetta and Viennese song: Robert Stolz, He was born in Graz in 1880 as the youngest son of an unusually musical family, who enriched the cultural standard of this century throughout his long life, and died in 1975 in his 95th year. Robert Stolz was a man of strong character and with firmness of decision who, at the height of his fame, preferred uncertainty in exile to being witness to the humiliation of his friends, and who snubbed Hitler and his Government. They, in turn, took their revenge by issuing an official document that declared "Robert Stolz of German blood to be deprived of his civic rights".

Stolz was brought up in a home where Bruckner and Brahms were frequent visitors, the latter forecasting a great future for the youngster who gave his first piano recital at the age of seven. 'Hänsel and Gretel" composer Engelbert Humperdinck became his teacher, and it is reported that an encounter with the "Waltz King" Johann Strauss (shortly before Strauss's death in 1899) confirmed young Robert's determination to make the magically light music, endowed with the lilting Viennese touch, his career, for-in his own words-there was "no distinction between serious and light, but only between good and bad music."

He became conductor of many opera houses and theatres and worked in Graz, Brno, Maribor and Salzburg. The period of his appointment as first conductor at the "Theater an der Wien" coincided with the great "Silver" era of Viennese operetta when the works performed were by Kalman, Lehar, Leo Fall and Oskar Straus. Even if his own operettas of the day are no longer in the foreground, many of the melodies have remained permanent favourites. Moreover, it was the time when some of his most celebrated songs originated, "Im Prater bluehn wieder die Bäume "Das ist der Frühling in Wien", and "Wien wird schön erst bei Nacht"

Continuing the traditional line did not make him disregard the changes that had occurred. When the so-called "Modern Dances" arrived in Europe after World War I, it was Robert Stolz who wrote the first great Austrian Foxtrotts: "Hallo, Du süsse Klingelfee" is still remembered as much as "Salome" which, in recent years, was resurrected under the title "Romeo" and qualified as a "Top of the Pops" success, an expression about which Stolz was not altogether enthusiastic. Several years later, when the "Talkies" appeared, Robert Stolz's name as a film song composer soared to new heights. Every filmgoer soon hummed "Adieu mein kleiner Gardeoffizier", 'Frag' nicht warum ich gehe", and, crowning it all "Zwei Herzen im Dreivierteltakt". Stolz contributed numbers for the world success "White Horse Inn", his songs were recorded by Jan Kiepura, Martha Eggerth and Richard Tauber, new operettas were launched: two of them "Wenn die kleinen Veilchen bluehen" and "Venus in Seide" saw long series of performances in Paris, Zürich, Brussels and London, and-filmed in several languages-"Fruehjahrsparade" (originally with Franziska Gaal) became a firm American favourite under the title "Spring Parade."

When the National Socialists took over, Stolz suffered. Most of his friends and libretto writers were Jewish, and with deep melancholy he saw one after the other endure the fate of emigration or concentration camp. His most touching song stems from that time, "Auf der Heide blühn die letzten Rosen". He decided to leave the country he loved. Leaving behind security and possessions, he made his way to Paris. Before finally departing, he had made 21 trips abroad by car, smuggling Jewish friends across the border, thus risking his own life. Goebbels offered him film and radio engagements, honours and titles if he were to stay,

but he had made up his mind.

His thoughts were with his friends: with Alfred Grünwald, Rudolf Oesterreicher, Paul Knepler, Hugo Wiener and Hans Weigel who had written

lyrics for him, with Tauber and Josef Schmidt, Gitta Alpar and Paul Abraham, and—after a meeting in Paris-with Luise, named "Einzi" (because she seemed the only one with enough courage to help refugees actively) who, subsequently became his wife; Einzi, English-born, his faithful companion for the last 30 years of his

His New York home became a meeting place for emigré-artists, and a centre of European culture. In the States he conducted "Fledermaus", "Merry Widow", "Gipsy Baron" and other works, he won Oscars and kept composing. When in 1946, travel restrictions were eased, he and his wife were among the first to receive a visa for Austria. Asked why he wanted to exchange all of America's amenities for life in a starving and devastated country, he is understood to have given the-by now-classic answer: "To see the Minorite Church in snow". Back in Austria, his saddest tune referred to the horrible destructions of the war: "Wohin ist das alles, wohin?

This report would be incomplete were we not to mention the "Stolz Concerts" in Israel. His tours in that country became true triumphs, and on one such occasion Stolz gave all his tour income to the State of Israel which he so much admired. As an appreciation for the country he composed the march "Follow the sun". Acknowledging this gesture, the Mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, handed Robert Stolz the medal of the City of Jerusalem, and he was made honorary member of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Thanking him for all the honours, Robert Stolz said he was gratified to be honoured by a people that had given the world the greatest number of Nobel Prize winners, and, modestly, he thought he owed his fame to the Jewish Libretto writers without whom there would have been no operettas.

Now, a full century after Robert Stolz's birth, many orchestras and organizations arrange Gala concerts and remember the "Maestro" in gratitude and with undiminished pleasure. The composer's very close connection with the State of Israel was echoed there by the planting of a Robert Stolz

Forest.

A VISIT TO GERMANY

What does Daniel Lang see when he takes his backward look and moves around in the Germany of the 1970's?* It is very much as one would expect. There are those who remember, those who forget, and those who are too young to do either. Now and again the book takes on some life. One of the rare passages where this occurs is Lang's interview in a Berlin old-age home with a number of German Jews who fled to America in or after 1933 and then returned to post-war Germany. Some did so for purely economic reasons-medical aid was cheaper than in America; or they had a nostalgia for Berlin and missed their former friends. One old lady said: "The memories of childhood are stronger than those of Hitler. Besides, time has passed, new generations have been born. We must go forward, even we whose time is

Lang writes in a pleasing, elegiac, sensitive tone that touches the chords of nostalgia, but only superficially and transiently. His publisher calls the book "an impressionistic odyssey"—impressionistic, yes; and odyssey, no. Homer had far more interesting and exciting things to recount.

LIONEL KOCHAN -A Backward Look Daniel Lang: Germans Remember McGraw-Hill, \$8.95. 1979.

JUDAICA LIBRARY IN BREMEN
Due to the initiative of Professor Dr. Helga-Ulrike Hyams, who is engaged in writing a history of the Frankfurt Philanthropin, a special Judaica library is being built up under the auspices of the University of Bremen. It comprises Jewish Hebrew and Yiddish works in the possession of the University and is to be expanded by the acquisition of further relevant material.

