

C. C. Aronsfeld

## THE MUSLIM MILLIONS

### Crusaders and the Facts of Life

Islam and the teeming millions of its faithful are now a power that is respected wherever the importance of oil and the petrodollar is recognised. The Arab Muslims in particular are blessed with a vast expanse of land which they are hardly able to develop, and since those who have much proverbially want more, they wish to add to their several kingdoms and republics another "democratic state" called Palestine notwithstanding the fact that such a state already exists, in largely underpopulated Jordan, the difference between the two "nationalities" being roughly that between tweedledum and tweedledee.

But their millions—in people and money—have made a sufficient impression for the "freedom fighters" of the PLO to be taken seriously and as something better than ploys of Russian imperialism. The forbidding spectacle has been given a touch of the melodramatic by solemn oaths, from time to time, of a *Jihad* to be waged with as much dedication as ever were the Christian Crusades which the Muslims, to their credit, defeated. But whereas the Crusades at least got off the ground, the *Jihad* seems unlikely to advance beyond the holy shrines of Mecca and Medina and, if precedent is anything to go by, most of the fury will blow itself out in so much hot desert air.

The matter came up in practical terms at the recent Conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers at Amman where King Hussein declared that "the Islamic world, with the status it enjoys, the influence it can exert and the resources and capabilities it has, can do a great deal for the triumph of justice in Palestine and the liberation of our kinsfolk and holy places". But when the question was asked, Why then doesn't it?, the straightforward answer was that Arab leaders do not always mean what they say (albeit, as the pavement artist put it, from necessity, not choice). Even when they resolve to do something—a lament is heard—they lack in courage and commitment. At a specially convened extraordinary meeting, the Islamic Foreign Ministers adopted a positively firm resolution denouncing the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, calling for a severance of relations with the puppets in Kabul and a boycott of the "Olympic" circus in Moscow, but when it came to action, the resolution, no less firmly, stayed on paper.

For one thing there were several clients of Russia, notably Syria, Libya, the two Yemens and the PLO, arguing that since the Soviets supported the Arab cause they were entitled to gratitude. The delegate of the PLO actually objected to a leader of the Afghan *Mujahidin* (anti-Soviet partisans) being present, but he scored rather less than he bargained for when he, somewhat injudiciously, enquired what country Prof. A. R. Saiyaf represented. The obvious retort was—another question: What country did the PLO represent? Nor was the Palestinians' position

improved when the Malaysian Foreign Minister Ahmed Rithaudeen poured acid scorn on those who expected other Muslim countries to give unequivocal support over the issue of Palestine but were dilly-dallying over Soviet aggression in Afghanistan and the Soviet-abetted Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea.

The obvious cleavage left the Afghan deeply disappointed in his hopes of Islamic support. He has yet to take stock of the "basic contradictions and inabilities of Muslim leadership" which the always well informed London Muslim journal *Impact International* noted, with the very pertinent observation that "unless and until they were cured, it would be unrealistic to expect much of the resolutions however well meant".

About the same applies to the equally firm Arab stand against the Camp David accords. After they had all united at a Baghdad summit, Arab leaders proceeded to voice a variety of "reservations". The President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, told the sorry tale: "Then they withdrew their reservations during the Tunis conference and later again went on to vacillate". Sudan did so, Somalia and Oman, nor were they the only ones whose "pan-Arabism" was suspect. There were even "those whose land is occupied", and President Hussein strongly attacked the "secret" decision of the "steadfastness and confrontation" states whose discretion got the better of their valour as they stationed a newly raised

navy in Algeria and the crusading army in Libya, conveniently far removed from the front-line. The Iraqi made the valid point that "if the target is the Zionist entity this entire force should be in Syria or in Jordan"; this was "neither steadfastness nor confrontation", and "if we analyse what has been accomplished, we see that nothing has happened".

This is true enough, but neither is President Hussein ignorant of the difficulties involved. His own country for example has trouble with its neighbour Iran which is accused of violating the principle of non-interference, and President Hussein will stand no nonsense: "We are not the kind of people to bow to Khomeini. He has wagered to bend us and we have wagered to bend him. We will see who will bend whom". So the tug of war continues, particularly over three islands in the Gulf which Iran is rudely said to have shoplifted as if they were fancy goods at Marks & Spencers which Arabs are notoriously fond of.

Another neighbour, Turkey, is also accused of having helped herself to some Iraqi territory, and here the blame is put on the always handy scapegoat "Zionism and freemasonry" as well as "some centres of national Turkish fanaticism". For good measure, relations with Syria are down to the level of daggers drawn.

At the same time, President Hussein is alive to the activities inside Iraq of "traitors" who do not approve of the totalitarian rule exercised by the Socialist Ba'ath Party. Most of them belong to the illegal Islamic Religious Party which rejects Ba'ath ideology as an "un-Islamic mixture of nationalism and secularism", disregarding the principles of Islam as a guide of State policy, even to the extent of granting less and less toleration to religious functions. "Such dastardly acts" said a "leader of the Opposition", Ayatollah Sayyid Mahdi al-Hakim, "were not perpetrated even by the British colonial power"—and this is saying something.

#### Clients of Russia

A good many Syrians might well have similar feelings about their country where (according to *Impact International*) "amidst seemingly uncontrollable anti-government agitation the beleaguered regime of President Asad has started a new wave of beastly executions of its political adversaries and silenced three major professional trade unions by dissolving their councils and congresses". Besides the campaign against the traditionalist fanatics of the Muslim Brotherhood is being pursued with almost the same ferocity as against "the imperialist, Zionist, reactionary conspiracy". The Government in fact has been reduced to copying Colonel Gaddafi of Libya by calling for the assassination of opponents abroad.

While largely dependent on the Russians, Syria also sought political and economic assistance from Saudi Arabia on the ground that "the defeat of the Camp David plot should be a collective Arab responsibility". Crown Prince Fahd assured them of the Arab equivalent of "tea and sympathy" but little else. At the same time (says *Impact International*) "it is not that easy for

#### THE ANNUAL CONCERT in aid of SELF AID OF REFUGEES (in conjunction with AJR)

will take place at the  
**Queen Elizabeth Hall on  
Monday, 10 November, 1980**  
at 7.45 p.m.

with  
**SYLVIA SASS, soprano**  
accompanied by  
**CRAIG SHEPPARD**

(Please note change of pianist)

and the  
**BOCHMANN STRING QUARTET**  
with  
**JOSE FEGHALI**

Works by  
**Haydn, Dvorak, Chopin and  
Kódały**

Tickets: price £3, £4, £5, £6, £7 available from Self Aid of Refugees, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London NW3 6LA. Tel.: 01-328 3255/6 and from 10 October from the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 8XX. Tel.: 01-928 3191

Continued at column 1 page 2

## THE MUSLIM MILLIONS

Continued from page 1

President Asad to swing completely into the Soviet Parlour. The Russians may help to prop him up a while but only for a while. And would the Russians want another 'Afghanistan' on their plate?"

Nor are the Muslim troubles confined to the Middle East, they extend to Africa. When the Islamic Foreign Ministers urged the severance of diplomatic links with the "Egyptian regime", as well as an economic and cultural boycott, they came up against determined "reservations" by a number of African states—Senegal, Upper Volta, Guinea-Bissau and Cameroon — which found themselves unable to take a stand because the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) had not decided on the issue. Actually when the Arabs insisted that Egypt should not be part of any OAU delegation or group involved in Afro-Arab cooperation, the Africans demurred on the ground that as a member of the OAU Egypt was entitled to participate in any of the organisation's activities. As a result, practical cooperation between the two communities moved into a state of "animated suspension".

Divided interests between power politics and Arab loyalty became apparent when some Arab members opposed the admission into the OAU of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, Algeria which keeps mum about Afghanistan was all for it but Morocco which has claims on Saharan territory threatened to withdraw from the organisation and so did Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, Somalia, Senegal, Ivory Coast and Cameroon.

By contrast the Arabs made some progress on the other side of Africa. Kenya which had long looked with favour upon Israel decided to change direction. Economic problems, notably the shortcomings of the Five Year Development Plan, caused President Daniel Moi to visit Iraq and Abu Dhabi for supplies of oil at privileged prices and a substantial loan. At the same time he must seek accommodation with the Soviets' client, neighbouring Ethiopia, to check any possible threat from Somali irredentists; a neat balancing act this, especially after Moi had refused to have anything to do with the Moscow Games as "our conscience could not allow us to attend them after Russia had wrongfully invaded Afghanistan".

### A Deliberate Ploy?

In the admittedly complex circumstances, it has been suggested that the conspicuous enthusiasm shown in Kenyan papers for the Arabs may be a deliberate ploy—to raise great expectations of financial aid only to see them dashed and thus create worse resentment against the Arabs, particularly the oil-rich. However, on the strength of her past record, Kenya may be assumed to have learned to appreciate the importance of political moderation.

The same assumption cannot be made for Pakistan which is tied up in a web of mutually disabling policies. She stands for a "resolute Islamic response" to the challenge of Israel and her vision is not the modest one of defending individual Muslim countries (not least herself), but the more ambitious one of a "Muslim solidarity", a collective entity called the Muslim Society of Peoples (*Umma*), guaranteeing what her Foreign Minister Agha Shahi described as "the strength of the Muslim world, common will and determination which alone can ensure a just and lasting settlement of the Palestine question". He waxed to inspired eloquence as he stressed the need for "closing our ranks" and "rising above our internecine conflicts to establish unity as enjoined by the holy Koran".

Those all too well known "internecine conflicts", however, are not the only sad features of

Continued next column

## THE UNFORGETTABLE PAST

At the beginning of a four-part programme on the German economic miracle on BBC TV, the speaker said that present-day Germans, even the young ones, had still to contend with the shadows of the past, of which Belsen, Buchenwald, and Dachau were the constant reminders. Young people were shown visiting Dachau and describing their conflicts when discussing the past with their parents.

Indeed, that past which has shaped the lives of all of us, has turned up frequently on radio and TV, in the concert hall and in the theatre in recent weeks. In a programme on Leslie Howard, the archetypal Englishman with an Hungarian father (Steiner), his death in an airplane shot down by the Germans whilst returning from Lisbon in 1943, was discussed. In this connection, a photo of Wilfrid Israel was shown, who was on the same plane returning from an important mission to discuss ways and means to save threatened Jewish lives, and it was suggested that he was at least as important a subject for Nazi hatred as Leslie Howard.

The "Women of Courage" series on ITV told the gripping story of Sigrid Lund, a Norwegian housewife and mother, who went into wartime Germany to rescue 37 Jewish children from the Gestapo and place them in foster homes in Norway. When the Nazis invaded Norway, she managed to get almost all of them into Sweden. However, unknowingly, she had sent one child to the home of Norwegian Nazi sympathisers who handed the girl over to the Gestapo. Another brother and sister were detected and deported. Mrs. Lund herself had eventually to flee to Sweden across a frozen lake. The member of the Underground who had taken her to the Swedish border in the dark, met her face to face for the first time when they were confronted with each other on the TV screen.

At the National Theatre in London, Lillian Hellman's "Watch on the Rhine", written in 1940 to awaken America's conscience to the dangers of the Nazi system, is well worth seeing if for no other reason than the beautiful acting, in particular by Peggy Ashcroft.

At Oxford Playhouse, Jean-Claude Grumberg's "The Workshop", translated from the French by actor and playwright Tom Kempinski, depicts the life of a Jewish tailor in Paris in 1945, who has survived persecution because he was hidden by a friendly concierge, and of a Jewish girl working in his shop whose husband has been deported. She tries for four years to secure a death certificate which would entitle her to a pension, but when evidence of his death is eventually produced,

the *Umma*, nor is Palestine. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was deplored by Pakistan's President, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, as "the latest tragedy to befall the Muslim world", and in view of the perennial running sore of Kashmir (which led Pakistan and India to fight three wars in 30 years), some profound disquiet was felt when Russia delivered £1,000 million worth of arms to India. The Indians in turn don't think much of what seems to them Pakistan's lack of realism in refusing to recognise the quislings of Kabul, and Agha Shahi's wholehearted promise of "a new era of close relationship" strikes them as singularly unpromising.

