

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

LOOKING AHEAD

Constructive AJR Board Meeting

This year's AJR Board Meeting, which was held on 25 January at Hannah Karminski Hall, differed from previous occasions in a twofold way. At the suggestion of the Executive, several Board members brought interested relatives and friends with them, who attended the meeting as guests. The second departure from the usual routine was that instead of a number of special reports, one summarising address on the salient points of AJR policy was presented by the Chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, as the introduction of the discussion, which turned out to be more lively than it used to be during the past years.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Marx first paid tribute to the memory of an old and valued Board member, Dr. Willy Selig. He also announced that there were three newly elected Board members, Dr. Alice Apt and Dr. Hans Freund, who were present, and Mr. Richard Fisher, who had sent his apologies. Lastly, he referred to the recent 90th birthday of the AJR President, Mr. A. S. Dresel, which had been celebrated with him in excellent health and strength.

In his stimulating survey of the wide range of activities, Mr. Marx first dealt with our efforts to safeguard the material interests of our community. Whilst matters of restitution and compensation had to a certain extent come to a conclusion, there were still various questions concerning the *taxability of German payments*. In this respect, our Vice-Chairman, Dr. F. E. Falk, had been successfully active during the past decades, and one of the latest achievements consisted in the stipulation of the Finance Act 1974 by which of those payments to victims of Nazi persecution which were not entirely exempted from taxation, only one-half of the received amounts was subject to UK tax. Another material issue, which now stood in the foreground, was the recently established *German Hardship Fund* ("Abschlussgeste Wiedergutmachung"). Whilst the regulations of this Fund mainly provided individual payments to individual victims who could not submit their claims in time, attempts were being made to obtain a share in the 5 per cent of the Fund which was to be allocated to organisations for their welfare work.

A further essential task of the AJR was the production of *AJR Information*, now in its 36th year. It involved at present three main problems: it became increasingly urgent to relieve the editor of the sole responsibility for the job and to find relief and eventually a successor for him. The second set of problems concerned the contents of the journal, which must not only relive the past but clearly indicate the role we wish to—and can—play in the eighties and beyond. Lastly, for reasons beyond our control, the journal was getting increasingly expensive and took up almost a quarter of our operating costs.

The third point raised by the speaker was the care for the *Homes*. There were three Old Age Homes, Osmond House and the Flatlets in Eleanor Rathbone House, which were jointly

administered with the CBF/World Jewish Relief. In addition, the AJR owned three houses which offered sheltered accommodation. Altogether, we have more than 260 people to look after. The need for maintaining these homes for refugees, the speaker stated, would continue for the rest of the century. The average age—in the fifties under 70—was now the mid-80s, most of them already frail when entering the Homes. There were also growing financial difficulties. The funds recovered in Germany by the Jewish Trust Corporation were shrinking; the amount of subsidies by the local authorities was affected by the general situation, and at the same time, the German pensions had lost their previous value due to the present exchange rates. Lastly a stage would soon be reached, where new residents belonged to an age group, which no longer qualified for German or Austrian pensions.

The speaker then summarised the other *welfare activities* of the AJR which included the work of the AJR Social Services Department, the Meals-on-Wheels Service (with about 1,000 meals per month) and the AJR Club. Self-Aid, now closely co-operating with the AJR, provided regular help for more than 120 people; this year's concert had raised £5,700.

Financial Situation

Dealing with problems, which have to be tackled in the immediate future, the Chairman first reported about the *financial situation*. The total outgoings now amounted to £100,000, of which £50,000 were used for salaries and £25,000 for *AJR Information*. Of these, just under £50,000 were covered by subscriptions, and a further £25,000 came from the Allocations Committee for AJR and Self Aid together. The balance was made up in various ways but it was obvious that the books could not continue to be balanced in this way without further income. Legacies formed a very important part of this income and deep thanks were due to our former Deputy Secretary, Mr. E. A. Lomnitz, who had helped very much to encourage the making of legacies which were of enormous assistance in building up the AJR Charitable Trust.

Membership was still at approximately 4,100. The *Membership Drive* which had taken place during 1980 had brought in a further 262 members and another 39 new members had been enrolled apart from the Drive. The losses had been 206, making a net increase of 95 new members. Subscriptions from 1979 had amounted to £41,000 and for 1980 to approximately £47,000. This substantial increase was very much welcomed but still insufficient. Age would eventually make great losses in our membership but the Membership Committee under the leadership of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. L. Spiro, would continue its work to improve this situation. Publicity was available as always through *AJR Information* and new

members were contributing between £10 and £50—but this was still not enough.

In the recruitment of the younger generation it had been agreed to create a new term "*Friends of the AJR*" for those people who had no wish to think of themselves as or to be called refugees, as well as for those who were children and grandchildren of refugees and any other people who wish to support the AJR. The privileges of the "*Friends*" would be the same as those of members, and further details would be announced in one of the next issues of the *AJR Information*.

Referring to the front page article in the January issue of *AJR Information* the Chairman stressed anew the need for *voluntary helpers* especially by Board members, their families and friends.

Organisational Alignments

At the end, Mr. Marx reported on organisational alignments of the AJR, Self Aid and the AJR Charitable Trust. While retaining their identity, their amalgamation had proved most effective in the day-to-day work. Equally, the Hon. Officers had become more involved in the day-to-day work, and although there were sometimes disagreements and arguments, the co-operation with the loyal and long serving staff was harmonious and hearty thanks were due to all.

The Report was followed by a discussion, to which the following Board members and guests contributed: Dr. R. Lehmann, Miss J. Lee, Dr. H. G. Francken, Mrs. D. Segall, Mrs. A. Schwab, Mrs. M. Casson, Dr. A. Rosenstrauch (Reading), Mrs. M. Pottlitzer, Mrs. A. Marx, Dr. L. Nelken, Dr. A. Horwell, Mr. G. Selby, Mrs. Margaret Jacoby and Mrs. E. Trent. One of the subjects raised by several speakers was the possibility of recruiting members of the younger generation as voluntary helpers. Some members expressed the view that many younger people had not sufficient time for taking on extra duties because they had to look after their households and their children. Others quoted examples which showed that both fields of activities could very well be combined. With regard to the Homes, it was suggested that the lives of the residents should not only be enhanced by concerts, talks and other kinds of entertainment, but that quite a few residents needed help in dealing with clerical work, especially for the completion of forms required by German authorities. There was also a need for a visitor to members of the AJR Club, who were in hospital. Mrs. Margaret Jacoby appealed to Board members to attend the "Silver Wedding" Bring-and-Buy Sale of the AJR Club on 22 February. She also reported that the congregation "Habonim" (New York) had sent a donation to the Club.

At the request of the Chairman, Dr. F. E. Falk, Vice-Chairman of the AJR, reported that during the past year he had made strong efforts to have pensions, of which at present one-half was taxable, totally exempted from tax. He had met with some degree of success at least in having the problem noted and a promise that it would be kept in mind by the Treasury. Further endeavours were

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LOOKING AHEAD

Continued from page 1

being made in connection with the preparation of the new Budget with the added ground that pensions were now very much reduced in value because of the strength of the English Pound.

In answer to several questions about *AJR Information* Dr. W. Rosenstock stated that the editorial work had become increasingly difficult, especially with regard to staffing. Thanks were due to Mrs. Margot Pottlitzer who, until recently, had lent her co-operation and who continued to assist, albeit on a limited scale. As far as the contents were concerned, more stress would be laid on the work of the AJR. In connection with the proposals to deal more with current questions and less with the past it had to be kept in mind that there is no strict borderline between the past and the present. There was, e.g., a flood of new literature dealing with the Nazi past, and readers expected of their paper that it dealt with these publications. Copies of *AJR Information* were not only sent to members but also to various Anglo-Jewish organisations and personalities, a select number of Members of Parliament and the press. The paper also went to subscribers and organisations abroad and to University libraries, where it was very often used by research workers as source material.

Age Problem

At the end, the Chairman called on Mr. Spiro in his capacity as chairman of the Management Committee for the Homes. There were Mr. Spiro stated, financial problems. The administration was shared with the CBF/World Jewish Relief which did it well and was highly competent. The AJR provided more "motherly help" and was the giver of quality of life. The composition of the House Committees was also an age problem, as many members had served on them for over 20 years and were much in need of successors. He described it as embarrassing that the community could not provide a sufficient number of volunteers for the Homes among its own members.