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THE ISRAELI SCENE

ILO BETRAYS PROMISE TO USA
The United States belief that its return to
membership of the International Labour Organisation after a three-year absence was justified by a change in the ILO's anti-Israel stance was completely disabused when its annual meeting, in Geneva, condemned Israel of mistreatment of Arab workers in the administered territories, despite eviworkers in the administered territories, despite evidence to the contrary. During the period of the United States' withdrawal the ILO studiously avoided making political declarations. This year, the world body adopted its condemnatory resolution at the behest of the Afro-Arab caucus, ignoring the testimony of Mr. Israel Goralnik, Director of the Israel Ministry of Labour, who reported that unemployment was less than one per cent in the Arab territories compared to four per cent in Israel itself. He told the conference that "virtually all residents of the administered areas who wished all residents of the administered areas who wished to find work found jobs during 1949."

ARAFAT SAYS IT AGAIN

Yasir Arafat has again called for the destruction of Israel in an interview with a Latin American newspaper. His organisation, Fatah, earlier claimed that his statement to the Venezuelan magazine El Mondo had been misquoted after it magazine El Mondo had been misquoted after it had received adverse criticism in western news media. Now, in another Venezuelan paper, Nuevo Mondo, he has re-emphasised that "peace for us means the destruction of Israel." Declaring that the PLO was prepared for a long war, destined to be prolonged for generations, Arafat stated: "We will not stop our fight until the day that we may to have to our borne after having destroyed. go back to our home after having destroyed Israel, and the unity of the Arab world will make

GIRL MILITARY DODGER JAILED A 20-year-old clerk has had the dubious dis-tinction of being the first Israeli woman to be convicted of fraudulently obtaining exemption from military service. In 1978, Miss Gila Daniel made the necessary declaration before a magis-trate that she was religious, did not travel on Shabbat and observed kashrut. However, a private Shabbat and observed kashrut. However, a private detective employed by the army, told a Tel Aviv Judge that he had seen her enter a car and light a cigarette on a Sabbath eve. Judge Haim Dvorim gave her an 18-month sentence, 12 of them suspended. On release Miss Daniel will have to carry out two years national service in the Israel Defence Forces.

CLUB 1943

Vortraege jeden Montag um 8 p.m. im Hannah Karminski House, 9 Adamson Road, N.W.3.

Mitglieder Versammlung. Um 4 August rege Beteiligung wird gebeten.

Prof. Dr. K. J. Herrmann of Concordia University Montreal; "Das Judentum in der D.D.R.". 11 August.

Dr. Rudolf J. Jaray, A. M., B.I.E.T. will speak on a book by B. Fell (to be published soon): "America B.C., Trade with North America in the Antiquity." 18 August.

(Long before Columbus). Bank Holiday. 25 August.

1 September. Violet Hammerton, B.Sc., "Fast-ing for physical and spiritual improvement".

8 September, Carole Diethe, M.A., P.G.E.C.
"An introduction to German
Expressionist Literature". (With illustrations).

15 September. Kein Vortrag.

22 September, Kein Vortrag.

29 September. Gerald Guttmann: "Die Bayrischen Koenigsschloesser". (mit Farbdias).

6 October. Grete Sachs: "Die Familie

BLACK HEBREWS TO BE ALLOWED TO SETTLE

A special sub-committee appointed by the Ministry of the Interior has recommended that the controversial negro sect known as the "Black Hebrews" should be allowed to settle in Israel in limited numbers. Followers of Ben-Ami Carter, a black American from Chicago, the cult has some 1,500 members residing in three settlements, but not recognised as being religiously Jewish by the Orthodox community, whose opposition to their presence has been backed by the National Re-

The Committee recommends that those of the cult's members who have been living in Israel for more than two years should be granted temporary residential status, at once, and allowed to stay for a further two years, after which they may apply for Israeli citizenship but must wait apply for Israeli citizenship but must wait a further five years before this can take effect. The more recent arrivals should be granted visas and work permits and be eligible for citizenship five years later. The proposals have been made as a "moral, human and Jewish" solution to the problem even though the Black Hebrews had been openly hostile of Israel. It is expected that the group will be permitted to establish a communal settlement to the south of Beershelps. munal settlement to the south of Beersheba.

ISRAEL REMEMBERS

On the 13th anniversary of the re-unification of Jerusalem, tanks bedecked with flowers formed part of a huge son et lumière and action spectacle. Some 10,000 people crowded the site of an ancient reservoir under the Old City walls to watch nearly 1,000 performers. The British musical im-presario, Mr. Victor Hochhauser, arranged a series of concerts in the square of the re-constructed Yemin Moshe quarter.

At a reception for several hundred people at the president's Jerusalem residence, Israel began the president's Jerusalem residence, Israel began to celebrate the 30th anniversary of "Operation Magic Carpet", the mass airlift of 50,000 Yemeni Jews. There are an estimated 200,000 Jews of Yemeni origin in Israel today while there are believed to be no more than 200 Jewish families left in North and South Yemen.

On the other hand, plans for the 20th annual Israel Festival have been scrapped because of a

Israel Festival have been scrapped because of a big cut in its subsidy. Until the fairly recent introduction of the Jerusalem Spring Festival, the Israeli Festival was the only opportunity for Israelis to see and hear top world artists.

COMPENSATION FOR ARAB FAMILY

The Harbawi family of Hebron, whose shops were demolished by the Israeli Military Government after the murder of six Israelis in May, will be given compensation of about £84,000, after members of the family provided evidence that they had helped to save Jews during the 1929 Hebron massacre.

OLDEST BEDOUIN DIES

Mr. Eid Jabali, the oldest Beduin in southern Sinai, has died, aged 134. For the past few years he lived near Elat and was a major attraction to visitors whom he told about life in Sinai 100 years ago. In his youth, he was supposed to be the guide in the whole of the Sinai peninsula and to have named many of its mountain peaks.

MORE AID FOR KAMPUCHEA

Israel has contributed another £107,000 to Kampuchean relief work. Dr. Barromi, Israel's representative in the UN Geneva office, told the conference on Kampuchean refugees that "the people of Israel, being predominantly survivors from the Holocaust, cannot be indifferent to the agony of the Kampuchean nation." She had contributed altogether £428,000 towards the relief of these refugees and sent medical supplies and a medical team to the refugee camps.

EL AL INCREASES CAIRO FLIGHTS

El Al's flights between Tel Aviv and Cairo are proving so successful that it is adding a third flight to its twice weekly schedule in each direction. The opportunity to visit both Jerusalem and the Pyramids has caught the tourists' imagination.

SEVEN MONTHS FOR RABBI KAHANE

Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the militant right-wing Jewish Defence League was sentenced to seven months' imprisonment for breaking down the gates of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem last December, when the university authorities tried to prevent him from making a speech. Judge Zvi Cohen said that Kahane had not expressed any remorse for his offence, and judging by his previous record, was likely to repeat it. He had no alternative but to send him to prison. Rabbi Kahane still has to face charges of incitement to violence by a military court in the occupied Arabi town of Ramallah. town of Ramallah.