But then the promises held out by Muslim militants anywhere are losing much of their lustre, being confounded by the humdrum facts of life, the oddities of ideology, expediency, geography or simple human insufficiency, and it must be feared that all the oil of Arabia will not be enough to put a shining gloss on the sorry contradictions which beset the teeming millions of Islam.

it turns out that he died on French soil before being deported and she does not receive it. Kempinski describes the play as "a monument to the memory of our loved ones and a warning for any dangers in the future". Director of the play is Nicolas Kent whose own father came to Britain from Germany in 1933 as a refugee. Tom Kempinski's earlier play "Duet for one" has now been transferred to the Duke of York's Theatre, London.

WDR (West German TV) is at present filming a serial "A little bit of Heaven", based on the autobiographies of Leo Lehmann and Janina David who now live in England. It is the story of a Jewish child in Poland who is saved from deportation by being hidden in a convent school where she is brought up as a Roman Catholic, and of her religious and personal conflicts.

NDR (North German TV) has followed the lives of two 80-year-old sisters from Frankfurt, Flora and Frieda Frank, whose mother and sister were killed in a camp. TV interviewers visited them in New York and made them reveal the story of their persecution in Frankfurt, their eventual emigration to the US and their lives there which involved heavy work in factories and workshops until they and their husbands were well in their seventies. Frieda's husband, Willi Wertheimer, a teacher of religious subjects from Baden, who had to retire because of failing eyesight, is now devoting his life to the creation of a forest in Israel to commemorate Jews like himself who fought for Germany in the First World War. The film of the two sisters and their families will be shown on German TV early in November. In the meantime, they accepted an invitation of the city of Frankfurt to visit their former home town for two weeks. M. P.

### PROTEST AGAINST FOREIGN MINISTER

At an official dinner in honour of Chedi Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, the Federal Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher said it was essential to involve the PLO in any effort to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Mr. Klibi said the Arab-Israeli conflict was the result of colonialist and racist aggression against the home of the Palestine people which had led a refugee existence under terrible conditions. He added that the attitude of the W. German Government had been noble and honourable in view of Germany's recent past.

Both the German Trade Unions and the Central Council of Jews in Germany protested against the Minister's statement which had not even included a reference to the security of Israel.

### BOMB SUSPECT SURRENDERS

32-year-old Uwe Rabe, named as the man responsible for the unsuccessful attempt to blow up an El Al airliner between Zurich and Tel Aviv last April, has voluntarily given himself up to the Public Prosecutor in West Berlin. He is alleged to have handed a suitcase containing a bomb to a passenger on the plane, 26-year-old Andreas Raak, pretending that it contained diamonds to be smuggled into Israel. Rabe has a criminal record and has served several prison sentences for theft and burglary, but has not previously been connected with terrorist acts. After the failure of the Zurich attempt, he went into hiding in Baghdad, but returned to Berlin recently.

### PRAYERS AGAINST ISRAEL

At a demonstration staged by the Union of Islamic Students Organisations in Cologne, some 2,000 Muslims protested against Israeli politics and Zionism, and proceeded to the *Neumarkt* where they prayed for the destruction of Israel. The Council of Christians and Jews wrote to the chief of the Cologne Police Force, expressing its concern at the increasing radical attitude of Muslim students in the Federal Republic, an attitude which should not be tolerated 40 years after Auschwitz.

## SYLVIA SASS AT SELF AID CONCERT

The First Night of the 1978 Proms in which Miss Sass sang the soprano part in Verdi's Requiem to great acclaim, will no doubt be vividly remembered by an anonymous gentleman (who happened to be back-stage) for the unceremonious mugging he underwent by Miss Sass' agent resulting in the loss of his large breast-pocket handkerchief. This was urgently needed as a precautionary measure by Miss Sass about to go on to the Albert Hall stage whilst suffering from the acute after-effects of something she had eaten at lunch that day. Happily, in the event, everything went well and not even the TV audience in close-up noticed anything amiss—a perfect example of the victory of artistic mind over matter.

Miss Sass will be singing arrangements of Hungarian Folksongs at the Concert of Self Aid of Refugees (in conjunction with the AJR) at Queen Elizabeth Hall on 10 November. Some of these were part of a recent recital programme at Bayreuth. Her accompanist at the Self Aid Concert will be Craig Sheppard;\* both artists are generously giving their services free. It will, incidentally, be their first appearance together in this country—hopefully a portent of many more to come.

Miss Sass of course is in the first place an opera singer. Though still in her twenties, she has appeared in leading parts at the Scala Milan, the Metropolitan New York, Hamburg, Berlin, Paris, Tokyo, Moscow and a great many other musical centres. Her repertoire spans the operatic spectrum from Tosca, La Bohème, Manon Lescaut to Porgy and Bess.

She started her career in 1972 at the Budapest State Opera and was introduced to this country by the impresario the late Lotte Medak, herself in her time a well-known opera singer. Her debut was as Desdemona with the Scottish Opera Company. Since then she has appeared in every season at Covent Garden though her international commitments—in France, Holland, Germany, Japan and Italy—will not now permit her to return to the London stage for some time. In fact, it may be that the Self Aid Concert and an appearance at the Royal Festival Hall in March 1981, as the soloist in a Bartok Centenary Celebration, will be the last opportunity for Londoners to hear this remarkable artist in person until 1982.

It will, however, still be possible to listen to her voice because she has made a number of recordings, including one of Bartok's Bluebeard's Castle with Sir George Solti conducting.

One part in which she has—and hopes—yet to appear is that of Salome—a role which will allow the public to appreciate her remarkable talent as an actress. Indeed, she might one of these days well extend her activities to stage or film parts in which acting as such is as important as singing; as a first step the recording of Bluebeard's Castle will be made into a film.

She is an artist remarkably free from the allures of a Primadonna—for her it is the service to music that counts. Coupled with her attractive appearance and warm personality, she will no doubt for long continue to command the public esteem which she currently enjoys.

C. F. FLESCHE

\*Please note change of pianist.

### CAMPS INTERNMENT—P.O.W.— FORCED LABOUR—KZ

I wish to buy cards, envelopes and folded post-marked letters from all camps of both world wars.  
Please send, registered mail, stating price, to:

14 Roselyn Hill, London, N.W.3  
C. PETER RICKENBACK

## HOME NEWS

### ARAB GIFT TO EXETER UNIVERSITY

The practice of wealthy endowments from Arab sources to British universities has now extended to Exeter, where the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies has been given a gift of £750,000 towards the construction of a £2.3 million library by the ruler of the Persian Gulf State of Dubai. The University recently played host to a four-day conference held by its Centre for Arab Gulf Studies, which was attended by a Prince of the ruling family of Saudi Arabia. It has been alleged that applications by Israeli academics to attend the conference were refused on the grounds that "their presence would be embarrassing."

### LIBYAN-BACKED REBELLION

The Institute for the Study of Conflict, London, has published a report by a former British Ambassador to the Philippines, Mr. Alex Turpin, which shows that the Moslem rebellion launched in the Philippines eight years ago was financed, and armed by Libya. The uprising claimed 60,000 lives and unrooted 250,000 people.

### IRISH NEO-NAZIS

A Jewish manufacturing firm in East London recently had stickers pasted on its window bearing the legend: "Whites fired, niggers hired." They bore the imprint of a neo-Nazi group operating from Ireland, the National Socialist Irish Workers' Party and the British branch, the National Socialist Party, United Kingdom. Because of its use of an Irish address prosecution under the Race Relations Act presents difficulties.

### ANOTHER MENTEN TRIAL?

According to German sources, there will be a trial in Dublin early in 1981 to decide the ownership of the works of art which Dutch war criminal Pieter Menten kept in his estate in Eire. Menten is alleged to have acquired them when working for the SS in Poland.

### BROKEN PROMISES

Statistics published by the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London show that the promises to provide aid to the poorer countries of black Africa from their massive oil profits by Arab countries have not been fulfilled. Where it is forthcoming, the report shows, it is largely made dependent on support for the Arab political position in the Middle East and this is resented by the African states.

### NAZI RESEARCH ON EUTHANASIA

48-year-old Dr. John Goundry of Braintree, Essex, who committed suicide recently, claimed to have developed a three-second "death pill" for the old and chronically sick, developed with the help of a 78-year-old German biochemist who was involved in wartime research for the Nazis.

### DIVORCE WARNING

Members of the United Synagogue have received a notice from the London Beth Din asking "parties involved in civil divorce to arrange a Get without delay." Failure to do so could cause irreparable damage to the status of the "issue of a second marriage."

### BIRMINGHAM SYNAGOGUE DAUBED

The Central Synagogue, Birmingham was recently daubed with swastikas and offensive slogans including "Jews Out," "Scum" and "Hitler was right."

### FAREWELL TO MANFRED VANSON

Mr. Manfred Vanson, the retiring secretary of the Jewish Blind Society, together with his wife paid a farewell visit to Dolly Ross Home for the Jewish Blind. At a reception, they received a presentation on behalf of the house committee and the Bournemouth Jewish Blind Aid Society.

We paid tribute to Mr. Vanson's outstanding achievements, when he was made an OBE a few months ago. We now publish the following extracts from an appreciation, which we received from Mrs. Helga Prawer (Oxford), who was the first full-time welfare officer appointed by the Jewish Blind Society:

"Many will still remember the scene at Victoria Station during the last days of August 1939. It looked like a camping site. People were sleeping on the platforms, rushing up whenever a train was announced, holding up placards with the names of their dear ones, for whom they waited, often in vain. My own family was not easily missed: two totally blind people with two sighted children (I was 11 and my brother nine years old). We finally arrived on 28 August. It was there that I met for the first time that remarkable young man, Manfred van Son. He was then Assistant Secretary of the Jewish Blind Society, working from a small office at Bloomsbury House. The blind people rescued from Germany and Austria needed a Home, and so the first Jewish Home for the Blind came into existence at Bushey. As if this task was not enough, Manfred and his wife (Fraenze Hirsch) became Warden and Matron of Sunshine Hostel in Kingsbury for some 20-odd Jewish refugee children. However, it was his work for the Jewish Blind Society that became the paramount interest of his life. Manfred Vanson's flair and ability began to be more and more obvious. The Society's Home in Dorking was opened, followed by the creation of holiday homes, provincial centres and aid Societies. The recently established Sobell Centre in Golders Green, a joint enterprise of the Jewish Welfare Board and the Jewish Blind Society, will be a permanent monument to Manfred Vanson's devotion to the needs of anyone who requires help.

"After all these years of service, Manfred Vanson and his wife will join their three daughters and many grandchildren in Israel. They have given much love, comfort and happiness to many, and it is now up to us to wish them happiness in their retirement."

### TIGHTER SECURITY URGED

In the light of the terrorist attack on Jewish children in Antwerp the Defence Committee of the Board of Deputies provided special security advice to Jewish youth organisations and institutions throughout the country and urged all Jewish institutions to check their existing procedures and where necessary to strengthen them.

### 40 YEARS TAC

This year, the Trades Advisory Council, which has played a leading part in the fight against racial and religious discrimination in trade and industry, celebrates its 40th anniversary. To mark the occasion, a Commemorative Dinner will be held in London on 26 October. Particulars may be obtained from the General Secretary, TAC, 315-317 Ballards Lane, London N12 8LP (Tel.: 01-445 0956).

### MUSIC THEME

The fate of musicians during the Holocaust and the macabre use of music in the Nazi death camps provided two of the underlying motifs of a new composition by a young American composer, Marc Neikrug, which recently had its world premiere in London.

### BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER

Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS  
Always interested in purchasing  
well-preserved instruments

### JACQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.

142 Edgware Road, W.2 Tel.: 723 8818/9

Your House for:—  
FLOOR COVERINGS  
CURTAINS, CARPETS,  
SPECIALITY

ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL  
DOWN QUILTS, DUVETS,  
DUVET COVERS & SHEETS

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS  
ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

(established 1946)

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK

Telephone: 904 6671

personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman

# NEWS FROM ABROAD

## UNITED STATES

### Iron-Guard Archbishop faces Deportation

Archbishop Valerian Trifa, head of the million-strong Romanian Orthodox Episcopate in America, has yielded to pressure and agreed voluntarily to renounce his American citizenship. This opens up the possibility of his deportation to face war crime charges of leading the fascist Iron Guard in Romania and helping to instigate pogroms against the Jews of that country in the 1940s. Trifa denies the pogrom charges, but admits to making antisemitic speeches as a leader of mainly student organisations.

### Holocaust Commission Appointment

President Carter has appointed the American Jewish Committee's Washington representative, Mr. Hyman Bookbinder, to the US Memorial Council, which will implement the establishment of a permanent memorial to the six million victims of Nazism in the nation's capital. Mr. Bookbinder chaired the Human Rights Committee of the President's Commission on the Holocaust. Among its accepted recommendations was the establishment of a Committee of Conscience, composed of leading figures in American life, to bring to public attention actual or threatened genocide and seek to achieve action to prevent it on a world-wide basis.

### "Israeli Mafia" in California

The Attorney-General for California has confirmed persistent media reports that a group of Israeli expatriates are actively and heavily involved in organised crime in that State. His report to the State Legislature states that the group had expanded their activities from drug trafficking, extortion and related crimes to insurance and bankruptcy fraud. It also states that "Interpol has indicated that several gang members have operated criminally on an international scale, and it is known that several members have served prison sentences in Israel." Law enforcement officials were also concerned that a growing number of Israeli nationals were being smuggled into the US through Mexico to assist the crime group, which the Press has dubbed the "Israeli Mafia."

### CANADIAN JEW-HATER'S ARSON ATTACK

A Toronto shipping clerk, Anthony Joseph Milovick, 29, pleaded guilty to causing a \$2 million fire at the premises of his Jewish employer. He appeared to receive his two-year reformatory sentence wearing swastikas on his arms and legs and declaring hatred of the Jews. The Court was told that Milovick joined the company after taking a course at the Jewish Vocational Service of Toronto, a non-sectarian agency. Firemen fought the blaze for six hours and 41 people lost their jobs because of the damage it caused.

**THE PERFECT GIFT**

for men from 8 to 80  
There are models for ladies too



**VICTORINOX**  
The Original "Swiss Army Knife"

5 year guarantee

## ARGENTINIAN JEWISH NEWSPAPER ATTACKED

The editor and staff of the Buenos Aires Jewish newspaper *La Luz* were violently assaulted during an attack on their offices by a Nazi gang. The five members of the gang, suspected of having links with the Catholic monthly *Cabildo*, fled after cutting the offices' telephone wires and issuing threats.

## BRAZILIANS DISMISSED

A senior Brazilian army officer responsible for a report released by the security department of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, which gave undue emphasis to the names of Jewish opponents of the Brazilian-West German nuclear agreement, has been dismissed from his post. Another public official in the Interior Department of the Governor of Sao Paulo State has also been dismissed following his remarks that Jews were to blame for moves to discredit the Governor during his public appearances.

## JEWISH KNIGHT IN AUSTRALIA

During the Queen's recent visit to Australia, she appointed Sir Zelman Cowan, Australia's Jewish Governor-General since 1977, a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

## IRAN OUSTS JEWISH MP

The sole representative allotted to the 50,000 Jews of Iran in the country's parliament, the Majlis, under the new constitution has been deprived of his seat. The vote for his removal was by 70 to 36 votes, with 89 abstentions. The MP, Mr. Eshag Farahmandpour, was accused of collaborating with the Shah and with "Zionism". At one time he was on the staff of the ORT school in Iran, but left in 1969, and acknowledged that the school had maintained links with Israel. During the debate he was attacked for criticising the revolutionary regime's execution of Albert Danielpour, who had been accused of spying for Israel and other alleged offences.

## VANESSA REDGRAVE IN LIBYA

Anti-Zionist actress Vanessa Redgrave led a Workers Revolutionary Party delegation at the Tripoli conference, demonstrating solidarity with Libya, and was warmly welcomed by Col. Gaddafi.

## "NO" TO PLO

Finland's Foreign Minister, Paava Vaerynen has stated that his government's official policy is to recognise only states, not organisations, and would not invite any member of the PLO to his country. He was responding to the presenters of a petition against any such visit signed by 23,770 Finnish citizens.

Sweden and Norway's Foreign Ministries have also stated that they will not allow Yasir Arafat, the PLO leader, to visit their countries, thus denying the terrorist organisation their hoped for breakthrough in obtaining diplomatic recognition in a Scandinavian country.

## CONGRESS OF GURS EX-INTERNEES

At a rally of survivors of the Gurs concentration camp, an organisation "Amicale des Anciens de Gurs" was founded. A resolution passed at the rally recalled the sufferings of the 60,000 Gurs internees, including Jews from Baden, Pfalz and France, resistance fighters and volunteers of the International Brigade, who later perished in Auschwitz. The resolution calls for action against current trends which might impair world peace and personal liberty. The address of the Amicale des Anciens de Gurs is 14, rue de Marechal Joffre, F-64000 Pau, France.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

## FRANCE

### Jewish Files rumour Denied

The French Minister of the Interior, Mr. Christian Bonnet, has dismissed rumours that the Gendarmerie Nationale still holds in store the Jewish files systematically built up by the French police under the Vichy regime. Concern has arisen because of government plans to computerise passports and national identity cards. Under French law computerised lists may not refer to race, religion or political links.

## BELGIUM

### Jewish Defence Action Discouraged

The Belgian Interior Minister has warned the Jewish community against setting up its own defence organisation in the wake of the Arab terrorist attack on 60 Jewish children boarding a bus in Antwerp to go on an outing organised by the Agudath Israel. Mr. Wilfried Maertens, the Prime Minister, however, has given instructions to the police to increase security precautions to safeguard Jews and their institutions. Private militias are banned under the 1944 legal code, and Jewish organisations have joined with other groups in urging its enforcement against the ultra-nationalist Flemish para-military group, "Vlaamse Militantenorde."

### "No Amnesty for Nazis" Call

Patriotic organisations in Belgium have joined former concentration camp inmates groups, representing some 300,000 victims of Nazism, in condemning a call by Belgian Bishops for an amnesty for former Nazi collaborators as "interference in politics." They point out that an estimated 1,500 former collaborators, who are deprived of legal rights, have never expressed regret for their war-time activities.

## ALARM IN ITALY

Jewish organisations in Italy are increasingly concerned over anti-Jewish activities taking place in the shadow of the wider terrorism plaguing the country. While official Jewish organisations continue to rely on co-operation with the civil authorities, young Jews are calling for the establishment of Jewish defence groups modelled on the Jewish Defence League of the United States. Announcing their intention in a letter published in the newspaper, *La Repubblica*, a group of young Roman Jews deny that they are a movement of the "extreme right", but seek to defend themselves against the now regular "slaughters" by Palestinians or neo-Nazis. Their fears are emphasised by a report by three Libyan exiles that Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has 170 paid assassins operating in Western Europe, and that terrorists of both the left and right are being trained in Libyan camps run by Palestinians and renegade former US intelligence agents hired by the Libyan President.



## Fights Rust

Newly developed. Zinc compounds are some of the finest rust inhibitors. The synthetic resin base forms a tough skin, which seals the surface from moisture. From all good hardware and accessory stores. Free literature from David's ISOPON, FREEPOST Northway House, London N20 9BR.

**david's ISOPON**

William Guttman

## NOBEL PRIZE WINNER FROM BRESLAU

### Recollections of Max Born

When Max Born was baptised, sometime before the first world war because, as he says in these memoirs, he did not want to live in a Jewish world and one cannot live in a Christian world as an outsider, he did not need the certificate of baptism as an entrance ticket to Western civilisation. Indeed he was born in 1882 in Breslau into a community of German Jews who cherished their love affair with their country, Germany, and who, both as important contributors and enthusiastic recipients were part and parcel of the culture and civilisation of their ambience. Breslau of course was not unique, though in many ways outstanding, among the many German towns where the Jewish-German symbiosis flourished. Those decades of Imperial Germany were, needless to say, the age of what has been called whimsically by later generations "the respectable pre-war antisemitism" with which, despicable, offensive and irritating as it was, it was possible to come to terms. Indeed antisemitism acted as a spur to prove one's quality and identity with the fellow citizens and to use one's energies and talents to achieve outstanding success in spheres where the anti-Jewish restrictions which operated in army, civil service, judiciary and certain sectors of society did not apply.

Breslau, after all only a provincial capital, could boast of a remarkably high standard in its cultural and economic life and the Jewish contribution to it was prodigious, in commerce and industry as well as in the professions, in science, medicine, the law and the arts. The most fruitful and admirable feature of this society was the interaction between the wealth of some of its members and the intellectual and artistic talents of others. This took the form either of patronage of the arts or the providing of means by the rich

for the younger generation to follow academic careers which in their early years were not productive of material reward, but could, and often did, result in ultimate fame and success. Breslau Jews, at any rate their elite, were a proud lot, very conscious of their worth and not free from snobbery and contempt for those who had not reached quite the same level of culture and integration. The community survived the difficult years of the first world war and its aftermath until its extinction by the Nazis.

#### A Vanished World

Max Born's recollections\* illustrate this now-vanished world very well indeed. His father was a University professor, his mother the daughter of an extremely wealthy textile manufacturer, and there was an abundance of money and brains among the vast circle of relatives and friends who make their appearance and such famous names as Ehrlich, Minkowski, Neisser, to mention only a few, are ubiquitous. His vivid description of his school and university days, his military service—in a very posh cavalry regiment—his first steps in the academic world give a revealing picture of the life of a brilliant young man from a good and wealthy German-Jewish family enjoying the pleasures of life, but also working hard, albeit without the burden of financial preoccupations. Against the background of war, November revolution and the Weimar Republic he recounts his private life and his brilliant academic career which Hitler brought to an abrupt end, but which he continued in exile, being rewarded by the Nobel Prize.

Written originally for Born's family and meant also to be a record of his professional work, the book is a little discursive and, where it is concerned with academic and scientific matters, not

easy for the layman to read. However, even the pages dealing with Born's work contain much about the personalities in the world of science that is interesting and even amusing, and the mass of details and little sidelights, including the author's judgments and opinions reflecting his character and background, help to make these memoirs a fascinating panorama of a great man's world.

\*My Life—Recollections of a Nobel Laureate by Max Born. Taylor & Francis, £8.50.

#### ERNST CHAIN ROOM DEDICATED

Lady Chain recently dedicated a room at the Jerusalem Academy of Jewish Studies in memory of her late husband, Professor Ernst Chain, the Nobel Prize winner. The ceremony was attended by former Israel President, Ephraim Katzir, the distinguished biophysicist, who stressed the importance of Torah ethics to the scientific community of today. Sir Ernst became a patron of the Academy after his son Benny became a student there seven years ago.

#### WINNER OF WOLF MEDICINE PRIZE

Leipzig-born Leo Sachs, who is Otto Meyerhof Professor of Biology at the Weizmann Institute, is the first Israeli to be a recipient of the Wolf Prize in Medicine, one of the most coveted awards in the scientific world. He shares the 1980 award of \$100,000 with two other scientists, as "one of the leading pioneers in cancer research and cell biology."

#### DR. KEMPNER HONOURED

Dr. Robert M. W. Kempner, US prosecuting counsel at the Nuremberg trials who has settled in Germany and acted in many important trials against former Nazis, has been made an honorary professor at the W. Berlin university. Before 1933, he was head of the police department at the Prussian Ministry of the Interior and co-author of the Prussian Police Administration Law, the most important parts of which have been incorporated into present-day W. German law. E.G.L.