In concluding the meeting, the Chairman reiterated the need for the co-operation of members of the comparatively younger generation. He thanked the Board members and guests for their interest and for their contributions to the debate.

The official part of the meeting was followed by an informal gathering at which refreshments were served.

STRONG OPPOSITION TO NATIONALITY BILL

The Government's Nationality Bill is being fiercely opposed by the Labour and Liberal Parties, leading Protestant and Catholic Church leaders, immigrant organisations, and the Board of Deputies, upon behalf of the Jewish community. The main concern of its opponents is that the new law, if adopted, will tend to discriminate against commonwealth immigrants. But the Board was placing its emphasis also upon those provisions which would discriminate unfairly against naturalised British citizens who would no longer be able to transfer British citizenship to their children who are born abroad. This clause has meanwhile been removed from the Bill. The Board also pointed out that the Bill in its present form abandons the traditional British concern for minorities, for which hitherto the Jewish community has had profound cause to be grateful.

MEMORIAL TO J. MENDELSON, MP

A John Jacob Mendelson library and reading room was opened at the Northern College, Wentworth Castle in Yorkshire. It contains the 8,000 volume library of the late MP who was originally a refugee from Nazi Germany. He had also been a lecturer in political science at Sheffield university.

Egon Larsen

LEST WE FORGET

The more questions about Germany's past are being answered, the more are still being asked. Recently there has been a spate of new publications which attempt to fill the gaps. The history and fate of the German Jews is being described and documented in books dealing with the Jewish communities in the various regions, *Länder* and towns; Baden-Württemberg and Hesse have been dealt with, and now it is Bavaria's turn. Already in 1972, a Yad-Vashelem volume on that country was published in Hebrew in Jerusalem as part of the "Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities"; it has now been translated and re-edited under the title *Die jüdischen Gemeinden in Bayern 1918-1945: Geschichte und Zerstörung* by Baruch Z. Ophir and Falk Wiesemann (Oldenbourg Verlag, Munich, 1979). On 500 pages some 200 Jewish communities, with a former total of 50,000 people, have been treated with meticulous attention to detail: not just the facts and figures, but much of the human story of persecution and destruction.

Bavaria, together with the Rhineland, housed Germany's oldest Jewish communities, largely integrated with the Christian population by the turn of our century. Antisemitic propaganda and activity grew increasingly strong during the last years of the Republic. In 1933, less than two-thirds of the original Jewish population were left in Bavaria; the November 1938 pogroms reduced their numbers further by emigration, and when war broke out only 10,000 Jews remained. Discrimination was soon followed by deportation between 1941 and 1943; however, a few thousand able-bodied men were drafted into armament factories, usually after spells of imprisonment at Dachau and Flossenbürg. The rest were shot in Riga and Trawniki or gassed in Belzec and Sobibor. Only a few Jews returned from Theresienstadt.

Among the Jewish communities in Bavaria, Fürth had been the relatively largest before World War I, with some 3,000 members; fewer than 800 were left in 1939, and a mere 23 in 1944. Most Jews who were able to emigrate had chosen America as their destination—and Shanghai.

Neighbouring Nuremberg had reached its highest number of Jews in 1922, with well over 9,000. As was to be expected on Streicher's own hunting-ground, persecution had been particularly brutal already in 1933: in a single night, stormtroopers raided and ransacked the homes of 400 Jews, and 300—mainly members of the B'nai B'rith Lodge—were arrested. They were assembled at the outskirts, beaten and made to weed the lawn with their hands and even with their teeth. Crowds of Nuremberg's citizens watched the degrading spectacle.

The November pogrom was systematically prepared in Nuremberg: iron rods and crowbars had been issued to the SA for their "spontaneous" action. That night, 16 Jews were murdered, 10 took their own lives. 1,000 of the 2,500 Nuremberg Jews who emigrated until the end of 1939 went to the USA, nearly 600 to Britain.

In 1958, Hans Lamm published his excellent work, *Von Juden in München*. Now we have a new, concise publication of 60 pages, full of little-known details, by the former *Syndikus* of the Bavarian branch of the *Central-Verein*, Werner J. Cahnmann.* His family had been residing in the town since 1860, closely connected with its cultural life. Cahnmann's booklet, *Die Juden in München 1918-1943*, is a reprint from the *Zeitschrift für Bayerische Landesgeschichte* (1979).

Munich's special characteristic was that many of its citizens had come from other parts of Germany, Central and eastern Europe—all attracted by its unique social and cultural climate. This was especially true of Munich's Jews; there were 11,000 of them in 1910, but only 3,000 had been born in the town. A great number of the new residents had come from small places in Swabia and Franconia, and after the Russian pogroms at the turn of the century many immigrated from their eastern *shetels*. Cahnmann lists the numerous Jewish organizations and associations which were active in Munich, proof enough that the town's old and new Jewish citizens saw no reason for trying to cover up their Jewish descent.

Upheavals in Bavaria

But the Weimar era started by bringing non-Bavarian Jews into the limelight: Kurt Eisner as the first revolutionary prime minister of the country; Toller and Mühsam, Leviné and Landauer as the leaders of the short-lived *Räterepublik*, just what the antisemites needed for their propaganda: the Jews were attempting to conquer the world. That was the cue for Hitler's entry on the political stage. When Cahnmann enrolled at the Munich university in 1922, he found a nucleus of National Socialists among the students. He took part in the work of the liberal academic and Jewish groups which tried to stem the tide; in 1930 he began his activities at the *Central-Verein*; but some of its leading members were still too German-nationalistic and assimilatory for his taste.

Cahnmann was arrested in 1933, though not for long; he believes that his release was due to Rudolf Hess' intervention at police headquarters. In 1938 he was arrested again and sent to Dachau, "not yet a death camp, but inhuman enough". A visa for Paraguay, "probably forged by the consul", got him out of the KZ. He emigrated to England in June, 1939, and from there to the U.S.

Cahnmann's analysis of the tragedy of the German Jews gives his essay much historical value. He discerns three stages of the Nazi assault on the Jews: first, their defamation to separate them from the rest of the population; then, legal isolation; and, after the removal of all moral resistance, their physical annihilation.

The process of outlawing the Jews began with the boycott of 1 April 1933. In Munich, says Cahnmann, it did not come up to Nazi expectations—during the preceding days, masses of customers flooded into the Jewish shops, and there was no looting as the organizers had anticipated: the people were not *judenfeindlich* enough. Stronger impulses had to be created, and overwhelming propaganda made the November pogroms a Nazi "success". Still, even in 1939 there were many Christian citizens who supplied their Jewish neighbours, banned from the food shops, with provisions, often without payment. And we know that later, when the whole power of the Nazi state was mobilized for the third stage, the "final solution", numerous Christians were hiding Jews in their own homes and at the risk of their own lives.

Cahnmann ends his essay with the grim argument: "The total number of victims of the 'final solution' is incomplete if one disregards the suicides. Their great number shows that this last resort, the choice between life and death, cannot be denied to human decision."

*As readers will have seen from our November 1980 issue, Werner Cahnmann unfortunately died last autumn.

HOME NEWS AJR ROUND-UP

MRS. THATCHER ON THE PLO

The Zionist Federation has received a strong pledge from the Prime Minister concerning the Government's attitude to the Palestine Liberation Organisation. In a letter to the ZF Chairman she stated: "The PLO must renounce terrorist activities and the use of force, and our (EEC) initiative is intended to seek that end. I believe that we must continue our efforts to achieve a settlement which provides security for Israel and peace in the Middle East. . . . The Venice Declaration recorded our belief that the PLO will, at some stage, have to be associated with peace negotiations. Let me make quite clear that, for this to happen, the PLO like all the parties concerned, will have to accept fully the principles of a negotiated settlement. These, of course, include Israel's right to live in peace and security." Despite this assurance considerable disquiet is still felt at the revelation that Sir John Graham, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Office, had met with Yasser Arafat in Beirut, one of a number of such meetings between Foreign Office personnel and the terrorist organisation.