CHARGES AGAINST FLATTO-SHARON

The controversial Knesset member Mr. Flatto-Sharon, recently sentenced to five years' jail in absentia and a huge fine by French courts, will have to stand charges that he and his campaign managers attempted to bribe electors in the campaign which made him a Knesset member. They are accused of offering 15,000 flats in development areas to potential voters at cheap rents and of offering fees to campaigness in proportion to the offering fees to campaigners in proportion to the number of votes canvassed.

OPERATION "HEATWAVE"

Several hundred detectives and constables from Tel Aviv's crime squad took part in an operation code-named "Operation Heatwave", cracking down on one of the largest drug-rings ever to have operated in the city. 67 pedlars and dealers were operated in the city. 67 pedlars and dealers were arrested and large quantities of heroin and other drugs as well as stolen property were seized. Police waited for one of the suspects, an actor with the Haifa Theatre Company, until the final

DAYAN ATTENDS SHEIK'S FUNERAL

Mr. Moshe Dayan was among thousands of mourners who attended the funeral of Sheik Al Jabari, Mayor of Hebron between 1940 and 1976, who died aged 80. Senior Military Government officials and leading West Bank and Jordanian personalities also attended the funeral.

BRITISH COMMANDOS REMEMBERED

Last March, a party of 56 members of the British Commando Association and their wives visited Israel as guests of the Israel War Veterans League. The British organisation has now received a letter from General Haim Laskov, the League's president saying that in appreciation of the heroism of the commandos in the last war, 1,706 trees would be planted in the Volunteers Forest on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road, one for each commando killed in action.

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(Kiddush after each service in the Succah)

RELIGION SCHOOL Beginning of New Term and Registration of New Pupils Sunday, 7 September, at 10 a.m. F. Thorn

WIT AS A WEAPON

Most Jews enjoy telling jokes and none can resist the temptation to improve on a joke told by somebody else, preferably another Jew. As both the author of an admirable new book* and this reviewer belong to the same persuasion, all the objections the latter is going to raise should therefore be interpreted as the compulsory act described and not as expression of a patronising attitude. It so happens that "patronising" is in fact the main—and virtually the only—reservation one might have to this thoroughly researched and attractively produced slim volume: Egon Larsen rightly assumes that the average British reader does not know much about, say, the Berlin of the Thirties and their politics, and consequently considers it necessary to explain the historical background though most readers know already how the Franco-Prussian war of 1870/71 ended and might be offended when told who lost. However, as the most important objective of Larsen's book is to show the political and historical background of what otherwise could become just one more collection of funny stories, we may forgive the author his didactic zeal and his prudent distrusthis intentions are pure.

Strangely enough only two of the great philosophers in our time took an earnest interest in The Joke as a form of intellectual rebellion, namely Bergson and Freud, although the former was not really a great philosopher and the latter much more than only a philosopher. But both were Jews, and Larsen shows in the last-but-one chapter of his book—"Self-Criticism and Defence: The Jewish Joke"—that this is not a coincidence. In the basic-historic introduction ("The People's Voice") he appropriately quotes from Freud's "Jokes and their Relations to the Unconscious" what applies to the political joke: "... Tendentious jokes are especially favoured in order to make aggressiveness or criticism possible against persons in exalted positions who claim to exercise authority. The joke then represents a rebellion against that authority, a liberation from its pressure."

These persons of exalted position exist of course in every society, there might have been some in Stone Age tribal groupings, there certainly was one in the Shtetl, where the unassailable authority of the Rabbi was dented by sly allegations about the mildly libidinous disposition of his wife-and there were in a different, in an appallingly different order of magnitude, the various leaders of totalitarian régimes in the 20th century. The occurrence or rather the creation of antiauthoritarian political jokes, eternally defeated and still heroically existent long after their targets fell to pieces, is by virtue of their anonymity (not in spite of it) probably as important a phenomenon in the history of human thought as the more esoteric commentaries of individuals or schools. And it is Larsen's great merit to have conceived and proved just that.

His chronological order too is convincing. After the summary of "prehistoric" wit as it were in "The People's Voice" follow "From the Charivari to the Cabaret"—dealing, among many other things, with political jokes in 19th century France, Britain and Germany,—then the "Jokes Against Hitler and Mussolini", whose victims provided the tears and the laughter, then—organically linked to this chapter—the "Jewish Joke", and finally "Jokes from the East" including the best of the Sender Eriwan stories, which for once we can enjoy with no other pain than the sorrow of lost illusions.

It is-hardly astonishingly-the German complex which provoked most of this reviewer's compulsory objections mentioned in the introduction. Larsen calls Wilhelm Busch a "light-weight comic poet". who-apart from being a rabid anti-Semite-was the first explorer of the satiric power in everyday language, and forgets to mention Lichtenberg, who almost visibly forged language into political protest as in Gibt es ein Land ausser Deutschland, wo man die Nase eher rümpfen lernt denn putzen? The author also deplores the lack of real wit on the German stage and blames poor Schiller and his theory of the theatre "als moralische Anstalt" for it, quoting Goetz von Berlichingen as witty exception. . . . In the 19th century the German theatre sadly lagged behind the English, the Irish and the French, but had Larsen glanced only once south of the border of his own native Bavaria, he might have discovered Raimund and the unique genius of dramatic satire, Johann Nestroy.

Having followed thus one's Jewish calling, one is of course tempted to quote and to quote again, first those stories, which are new-and Larsen, who for decades collected, sifted and classified political jokes, brings quite a few one has never heard before—and then the bitter and sweet stories about the Old Jew, the Rich Jew, the Clever Jew and the eternal Nebbich, which one has heard before and would like to tell again, because they contain our private heroic defeats and victories and our comment on the human condition. The temptation has to be resisted if only to preserve the reader's right to choose and the delight of discovery and re-discovery. Let us just confirm that all are skilfully told and where required, brilliantly translated-God knows, no mean achievement.

Finally an unavoidable correction, albeit of one of the few stories without political under-current. It is the one of a humble Galician Jew who took off his jacket and put his feet on the seat in a railway compartment and immediately pulls himself together when a distinguished looking stranger enters. After finding out that he is a fellow Jew, the humble one puts his feet back on the seat and is supposed to have said: "Oi so", which is not Yiddish. He said in fact "Asoi"—exactly what this reviewer does by pointing out the error.

JEWS FROM RHINA

The Hessische Rundfunk is preparing the broadcast about the former Jewish population of Rhina (Northern Hesse), one of the very few places, in which the majority of the inhabitants consisted of Jews. Any readers who can supply material are asked to get in touch with: Herr Lueders, Hessisches Fernsehen, Kultur, Bertam:str.8, 6000 Frankfurt/M, German Federal Republic.