#### CHAIRMAN LORD WEIDENFELD

The Israel Book and Printing Centre has announced the acceptance of the Chairmanship of the Printing and Publishing Committee of the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry by Lord Weidenfeld. He succeeds the late S. M. Bloch of the Soncino Press, who also possessed a wide knowledge of publishing and printing in both countries.

#### YIDDISH CHAIR FOR HEBREW UNIVERSITY

The Hebrew University, Jerusalem has inaugurated its first endowed Chair in the Yiddish language. The Dean of the University's faculty of humanities, Professor Nehemia Levtzion, said at the ceremony: "We risk the danger of losing hundreds of years of history, culture and literary creations if we fail to cultivate scholars who understand Yiddish."

#### SPACE SCIENTIST DIES

A Jewish pioneer of space exploration, Dr. Ari Abramovich Sternfeld, has died in the Soviet Union at the age of 75. Internationally recognised for his work in the field, he emigrated to the Soviet Union in 1935 after failing to persuade either the French or Polish scientific academies to support his work. Dr. Sternfeld was born in Sieradz in Poland.

#### ISRAEL REMEMBERS FRANKFURT RABBI

In memory of Rabbi Dr. Jakob Hoffmann, the last rabbi of the Frankfurt Orthodox synagogue, who died in Tel Aviv in 1956, a synagogue is to be built in Sdeh Jaacov in Israel. He had been arrested by the Gestapo in 1937, but was released after the intervention of the Hungarian Government, as he had been born in Hungary and retained his Hungarian nationality. A year later, he was expelled from Germany and went to the United States, where he became vice-president of the Mizrahi Organisation of America and Canada. In 1953 he retired to Israel, and was appointed a member of the Rabbinical Supreme Court. He would have been 100 next March. E.G.L.

# RENAULT

## There's a lot happening at Old Oak.

Last year, more people than ever before bought a new Renault from Old Oak Motor Company.

This might be because we are a family firm that still believes the customer should come first.

Or maybe it was because Renault produce Europe's most up-to-date and economy-conscious range of cars, from the thrifty 5, to the super-luxury 30TX.

It could even have been because our unique "Service Preference" scheme guarantees our customers cheaper and faster servicing and after-sales care.

But whatever the reason, shouldn't you come along yourself and see what happens at Enfield's Renault Centre.



Come and see for yourself. Old Oak — Service for cars — and people.



**OLD OAK** MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED  
79 WINDMILL HILL ENFIELD EN2 7AG 01-363-2261

Margot Pottlitzer

## HM'S MOST LOYAL ENEMY ALIENS

### The Story of Life behind Barbed Wire

When I reviewed Peter and Leni Gillman's book "Collar The Lot" in the July issue of *AJR Information*, I said that a book dealing with the policies of internment did, quite properly, not describe such things as conditions of life in the various internment camps or the fate of ordinary refugees which would have to be dealt with in a different context. I knew then that such a book was actually being written, but not that it would appear only a month after the Gillmans' book. Ronald Stent's "A Battered Page?"\* is as important to the student of the period as "Collar the Lot", and whilst the two are vastly complementary, it looks at the events from a different angle in its more human interest.

The Gillmans describe the legal and administrative muddles and the tragedies they resulted in, whereas Stent tells the story as it happened, as one affected by it at almost every stage of his own career, as an insider in fact. A Jewish refugee from Berlin, he came to this country in 1934, worked in a London office and, in 1936 married his boyhood sweetheart with whom he set up home in the Eastcote-Pinner area. When, in 1940, this district was declared a protected area, they moved in with friends in Hertfordshire. Shortly afterwards he was interned and, after staying in various transit camps, eventually sent to the Isle of Man. He was released from internment on joining the Pioneer Corps, eventually got a commission and ended the war in New Delhi on the staff of GHQ India. After the war and a very successful business career, he studied history at Birkbeck College, obtained two degrees and is now a lecturer in the Ultra-mural Department of London University. He thus had ideal qualifications to write the inside history of those days, i.e. both the personal experience and the historian's technique and detachment, and he has done it with great distinction.

He has studied documents and eye-witness reports both in this country and abroad and has interviewed a great number of ex-internees. Not only those who were among them, but most fellow-refugees who lived through those troubled times, will avidly read his book which constantly revives half-forgotten memories of the bewilderment, the fears and hopes of the early war years. The book's subtitle "A Battered Page?" refers to the great House of Commons debate on internment in August 1940 which brought about the reversal of the government's policies and in which Major Victor Cazalet, with Eleanor Rathbone the outspoken critic of those policies, referred to them as a battered page in history.

The book starts with a short survey of British refugee policies through the ages and traces them back to a judge who in 1697 ruled that the state of war obtaining between England and Louis XIV's France did not apply to the Protestant refugees who had settled over here. It was the first judicial decision that political or religious refugees should be treated differently from other nationals of a country at war with England. Alas, it was not always remembered at times when it would have mattered most, even before 1939.

\*Ronald Stent, *A Battered Page? The Internment of "His Majesty's Most Loyal Enemy Aliens."* Andre Deutsch, London 1980. £7.95.

Mr. Stent describes the political pressures that led up to the wholesale internment of some 30,000 refugees and the deportation of 11,000 to Canada and Australia with the well-known tragedies of the "Arandora Star" and the "Dunera". He does so dispassionately and without bitterness, always relating general events to the effects they had on particular people or groups. He rightly stresses that internment also had its lighter side and gives detailed accounts of life in the various men's camps and in the women's camps at Port Erin and Port St. Mary, of entertainments and lectures and the attempts "to deal with a military bureaucracy quite unprepared to act as a warden to some of the most volatile and talented citizens of Europe", in the words of the blurb. Perhaps it was fortunate that the camps contained many representatives of the arts, and it is one of the delights of the book that it includes handsomely produced reproductions of drawings and water-colours by Fred Uhlman, the well-known painter, and Wilhelm Jondorf, a fine art publisher in his native Nuremberg who had come to Britain in 1938 to start a greeting card publishing business in the distressed areas of Wales. He was the author of many songs and poems, but in the Isle of Man he developed a considerable talent as a water-colourist. His drawings reflect the gallows-humour which was so characteristic of the spirit of the camps. Uhlman maintains to this day that he considers the work done in the Isle of Man as among his best. In any case, the book illustrations are delightful as hilarious comments on a ludicrous situation.

From beginning to end, internment was a traumatic experience for all concerned. To some it meant the end of uncongenial jobs and a return to a cultural climate to which they had been accustomed, others discovered unsuspected talents in themselves, like the amateur chefs who, faced

with an unvarying diet of salt herrings in one camp, managed to invent new recipes which made the herrings taste like river trout. The outstanding feature of both the men's and women's camps were the intellectual achievements, the lectures and concerts and exhibitions for which there were so many eminent contributors. Even in the transit camps where the men stayed for varying periods before being sent to the Isle of Man, and on the ships carrying them abroad, the internees managed to arrange for classes and courses of lectures to be held regularly.

By late 1940, "the blessed isle in the Irish Sea had become the repository of all the interned enemy aliens who had not been deported." Both the men's and the women's camps were surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by the military, but inside communities with a throbbing life of their own came into being. Mr. Stent gives interesting details about that life, but he is most explicit on Hutchinson Camp where he himself was interned. There, the Regimental Sergeant Major, formerly head porter at a block of flats in the West End of London, personified authority for the inmates and filled them with awe. Encouraged to establish their own internal camp administrations, the internees appointed "house-fathers" for each home, and each row of houses elected a "street father". The first "camp father" who was non-Jewish, had once been Thomas Mann's private secretary. A team of gardeners, appointed to embellish the environment, was headed by a former Berlin banker who had once employed a squad of gardeners in his Tiergarten villa.

Concerts were regularly held in all camps, again relying on a wealth of interned performers. In Hutchinson camp, there was Viennese-born Marian Rawicz who, with his compatriot, Landauer, had been a popular interpreter of light classical and Viennese music in pre-war London. The two were said to have been interned on returning from a special concert for Queen Mary.

It is not possible to give even an approximate idea of the wealth of new information Mr. Stent's book contains. It has to be read from cover to cover, and all those who have to some extent shared the experiences it describes, will agree with his conclusion looking back on them in 1944: "These five months of internment had been a strange experience, harsh, testing, stimulating, not a bad preparation for what came afterwards. The memory of the unpleasant aspects and experiences had already faded; what remained was the awareness that it had also meant a stretching of stamina and intellect and memories of the people, and challenges that had been met. It had after all, not been a wasted period, not a bad time. That was the perspective in 1944. It still is the same in 1980.

It is also encouraging if not surprising to find that those who met the challenge "went on to become captains of industry . . . prominent figures in the city and luminaries of academia, garnering Nobel prizes on the way. . . . Others, and they were of course the great majority, were ordinary folk, engaged in the pursuit of clerical and manual jobs. . . . They did not become well known, but in their own way they also contributed to the variety of British life."

#### CLUB 1943

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

- 6 Oct. Grete Sachs: "Die Familie Warburg."  
13 Oct. Gerald Holm: "Sweden, an Introduction."  
20 Oct. Professor Dr. Leo Prijs spricht ueber "Das Reisetagebuch des Rabbi Asulai". (Eine Reise von Jerusalem durch Europa im 18. Jahrhundert.)  
27 Oct. Lona Truding, Ph.D. (Music): Schubert Lieder Recital. Aus dem Cyclus "Die Schoene Muellerin" with D. Fischer-Dieskau and Gerald Moore.  
3 Nov. Henriette Nussbaum: "A blind social worker recalls 25 years of work with the Jewish Blind Society."  
10 Nov. Dr. Ruth v. Schulze-Gaevernitz: "Bertha Hirsch, eine Sozialdemokratin und Freisinnige vor dem Ersten Weltkrieg".  
Dr. Kurt Pflueger: "Der Egyptische 'Sonnenkoenig' Echnaton und sein Werk".

\*Tuesday, 25 Nov. at the Goethe Institute at 8 p.m.—The Kol-Rina-Choir: "Jewish Songs through the Ages". Leitung: Mr. & Mrs. Lichtenstern.  
1 Dec. Peter Seglow (Lecturer at Brunell University): "Problems of British Economy".

\*Tickets (£2. Students £1) for the Concert of the Kol-Rina-Choir can be obtained on Club evenings or by telephone 883 2158 from 1 November onwards.

### Annelly Juda Fine Art

11 Tottenham Mews, London W1P 9PJ

01-627 5517/8

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING  
AND SCULPTURE

Mon-Fri: 10 am-6 pm Sat: 10 am-1 pm

#### BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER

Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS

Always interested in purchasing  
well-preserved instruments

JACQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.

142 Edgware Road, W.2 Tel: 723 8818/9

# NEWS FROM GERMANY

## W. GERMANY'S REFUGEE PROBLEM

Mr. Hollenberg, the head of West Berlin's processing chamber for new arrivals, said that most of the refugees coming to W. Germany and to West Berlin in particular, came in search of jobs and only 5 or 6 per cent were eventually granted asylum, though those refused could appeal, and spend up to eight years in the country. He said that the Nazi persecution of Jews had made Germany aware of the importance of granting asylum to political refugees, and, for this reason, the 1949 constitution stipulated that those fleeing from political persecution, should be granted asylum.

## "UNREALISTIC JUDGMENT"

After hearing the evidence of more than 80 witnesses, a Bielefeld Court dismissed the case against a district commissar and his secretary, accused of having taken part in the killing of more than 9,000 Jews in the Ukraine in 1942 and 1943. The Federal High Court in Karlsruhe has now allowed an appeal by the Public Prosecutor and expressed its strong disapproval of the original judgment which it called "unrealistic". Nearly all the witnesses had testified to the guilt of the two accused: the commissar had selected the victims and made them dig their own graves. His secretary had rounded them up and driven them to the place of execution, where he himself took part in the killings. The Bielefeld Court had disregarded the evidence and stated that there was no conclusive proof of the guilt of the two accused.