PUBLIC ORDER ACT MAY BE EXTENDED

The Government is giving consideration to amending the Public Order Act, 1936, to bring in a power to ban marches on the ground that they are likely to stir up racial hatred. Although a clause was inserted into the Public Order Act at the time of the publication of the Race Relations Act, 1976—and effective from 1977—that made it an offence to publish or use in a public place words that could incite racial hatred, the provision has largely been ineffective. Both the Haldane Society and the Society of Socialist Lawyers have called for powers to ban marches on the grounds of incitement to racial hatred, but the addition of such provisions would probably be opposed by the National Council of Civil Liberties and similar bodies.

RACIAL HATRED MEN GAOLED

A member of the extreme right-wing British Movement, Roderick Lewis Roberts, 27, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for conspiring to stir up racial hatred, illegal possession of arms and ammunition and arson at Birmingham Crown Court. Roberts was quartermaster for a 20 member branch of the Movement in the West Midlands. A sten gun, an anti-riot gun, revolvers and pistols were found in his secret arms cache. Six other members of the movement also received sentences.

AUSCHWITZ EXHIBITION PLANNED

The artist, George Him, has been commissioned by the Auschwitz in England Initiative Group to design an exhibition about the notorious concentration camp for display in Leicester. The Group is composed of three English Roman Catholics and a Minister of the United Reform Church. A family physician in the city, Dr. David Rosenberg, who is assisting in the project, recently returned from Auschwitz, where he lived for a week in the former camp commandant's office. The exhibition will include photographs taken secretly by prisoners, paintings, sculptures and Nazi documents. George Him designed the national Warsaw Ghetto Exhibition held in London in 1961.

APOLOGY TO ACTRESS

Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, former Editor in Chief, and his paper, *The Observer*, have accepted that the actress Siobhan McKenna had not intended any offence to the Jewish People in an American interview and that she was not anti-semitic. The matter arose out of a libel action brought by Miss McKenna over an article headed "On being a Jewish wild goose," by Dr. O'Brien, published on 3 June, 1979. The action was disposed of on agreed terms and *The Observer* expressed its regret.

REFUGEE SCULPTURE FOR CATHEDRAL

A sculpture entitled "Refugee" by Naomi Blake has been placed outside Bristol Cathedral. The unveiling was attended by the Lord and Lady Mayoress of the City and leading members of the Jewish Community. It is dedicated to the victims of all racial persecution.

SHELTER AID DOUBLED

The work of the Jews' Temporary Shelter has more than doubled during 1980 compared with the previous year. The increase has been mainly due to an influx of Middle Eastern Jews en route to other destinations: 6,188 nights lodgings were provided for 250 people, compared with 3,000 nights for a similar period in 1979. The period of stay has also lengthened considerably with residents spending between one and nine months after being referred to the Shelter by the Jewish Welfare Board, CBF-World Jewish Relief or the Home Office.

CENTENARY OF RABBI DR. ITALIENER

To mark the centenary of the birth of Rabbi Dr. Bruno Italiener, the State Library of Darmstadt exhibited one of its most precious possessions, the 15th century so-called Darmstadt Passover Haggadah which, by a miracle, has survived the destruction of Jewish cultural works under the Nazis.

Dr. Italiener, who was born on 6 February in Burgdorf and lived in London 25 years ago, studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary in Breslau and the universities of Breslau and Erlangen. From 1907 to 1927 he was Rabbi of Darmstadt. During the First World War he served as a German Army chaplain. In 1928, he became Chief Rabbi of the Tempel Congregation in Hamburg, where he stayed until he was forced to emigrate under the Nazis and settled in London. Here he acted as rabbi first of the Bernhard Baron Settlement and, from 1941 until his retirement, of the West London Synagogue.

He was above all a Jewish scholar and writer of immense learning and erudition. Probably his greatest work in the field of Jewish scholarship was the facsimile edition of the "Darmstadt Pessach Haggadah" in 1927.

But he was also in the forefront of the fight against antisemitism, as is evidenced by the publication in 1920 of a powerful programme for combating antisemitism under the title "Waffen im Abwehrkampf". In 1925, he took part in London in the foundation of the "World Union for Progressive Judaism", thus becoming one of its founder members.

There are many who have cause to remember his work, his accomplishments and, above all, his warm-hearted kindness and goodness. O.E.F.

AWARD FOR TOM KEMPINSKI

Tom Kempinski, the Berlin-born playwright and actor, received, together with Michael Frayn and Ronald Harwood, the "Best New Play" award of the London critics for 1980 for his play "Duet for One". Another work of his, much acclaimed during its original run at Oxford, "The Workshop", was equally successful at the Hampstead Theatre. It is a translation by him of a French play by Jean-Claude Grumberg dealing with a woman's vain efforts to obtain restitution for the death of her deported husband and at the same time showing survivors facing incomprehension and hatred in present-day France.

HITLER BACK AT NUMBER ONE

In the Madame Tussaud 1980 customers' opinion poll, Adolf Hitler replaced Ayotollah Khomeini as number one in the "Hate and Fear" category.

THANK-YOU BRITAIN FUND LECTURE

Readers are reminded that, as announced in our previous issue (p. 3), the next Thank-You Britain Fund lecture will be held in memory of Robert Auty, to whom many Nazi persecutees owe their lives, on Thursday, 12 March, at 5 p.m., at the British Academy, Piccadilly. The speaker will be Professor G. H. N. Seton-Watson, FBA, on "Language and National Consciousness". No admission cards will be required but it will be helpful if acceptances (with the indication of how many will attend) could be notified to the Secretary, The British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0NS.

RETIREMENT OF A COLLEAGUE

Rose Seidman retired from AJR at the end of January. She came to AJR in 1962 and joined the department which deals with the admission of elderly refugees to Homes. She was widely respected by colleagues and old people alike arranging for their admission to Homes when they wished it and helping them to stay in their own homes for as long as possible when they did not.

Her service to the community in general and the Homes in particular was always much appreciated and will be long remembered. She carries all our good wishes for a long and happy retirement with her husband and family.

ROYAL GREETING FOR 100TH BIRTHDAY

The Queen sent a telegram of congratulation to Dr. Siegfried Kiewe, who came to Britain as a refugee from Nazi Germany and is a member of the AJR, to mark his 100th birthday which he celebrated at the Morris Feinman Trust Home, Manchester. Dr. Kiewe practised as a psychiatrist at a York hospital for many years.

FRED UHLMAN, 80

Fred Uhlman, the painter and writer who has lived in Hampstead for many years celebrated his 80th birthday. He was a lawyer in his native Stuttgart until the Nazis came to power. After his emigration to this country he took up painting and supported by his British-born wife Diana, helped many Jewish and other persecuted artists to escape. The Kulturbund, in later years a political organisation, was started at their Downshire Hill home for the benefit of such artists. His own landscape paintings and his sketches revealed a highly gifted and sensitive artist and were widely acclaimed. Recently, some sketches from the internment camp which he himself thinks are among his best work, were included in Ronald Stent's book about internment "A Battered Page". His novelette "Reunion"—unhappily out of print in this country—was hailed as a minor masterpiece by, among others, Arthur Koestler and recently named as the only book writer Jeffrey Archer would want to take with him to a desert island.

HERBERT WEICHMANN, 85

Professor Dr. Herbert Weichmann who lives in retirement in Hamburg celebrated his 85th birthday on 23 February. Between 1965 and 1971 he was First Mayor of Hamburg. Since then he has been regarded as a kind of "elder statesman" in West Germany and beyond. He celebrated his birthday by publishing a new book "Committed to Society and to the State" which contains a number of important essays and public speeches from the recent past. Its subtitle is "Simple and difficult truths" and in it Weichmann continues his endeavours to teach a new generation the values underlying political thought and action. It also reveals the author's undiminished involvement in the spiritual life of the period. E.G.L.

TRIBUTE TO REV. HARDMAN

Communal and Civic leaders turned out in force to join congregants of the Hendon Synagogue in paying tribute to the Rev. Leslie Hardman on his retirement as Minister to the Congregation after 33 years. His experiences as an army chaplain during the war, particularly of the relief of Belsen, led to his strong sense of commitment and convictions, expressed both in and out of the pulpit.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Citizenship Revocation Confirmed

The United States' Supreme Court confirmed by a 7-to-2 vote that Feodor Fedorenko who is accused of shooting, whipping and beating Jewish prisoners to death at Treblinka, should have his citizenship revoked because he failed to tell immigration officials of his wartime background on entering the country 32 years ago. The justices stated that his long history as a law-abiding US resident had no bearing on the legality of his case.