JEWS IN EUSKIRCHEN

Oberstudienrat H.-Dieter Arntz, Hasenhecke 16, 5350 Euskirchen-Rheder, is preparing a book about the history of the Jews in Euskirchen and surrounding places from 1300 CE up to the years of persecution. He appeals to emigrated readers who can give information, including experiences after 1933 as well as personal reminiscences of any kind. Documents, which would be treated confidentially, and photos would be returned on request.

EMINENT ORT PRESIDENTS

At the centenary congress of the World Ort Union in Jerusalem, Mr. Max Braude, its director general since 1957 announced that he was going to retire. His successor, Mr. Joseph Harmatz, a former head of Ort Israel, will inherit an executive with an average age under 50. Mr. Braude, born in Harmony, Pennsylvania, was admitted to Pittsburg University at 15, supported himself by teaching Hebrew and Arabic, and won a scholarship in social work which he was too young to take up. At 19, he joined a yeshiva and became its registrar. After joining the Army, he saw the need for Jewish chaplains and became a rabbi. Eventually he became chief chaplain of the US 7th Army and was, as he said, "in charge of about 1,500 Roman Catholic Priests, 400 Protestant ministers and 25 rabbis". At the end of the war, he ministered to the spiritual needs of thousands of Jews in displaced persons camps. Afterwards he worked for the Joint, Hias and Ort. He saw Ort develop from an agency spending 75 per cent of its resources on refugee aid to one devoting 70 per cent on programmes for young people between 14 and 20.

At the Jerusalem congress, Mr. Chaim Herzog, Israel's former representative to the UN, was elected president of World Ort. His predecessor, Professor Haber, sent a telegram of greetings to Queen Elizabeth and received a reply signed in person by the Queen.

NEWS FROM THE EAST

NO USSR VISAS FOR ISRAELIS

Some 170 Israeli citizens who wanted to go to Moscow, many of them in order to visit Jewish relatives there, were denied visas after Israel decided to boycott the Olympic Games. An Israeli travel agency which had already received payment for the trip and transferred it to the Russian Intourist Agency, states that the Russians refused to repay more than 80 per cent of the amounts paid.

BRIBES AT VISA OFFICE

Two Jews, Shmuel Rozemberg, 51, and S. Biletzky received prison sentences of five and eight years for bribing a senior official at the Tashkent visa and registration office. The official, who holds the rank of colonel in the Interior Ministry, received 10 years. He is said to have used his authority to exact bribes from Jews seeking to emigrate.

SOVIET UNION REJECTS BRITISH PROTEST

The British Foreign Office has expressed dissatisfaction with the official Soviet Union response to its complaint of harassment of British Citizens visiting the USSR, particularly those who have been in contact with Jewish activists. The official Russian response made by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zemskov to the British Ambassador in Moscow dealt specifically with only one or two cases out of a much larger number submitted to it.

DEATH PENALTY FEARS

49-year-old Mr. Rafael Adijashvili, a Georgian Jew, was sentenced to death in 1978 for economic crimes. His sentence followed the trial of 50 employees of a Baku textile plant accused of selling goods worth £382,000 for their own gain. His case is now before the Supreme Court for review. Two of his Jewish colleagues had their death sentences commuted to 15 years' imprisonment.

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*Egon Larsen, Wit as a Weapon, The Political Joke in History, Frederick Muller, London. 108 pp., £4.95.

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SIR HANS KREBS 80 YEARS YOUNG

In the issue of AJR Information dated August 1975, the late Professor Ernst Chain wrote a birthday tribute to his friend and colleague Sir Hans Krebs. He began that tribute with an expression of surprise, that anyone so obviously youthful could possibly have seen seventy-five summers. As one who also proudly claims Sir Hans Krebs as friend, I must echo this sentiment even though the surprise has long gone. Only a few months ago I had the privilege of attending an International Symposium, in Dallas, Texas, where virtually all those who had created the science of metabolic biochemistry (including six Nobel Laureates) had gathered, for four days of intense scientific discussion, to honour their Master. At the end of that stimulating but exhausting meeting, the only person still wholly fresh, and able to give a lecture that was received with a standing ovation, was that Master-Sir Hans.

Those who do not know the pace at which he works might, perhaps, have wondered at seeing him in that far-off place: however, the demands made on him for advice, lectures and seminars are such that one can be certain of meeting him only if one hangs around Heathrow. . . .

Sir Hans' many contributions to our knowledge of the molecular changes by which living organisms convert their food to the cellular building blocks for growth and maintenance, and by which they obtain the energy they need, began in 1926 when he was appointed as an assistant to Professor Otto Warburg at the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institut in Berlin-Dahlem. He moved to the University of Freiburg five years later and made his first major discovery: the precise sequence of chemical changes by which the liver converts potentially toxic nitrogenous wastes into urea, which is harmless and excreted. This work attracted

immediate notice throughout the scientific world; indeed, the then President of the Royal Society, Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, commented on it in warm terms in the course of his Presidential address. And this was to be of direct benefit to Hans Krebs: when, like other Jewish academics, he was dismissed from his University post in 1933, Hopkins immediately invited him to join his Department in Cambridge. After three fruitful and happy years there, Krebs moved to Sheffield, where he was to remain for the next 18 years and where he made his second major discovery-the cycle of reactions that will always be known as The Krebs Cycle, and that explains how all food materials release their stored energy in the course of being "burned" to carbon dioxide and water. It is this discovery in particular that was recognised by Hans Krebs' election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1947 and by the award to him of the Nobel Prize in 1953.

In 1954, Professor Krebs was invited to succeed Sir Rudolph Peters in the Chair at Oxford. There he continued to teach, to train generations of students (many of whom now hold Chairs) and to advance knowledge through his research and through that of the Medical Research Council Unit he directed, until his retirement in 1967. But, as already apparent from my opening paragraph, "retirement" is a word totally inappropriate when applied to Sir Hans (he had been knighted in 1958). Accompanied by a small but devoted band of colleagues, he merely moved his laboratory half a mile up the road and continued to work away as if the cessation of University responsibilities meant merely that a load had been taken off his shoulders. The stream of first rate published work that still continues to flow from his laboratory is obligatory reading for all biochemists

and convincingly refutes the belief that scientists progressively lose their creativity after the age of 40. Perhaps after the age of 90 there may come a slight slowing up? We shall wait to see!

Till then, all his many friends, admirers, students and colleagues join to wish him a happy birthday on 25 August and many more happy and fruitful years. Our warmest good wishes also go to Lady Krebs and their children, Helen, Paul and John.

Sir Hans Kornberg is Sir William Dunn Professor of Biochemistry at Cambridge University.