## END OF MAIDANEK TRIAL IN SIGHT?

It is now expected that the Maidanek trial which has lasted for nearly five years, will end early in 1981. There are only a few more witnesses to be heard before the public prosecutor will propose sentences. So far, the court has gone abroad more than 30 times to listen to witnesses prevented by ill health or old age from travelling to Germany. The proceedings have cost some five million pounds. Few members of the general public attended the trial, but, in the course of an educational campaign, more than 250 classes of schoolchildren from the whole of the Federal Republic have specially come to Düsseldorf in order to hear eye-witness accounts of happenings under the Nazi regime.

## SUICIDE BEFORE TRIAL

A retired Hamburg police inspector who, with three of his colleagues, had been accused of having taken part in the shooting of Jewish hostages in Przemysl, Galicia, in 1942, killed himself by jumping from a second-floor window of a hospital in Freyung, Bavaria, where he had lived for the last few years.

## "DIE WELT" EXPOSES ARAFAT

In an editorial, W. Germany's leading newspaper "Die Welt" reveals that it has obtained an official eight-page document called "Political Programme of the PLO, issued following the fourth congress of the movement held in May." It shows that contrary to Yasir Arafat's denials, the resolution declared that it is the PLO's aim "to liberate Palestine completely and to liquidate the Zionist structure politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically. . . This fight will not cease until the Zionist structure is liquidated and Palestine is liberated." "Die Welt" concludes that Arafat has lied.

## A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY?

Authorities in Germany and Switzerland have been trying for some time to establish the true identity of a German who called himself Kurt Jacobs and died in May 1979 in a Swiss Old Age Home. The Hamburg police discovered that the real Kurt Jacobs had died 10 years earlier in Hamburg. The Ludwigsburg Centre for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes has supplied some of its files which have led to the assumption that the man who died in Switzerland had been a close collaborator of Adolf Eichmann.

## GIESSEN CEMETERY DESECRATED

For the third time this year, Jewish graves in the old cemetery of Giessen, a town with a large Jewish population before 1933, were destroyed or badly damaged.

## NO EXCUSE FOR YOUNG NAZIS

Mr. Leo Kauffeldt, vice-chairman of the Council of Christians and Jews in Bad Homburg, expressed his concern at recent anti-Jewish and pro-Nazi manifestations of young people in the Taunus district which had always been a hotbed of Neo-Nazis. He said these youngsters would have to be severely punished. They must be made to understand that this was not just light-hearted juvenile delinquency, but something far more serious. "These young people", he said, "seem to forget that the victims of National Socialism are still living among us. After Auschwitz Neo-Nazis and right-wing extremists can no longer be regarded as ignorant innocents." He added that schools in the area should not only include the Nazi past in their syllabus, but should also discuss the problems of a Neo-Nazi present with the pupils.

## DANGEROUS PUBLICATIONS

The Federal Office for the Examination of Publications harmful for Young People, announced in a radio talk that between 1953 and 1978 only 18 publications were put on an index of writings not to be sold to young people, because they glorified National Socialism. Between 1978 and 1980, their number rose to 470 books, and a further 106 pamphlets and records which were considered "depraving, or inciting to violence, race hatred and crime." They included a number of pamphlets referring to the "gas-chamber-lies."

The Federal High Court in Karlsruhe decided that an antiquarian book-dealer who had offered two copies of Hitler's "Mein Kampf" in a market in Fuerth, Bavaria, had not broken the law, because nowadays, single copies of such books were mainly bought to be used as research material for the study of National Socialism.

## MEMORIAL FOR TUCHOLSKY

In the small town of Rheinsberg, the scene of one of his most charming short stories, a memorial for author Kurt Tucholsky who committed suicide in 1935, is to be set up. In the permanent exhibition of the Rheinsberg Trades Union Club, a number of exhibits donated by Tucholsky's widow and various editions of his works will find a permanent place. Rheinsberg, near Potsdam, is in East Germany.

## VIOLINIST STAYS IN THE WEST

The Jewish violin virtuoso Gideon Kramer, 33, and his wife Elena who appeared at this year's Salzburg festival, have decided not to return to Soviet Russia. Kremer comes from a well-known German-Jewish family of musicians. His grandfather Karl Brückner, a famous violinist and teacher, left Germany in 1935 and became a professor at the Riga Music Academy. Both his father, who came from the Riga district, and his mother, born in Karlsruhe, were well-known violin virtuosos. His wife Elena is an internationally known pianist and the daughter of a famous Moscow pianist. Both have frequently played in the West, but their application to the Soviet authorities for permission to stay in the West for two years, was refused. They had, however, been allowed to make extensive concert tours throughout Europe and America. Kremer wants to regain German nationality and to be near his parents who have lived in Germany for some time.

## NEW BOOK ON KREFELD JEWS

A recently published symposium, "Krefelder Juden" (Ludwig Roehrscheid Verlag, Bonn 1980) carried a detailed article by Stadtarchivamtsrat Dieter Hangebruch about the fate of the Jews in Krefeld between 1933 and 1945. It includes a 148 page list of Jews who had been resident in the city during that period, denoting individual references to their emigration and deportation respectively. The municipal and Jewish activities of Dr. Kurt Alexander (1892-1962), who was General Secretary of the AJR from 1943 until 1949, are repeatedly mentioned. E.G.L.

## GERMAN GENEROSITY TOWARDS ISRAEL

The Frankfurt City Council decided unanimously to contribute some £400,000 for the creation of a Youth Centre in Frankfurt's twin town Tel Aviv which is to be used as an international meeting place for young people.

In a suburb of Tel Aviv, a Berlin Park was inaugurated in the presence of many politicians and humanitarians from W. Berlin and Israel. The park is to perpetuate the memory of the many eminent Jews from Berlin who played a significant part in the cultural life of the country in pre-Hitler days. The new suburb where it is situated, has named all its streets after Jewish communities in East and West Europe. The West German Ambassador Klaus Schütz, for 10 years Lord Mayor of Berlin before his present appointment, spoke without notes in fluent Hebrew on the glorious history of the Berlin Jewish community before 1933 and on the achievements of the present-day, much smaller, community.

The German *Diakonie* Charitable Service invited a group of 23 elderly Israelis to spend a month in one of its rest homes. The scheme which started in 1975, has so far accommodated more than a hundred Israelis, who formerly lived in Eastern Europe and in Germany.

Fifteen young people from the Saar Territory worked for two weeks in a home for mentally retarded persons at Migdal near Tiberias. 15 years ago, a Wuerttemberg builder started the scheme by taking his own family and three others to the home to build a small workroom, three pavilions for occupational therapy, and a meeting house for the population of Migdal. He said he did so, because in 2,000 years Christians had so often been persecutors of Jews, and he wanted to be their helper. After his return, he founded an association of helpers for underprivileged children in Israel, which every year sends teams over for special work.

## "BETH TALMUD MICHELSTADT"

To keep alive the memory of the "Baal Schem of Michelstadt", Rabbi S. L. Wormser, a Trust founded in his name and dissolved by the Nazis was re-established in London. Its tasks are the maintenance of the newly founded Talmud school "Kolel Michelstadt" in London and the edition of the Baal Schem's writings. Any readers who are interested in the enterprise and may be prepared to lend it their assistance should contact the Beth Talmud Michelstadt (Dean Rabbi E. Schlesinger), 100 Fairholt Road, London, N.16.

## AUSTRIA

### Medal for Wiesenthal

With tears in his eyes, Mr. Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Vienna Jewish documentation centre for the detection of Nazi crimes, received the highest US Congressional gold medal from President Carter in the presence of some 150 American Jewish leaders, members of Congress and the government. The President said Wiesenthal was a man of incomparable courage and conviction whose motive was not only the desire for justice but also the wish to remember what had happened, and to prevent a repetition of unspeakable crimes against humanity. Mr. Wiesenthal said that he was not a hater and that the word revenge had no meaning for him. Hitler and Stalin were still alive though not, perhaps, in their old countries.

In a "Playboy" interview, Wiesenthal recommended the release of Rudolf Hess, if only in view of his state of health and his age.

### Accused by Pravda

The official Soviet newspaper, *Pravda*, has accused Austria of neglecting its obligations under the 1955 four-power state treaty relating to the resurgence of Nazism. Concerned at the 140,000 votes (about 3.2 per cent) achieved by the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party in the Austrian Presidential elections last May, the newspaper asks why over the last three decades the NDP and similar organisations had "been allowed to undermine the very basis of two vital articles of the treaty"—Article 9, which demanded the eradication of all traces of Nazism from Austria's political and cultural life, and Article 4, which bans all pan-Germanic propaganda.

## THE ISRAELI SCENE

### WALDHEIM MODIFIES STATEMENT

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, claims that a transcript of his remarks at a dinner given by the Arab League, and which they later distributed, misrepresented his true views on the Middle East. Following a discussion with Mr. Edgar M. Bronfman, acting President of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Waldheim said that he had not intended to call for the creation of a Palestinian state, but had only reiterated his and the UN Charter's position in favour of self-determination. Statehood was one of the many possible results of this process and his own basic position of not taking sides in the Middle East dispute had not changed. He referred to his repeated assertion of the need for secure and recognised boundaries for Israel and all countries in the Middle East.

### HYDROELECTRIC ENERGY PLAN

The Israel Cabinet has approved a £300 million-plan for the provision of Hydro-Electric energy based on a canal and tunnel system running 67 miles from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea. The project, which is expected to take 10 years to complete will be funded by the government in conjunction with overseas investors and should provide sufficient power for an additional nuclear power station and salt-water ponds for fish-farming and recreation. Present plans propose that the canal should run from Katif in the Gaza Strip area, pass south of Beersheba and Massada before entering the Dead Sea. If political considerations force avoidance of the Gaza Strip, rerouting will add about £30 millions to the costs of construction. The system will provide some 15 per cent of Israel's electricity needs, reduce the need for oil and coal imports and provide further savings from the cancellation of a planned conventional power station. A total saving of some £550 millions has been estimated.

### PASSPORTS' SAFEGUARD

To reduce the danger of forgery the Interior Ministry has changed the printing process for the country's passports, many of which have been circulating in Western Europe.

### SADAT'S SINAI PLANS

In a speech near Mount Sinai, President Sadat appealed to Muslims, Christians and Jews all over the world to donate money for the sanctuary for the three religions which he plans to build in the valley of repose at the foot of Mount Sinai. He spoke in Arabic, French, English, and German. The centre is to contain a church, a mosque, and a synagogue "as a symbol of human brotherhood and the co-existence of nations."

### AGAINST THE TREND ON JERUSALEM

A small but influential group in the French National Assembly, the Radical Party, which belongs to the Union for French Democracy headed by the President, has requested the Government to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem on the basis that as far as diplomatic representation is concerned France has always conformed with local laws and regulations, however controversial. The same pragmatic attitude should be applied to Jerusalem which was "naturally (and) obviously" the capital of the Jewish State and had been declared so by a law passed in the Knesset.

### SALONIKAN JEWS' MEMORIAL

On land provided by the Tel Aviv Municipality a new Synagogue has been dedicated to the memory of the 50,000 Greek Jews from Salonika who perished in the Holocaust. Representatives of the Greek Jewish community attended the dedicatory Mincha service held in the distinctive Salonika style as the new impressive edifice was named Hechal Yehuda, honouring the memory of Mr. Yehudah Leon Recanti, founder of the Israel Discount Bank, whose sons, Yaacov, Daniel and Raphael, contributed most of the £350,000 the project cost.

### SWASTIKAS IN JERUSALEM

Young Sephardi malcontents were thought to be responsible for the defacement of Ashkenazi-owned homes and shops in Jerusalem, which were daubed with swastikas and slogans like: "Hitler, a pity you didn't finish the job at Auschwitz."

### NEW LEGAL GUIDELINES

Although many Israeli laws remain on the statute books from the mandatory period the Knesset has now passed a new "Foundations of Law" bill, which provides that when faced by gaps in existing legislation or lack of suitable judicial precedents, Courts should be guided by "the principles of freedom, justice, honesty and peace of the Jewish heritage."