Further Deportation Move

The US Justice Department has taken the first steps towards the deportation of Mr. Talivaldis Karklins, 66 of Los Angeles. It has applied to a Federal Court for his citizenship to be revoked on the grounds that he concealed his wartime activities when applying for American citizenship in 1962. In the deposition the government claimed that at the time of the Nazi occupation of Latvia in 1941, Karklins was "a member first of a vigilante group and then the police force and while a member assisted in the persecution and murder of unarmed Jewish civilians." While he was commandant of the Madona concentration camp, inmates were starved, beaten, tortured, murdered and otherwise brutalised by him, the complaint states. If deported Karklins could face war crimes charges.

US Nazis Exporting Race Hate to Europe

A rally of 2,500 people in Los Angeles was told by Simon Wiesenthal that neo-Nazis in the USA were printing racial and political propaganda in five or six languages and exporting it to Europe where it was distributed via a mailing list of 50,000 names. European neo-Nazis "could not exist without printed propaganda from the United States," Wiesenthal told his audience. Referring to a number of anti-semitic events that had occurred at the Centre of Los Angeles which bears his name, he said he thought that after the recent anti-Jewish outrages in Europe, American Nazis felt compelled to "give others a sign they are alive." Earlier the newly-elected US President, Ronald Reagan, described these incidents as "an outrage to Americans". They included an attack on a rabbi, the breaking of a stained glass window by an airgun, youths in Nazi regalia making anti-Jewish remarks to women on duty at the Centre and the daubing of the building with the slogan: "Kill Jews."

Sharp Increase in Anti-Semitic Attacks

Anti-semitic incidents in the United States rose sharply in 1980 compared with the previous year the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith reports. They record 377 attacks or attempted attacks on property in 1980, with 129 being the 1979 figure. Individual assaults had numbered 112 and these were listed individually as no comparable record had been kept in 1979. Nearly all the incidents appeared to be the work "of hostile individuals acting without organisational direction," the report stated. It also showed that 20 people had been arrested in 11 of the actions against property. Two people arrested on suspicion of arson at a Los Angeles synagogue which caused £43,500 of damage, were described by the police as members of the National Socialist American Workers Party. Arson was reported at nine other Jewish institutions, plus two attempted arsons; four fire-bombings, two attempted fire-bombings; and the desecration of five cemeteries.

Important Changes in Foreign Relations Committee

The defeat of Mr. Jacob Javits and Mr. Richard Stone in their bids for re-election to the United States Senate on whose Foreign Relations Committee they served has to some extent been balanced by the appointment to it of the newly-elected Senator Rudy Boschwitz (Republican, Minnesota), a Berlin-born Jew whose parents fled from Nazi Germany to America when he was three years old. Another Jewish member of the Committee will be Senator Edward Zorinsky of Nebraska, but it is Senator Boschwitz who is expected to emerge as the leading pro-Israel spokesman among the six Jews elected to serve in the 97th Senate.

Mixed Attitude to Jewish Hostages

Mr. Barry Rosen, the former Press Attache at the US Embassy in Iran, who was one of the 52 hostages released on the presidential inauguration day, in recalling his experiences during the 14 months of captivity has described his captors as "very strange." He told his old friend, John Vinocur, a *New York Times* correspondent, how they allowed him to have a package of Passover food sent to him from his home, but when, at the same time, he told them his wife lived in Brooklyn they said she should be in Tel Aviv and called him "a dirty Zionist." He had expected to receive hard treatment because he was Jewish, but had found no consistent antisemitic attitude. Another Jewish prisoner, Jerry Plotkin, had a religious medal ripped from his neck, Mr. Rosen reported.

US Citizenship Proposed for Wallenberg

A first-time member of the US House of Representatives, Mr. Tom Lantos, 52, a Democrat from Hillsborough, California, is gathering bipartisan support for a resolution recommending United States' citizenship be granted to Raoul Wallenberg, the missing Swedish diplomat. He believes that if Wallenberg is given that status the Soviet Union could be effectively pressed to give fuller information about him. The action is Rep. Lantos's way of repaying Wallenberg for his own freedom, which he owes to the activities of Wallenberg in Budapest. At the time Lantos acted as a courier for the Hungarian underground, was twice captured and escaped from the Nazis and survived the war in one of Wallenberg's Swedish "safe houses." His wife, Annette Tillemen Lantos, also escaped from Hungary through Wallenberg's indirect help.

CANADA

Where Jews are included Out

An original survey by two professors from Windsor University, Ontario, has demonstrated that being either Jewish or female is a handicap to achieving success as a Canadian lawyer. Although the percentage of Jewish graduates was high when compared to the overall population not one Jew had joined one of the "elite" law firms. Commenting on the results Miss Harriet Sachs, a Jewish lawyer said: "I think particularly to become a partner in those elite law firms, you have to have access to the corporate elite of Canadian society, and if you are a woman or a Jew you normally don't have it."

BELGIUM

Sentence for Auschwitz Libeller

The publisher of the book "Open Letter to the Pope concerning Auschwitz" by wartime Nazi collaborator Leon Degrelle has been sentenced *in absentia* by an Antwerp court to 15 months' imprisonment. He is Jean-Robert Bebbaut who fled Belgium to live in the South of France. The author, Degrelle, lives in exile in Spain and his book perpetuates neo-Nazi assertions that the gas chambers at Auschwitz and other Nazi death camps did not exist.

DENMARK

Swastika Attack on El Al Office

The manager of El Al in Copenhagen was seriously injured by attackers who invaded his office in the Danish capital. Before leaving they daubed huge swastikas on the walls, stole 1,000 kroner and damaged most of the furniture.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

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HOLLAND

Menten's Final Appeal Fails

The Supreme Court of the Netherlands has rejected the final appeal of Pieter Menten, the Dutch millionaire and art collector, against his 10-year sentence and 100,000 guilders fine (£22,000) for complicity in the mass execution of Jews by the Nazi SS in Poland in 1941. The Court held that despite his age (81), and sickness the sentence was justified because of the gravity of the crime.

War Crime Admitted

An Amsterdam-born man, Jan Bulder, 66, who lives in the Hague, has admitted involvement in the deportation of Dutch Jews to the Nazi death camps. He had fled to South Africa in 1945, but returned to Holland in 1969 because he believed that prosecutions for war crimes had elapsed.

Anne Frank Diary: Complete Version

It has been announced in Amsterdam that the complete text of the Anne Frank Diary will be published next year, including the "personal" passages that her late father, Otto Frank, decided to leave out because of their intimate character.

FRANCE

Downgrading of Holocaust Controversy

Professor Noam Chomsky, the radical linguist, anti-Zionist and militant supporter of the PLO, has become involved in the controversy surrounding the activities of Robert Faurisson, a French exponent of the movement to downgrade the truth of the Nazi Holocaust. Without even reading it Chomsky has provided a foreword for Faurisson's latest book on the topic, justifying doing so as defending the right of freedom of expression. Faurisson is a former lecturer in classical and modern literature at the University of Lyons, but otherwise holds no particular prominence in French intellectual or academic life. The University suspended him from his post following a lawsuit brought against him for defamation by former resistance fighters and victims of Nazi persecution. The book for which Chomsky has provided the foreword is a collection of scattered articles and press clippings that roughly constitute his defence in the court case against him. French writers have joined in the polemic, arguing that Chomsky's preface, whether he intended it or not, inevitably built up publicity for Faurisson's unacceptable viewpoint.

SWITZERLAND

Red Cross Archives Opened

The International Red Cross is to allow unrestricted access to its archives so that Professor Jean-Claude Fave of Geneva University can conduct research into the organisation's humanitarian activities at extermination camps during the Nazi period.