Trusted Friend of the AJR

The AJR cordially associates itself with the good wishes expressed to Sir Hans Krebs by his friend and fellow scientist, Sir Hans Kornberg. Like many other outstanding personalities who came to this country as refugees, he has always identified himself with his community of origin and been associated with the efforts of the AJR. His unforgettable address on the occasion of the handing over ceremony of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund to the British Academy testified to this attitude. The manifold honours bestowed on him in this country as well as in Germany and other countries abroad were only recently amplified by the award of the honorary doctorate of the Medical Faculty of the University of Goetingen. Notwithstanding his widely recognised achievements, Sir Hans has endeared himself to everybody who has the privilege of knowing him by his personal modesty and unassuming bearing. This is added reason for us to wish him very many happy returns of the day.

CBE AWARD TO REFUGEE

Amongst the recipients of the CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours was Halle-born Professor Hermann Lehmann of Cambridge who was honoured for his services to clinical biochemistry. Professor Lehmann, who spent his youth in Dresden, is a member of the AJR. He came to this country as a refugee research student in 1934.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

VERDICT ON OBERAMMERGAU

On its return from Oberammergau, the American Jewish Committee reported that the passion play which they had watched in its new, amended form, remained one of the most antisemitic presentations shown anywhere in the world, despite Mayor Zwink's assurance during one of their previous visits that they would make a genuine effort to remove every vestige of antisemitism. Mrs. Banki, assistant director of the Committee's inter-religious affairs, has written a booklet "What viewers should know about the Oberammergau Passion Play 1980".

The United States Defence Department has issued an order to stop all promotions of the play and tours to Oberammergau by members of

play and tours to Oberammergau by members of

the Army.

Ernst Zwink, mayor of Oberammergau, said

factival committee would once that next year the festival committee would once more revise the text on the strength of the Jewish

more revise the text on the strength of the Jewish reaction. He felt, however, that everything had been done to remove antisemitic tendencies and to establish a basis for reconciliation.

The German Bishops' Conference published a lengthy statement, saying that as the Oberammergau citizens were all good Catholics, they should ask God and their Jewish brethren for forgiveness for past sins. They must not use the ferrible accusation that the Jews were the people terrible accusation that the Jews were the people of deicides.

DRIVE AGAINST NAZI JUDGES

During a conference of public prosecutors in the Federal Republic, it was announced that so far investigations had led to the discovery of 51 surviving members of the notorious Nazi People's Court who had been involved in some 600 sentences, many of them capital ones. Between 1934 and 1945 the People's Court sentenced 1,455 people to death. The Chief Public Prosecutor of East Germany promised to give every help in tracing further judges and lawyers of the Court and to give access to the German Central Archives in Potsdam which are presumed to contain many of the files of the Court. So far, no judge or prosecutor has faced trial in the Federal Republic.

NAZI PROPAGANDA FROM THE US

According to the Hanover Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the militant Neo-Nazi group membership in Land Lower Saxony grew from 1,000 to some 1,400 in 1979. There were 1,483 offences committed by them, more than half as much as in the previous year. The Hanover Office also noted that most of the neo-Nazi propaganda material, including anti-Jewish stickers, was imported from Canada and from the NSDAP leader Gary Laucks of the USA who was expelled from the Federal Republic.

15,000 DEMONSTRATE AGAINST NEO-NAZIS

A demonstration under the motto "Democracy A demonstration under the motto "Democracy obliges" was held in Frankfurt under the auspices of the Protestant and Catholic Churches, the Jewish community, the Trades Unions and the Youth organisations. Some 15,000 people took part. The Trades Union representative, Mr. Walter Hesselbach, warned against the dangers of neo-Nazism and said that both old and new Nazisminimised the atrocities committed by the Third Reich and were once more spreading the spiritual Reich and were once more spreading the spiritual dirt of Nazi barbarism.

INSOLENT LAWYER FINED

A Nuremberg Court imposed a fine of DM 1,500 on 75-year-old lawyer Engelhardt who had demanded from a TV journalist, Mrs Renate Harpprecht, that she should substantiate her claims that relatives of hers had been killed in the gas-chambers of a German concentration camp within a specified period and had threatened to bring a case against her for insult and instigation bring a case against her for insult and insugation to hatred if she did not comply. He said in court that German TV had shown many anti-German films which insulted the feelings of former members of the SS, culminating in "Holocaust." The bers of the SS, culminating in "Holocaust." The Court told him that he had tried to exercise unlawful coercion and that he had no claim to the information he had asked for.

NO MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES FOR MURDERER

Some time ago, a Hamburg jury sentenced a former SS officer to 12 years imprisonment for murdering 50 Jews in a camp in Ruthenia during the war. He had been 21 at the time, and the court said that he had been spared a life sentence because he had been implicated in exercise. because he had been implicated in a system of lawlessness which transcended his own responsi-bility. The Federal Constitutional Court revoked the sentence and imposed a life sentence in its place, stating that no one who had taken part in National Socialist crimes of violence should be entitled to mitigating circumstances because of the general system of lawlessness.

DR. MENGELE TRACED

Mr. Simon Wiesenthal announced in Zürich that the chances to catch Auschwitz doctor Mengele were now better than ever before. The German authorities were very co-operative and had issued Embassies with warrants for all German arrest. He added that they had also traced Walter Rauff who had administered the mobile gaschambers used in Soviet Russia by the Nazis.

Rauff who is alleged to have been involved in the murder of 250,000 people, lives in Punto Arenas in Chile where he owns a factory producing fish preserves. He is said to feel secure, because under the Chilean Statute of Limitation, murder is not weighted after 15 week. punishable after 15 years.

A SOURCE OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY Dr. Eyrich, Minister of Justice of Baden-Württemberg, said that in its 21 years of existence the Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes in Ludwigsburg had instigated over 12.000 trials and given information to scholars, law courts and individuals in more than 50,000 in-stances. Its card index contained 1.2 million items on individuals and corporations, and it had collected copies of 550,000 documents, most of them housed abroad. Furthermore it stored records of more than 30,000 investigations and trials of Nazi criminals by German courts. In 1979. investigations were started against 700 individuals. Dr. Eyrich added that despite the fact that new trials were becoming less likely in view of the age of those involved, the Central Office should continue to exist as one of the most important sources of contemporary history, where it held a unique position. unique position.

AUSTRIANS' ISRAEL SYMPATHIES

A public opinion poll showed that some 29 per cent of Austrians supported Israel and only 9 per cent are pro-Arab.

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CATHOLIC AND JEWS JOIN

More than 70,000 Roman Catholics from all over the Federal Republic met in Berlin for the Catholic Conference. One of its outstanding events was a meeting in the Fasanenstrasse Jewish centre, followed by a joint silent march to the Pesta-lozzistrasse Synagogue where an ecumenical service was held.