### WIVES' RIGHT TO KNOW

Despite the objections of the Finance Ministry the Knesset approved an amendment to the tax regulations which gives women the right to check their husbands' income tax files. The Finance Minister initially opposed the proposal submitted by Mapam Deputy, Mrs. Haika Grossman, wishing to restrict access only to cases where wives had a claim for maintenance, but it was approved by 37 votes to 35.

### REPORT ON THE BLIND

Ministry of Social Welfare statistics show that there are 8,400 blind people in Israel. Of these, two Jews in every 1,000 is so afflicted. Among non-Jews the figure is more than double, 4.7 per thousand.

### STUDENTS AGAINST SMOKING

The majority of Israeli students are against smoking. A survey of some 2,000 of them at Bar-Ilan University showed about 75 per cent non-smokers, with most of them in favour of forbidding the practice in lecture halls. Tel Aviv University students run a ten-meeting course for those trying to kick the habit. This involves using psychodrama techniques with one student playing the role of smoker, another the therapist.

### CENTENARY OF CITRUS FRUIT

In Mikveh Israel, President Navon took part in a ceremony to mark the hundredth anniversary of planting of the first citrus grove in Israel at the agricultural colony. He unveiled a memorial to commemorate the event, a sculpture by two Israelis, in the shape of an orange. The ceremony was also attended by Mr. Shmuel Anavi, a citrus grower who was present over 80 years ago at a reception in honour of Theodor Herzl and Kaiser Wilhelm II during the latter's visit to Jerusalem.

## France & Germany's Finest Wines

SHIPPED BY

## HOUSE OF HALLGARTEN

I am able to offer you a superb selection of French (incl. Kosher Alsace) and German wines, shipped by the famous importers, House of Hallgarten, and to advise you personally and help you with your wine purchases. The selection ranges from your everyday wines to the finest for your special Simcha.

Delivery to all U.K. addresses.

Please write or phone:

JUSTIN GOLDMEIER

Wine Merchant

22 Pennine Drive, London, N.W.2

Tel: 01-455 8672

with the compliments of

## Pafra

synthetic adhesives

adhesive applicators

Pafra Limited

Bentalls • Basildon

Essex • SS14 3BU

## LEON JESSEL LIMITED

Manufacturers of  
Fancy Leather Goods,  
Gift Goods

which are advertised throughout the  
world as

"EMBLEMS OF GOOD CRAFTSMANSHIP BY  
THE JESSEL ORGANISATION"

We also manufacture Industrial  
Equipment in Leather and Canvas

P.O. Box 12, Corporation Street  
Walsall, WS1 4HP  
West Midlands

Telephone: 0922-24649 or 0922-22058

Telex: Chacom G Walsall 338212 LEJES

Lionel Kochan

## PRELUDE TO STATEHOOD

This book\* recalls the bitter battles of three or four decades past. It is a vivid reminder that will stir youthful memories in all those now of middle age. But the author, an Israeli academic, has written with scrupulous and documented objectivity. The resulting combination of scholarship and nostalgia is irresistible in its impact. This is a major contribution to our knowledge of the way in which the Jews of America brought their influence to bear in the conflict over the emergence of Jewish statehood; how Truman confronted the problem; how the State Department reacted; how Bevin and the British were forced into line; how the Anglo-Zionist entente broke down, undermining Weizmann in the process and elevating Ben Gurion.

Ganin's starting point is the White Paper policy of May 1939 which signalled the British capitulation to Arab violence and at the same time exposed the basic political weakness of the Jewish people. Both Weizmann and Ben Gurion reached the same conclusion—that only a Jewish state could absorb the expected millions of Jewish refugees in the post-war era. The First World War, declared Ben Gurion in September 1939, "had brought us the Balfour Declaration; this time we have to bring about the Jewish state". Weizmann spoke in similar terms to Churchill. Both he and Ben Gurion based their hopes on a renewal of the Anglo-Zionist entente, however much this had been damaged by the White Paper.

In one sense Ganin's book is an extended analysis of the final destruction of these hopes and the switch of gravity from London to Washington. This was the result of the mobilisation of Jewish power there. In the Yishuv, the same mobilisation was embodied in the creation of the Haganah and the movement of "illegal immigration".

Through the transformation of American Jewry into a political force, particularly at the hands of men such as Abba Hillel Silver, Emanuel Neumann and their associates in the American Zionist Emergency Council, it proved possible to use public opinion and the "Jewish vote" for specific policy objectives. The first stage in this process was the passage of the so-called Biltmore resolution of 1942: "that Palestine be established as a Jewish Commonwealth integrated in the structure of the new democratic world". It culminated in the ascendancy of Hillel Silver and his elevation to the position of moving force in American Zionist politics.

The other person on which this study throws a good deal of light is President Truman. Ganin takes a middle line between those who see Truman neglecting wider American interests through his commitment to the Zionist programme and those who see the President lacking any Zionist commitment at all and responding to short-term political expediency. The ambiguity of Truman's attitude comes out clearly in his position over American recognition of the new state. Indeed, it is not even clear that Truman realised the importance of his famous declaration of May 15, 1948; for on the very same day he wrote to Bartley

Crum: "You, of course, are familiar with all the effort put forth by me to get a peaceable and satisfactory settlement of the Palestine question. I am still hoping for just that. I think the report of the British American Commission on Palestine was the correct solution and, I think, eventually we are going to get it worked out most that way". The British American Commission of course recommended a unitary state in Palestine—and here was Truman extending recognition to the very opposite!

Obviously and necessarily, Ganin writes from the American perspective on events. This means that his treatment of the British perspective is somewhat limited. Even so, this remains an exciting but controlled venture into the difficult field of immediate post-war history that is still contemporary.

### ELIAS CANETTI 75

Bulgarian-born writer, novelist and essayist Elias Canetti who until a few years ago lived in London, celebrated his 75th birthday in Zurich. In the first volume of his autobiography "Die gerettete Zunge" which has not yet found an English translator, he described his youth in Manchester, Vienna, Zurich, and Frankfurt. Despite the fact that German was the fourth language he learned as a child, he has always written in German. After the *Anschluss*, he came from Vienna to London and devoted most of his time to the study of the interrelation between crowds and power, from an anthropological, ethnological, mythological and psychiatric angle. His study "Crowds and Power" was published in English in 1960. The only other of his books to have appeared in English is his only novel "Auto da Fe", translated under his supervision by the historian C. V. Wedgwood and hailed as one of the few great novels of the century by Iris Murdoch and others. However, he is much better known in the German-speaking world where his importance as a writer was discovered at an early date by, among others, Thomas Mann and Hermann Hesse.

### AUSCHWITZ PHOTOS RE-DISCOVERED

A remarkable photo-record made by the Nazis of victims destined for the gas chambers of Auschwitz, made in 1944, and retained by a survivor, Mrs. Lili Meier of Miami since the end of the war, is to be lodged in the Yad Vashem Museum, Jerusalem. The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation is to publish a duplicate of the album and send it to major libraries. It is believed that the original photographer was Ernst Hofmann, a teacher by profession, who became assistant to the chief of the identification service at Auschwitz. Mrs. Meier, then Lili Jacob, aged 17, was taken to the concentration camp with her family from Bilki, Czechoslovakia. On the day Auschwitz was liberated friends took her from the camp hospital, where she was ill with typhus, to a deserted army barracks. She found the album under a discarded pyjama jacket. It contained a photograph of the Rabbi who had married her parents, as well as of her two brothers, who did not survive the incarceration.

### 2,000 JEWS IN N. YEMEN

There are four times as many Jews still living in North Yemen than was previously estimated. Left behind after the famous airlift, "Operation Magic Carpet" in 1949, they now number 2,000, and despite their isolation still maintain their religious customs and traditions. These figures emerge in a report by the World Organisation of Jews in Arab Countries giving an overall population analysis of Jews in Arab lands. It estimates that 35,000 Jews are now living in Arab territories compared with 850,000 over 30 years ago. Serious concern still exists, in particular, for the 4,500 to 5,000 Jews still remaining in Syria, and Jewish communities throughout the world are to be asked to petition their governments on their behalf on Human Rights Day in December.

### SHARP FALL IN JEWISH EMIGRATION

Figures of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union continues to show a sharp fall in the numbers leaving Russia. In October, last year, 5,000 were permitted to leave; this fell to 1,200 for July 1980, and only 600 were expected to arrive in Vienna in August. The first seven months of 1980 provided a total of 16,000 emigrants—10,000 fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The number of emigrants choosing to settle elsewhere than Israel has reached a record 75 per cent. One reason for the fewer numbers leaving Russia has been Soviet concern at the economic consequences of losing nearly 250,000 Jews since the 1960s, most of them well-educated townspeople. The authorities are now offering economic incentives to encourage would-be emigrants to stay.

### YIDDISH IN BIROBJAN

After a break of 30 years Yiddish is again being taught in the so-called Jewish Autonomous Region of the Soviet Union, Birobidjan. The official Yiddish newspaper, *Birobidjaner Shtern*, claims that the language is being taught in several schools in the region, but specifies only two. There are only 11,000 Jews in Birobidjan out of a total population of 190,000, and the report speaks of a shortage of Yiddish teachers, text books and teaching aids. A teacher-training school has been started to instruct 30 teachers in the language.

### HEBREW CONGRESS IN WARSAW

Representatives from 30 countries, including 30 Israelis, attended an International Congress on Hebrew Studies in Warsaw. It transpired that the head of the Religious Department of the Polish Government, Jerzy Kuberski, who is also chairman of the Korczak Society, plans to visit Israel in the near future. This would be the first visit by a member of the Polish Government which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

### JEWISH EDUCATION IN RUMANIA

The Israel Minister of Education, Zevulun Hammer, recently visited Rumania at the invitation of the country's Chief Rabbi, Dr. Moses Rosen, to discuss the continuing help provided by the Jewish State to religious and cultural needs of the 34,000 Jews still living there. Organised in 68 communities, there is a great shortage of rabbis and teachers. Emigration to Israel is proceeding normally, 500 Jews have been granted permission to leave so far this year.

### THERESIENSTADT EXHIBITION IN PRAGUE

To commemorate the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Theresienstadt camp, the Prague Jewish community and the Council of Czech communities mounted an exhibition "Ghetto Theresienstadt" and held a special memorial meeting on the site of the camp.

### PRIZE FOR RADIO PLAY

In memory of the Austrian-Jewish author Friedrich Torberg, the Austrian Radio Service has funded a £1,800 Prize for the best radio comedy which takes no less than 45, and no more than 60 minutes of air-time. German-speaking authors in Austria and other countries have been asked to compete.

### VIENNA HONOURS REFUGEE

The author Erich Fried, who came to this country as a refugee from Austria, has been made a Freeman of the City of Vienna. His poems, novels and plays are written in German and only a collection of poems has been translated into English. Erich Fried's works also include a Shakespeare translation into German.

### STOP LONELINESS—BEAT DEPRESSION TAKE A NEW LEASE OF LIFE

Join our Painting Class,  
Beginners welcome.

Wednesday 2-4 p.m.

17 Daleham Gardens, N.W.3.

Contact Edith Galliner.  
Tel.: 722 0361 after 5 p.m.

### BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

Our new communal hall is available for cultural and social functions. For details apply to: Secretary, Synagogue Office.

Tel.: 01-794 3949

\*Zvi Ganin: *Truman, American Jewry and Israel, 1945-1948*. Holmes and Meier Publish, New York-London 1979.

# AJR ROUND UP

## SUMMER FAIR AT OSMOND HOUSE

The Summer Fair at Osmond House, held on 17 August, was a full success. It yielded more than £850 for the Home's Amenities Fund. However, even more important was the social benefit. Residents had a joyful afternoon with their relatives and mingled with the other visitors.