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Julius Carlebach

HONOURED OR HONORARY— THAT IS THE QUESTION

Moses Mendelssohn was born on 6 September 1729. The two volumes to be considered here* are just a part of the extensive literature and the manifold events which were inspired by and organised to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of his birth. One volume consists of a number of papers and essays which deal with varying aspects of the philosopher's life and work, and the influence he has exercised over successive generations. Of particular interest is the fact that one of the editors of this book, Cécile Lowenthal-Hensel, is a direct descendant of the great philosopher. The second volume is an especially handsome edition of some 202 letters written by and to Mendelssohn in the final phase of his life, between January 1781 and December 1785. Mendelssohn died on 4 January 1786.

There are many insights to be gained from a perusal of these volumes. Interesting new material can be gleaned from both, some of it speculative, some thought-provoking, all of it, however, reflecting the devotion and admiration which the personality of Moses Mendelssohn inspired, as much in the present editors and contributors as he did in those who knew him personally. Without in any way wishing to devalue the many contributions here, I would like to concentrate particularly on the carefully researched and vividly presented paper by Ernst G. Lowenthal, the stalwart historian of post-war Germany, on the celebrations of Mendelssohn's 200th birthday—a mere 50 years ago, but under what different circumstances! Although Mendelssohn was by no means the first prominent Jew in Europe, he certainly was the example, par excellence, of the Jew who excited the greatest admiration, both because he was a Jew and in many instances also in spite of it. Alexander Altmann, the biographer of Mendelssohn and editor of the new volumes of letters, described Mendelssohn in his Introduction as the great harmoniser, the synthesizer of opposing

views, the first German to postulate the possibility of Jewish existence in a European civil order. It is, however, equally true, as Lowenthal shows, that 200 years later such figures as Franz Rosenzweig and Leo Baeck expressed grave reservations about Mendelssohn's mission, whilst to this day, many devoutly religious Jewish circles adhere to and transmit the traditional injunction "Al tishlach Yad be'Kitvei R'Mad" (Do not touch the writings of Rabbi Moses of Dessau).

This pervasive, though mostly implicit ambivalence towards the revered memory of a great Jewish humanitarian reflects the painful recognition that Mendelssohn sadly misjudged some of the most critical issues which faced him and with him, his fellow Jews. His complete lack of a sense of history, his rejection of Jewish national aspirations, his failure to comprehend the depth of Gentile antipathy towards Jews and Judaism, distorted his perceptions. At the same time, his somewhat oversimplified manipulation of the tension in the Jewish intellectual tradition, between theory and practice (nicely illustrated in the collection of Letters in a letter to Wolf Dessau), led him into a position in which his own hopes, expectations and sweetness of character, blinded him to the bitter realities of the world in which he lived. In fairness it should be stressed that Mendelssohn, at the very height of his fame and reputation, repudiated any suggestion that he had or wanted any power over people and events, other than those of his immediate circle of relatives and friends. Tragically, even these misinterpreted his ideas and intentions. Most of his relatives did not retain their Judaism, while the descendants of most of his friends did not retain their Jews. A man so loved and yet so wrong, so brilliant and yet so obtuse, so clever and yet so undiscerning, so gentle and yet so increasingly detached from the real needs and feelings of the great mass ("den grossen Haufen") of Jews, the

people he so desperately wanted to help and to elevate.

If Isaac Deutscher was a "non-Jewish Jew", Moses Mendelssohn was the non-Jew's Jew. With the benefit of hindsight, with the bitter-sweet memory of the past 250 years, we can understand how the errors of Mendelssohn came to be seen as virtues, how his most fundamental failure came to be regarded as the essence of an ideal solution. Mendelssohn's ability to harmonise the seemingly incompatible was hailed as an appropriate intellectual framework for a Jewish emancipation which would give freedom to the Jews by assimilating them into the body-politic so completely that their physical presence would be dissolved into an intellectualised nostalgia. They would be accepted by being incorporated, tolerated by being absorbed. From David Friedlander to Walther Rathenau this was the goal they sought to achieve and from Leopold Zunz to Franz Rosenzweig it was a threat they fought to resist. If Mendelssohn remains a giant, whose anniversaries will continue to inspire future generations to pay homage to a great man, then it will be precisely because he made manifest the conflict which lies at the heart of the quest for Jewish survival. Mendelssohn was an individualist, a Jew and a philosopher who demanded and expected, as he reiterates in the last letter he ever wrote, that both Judaism and philosophy had to conform to and comply with the standards and values he had defined as basic to human dignity and reason. Neither Judaism nor philosophy, not even the social world in which he lived, were willing to bend, to adjust to such whimsical gentility—they honoured him for what he strove to be, but granted only honorary citizenship to that genial soul that would not march in step to any music which was not of his own making.

(Dr. Carlebach is Reader in Sociology at the University of Sussex and a member of the London Board of the Leo Baeck Institute.)

* Mendelssohn Studien—Band 4—Zum 250 Geburtstag von Moses Mendelssohn—Hrsg. Cécile Lowenthal-Hensel und Rudolf Elvers. Berlin—Duncker + Humblot—1979. 312 pp. DM 59.

* Moses Mendelssohn—Briefwechsel der letzten Jahre Sonderausgabe zum 250. Geburtstag, eingeleitet von Alexander Altmann Frommann-Holzboog Verlag, Stuttgart 1979. 342 pp. DM 48.

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POLES ASKED TO MAKE AMENDS TO JEWS

A group of prominent Polish intellectuals has called upon the government to look into the painful question of Polish antisemitism and to make amends to the thousands of Jews hounded from public life in the purges of 1968. Their call has a special significance in view of the re-emergence to some political power of General Meiczyslaw Moczar, by elevation to the Politburo. Moczar led the anti-Zionist campaign after the 1967 Middle East War under the leadership of Wladyslaw Gomulka. More than 9,000 Jews were dismissed from public life and most of the 30,000 Jews then in Poland emigrated to the West. The 21 signatories of the letter published in the Polish Communist Party weekly *Polityka* stated: "Jewish problems now constitute a kind of taboo here—not a complete one—but sufficiently strong so that Jewish topics are officially removed from handbooks, tourist guides and other publications. . . . We hope that in our times, where the truth, no matter how bitter, comes to the surface, the honest presentation of Polish-Jewish relations will become possible."

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LIFE IN AN EAST END TENEMENT

England has experienced two mass immigrations of Jews in the past century, the first comprising Jews from Eastern Europe in the second half of the 19th century, terminating with the outbreak of the First World War; and the second, prior to the Second World War, comprising Jews predominantly from Germany and Austria. The first wave settled in the East End of London and established the large and amorphous "ghetto" which has largely disappeared, but which many recall, some even with a degree of nostalgia.

Rothschild Buildings, now demolished, were one of a group of tenement dwellings erected in 1887 under the inspiration of and with considerable support from Baron N. M. Rothschild (later the First Lord Rothschild). Jerry White, a self-made historian, who just published a book about them, has used extensive recorded material as well as personal accounts of former inhabitants of the building to construct a picture of life in the East End at about the turn of the century.*

It is a pity that the author's political prejudices, which should not find expression in a work of this nature, sometimes appear to blur the picture or even to give it a totally wrong interpretation. For instance, after reporting that Rothschild took the first step in setting the building scheme in motion, in the next sentence the author baldly states that Rothschild was given a peerage in the following month. The intended inference is clear, but unacceptable unless supported by incontrovertible evidence. The facts are that the existing Rothschild prestige and the services that they had rendered to the government were of such importance as to warrant the over-due honour, without any reliance on this minor philanthropic act within the wide range of Rothschild benevolent deeds.

Later on, the author suggests that the provision of the Rothschild Buildings was "self-interested

*Jerry White: *Rothschild Buildings*. Routledge & Kegan Paul. £11.50 cloth edition, £6.95 paperback.

duplicity", since "model dwellings were an enlightened means of making workers more productive." There is no need to labour the point, but there are simply no grounds for suspecting the philanthropic intentions of those who came to the help of fellow-Jews less fortunate than themselves. If Mr. White's thesis were to be accepted, we ought perhaps to examine the records of the German Refugee Committee for signs of duplicity on the part of the willing donors to its funds!