At the Jewish centre, Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Jewish community of Berlin, told the guests, many of them young people, that the conference was guided by the spirit of togetherness between Catholics and Jews and, for that reason, was an event of long-lasting importance for all concerned. He remembered that, under the Nazi regime, there had been courageous Church leaders who gave voice to their conscience at a time when acting against one's conscience was considered a patriotic duty. Among them were Cardinals Graf Galen of Münster and Preysing of Berlin, but also many foreign priests who were martyred for their faith. He remembered that, when he was an inmate of Auschwitz, he had met Father Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish priest who was subsequently killed for his continued opposition to the Nazis. A church in Spandau now bore his name. There had, however, been many Christians who refused to recognise that NS ideology which

who refused to recognise that NS ideology which denied all ethical laws, was directed against their faith as well as against Jews.

Mr. Galinski also spoke at another session of the conference under the motto "To live with the Sins of the Fathers", and said to-day's Germans, the descendants of those who had become guilty under the Nazis, were trying to obliterate the memory of those days. The few Jews now living in Germany were often accused of trying to keep in Germany were often accused of trying to keep those memories alive and to transfer guilt from fathers to sons. However, the time had not come to keep silent about these things. Jews had been perturbed by the effect of the showing of the "Holocaust" film on German TV. Nothing it revealed should have come as news after 40 years —it did not show any new revelations. Did its effect mean that the sons had now become adult and were ready to shoulder the guilt of their

fathers"

Professor Karl Lehmann, a Catholic theologian from Freiburg, said it was the duty of Christians to do more than come to terms with the past: they must atone for the guilt of their fathers and work for reconciliation based on biblical teaching. Alfred Grosser, Paris, recipient of the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade, said the Catholic Church had become guilty by keeping silent, particularly in the early days of the NS regime. It should collectively recognise that guilt.

There were eight more silent marches, started

places where Nazi crimes had been committed and ending at churches, where services were being held. A number of exhibitions, visited by thousands of people, illustrated the events. One, dedicated to the "non-Aryan" Christians, had been put together by Cecile Lowenthal-Hensel who is also the author of a booklet, dealing with the background of those years the background of those years

OLD AGE INSTITUTIONS IN BERLIN

Over 60 residents of the Jewish Old Age Home in Iranische Strasse recently moved to the newly erected Home for Jewish senior citizens in Dernburg Str. near Lietzensee. A Flatlet Home on the same site, with 60 single and six double rooms, will be ready next spring.

E.G.L.

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IN MEMORIAM

DR. HANS NEUFELD

Dr. Hans Neufeld recently died in his 90th year. Until 1933, he was a high civil servant in Germany as an expert on financial policy. His outstanding role in the field of revalorisation was widely recognised. In 1929 he was transferred from the Reich Ministry of Finances to the Prussian Finance Ministry, where he obtained the rank of Minishe was also State Commissar at the terialrat: Berlin Stock Exchange from 1930 onwards. In 1933, Dr. Neufeld emigrated to this country and became a legal and financial adviser. He wrote commentaries to several laws related to banking and public loans and also contributed to German and British periodicals. The AJR has special reason to commemorate Dr. Neufeld. He was an interested member of its Board, and his services were particularly valuable when he was Chairman of the Revolving Fund Committee, operating during the first years of restitution legislation to make advance payments to needy refugees whose claims were not yet settled. He kept contact with the AJR up to the end and only a few months before his death attended our latest Board meeting.

MRS. M. WATERHOUSE

Many refugees who lived in North West London during the war, will be sad to learn that Mrs. Margaret Waterhouse, the bookseller, has died. In those days, she ran the second-hand bookshop in the arcades of the old Swiss Cottage Underground station which have long since disaptones. peared. It was always possible to browse for hours among the many books she bought from people who no longer had room to store them, or people who no longer had room to store them, or who just needed the money, and occasionally even to buy cheaply books which one had feared never to see again. She specialised in German classics and German-Judaica. When the Yiddisch poet Itzik Manger arrived in Britain as a refugee from French North Africa, she befriended him and looked after him for the rest of his life. After the rebuilding of Swiss Cottage station, she ran a second-hand bookshop in Flask Walk, Hampstead, for a while, and many of her old friends and customers followed her there. Her kindness in those early days will be remembered by all who knew her. PROFESSOR ERICA WACHTEL

Professor Erica Wachtel, who came to this country as a refugee in 1938, has died, aged 68. She earned wide recognition for her work in gynaecological cytology, the study of cells, which pioneered the screening and early detection of cancer of the cervix and many other cancers. She qualified in Vienna and resumed medical work in 1941 at the Belgrave Hospital for Children. Later she held appointments at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, the West London Hospital and Hammersmith Hospital, where, in 1949, she was given charge of the embryo department of cytology which she built up to international renown. She made Hammersmith Hospital a meeting place for international aspects and the same of the contractional aspects and the same of t for international experts and trainees in cytology and ran one of the five national schools of cytology.

PROFESSOR GUSTAV STEIN

Professor Gustav Stein who has died, aged 75, will be remembered by many victims of Nazi persecution whom he helped during the war. He was a lawyer in Cologne before and during the war. He was a lawyer in Cologne before and during the war and in 1945 he became a founder member of the German Chemical Industry Association and helped to rebuild the Federal Organisation of German Industry. From 1961 to 1972, he was a member of the German Bundestag. Since then, he worked tirelessly as president of the Organisation for Sponsoring Scientific Cooperation with Tel Aviv University, and as a member of the University's Board of Governors.

MRS. J. L. STEINHARDT

Mrs. J. L. Steinhardt who came to this country from Frankfurt as a refugee in 1939, is remembered with gratitude by 31 refugees who arrived in Britain aged between eight and 16, and were looked after by Mrs. Steinhardt and her husband, Mr. Hugo Steinhardt who died in 1942. They had arrived in Britain with their two daughters and Mrs. Steinhardt's sister and settled at Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire, where they were in charge of a home for refugee boys, provided and maintained by the late James de Rothschild, MP. and his wife. She remained in Waddesdon after they grew up and left, but many of them have been calling on her in recent years, often from as far afield as Israel and America.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DR. ARTHUR BEER AT 80

Sir.—Many of your readers may wish to congratulate Dr. Arthur Beer, astronomer, meteorologist and historian of science who recently cele-brated his 80th birthday. His academic achievements are probably better known than his single-handed are probably better known than his single-handed rescue work for Jewish intellectuals soon after his arrival in this country in 1934. Over the years he played an important part in the escape and resettlement of some 50 fellow-Jews. Born in Reichenberg, Bohemia, on 28 June 1900, he studied physics and astronomy from 1919 and after a crippling attack of polio—received his Doctor's degree "summa cum laude" from the University of Berlin. Working as a meteorologist in an official capacity he was closely associated with the Warburg Institute in Hamburg until his emigration. Only in 1937 could he return to full time scientific work at the new University of London Observatory. When war broke out, he sought and found an opportunity to serve his adopted country in a scientific post with the Ministry. After the war, he rejoined Cambridge University as a senior observer at The Observatories. Despite being seriously ill, he intrepidly carried on with his manysided scientific work after his retirement. Among his many books is a fascinating study on Paracelsus, and he is still busy diving the west injury intervaliance. editing the prestigious international review Vistas in Astronomy which he founded in the 1950s. His friends salute him and wish him many more years of scientific work in singularly unauspicious circumstances in the companionship of his wife. son, daughter and three grandchildren.
(DR.) ERWIN ROSENTHAL

199 Chesterton Road,

Cambridge.