The importance of functions of this kind cannot be stressed too strongly. They are highlights of the residents' lives. At the same time they provide a pleasant opportunity for the visitors to meet old acquaintances and to establish new contacts. There was also an important innovation: special entertainment for children (puppets, magic, balloon sculpture, etc.) was arranged for. Elderly people, most of them grandparents and even great-grandparents, like the company of children, and the facilities provided for the youngsters served as an attraction for them to accompany their parents to the Function. In his capacity as chairman of the Management Committee for the Homes, Mr. L. Spiro, who is also Hon. Treasurer of the AJR, expressed thanks to the Matron, the staff, the Committee members and all others who, by their thoughtful and devoted preparations, had made the Fair a wonderful success.

The functions at the Homes, which are announced in "AJR Information", are open to all members of the AJR and their friends. They may thus get a personal impression of the life in the Homes, the care for which is one of the essential tasks of the AJR. It may also induce some of them to play an active part in the work for the benefit of the residents. There is always a need for visitors to those residents who have no, or only few, relatives or friends in London. This need especially applies to lonely male residents, who would greatly enjoy the visit of gentlemen who would keep them some company.

## HAPPIER BIRTHDAY

A long-standing member of the AJR, who recently celebrated an important birthday, asked her relatives and friends not to make personal presents to her but to send donations to the AJR instead. This generous gesture was not only of great practical value for the charitable work of the AJR but also welcome as an expression of appreciation of our efforts. It is hoped that many other friends will follow this member's example.

## A FITTING MEMORIAL

In memory of the late Mrs. Margit Hecht Hall, who took a keen interest in the AJR, her son, Dr. Peter Hall, passed on £200 of her estate to the AJR for the benefit of the AJR Club at Hannah Karminski House. The money will be used for specific requirements, the cost for which cannot be defrayed out of the Club's ordinary resources.

## "THANK-YOU BRITAIN" FUND

### Lectures by Mr. Martin Gilbert

The "Thank-You Britain" Fund, raised by the AJR, and administered by the British Academy, has since its inception in 1965 provided grants for research work on economic, social, political, literary and historical subjects relating to the British Isles. To retain contact with the wider public and especially with the donors, it also arranges lectures by outstanding scholars on topical themes. At the Committee of the British Academy, which selects the applicants for scholarships and arranges for the lectures, the AJR is represented by its Director, Dr. W. Rosenstock in succession to the late Mr. W. M. Behr.

This year's series of lectures will be again of particular interest, both in view of the speaker and of the subject he chose. Mr. Martin Gilbert will speak on "Churchill's War Leadership: A Re-Appraisal". As readers know, Martin Gilbert is the official biographer of Winston Churchill and thus particularly qualified to deliver a lecture on the subject. In addition to his elaborate and painstaking research of the life and work of Winston Churchill, he has, as a committed Jew, several works on Jewish history and present-day Jewry to his credit, the most important of which is "Exile and Return".

The lectures will be held at 5 p.m. on Monday, 24 November, Tuesday, 25 November, and Thursday, 27 November at the British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1. To secure admission, interested readers should ask for invitation cards from the British Academy.

## LEGACIES

Mrs. Clara Mann left one quarter of the residuary of her estate to the AJR Charitable Trust.

## ELLEN MERLANDER

Miss Ellen Merlander suddenly died at her home in Fairlight (Sussex) on 21 August. She was the first Matron of Leo Baeck House, when the Home was founded in 1958 and held this position until she retired after 10 years' service. She was a person full of kindness and compassion and interested in a wide variety of things. Yet her main interest lay in the welfare of human beings. These high qualities of hers decisively contributed to the atmosphere, by which the Home has excelled ever since. On her retirement to Fairlight she quietly joined in many of the village activities, soon taking her share in the less popular tasks. Once again her charm and interest soon captivated all hearts, and her house and garden became a haven of peace. Those who benefited from her work at Leo Baeck House will always remember her with gratitude and affection.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ASCHAFFENBURG TRIAL

Sir,—I should like to comment on your report about my late father and myself in the July issue of AJR Information. Since 1901, my father had been the owner of a small provincial bank in Aschaffenburg. In the course of business he sold securities for cash for Jewish clients—as every other bank did in Germany—the proceeds of which they took abroad for their eventual emigration. In 1936, the Nazis went through my father's affairs with a toothcomb and accused him of having assisted Jews to commit economic high treason. In 1939, he was given a Zuchthaus sentence, and he died in prison in 1943. My mother refused to leave Germany without him, although I had obtained permits for both of them to come to this country. She was deported and died on the way to Riga. After the war, the Supreme Restitution Court refused to rehabilitate my father, saying that even if he had been a Nazi, he would have received the same sentence. They ignored, of course, that a Nazi would have committed such a crime for personal gains, whereas my father had risked his own future and that of his family for highly charitable reasons. A few months ago, Oberbürgermeister Dr. Raitland and a wonderful woman, Frau Gieschke, took up my father's case for a petition to the Bavarian Minister of Justice. The petition was signed by 400 people, some of them in prominent positions, but mostly old citizens of Aschaffenburg who had known my late father. The Minister's decision will be of interest to others who have similarly suffered.

75 Allerton Road,  
London, N.16.

ERICH J. ROSENTHAL

### COMMUNITIES IN HESSE

Sir,—In connection with the preparation of volume III of "Pinkas Hakehillot Germany", which will be devoted to the Jewish communities of Hessen and Hessen-Nassau (including Frankfurt/Main), we would be grateful for every possible assistance in the form of memoirs, pictures and photographs, printed material, etc., pertaining to the subject. Material rendered will be deposited in the Yad Vashem Archives, Jerusalem; upon request it will be photocopied and returned.

P.O. Box 3477,  
Jerusalem.

YAD VASHEM,  
Attention of Dr. Henry Wasserman.

### "ART OF THE HOLOCAUST"

Sir,—For a book on the Art of the Holocaust we are seeking any information on location of artists who were interned or art works that were created under Nazi activity, and any documents or diaries related to the subject.

129E, 73 Street,  
New York, NY 10021.

DR. SYBIL MILTON,  
Leo Baeck Institute.

## FAMILY EVENTS

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

### Birthdays

Fraenkel:—Mr. Arnold Fraenkel of 179 Portland Crescent Stanmore, Middx. will be 75 on October 26. Mr. Fraenkel is a member of the AJR of long standing and is very active in the Kenton Zionist Society, formerly the Selig Brodetsky Society. His family and many friends in all parts of the world wish him a very happy birthday and he and his wife Hansi many more years together in happiness and health.

Librowicz:—Dr. Hans Librowicz of 212 Bradford Road, Shipley, West Yorkshire, will celebrate his 90th birthday on October 30.

## Death

Flesch:—Mrs. M Flesch of 2, Cleve Road, London, N.W.6. passed away peacefully on August 12. Deeply mourned by her nephew and many friends.

## CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 50p for five words plus 25p for advertisements under a Box No.

### Situations Required

WE WOULD WELCOME hearing from more ladies who would be willing to shop and cook for an elderly person in their neighbourhood on a temporary or permanent basis. Current rate of pay £1.60 per hour. Please ring Mrs. Matus 01-624 4449, AJR Employment, for Appointment.

MATURE WOMAN with long experience in geriatric hospitals available as companion for a few hours per day. Tel.: 586 2374.

### Accommodation Required

WRITER/RESEARCHER seeks accommodation from about October 20—December 20. Box 836.

### Miscellaneous

REVLON MANICURIST. Will visit your home. Phone 01-445 2915.

SWEDEN—AN INTRODUCTION. Gothenburg, Dalarna, Uppsala, Stockholm, Jonköping. Escorted Luxury tours. Departing 13 April and 27 April. Scandinavian breakfasts, dinners, sightseeings included. Please contact Gerald Holm, 56 Greencroft Gardens, N.W.6. (624 7632.)

## Personal

WIDOW, 66, young in outlook and appearance, with varied interests, continental origin, would like to meet male and female friend. Northampton area. Box 834.

### INFORMATION REQUIRED General Enquiries

WRITER/RESEARCHER seeks information, publications and documents on the Freie Deutsche Kulturbund, London, 1938-1945. Replies to Box 835.

### STAMP COLLECTION

Private sale of  
LEVANT—various occupations  
HOLY-LAND Covers, ISRAEL,  
JORDAN, EGYPT, LEBANON and  
Early EUROPEANS and  
G.B. CLASSICS  
Details from  
LEON GAMSA 998 3000

## OBITUARY

### ANNE FRANK'S FATHER

91-year-old Otto Frank who has died in a Basle hospital, was the father of Anne Frank, whose diary he found after the war in his family's hide-out in the backroom of a Dutch warehouse, where they had stayed for more than two years. He was born in Frankfurt and fought for the Germans in the First World War when he was decorated for bravery as an officer. In 1933, he went to Holland with his wife and two daughters and opened a food-product business in Amsterdam. In 1944, the family were betrayed to the Nazis and deported. Anne died of typhus in Bergen-Belsen, her mother and sister perished in Auschwitz. When he returned to Amsterdam as the sole survivor, Mr. Frank discovered the diary and a number of fairy tales and other stories she had written. He was persuaded to publish the diary in 1947, and it was the first documentary evidence that reached a vast circle of readers in Germany and elsewhere and stirred the conscience of many. In its dramatised form, it reached an even vaster audience, but neo-Nazis in Germany attacked it as a forgery, and Mr. Frank had to take several of them to court. He turned over all royalties from the publication and the film rights to the Anne Frank Foundation in Amsterdam and to various charities.

### MARGARET LANGDON, MBE

Miss Margaret Langdon, MBE, founder of the Delamere Forest School, Cheshire, which she opened in the name "Jewish Fresh Air Home and School", in 1912, has died at the age of 89. Although the Home was her principal concern, she devoted her life to many other causes. These included helping to integrate Hungarian and Egyptian refugees into the Manchester community and the rescue of Jewish children from Nazi Germany.

### DR. ADOLF LESCHNITZER

Dr. Adolf Leschnitzer died in New York at the age of 81. A teacher by profession, he became associated with Jewish activities as a member of the KJV fraternity. When he lost his position as a "Studienrat" in 1933, he was appointed head of the School Department of the newly founded "Reichsvertretung". In this capacity he successfully coped with the difficult problems arising from the fundamental changes in the education of the Jewish youth. He arrived in the US in 1940 and obtained a position as head of the Foreign Language Department of New York City College. Already before his retirement in 1965 he held annual summer lecture courses about the German-Jewish past at the Free University in West Berlin. Later the University appointed him a Professor and also awarded him an Honorary Doctorate. It is due to Dr. Leschnitzer that several young German students became interested in the history of German Jewry and wrote scholarly books on the subject. Leschnitzer himself also published a work on the German-Jewish relationship after the emancipation. He was an active member of the New York Board of the Leo Baeck Institute.

### JOSEPH KOMKOMMER

A leading member of the Belgian Jewish community, Joseph Komkommer, has died at the age of 69. Born in Amsterdam, but brought up in Antwerp, he served in the family Diamond firm, which he went to represent in Indonesia shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War. He was imprisoned by the Japanese in 1941, returning to Antwerp after the end of hostilities, where he subsequently served as an honorary Israel Consul-General. Among his many charitable concerns for Israel and the Jewish community was his co-chairmanship of the committee to pay tribute to Belgians who had saved Jews from deportation by the Nazis.

### PETER SELLERS

The internationally-renowned actor, impersonator and comedian Peter Sellers died from a heart attack at the age of 54, at a time when his cinematic performances were receiving the highest possible critical acclaim. He possessed a remarkable talent for vocal mimicry, which had as much perfection as the most modern tape-recorder. This was coupled to a family theatrical tradition on both sides. While his father was a member of the Church of England, his mother came from a Sephardic Jewish family, descended from the famous Jewish pugilist "Battling Daniel" Mendoza of the Regency period. Sellers made full claim to his Jewish ancestry, tracing it in the halachic fashion through his mother. He loved Israel, which he generously supported, particularly at the time of the six-day war, and was closely involved in the campaigns for Soviet Jewry.