However, in fairness and ignoring some of its wilder interpretations, this book does provide a very informative and readable picture of Jewish life in the East End. It was, of course, not a true working-class community, since the general aim of almost every person was to become an employer rather than an employee. This is, indeed, reflected in many life-histories quoted. The passage from operative to sweat-shop operator was narrow and required the minimum of capital. Often this was the first step. Tremendously hard work and luck could and did produce dramatic changes in personal circumstances—and these were not isolated cases. This struggle for a better life led to a change in the whole structure of East End Jewish life (quite apart from the Blitz which dealt the final blow). But that is another story.

The East End which the author describes is not the community that the later immigrants from Germany found on their arrival in England, but it was still close-knit, badly housed, over-crowded, yet vibrant with life and activity. The new immigrants came from a different social background, with different attitudes, skills and experiences, and they sought a different and more familiar environment. When they arrived, the cleavage between East and West was already breaking down. Today, half a century later, the Anglo-Jewish community is perhaps more homogeneous than it has ever been despite its varying origins and experiences.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE MOZART MYSTERY

Sir,—I was a pupil of Guido Adler in the early 1920s and published a Profile of the great Austrian musicologist in my collection of essays, "Major and Minor" of 1980. If Adler had really made thorough investigations into Mozart's death at the hands of his rival Salieri, as stated by the Russian musical historian, I. Belsa, then I feel sure that a rumour of such investigations would have seeped through to the Vienna Musikwissenschaftliches Seminar. Yet during my years under Adler we students never heard one word about them. Adler is supposed to have carried out his investigations in the Vienna Archives. Which archives? And is it likely that Salieri's father-confessor would have broken his sacred oath and divulged what Salieri told him in his confession? Moreover, did the Writ of the Vatican extend to the Vienna University in the 1920s when Austria was a republic?

The only fact that might be supposed to link Mozart's death with Salieri, is an entry in Beethoven's conversation books to the effect that Salieri attempted, in 1823, suicide by cutting his throat and only wounding himself. According to Mary Novello who met Mozart's widow in 1829—thirty-eight (!) years after her husband's death—Constanze told her that on his death-bed he said to her, "I know I must die. Somebody has given me acqua toffana" (a poison containing arsenic). If true, this must have been said in a state of delirious fantasising. Mozart's mysterious death is of course a fertile subject for dramatic treatment, e.g. Pushkin's "Mozart and Salieri" and Peter Shaffer's recent "Amadeus". We do not know and will probably never know what was the "real" cause of Mozart's death. "Hitziges Frieselfieber" which is a harmless dermatological illness, was given as the cause in Vienna's Register of Deaths. The theory which seems the most acceptable in explaining Mozart's death is along the line that he suffered from kidney trouble already in his youth, which became gradually more acute as the years passed, and finally led in December 1791 to fatal uraemia.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

AUSCHWITZ GUARDS FREED

An Aschaffenburg court acquitted two former SS guards at Jaworzno, a subsidiary Auschwitz camp, of the murder of 21 inmates because of insufficient proof. The judge said that no one could know how much had been stored in the memories of prisoners in camp conditions and how much had been magnified in nightmares afterwards. Furthermore, witnesses brought from overseas could well have felt that they had to give the evidence "expected of them". The court granted compensation to Hans Olejak, 62, and Ewald Pansegrau, 59, for the time spent in prison during the investigation.

HITLER PROPAGANDA FROM ABROAD

According to an announcement made in the Federal Parliament, the German customs seized 200 packages with neo-Nazi propaganda material from Canada, the US, Britain and France during a period of 18 months. Apart from books and periodicals, they included badges, medals, films, records and tapes as well as a consignment of five Hitler busts from Canada. The distribution of such material is banned in the Federal Republic.

GERMAN ACTION AGAINST MENTEN

The Federal Republic has started proceedings in a Berlin court to demand repayment of some £110,000 from the Dutch art dealer, Menten, now imprisoned for his war crimes. In 1964 he successfully claimed restitution for his possessions in Poland.

25 YEARS HIGH COURT OF RESTITUTION

The Herford High Court of Restitution, the appeal court for controversial cases, celebrated its 25th anniversary. Dr. H. J. Vogel, the former Minister of Justice, said that during that time the court had dealt with 4,100 decisions on principle and had set an example for the cooperation of judges from different countries and international cooperation beyond that. It had contributed to paying off the heavy mortgage on the credibility of the German people and to make it face its recent history. Gunnar Lagergren, the Swedish president of the Court, said the court was the first instance in history of an international tribunal being able to review the findings of national courts. He complimented the German courts on their own painstaking contributions to the success of restitution legislation.

CAMP TOURS FOR US TROOPS

The Tempelhof Youth Centre which organises conducted tours of Nazi camps and of centres of anti-Nazi resistance, was asked to take a group of American soldiers stationed at Tempelhof airport on a similar tour. At the same time these young men were given lectures on the Nazi dictatorship and the work of the resistance by a former anti-Nazi fighter.

DIFFERENCES WITH BONN OVER ARAB ARMS DEAL

The Israel Foreign Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, has informed the West German Ambassador about Israel's concern over reports of the sale of German tanks to Saudi Arabia. He told Ambassador Klaus Schuetz that Israel's fears had not been laid at rest by the statement of the West German Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher that the sales were not imminent and that "arms deliveries to the Middle East must also take into consideration the particular significance of Israel's security interests and our historical responsibility towards the Jewish people."

TWIN TOWNS

Muenster in Westphalia and Rishon-le-Zion, the Israeli town founded in 1882 by Russian-Jewish pioneers, have concluded a twinning agreement. It was signed when Mayor Gibstein of Rishon-le-Zion led a delegation on a visit to Muenster.

ARAFAT IN EAST BERLIN

Erich Honecker, Prime Minister of the GDR, gave a reception for Yassir Arafat, head of the PLO, and assured him of the support of his aims. He said that peace and security in the Middle East depended on Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied territories and the setting up of a Palestinian State.

EX-REFUGEE PRESIDENT OF GERMAN FIRM

The newly appointed president of the Federal German motor car firm, Porsche, 50-year-old Peter Schutz, is the son of German Jews who left Germany under the Nazis. He grew up in Chicago and, until two years ago, did not know enough German to read a newspaper. He was employed by the Caterpillar Tractor Company. "The fact that he has been named to head one of the most prestigious firms in West Germany (writes the Canadian Jewish News) is of importance because it illustrates, to an extent at least, that the trauma inflicted by the Nazis is beginning to wear off."

HISTORY OF A PRE-WAR COMMUNITY

Dr. Karl E. Demandt, chief keeper of public records in Hesse, who specialises in the history of Hesse, has published a "History of the population and the social life of the Jewish community of Niedenstein 1633-1866—a contribution to the history of Jewish life in the Electorate of Hesse", published as volume V of the pamphlets of the Commission for the History of Jews in Hesse—(Wiesbaden 1980). Niedenstein near Fritzlar once had one of the largest percentages of Jews in its population: between 1861 and 1880 they constituted 21 per cent. It was only surpassed by two other townlets in Hesse, Grebenstein with 25 per cent and Rhina with up to 60 per cent and by Gailingen (60 per cent) in Southern Germany. So far, not much was known about Niedenstein, but the rediscovery of the town archives for the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries enabled Dr. Demandt who knew Jewish citizens of Niedenstein in his youth, to accomplish his research. A 58-page index contains details of individuals and families, their places of residence and occupation. Almost half the book is devoted to the genealogy of the Heinemann and Naphthali families in the 18th and 19th centuries. Until the middle of the 19th century, the Heinemann family was predominant. E.G.L.

JULIUS BAB PRIZE FOR DRAMA CRITICS

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the eminent Jewish theatre critic, Julius Bab, the Federation of German Theatres has founded a drama critics' prize which will be awarded for the first time during the Federation's Nuremberg conference in June 1982. It will be given to writers who see their task in building bridges between audiences and the stage. E.G.L.