ERAN LAOR

Sir,-In the fine tribute to Eran Laor, published in your June issue, special reference is made to his essays on philosophy of religion. May I add that Laor's achievements also include the publi-cation of his important book "Die Grosse Einheit -Zerfall und Neugestaltung unseres Weltbildes' (Agens-Verlag, Genf-Wien, 1959). (Dr.) FRITZ FRIEDLAENDER

Melbourne Australia

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Birthdays

Schweig:— Dr. Bruno Schweig of 18
West Heath Drive, N.W.11, a longstanding and interested member of the
AJR, will celebrate his 90th birthday
on 19 August. He is admired by all
who know him for his youthfulness,
his lively spirit and helpfulness. In
1971, when he was already 81, he
wrote a book "Mirrors—A Guide to
the Manufacture of Mirrors and Reflecting Surfaces". His family in Israel
and all his relations here in London
and abroad and his many friends wish
him the very best—especially good him the very best-especially good health-for at least a further 30 years.

Algore:— Tony Algore of 1 Fairoak Drive, Eltham, S.E.9 passed away after much suffering on 13 July. Sadly missed by his wife Margot, daughter Susan, son-in-law Levy, grandchildren Ari and Gaby, relatives and friends Gaby, relatives and friends.

Deaths

Berger:- Martin Berger of Ruislip, Middx., passed away peacefully on 11 June, aged 83. Deeply mourned by his wife and relatives.

Dezsofi: Josef Dezsofi of 29 Barnhill Road, Prestwich, Manchester, (formerly Boesing, CSR) passed away after much suffering on 14 July. Sadly missed by his wife Stella, son, daughter-in-law, relatives and friends

Frank:- Martha Frank, beloved wife of Benno, dear mother of Eva S.
Bergoffen, died suddenly in Bournemouth on 10 May. Deeply mourned
by her family and numerous friends.

Gold:—Announcing with sorrow the passing of Hilda Gold, aged 90, of 47 Thetford Road, New Malden on 12 July. On behalf of her many relatives in England and abroad Gerda Gort, niece.

Schonfeld:— Mrs. Alice Schonfeld (formerly Hamburg), of 130 Hamilton Terrace, London, N.W.8, passed away on 23 June. Deeply mourned by her family and friends.

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ATTRACTIVE LADY, late 50. would like to meet gentleman over 60, view friendship or marriage. Box 822.

INFORMATION REQUIRED General Enquiries

Ehrlich:— Would readers who can give information about Dr. med. Ernst Ehrlich, formerly Gartenstrasse 22, Erfurt, please get in touch with the AJR Office.

Nothmann:— Ruth Nothmann, born 15 September, 1919 in Breslau, Klos-terstrasse 20, daughter of Richard and Kaethe Nothmann,, passed "Abitur" in 1937 and afterwards trained as teacher for Jewish Primary Schools. Emigrated to Scotland in cutturil Emigrated to Scotland in autumn 1938, working as teacher in a boarding school. Replies to Inge Bonk, geb. Niese, D-8991 Esseratswerler, Sternenbrueckle 5.

Osterode: Historian seeks former residents of Osterode (Harz) in connection with his research on the history of that town and the fate of its Jews, 1919-1945. Among the people sought are the brothers Goldmann (Martin, Werner or Warren, Heinz or Henry). Contact Professor Walter Struve, 2727 Palisade Ave. Walter Struve, 2727 I Bronx, NY 10463/USA. Palisade Ave.

Spiegel:- Mrs. Elsa Sana Spiegel born 24.6.1909. Last known address 11 Schreigasse, Vienna 12, deported 2 June, 1942 to Minsk. Could readers who can give any information about Mrs. Spiegel please write to Box 821.

MISCELLANY

HONOURS AND AWARDS

The publisher Dr. Gottfried Bermann Fischer, who now lives in retirement in Italy, was appointed "Ehrensenator" of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt. Originally a surgeon, he joined the leading S. Fischer Verlag, founded by his father-in-law Samuel Fischer (1859-1934). When the Nazis came to power, he transferred the firm first to Vienna, later to Stockholm and in 1940 to New York. After the war, the S. Fischer Verlag was re-established in Frankfurt and Berlin. In 1967, Bermann Fischer published his memoirs under the title "Bedroht, bewährt—der Weg eines Verlegers" (1967).

Rabbi Dr. Alexander Altmann was awarded the first honorary doctorate of the university of Trier which was founded 10 years ago. Dr. Altmann grew up in Trier as the son of the former rabbi of that city, Oberrabbiner Dr. Adolf Altmann, who perished in Auschwitz. Until 1938, he was rabbi in Berlin until he was appointed communal rabbi of Manchester in 1938. From 1959 to 1976 he was Professor at Brandeis university. Dr. Altmann's biography of Moses Mendelssohn has become a standard work.

Professor Dr. Herbert Weichmann, retired First Mayor of Hamburg, was awarded the Grand Golden Medal of the Hamburg "Patriotische Gesellschaft". Only three or four outstanding Hamburg personalities received the medal during the past 80 years.

Dr. Friedrich S. Brodnitz (New York) was appointed Corresponding Member of the "Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Hals-Nasen-und Ohrenheilkunde". Before he went to the United States in 1937, he played a leading role in the Reichsvertretung, the Central-Verein and other Jewish organisations in Germany.

The Alfred Kerr Prize for achievements in the field of literary criticism was awarded to the literary magazine "Die Horen", published in Bremerhaven. The Prize, which carries a monetary equivalent of DM 5,000, was endowed by the Boersenblatt fuer den Deutschen Buchhandel four years ago.

FUNCTIONS IN HOMES

Whilst members are always informed in this paper about Homes run for elderly refugees, only comparatively few of them know the Homes from within. It is one of the objects of the Homes' functions to give AJR members and their friends an opportunity of getting an impression of the facilities of the Homes, their residents and staff and, above all, the atmosphere by which they excel. We are pleased to report that the visitors to the recent At Home at Heinrich Stahl House included quite a few friends, who saw the Home for the first time. Whilst the function was primarily arranged as a social event, it was also a financial success, yielding £1,300 for the Home's Amenity Fund. As readers will notice from the announcement in this paper, this month a Summer Fair will be held at Osmond House on Sunday, 17 August, at 3 p.m. The fact that it will be opened by Bettine Le Beau, the well known radio personality, should serve as an additional inducement and it is hoped that many members will attend the function. Special arrangements have been made for the entertainment of children.