### SOLOMON GRAYZEL

Rabbi Dr. Solomon Grayzel, the Jewish historian and Editor Emeritus of the Jewish Publication Society of America, died in New York at the age of 84. From 1966 to 1978 he was Professor of History at Dropsie University in Philadelphia, after nearly three decades of editorship of the JPSA, of which he became Editor in Chief in 1939. He was elected President of the United States' Jewish Book Council in 1945. As an historian he specialised in Christian-Jewish relationships during the Middle Ages.

### BIOGRAPHY OF DR. BERNHARD WEISS

#### Request for Material

A biography of the former Berlin Police Vice-President, Dr. Bernhard Weiss, is being prepared by Dr. Dietz Bering of the University of Cologne. Dr. Bering would be grateful if any readers who can supply material (reminiscences, letters, photos, documents, press cuttings, etc.) got in touch with him (address: Siebengebirgsallee 76, D-5000 Cologne 41, German Federal Republic).

#### GERMAN BOOKS BOUGHT

Art, Literature, Topography, generally pre-war non classical

#### B. HARRISON

The Village Bookshop  
46 Belsize Lane, N.W.3  
Tel: 01-794 3180

#### "WOODSTOCK LODGE"

40 Shoot-up Hill  
London, NW2

- \* Well furnished single and double rooms.
- \* High standard of care.
- \* Family atmosphere.
- \* S.R.N.s in attendance.

Please telephone Matron for details 01-452 6201

#### "AVENUE LODGE"

Licensed by the London Borough of Barnet)

Golders Green, N.W.11

NORTH-WEST LONDON'S EXCLUSIVE HOME FOR THE ELDERLY AND RETIRED

- \* Luxurious single and double rooms with telephone.
  - \* Principal rooms with bathroom en suite.
  - \* Lounge with colour TV.
  - \* Kosher cuisine.
  - \* Lovely gardens—easy parking.
  - \* Day and night nursing.
- Please telephone the Matron, 01-455 7094

#### THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine—Licensed  
169a Finchley Road, N.W.3  
(624 6301)

PARTIES CATERED FOR

#### WALM LANE NURSING HOME

Purpose designed, modern comfortable, medical Nursing Home. Convalescent, medical and post-operative patients, both long and short term stay, cared for by fully qualified nursing staff. Single and shared rooms with every luxurious facility. Lifts to all floors. All diets catered for - Kosher meals can be provided.

Licensed by Brent Health Authority and recognised by B.U.P.A. and P.P.P. insurance

Contact Miss G. Rain, Matron  
141 Walm Lane London N.W.2  
Tel. 450 8832 or 452 2281

#### GOLDWELL RESIDENTIAL HOTEL

DIETS AND NURSING SERVICES AVAILABLE

Lovely Large Terrace & Gardens  
Very Quiet Position.

North Finchley, near Woodhouse Grammar School.

MRS. COLDWELL

11 Fenstanton Avenue,  
London, N.12  
Tel.: 01-445 0061

#### DAWSON HOUSE HOTEL

- \* Free Street Parking in front of the Hotel
  - \* Full Central Heating \* Free Laundry
  - \* Free Dutch-Style Continental Breakfast
- 72 CANFIELD GARDENS  
near Underground Sta. Finchley Road,  
LONDON, N.W.6.  
Tel: 01-624 0079

#### MAPESBURY LODGE

(Licensed by the Borough of Brent)  
for the elderly, convalescent and partly incapacitated.

Lift to all floors.

Luxurious double and single rooms. Colour TV, h/c, central heating, private telephones, etc., in all rooms. Excellent kosher cuisine. Colour TV lounge. Open visiting. Cultivated Gardens.

Full 24-hour nursing care.

Please telephone sister-in-charge, 450 4972  
17 Mapesbury Road, N.W.2

#### GROSVENOR NURSING HOME

Licensed by the Borough of Camden  
Luxurious and comfortable home. Retired, post-operative, convalescent and medical patients cared for. Long or short term stays. Under supervision both day and night by a qualified nursing team. Well furnished single or double rooms. Lift to all floors. A spacious colour TV lounge and dining room, excellent kosher cuisine.

Please telephone Matron for full details. 01-203 2692/01-452 0515  
85-87 Fordwych Road, N.W.2.

#### MADE-TO-MEASURE

Double knit Jersey wool and washable drip-dry coats, suits, trouser-suits and dresses. Outside our speciality. From £9.00 inclusive material. Also customers' own material made up.

'Phone: 01-459 8517  
Mrs. L. Rudolfer

MANICURE, PEDICURE,  
FACIALS  
AND FACE MASSAGE  
in your own home  
if required

TRUDICLAY, M.F. PHYS.  
Tel.: 328 3584

#### YOUR FIGURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

... by a visit to our Salon where ready-to-wear foundations are expertly fitted and altered if required.

Newest styles in Swim-  
& Beachwear & Hosiery

Mme H. LIEBERG

871 Finchley Rd., Golders Green,  
N.W.11 (next to Post Office)  
01-455 8673

#### BELSIZE SQUARE GUEST HOUSE

24 BELSIZE SQUARE, N.W.3  
Tel: 01-794 4307 or 01-435 2557

MODERN SELF-CATERING HOLIDAY ROOMS. RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER  
MODERATE TERMS.  
NEAR TWISS COTTAGE STATION

## THEATRE AND CULTURE

**Odön von Horvath—Kind seiner Zeit.** Under this title, a Biography by Traugott Krischke, was published by Heyne Verlag, Munich. Horvath who is acknowledged as one of the most talented dramatists of this century, wrote a number of works during his short and stormy life; today, nearly every major German-speaking theatre stages his plays which depict the dreary life of the "small man" and are satirical and critical of the inflation-era of the Twenties in Europe; "Kasimir und Karoline" and "Die Unbekannte aus der Seine" are being successfully revived; "Tales from the Vienna Woods" was given at the London National Theatre last year. Horvath, who emigrated to Paris in 1938, added personal tragedy to the dramas of his own writing: he was killed by a falling tree during a thunderstorm.

**German Film actresses—still in the news.** *Kaethe Haack*, 82, grand old lady of the German screen, starred in numerous comedies; once she partnered Karl Valentin whom she described as "rather unusual."—Former "UFA" star *Brigitte Horney* is filming once more; she portrays "Charlotte" in a biography of the painter Charlotte Salomon, who perished in Auschwitz in 1943.

**Birthdays.** Birthday honours to *Ernst Krenek*, 80, whose Jazz opera "Jonny spielt auf" created a sensation when first performed in Leipzig in 1927. Born in Vienna, Krenek composed a number of operas (the best known being "Karl V"). He emigrated to the United States in 1937.—*Rudolf Prack*, star of (so far) 108 films, was the subject of a German Television 75th birthday

special.—Aachen-born *Peter Kreuder*, also 75, is one of the most prolific hit-song composers. Melodious and often romantic, his songs have become real Evergreens, lasting through decades, crowned by successes like "Ich spuer' in mir..." (sung in the film "Mazurka" by Pola Negri), and "Sag' beim Abschied leise Servus" which has become an Austrian classic.

**Obituary.** The death at 77 of *Willy Forst* symbolises the end of an epoch in the history of film production. Today's films contrast with his world of delightful elegance, in which he appeared as the immaculate man of the world, in evening dress, with top hat and white gloves. As an actor, he partnered Lilian Harvey and Willy Fritsch, as director he moved his audience deeply ("Leise flehen meine Lieder"), and his successes included "Maskerade" (starring Paula Wessely). During World War II his charming films "Bel ami", "Operette", "Wiener Blut" continued to be shown, but there were no more. His career came to an end: Forst felt that he had nothing more to contribute and retired from film-making; "my style is not wanted now" he declared in one of his rare interviews.—*Rosa Albach-Retty* has died in Baden near Vienna at the great age of 105. The last "Court" actress of the Vienna Burgtheater, she acted until 1958, followed by a long retirement in a home for former actors, founded by her colleague Hilde Wagener. She is survived by her ex-daughter-in-law actress Magda Schneider, and her granddaughter Romy Schneider, the international film star.

### FROM HAMPSTEAD TO LEAMINGTON

Under the heading "Restaurateur retires at 84" the Warwick Advertiser published a detailed write-up about Mr. S. Balsam, who had run restaurants in Leamington Spa since 1962. The paper also carries a photo of Mr. Balsam and his wife. He has been active in the catering trade for 50 years. In 1928, he opened his first restaurant in Berlin, and he came to this country shortly before the outbreak of war. Many readers will still remember the years when he owned the Balsam (now Dorice) Restaurant in Finchley Road. It was a meeting place for many refugees. Mr. Balsam did not mind if they could not afford more than a cup of coffee. He served them with pleasure, because he himself was one of them.

Like many former refugees who now live at small places in the provinces, Mr. Balsam also takes an active interest in local affairs. Without disclosing his name, the Leamington Morning News reported about him as "a public spirited citizen" who had come forward with a £150 reward for information leading to the arrest of an arsonist who caused £25,000 worth of damage to a Warwick school.

We wish Mr. Balsam many years of happiness and undiminished vigour in his retirement.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND MRS. W. TREUHERZ

Mr. Werner and Mrs. Irmgard Treuherz recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Both have always been active for the Jewish and wider community. Mr. Treuherz is closely connected with the work for Morris Feinmann House (Manchester) as a founder member, chairman for several years, and trustee. He is also active on the Synagogue Education Committee and a representative on the Board of Deputies. At the same time, he takes a scholarly interest in our Jewish spiritual heritage. We extend our sincerest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Treuherz and wish them undiminished happiness for many years to come.

### ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE AND OBJECTS BOUGHT

Good prices given

PETER BENTLEY  
ANTIQUES

22 Connaught Street, London, W2  
Tel.: 01-723 9394

### ORIENTAL RUGS & KELIMS

BOUGHT — SOLD  
EXCHANGED  
Stalls outside  
Duke of York,  
Church Street,  
Edgware Road.  
Saturdays only.  
Details 01-267 1841  
after 6.00 p.m.

## CROFT COURT HOTEL

"In our hotel you are a personality—not just a room number"  
RAVENSCROFT AVE., GOLDERS GREEN, LONDON, N.W.11  
01-458 3331/2 & 01-455 9175

Centrally heated throughout. Some rooms with private bath & w.c. Beautiful garden. Sun Terrace. Children welcomed.

### DRESSMAKER

HIGHLY QUALIFIED  
VIENNA TRAINED  
St. Johns Wood Area  
Phone for appointment:  
01-328 8718

### MADE-TO-MEASURE

Double knit Jersey wool and washable drip-dry coats suits, trouser-suits and dresses. Outsize our speciality. From £9.00 inclusive material. Also customers' own material made up.

'Phone 01-549 5817  
Mrs. L. Rudolfer

### R. & G. (ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

199b Belsize Road, N.W.8  
624 2646/328 2646  
Members: E.C.A.  
N.I.C.E.I.C.

### HIGHEST PRICES

paid for  
Gentlemen's cast-off Clothing  
WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME  
S. DIENSTAG  
(01-272 4484)

### H. WOORTMAN & SON

8 Baynes Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3.  
Phone 435 3974 and 450 6266  
Continental Builder and Decorator  
Specialist in Dry Rot R repairs  
ESTIMATES FREE

### CAT-LITTER

Free Delivery - Low Prices  
For details phone 226-1734  
or send SAE to  
UROPETS  
37b, Mildmay Grove London, N1 4RH

### LIGHT WEIGHT SILK-LINED MOHAIR COATS

(28 ozs. approx.) Ideal for travel, evening and day wear. Light and warm, 14 styles approx. 10 colours. From £106.50 Sketches and colour cards on request.

Sutin Couture  
45 Westbury Road, London  
N12 7PB

To see these coats, telephone  
01-445 4900 for an appointment.

### Buecher in deutscher Sprache, Bilder, Moebel und Porzellan kauft

A. W. Mytze

Postfach 246, D-1 Berlin 37

Ich bitte um detaillierte Angaben!

Die Buecher werden abgeholt!

Keine Transportprobleme.

Bezahlung bestens und umgehend!