JEWIS AT PRE-NAZI FRANKFURT OPERA

A book "The Frankfurt Opera 1880-1980: a contribution to Frankfurt Theatre History" describes the part played by Jews in the history of the famous opera house. When the Nazis came to power, one of the first measures of the newly appointed Lord Mayor was to dismiss Professor Turnau, the Jewish "Intendant" and the director of music, Wilhelm Steinberg, as well as the highly gifted conductor, Ernst Wolff, who subsequently emigrated to the United States and became one of the best-known pianists there. After the war, he was awarded a number of German decorations for his special interest in German Lieder concerts. As the sole survivor of the many Jewish artists working in Frankfurt's operatic life, he was recently made an honorary member of the Opera. This was celebrated in Frankfurt's famous city hall, the "Römer", when Professor Wolff stayed in Frankfurt as a guest of the city and attended a number of opera performances. Wolff was born in Baden-Baden in 1905 as the son of an official of the Jewish community and at an early age was discovered by Bruno Walter. For some time, before becoming a conductor at the opera house, he was head of the opera school of the famous Hochschule Konservatorium in Frankfurt. After his emigration he was engaged by the Carnegie Foundation in the US to give concerts, mainly devoted to Lieder, at over 200 universities in the US, Canada and Mexico. He was also musical adviser to the New York Habonim community. E.G.L.

"JEWS IN PRUSSIA" EXHIBITION

The New York Leo Baeck Institute and the Picture Archive of Prussian Culture are jointly preparing a travelling exhibition "Jews in Prussia" which will be shown in Berlin in the autumn and later in Frankfurt, Hamburg and New York. It will demonstrate the development of the Jewish community in Prussia since the Brandenburg period in pictures and quoted texts, but without a commentary. A 15-minute film will cover the period between 1933 and 1945. Professor Fritz Stern, New York, has been asked to open the exhibition. There will be a two-volume catalogue. The second volume is the work of our friend Dr E. G. Lowenthal and will contain short biographies of between 2,000 and 2,500 Jewish citizens who made contributions to public life and culture in Prussia.

"ENCOUNTERS WITH JUDAISM"

Under the heading "Begegnungen mit dem Judentum" the "Suedwestfunk Baden-Baden" has embarked on a comprehensive series of 200 broadcasts from December 1980 to June 1981. It covers subjects of religion, culture, literature, history and music, to quote only a few examples. The Jewish and non-Jewish speakers and artists are highly qualified experts in their particular fields and the entire so-called "Schwerpunktprogramm" exceeds the single or serialised broadcasts by which special facts and problems are usually transmitted to the listeners. Interested readers may obtain the well made up illustrated brochure, which carries the full details, from: Suedwestfunk, PO Box 820, Hoerer-und Zuschauerpost, Baden-Baden, F.R.G.

PEN CLUB IN EXILE EXHIBITION

The German Library in Frankfurt which concerns itself in particular with literature written by emigrants, is showing an exhibition "THE GERMAN PEN CLUB IN EXILE 1933-1948" which was opened by Professor Walter Jens, president of the Federal German Pen Club. A detailed catalogue was published at the same time. E.G.L.

NEW RASCHI HOUSE IN WORMS

Worms civic leaders have undertaken to rebuild the historic Raschi House which was damaged during the war and demolished 10 years ago. The foundation stone for the new building which is to be completed by the end of this year, was laid in the presence of a large number of Jewish and non-Jewish representatives, including a member of the pre-Nazi Worms community which had some 1,200 members.

DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS OF TUEBINGEN

The University of Tuebingen intends to publish a "Festschrift", which is to contain the names and short biographies of all students of the Economic Faculty, who received their doctoral diplomas or honorary doctorates in Tuebingen from 1830 until today. Photos, which would be returned, would also be appreciated. The University faces particular difficulties in tracing Jewish graduates who were dispersed all over the world from 1933 onwards. Any information by recipients of doctor diplomas or relatives of theirs should be addressed to: Dr. Helmut Marcon, Akad. Rat, Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät der Universitaet Tuebingen, Keplerstr.17, D 7400 Tuebingen 1, Fed. Rep. of Germany.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

Professor Karl Birnbaum

Mr. Hartwig Liedtke, Bismarckstr. 37, 5 Cologne 1, Federal Republic of Germany, is working for his dissertation on a biography of the psychiatrist, Professor Karl Birnbaum (Schweidnitz 1878—Philadelphia 1950), who lived in Berlin until 1933. Mr. Liedtke can follow his biography until 1933 and again from 1939 onwards, when he started a new career in the US. He would be grateful for any information about Professor Birnbaum's life during the years in between, which he seems to have spent in this country.

LEGACY

The AJR Charitable Trust was left a legacy of £120 by Mrs. S. Lindenbaum.

NEW LITERATURE

GDR HISTORY OF WEISSENSEE CEMETERY

On the occasion of the centenary of the Berlin Weissensee cemetery, the Jewish community of East Berlin in collaboration with the Institute for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments in the German Democratic Republic has published an excellent 64-page booklet, with some 50 photographs of tombstones, which is to be the first of a number of publications on historical cemeteries in the GDR. Its editor is Dr. Peter Kirchner, chairman of the East Berlin community, and an epilogue has as its author Klaus Gysi, Secretary of State for Church Affairs in the GDR. Many Jewish citizens buried in the cemetery are mentioned, and quite a few of the names belong to men who once played leading roles in Jewish life and in Berlin public life. They include the names of the Jewish resistance fighter Herbert Baum, murdered by the Nazis in 1942, of Micha Bin-Gorion, the collector and editor of Jewish fairy tales and sagas, of Professor Salomon Kalischer of the Charlottenburg Technical College, of the publisher Rudolf Mosse, of the artist Lesser Ury and of Theodor Wolff, for many years editor-in-chief of the "Berliner Tageblatt". With many others, they were laid to rest in the "row of honour" of the cemetery. The book also shows the memorial for the victims of Nazi persecution, the field of honour and the monument dedicated to the Jewish soldiers killed in the First World War, the memorial stone for the members of the resistance group Baum, executed in 1942/43, and the plaque remembering Kurt Tucholsky's parents. There are also reproductions of Moses Mendelssohn's original tombstone in the Grosse Hamburger Strasse cemetery which was closed down in 1827 and destroyed by the Nazis and the new stone erected in his memory near his grave. The second oldest of the Berlin cemeteries, in Schönhauser Allee which also exists no longer, is remembered by photos of the Giacomo Meyerbeer tombstone and of painter Max Liebermann's family vault. A special sketch shows other funeral sites in that

cemetery, including those of Ludwig Geiger, Joseph Mendelssohn, Leopold Ullstein, Gerson von Bleichröder and many others. Finally the booklet refers to three smaller cemeteries: the "Adass Jisroel congregation" cemetery in Weissensee, opened in 1878, and the medieval and the 1859 cemeteries of Spandau. Old Berliners and many others will find much valuable information in this publication which is a step in the right direction in recording Jewish life in pre-war Berlin.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.
(Requests for copies of the publication may be sent to the Juedische Gemeinde von Gross-Berlin (Oranienburgerstr. 28, 104 Berlin, DDR), which will pass them on to one of the distributing firms. It is understood that the price will be about DM 6.50 but money should not be sent before receipt of the invoice.)

TWO CULTURES IN POEMS

Many of Lotte Kramer's poems have been published in anthologies and periodicals in this country and in the United States. Some of them she has now collected in a beautifully produced slim volume with imaginative illustrations by Swiss-born Edith Covey (ICEBREAK. Poems by Lotte Kramer, published by Annakin Fine Arts Limited, 13 Geneva Street, Peterborough. Price £2.25 plus 30p postage and packing).

The writer came to this country in her teens in 1939. She worked as a lady's companion, in a laundry and in a dress shop, while studying Art and the History of Art at Richmond Institute. Married with one son, she has lived in Peter-

borough since 1968 and found expression both in poetry and painting. She has come to love and understand the English countryside, but the past is still with her. She remembers being a small child by the side of her father—this must have been in 1929, the only year in this century when the Rhine froze:

"Our feet step in careful tread on the ice
The Rhine
Now a new white street without end,
The reliable river vanished or dead . . ."

In another poem "Final Solution" she asks:

"And they, who were cutting the grasses
And stifling the weed in the lane,
Did they care for the shape of a flower,
Did they know of the herb for the pain?
And they who had ordered the killing
On well-polished telephones—
Was it easy when men are so willing
To diminish each other like stones?"

This small treasure of poetic insight deserves to be read both by those who are haunted by the past like the writer and by their children who never knew it. M.P.