BEQUEST TO AJR

Miss Margot Rosenbaum who died last February, left £94,000, of which £2,500 and 60 per cent of the residue go to personal legatees, and 40 per cent of the residue to the AJR and the Salvation Army in equal parts.

MEMORIES OF THE 1936 OLYMPICS

In a letter to the "Daily Telegraph", Mrs. Librowicz of Shipley, Yorkshire, remembers how, living in Berlin in 1936, she had offered to let rooms to visitors, but had been rejected as unsuitable, because she was Jewish, notwithstanding a public appeal to provide such accommodation. She writes:

She writes:

"This was the German way of keeping those who could tell the truth away from the visitors, not unlike the Russians who send some of their citizens out of Moscow. In the end, however, the laugh was on our side. We received a request for help in finding accommodation for a non-Jewish industrialist and his wife from the Rhineland who wanted to stay with a strictly non-Nazi family. We took them in and had a grand time with them, whilst Aryan accommodation stood empty as many potential visitors stayed away rather than come to Nazi Germany."

"BEST BOOK ON THE HOLOCAUST"

Benjamin Ferencz's work "Less than Slaves" (reviewed in our May issue) was awarded two major national prizes in the United States. The National Jewish Welfare Board selected it as "The best book on the Holocaust", and "Present Tense", the Magazine published by the American Jewish Committee, decided to include it in its literary awards for the best Jewish books of 1979.

FIRST CANADIAN WOMAN RABBI

27-year-old Miss Joan Friedman, who has been ordained in New York, will take up her duties as assistant rabbi at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto this month. Rabbi H. J. Fields, senior rabbi of the Reform Temple, said that women comprise about 20 per cent of the Hebrew Union College's students and 35 per cent of the cantorial school students.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

Einstein "relatively unsuccessful"? An unusual event at this year's "Ruhrfestspiele" at Recklinghausen was the first performance of Kurt Dessau's opera "Einstein". In 21 scenes the opera demonstrates Einstein's life in Germany, his emigration, the United Hitler's war and Einstein's activities in the United States. When the bombs fall on Hiroshima, the great physicist recognizes the consequences of scientific development and the part he played in it. As a result, he destroys his latest inventions in the interest of humanity. The opera—according to reviewers—will hardly enrich repertoires of international opera houses. international opera houses.

Vienna. "Theater in der Josefstadt" has many plans for 1980/81 under its conservative yet enterprising director Ernst Haeusermann. 50 years after the death of Arthur Schnitzler works of that after the death of Arthur Schnitzler works of that by now almost classic Austrian author are featured. New productions of "Der einsame Weg" and "Zug der Schatten" are being prepared, as well as a reading of "Reigen" which at the time of its origin was rigorously banned.

"The Diary of Anne Frank", the play based on the diary of the girl which had its London première in 1957 (with Perlita Nielsen and Miriam Karlin) is still performed in German theatres. Recent revivals appeared in Bielefeld and Oldenburg

and Oldenburg.

Birthdays. Hans Thimig, "youngest" of the celebrated actor family and a permanent broadcaster of Radio Austria, is 80 this month. Ida Ehre, who was an actress at Berlin's Lessing-Ida Ehre, who was an actress at Berlin's Lessing-theater when Hitler took over in 1933, is also 80 years old. Having lost her family and having miraculously survived the years of terror, she has been responsible for the management of Hamburger Kammerspiele for the past 35 years. In a dramatic feature "Memoiren" she now portrays the legendary French actress Sarah Bernhardt.

Abstractions at Annely Juda

Boxes, triangles, squares, shapes, forms that defy description—colours bright, sombre, clash-ing, mute and brash. This is Abstraction 1910-1940, the exhibition now at Annely Juda Fine Art, 11 Tottenham Mews, W1, until 27 September. After the recent Abstraction exhibition at the

Tate Gallery, it needed great courage to mount an exhibition on a similar theme, but Annely and David Juda have succeeded brilliantly. It is a great exhibition and great art by masters of their profession. The variety and quality of the work displayed is immense. Here are just a few of the displayed is immense. Here are just a few of the artists, including those who may be of special interest to readers of this journal: Ella Bergmann-Michel (1896-1971), Carl Buchheiser (1890-1964), Erich Buchholz (1891-1972), Walter Dexel (1890-1973), Adolf Fleischmann (1892-1968), Hannah Hoch (1889-1978), Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944), Le Corbusier (1887-1965), Robert Michel (b 1897). Laszlo Moholy-Nagy (1895-1946), Hans Reichel (1892-1958), Kurt Schwitters (1887-1948) and Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart (1899-1962).

As usual a magnificent catalogue has been pro-

As usual a magnificent catalogue has been produced in connection with this exhibition. It not only contains many illustrations, with a fine coloured Schwitters on the cover, but also com-prehensive biographical details about the artists. These details reveal how much of this work was considered degenerate by the Nazis and how many of the artists were forced or chose to emigrate and continue their artistic careers elsewhere.

A very short-lived exhibition of the work of Doddy Strasser was recently held at the Press Club. She only took up painting in 1965, but her pictures, mostly landscapes, show great talent and inner feeling.

ALICE SCHWAB.

"MUSEUM OF THE DIASPORA"

"MUSEUM OF THE DIASPORA"

"Beth Hatefutsoth", the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora in Tel Aviv, provides visitors with an integrated and simultaneous history of Jewish communities. Its imaginative and innovative presentation of 2,500 years of Jewish history is a permanent link between Israel and the Jewish people. To maintain and expand this unique exhibition and to cover the costs for its various functions, Societies of Friends of the Museum have been founded in many countries, The office of the British Friends, from which details may be obtained, is at 183/9 Finchley Road, London, NW3 6LD.

"THANK-YOU BRITAIN" FUND Free Offer of Publications

The British Academy holds a limited number of surplus copies of the 1974 three-afternoon lectures by Lord Blake on "The Office of the Prime Minister" (74 pp.), which illuminate two and a half centuries of constitutional history. The AJR which raised the "Thank-You Britain Fund" has been offered complimentary copies for its members. Any requests, together with 50p for package and postage, should be sent to: The Secretary. Thank-Offering to Britain Fund, The British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London WIV ONS.

"THE JEW OF MALTA" TOO ANTISEMITIC

Marlowe's play "The Jew of Malta", written in 1558/59, has only had five productions in London, the last one by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1964. Mr. Timothy West the new director of the Old Vic Theatre, who had played a small part in that performance, wanted to include it in his first season at the Old Vic, but a number of directors and sponsors turned it down on the grounds that it was too antisemitic. The play has now been replaced by Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" in which Mr. West, a member of the Anti-Nazi League, will play Shylock.

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