HEPHZIBAH MENUHIN

Hephzibah Menuhin (Mrs. Richard Hauser), pianist, and frequent accompanist to her violinist brother, Yehudi, died in London aged 60. Like her brother she was deeply conscious of her Jewishness and together and separately they gave considerable support to Jewish and Israeli charitable causes, especially ORT. A great admirer of Israeli culture she participated in the 1966 Israel Festival. She was an active social worker, particularly in collaboration with her husband, who is the director of the Centre for Human Rights and Responsibilities. In 1977 she was elected President of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. She was buried under the auspices of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue at Willesden Cemetery.

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A MANY-SIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY

"Hindsight" by Charlotte Wolff

This is a very frank account of the events in the long life of a highly intelligent, gifted woman (Quartet Books £8.95). Charlotte Wolff is the author of a number of books on the study of the hand and bisexuality which won her international recognition. I found this autobiography at times fascinating but also often irritating and tedious. It becomes downright boring towards the end when she records endless encounters with German lesbians in the greatest of detail.

The book is interesting in three respects: for the evocative description of the German towns which Charlotte knew in her youth, the extraordinary range of well-known personalities she encountered and formed friendships with, and the light her account shows on the development of a lesbian personality. Although she calls her book "Hindsight", it does not bear the hallmark of a considered review of past experiences; rather the author attempts to reconstruct the events of her life and the passion and emotional ups and downs which are characteristic of her.

Charlotte Wolff was born in the town of Riesenburg, on the banks of the river "Liebe" which flows into the "Sorgensee",—all names to appeal to the romantic nature of this young girl. In adolescence she had an overwhelming experience: "I was unable to move. I had been taken over by an inner power. I had felt a cosmic energy flowing through me which made me one with the universe." This marked the beginning of a heightened awareness of the beauty of Danzig (to which she had meanwhile moved), the Rathaus with its famous clock, the Arthurshof, the Alte Mühle. In turn each town to which her studies took her is experienced and sketched with a vividness which brings alive for the reader its special atmosphere: Freiburg, Koenigsberg, Tübingen, and finally Berlin.

Amongst the famous teachers she encountered were Heidegger and Husserl. For although she followed her parents' advice to be practical and hence studied medicine, she also pursued her passionate interest in philosophy and poetry. She later worked as a doctor in the first Birth Control Clinic in Berlin and this stimulated an interest in the social and psychological aspects of her patients. The freedom, and exciting times of the Weimar Republic which allowed a life of abandonment in the lesbian night clubs of Berlin came to an end with the rise of Hitler. In 1933, she was asked to leave the Krankenkasse and the very next day was arrested suspected of spying. She was released when the Gestapo officer recognised her as the "Frau Doktor" who treated his wife at the Ambulatorium.

Soon afterwards she left Germany for France. Julius Spier's course in chiroplogy which she had attended shortly before her emigration became the basis of a second career. Encouraged by Aldous and Maria Huxley she began her researches, comparing hands of normal and abnormal individuals and later hands of apes and monkeys. At the same time hand-reading became a means of supporting herself. She had great intuitive gifts and skill in reading the character and divining past and future from the study of her clients' hands. Her reputation in this field took her into the homes of the French aristocracy and into the midst of the artistic world of Paris. In a series of incisive vignettes she describes the French women and surrealist painters who became her friends. Later in England she read the hands of Virginia Woolf and the Duchess of Windsor. She combined her research in chiroplogy with studies in sexology. The publication of her first book had

brought her to England where she continued to live but never felt at home. She remained restless and unsettled. Eventually, and at first unwillingly, she made trips to Germany. There she was welcomed with open arms, admired and celebrated by the lesbian groups in a way which gave her deep satisfaction.

Her wish to be a boy showed itself early, her passion for women flourished in her teens and became the dominant theme of her life. Although she derides psychoanalytic views on the importance of childhood experiences, her statements bear witness to the early stunting of her emotional development. She quotes her mother as saying that Charlotte "was never the same" after the age of two when her wet-nurse (who had simultaneously reared her own boy) left her. In spite of caring parents, she remained a very insecure person, a fact she repeatedly stresses. Driven by a need to be loved and admired she pursued women and showered them with her passionate love. As she tells us of her first lesbian relationship: "I was compelled by nostalgia for the lost paradise of childhood which only the loving care of a maternal figure could provide. I could stand on my own feet in the ways of the world but became emotionally bound to another woman." Her negative attitude to men developed only later, reaching its full expression in the 70's, and leads to such extreme statements as: "Emotional freedom from the male is the condition *sine qua non* for the freedom of all women". Such one-sidedness is reflected in the poverty of her literary style, the lack of warmth in her relationships and an absence of depth in her views on life which is surprising and sad in someone so obviously endowed with talent.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DROPS NAZI CASE

Israel's chief Nazi War Crimes' investigator, Lt.-Col. Menachim Russek, has sharply criticised the US Justice Department for its decision not to retry Frank Walus for committing acts of persecution as a member of the Gestapo. In 1978, a Federal judge ordered that Walus' citizenship should be revoked after finding that he had committed "acts of unjustified violence" as a Gestapo agent in two ghettos in Poland and had concealed that fact when applying for citizenship in 1970. Later a circuit Court of Appeals ordered a new trial before a new judge, but it is this the Justice Department decided not to pursue because the weight of the evidence had now changed. Col. Russek, in a letter to the Department, said: "Your decision has left me in a state of shock. I respect it, but cannot understand or accept it." He said he could not justify the decision to the Israeli citizens who, at the trial in Chicago, had identified Walus as the perpetrator of crimes against civilians in Poland.

EMANUEL CELLER

Congressman Emanuel Celler has died in his native Brooklyn, New York, at the age of 92. During his period as Chairman of the House of Representatives judiciary committee he sponsored bills to facilitate the admission of immigrants, particularly refugees. In 1957 he wrote and saw enacted into law the first comprehensive civil rights legislation enacted by Congress for 82 years and was the author of further Civil Rights Bills in 1960 and 1964. An outspoken opponent of McCarthyism he was placed on the index of the House Un-American Activities Committee during the "witch-hunting" era. He was a fervent champion of Zionism from his early twenties and the persecution of European Jewry intensified his convictions. He established a trust fund for the establishing of a Semitics division in the Library of Congress, was Chairman of the Magen David Adom in the USA, and an ardent supporter of the United Jewish Appeal.

ALL ABOUT THE JEWS

Unless you are allergic to transatlantic publications, you will find that *The Jewish Almanac*, with its more than 600 pages (Bantam/Corgi Books), is well worth the £5.95 it costs. Two American academics, Richard Siegel and Carl Rheins, have compiled it from innumerable sources and with original contributions by over 50 expert writers so that it can tell you all about the Jews you would ever want to know. You can skip the purely American parts and still have half a thousand pages about Jewish history and traditions, religion and accomplishments. Significantly, the book starts with a motto by the German philosopher Franz Rosenzweig: "Nothing Jewish is alien to me."

Thus you will find chapter and verse about the tragedies of Jewry from the Babylonian exile to the Holocaust, about its achievements from the creation of the alphabet to Entebbe, about Jewish sportsmen and Nobel-Prize winners. You can sit down at the piano and play, with one finger, the melodies of the 10 most popular Hasidic songs; or retire to the kitchen and try out 10 classical recipes for gefilte fish and egg cream. You can discuss the mystery of the 10 lost tribes and the Hebrew names of God on the basis of factual information in the Almanac. And there are also the original names of film stars, from Peter Lorre (Laszlo Loewenstein) and Sophie Tucker (Sonia Kalisch) to Woody Allen (Allen Königsberg) and Tony Randall (Leonard Rosenberg). One chapter, for the armchair philosophers, deals with the Jewish "identity crisis", another with the Kabbalah, and there is a long list of Jewish gangsters in the American underworld. We are told which places in Israel, Poland, Hong Kong and London (the Bevis Marks Synagogue) are "musts" for the Jewish sightseer; but the book also lists no fewer than 71 member states of the UN with less than 50 Jews.

This is only a very short selection from the Almanac. It is profusely illustrated, though many of the pictures are of a rather poor quality of reproduction.

EGON LARSEN.

JEWSH QUIZ MASTER'S LIFE

"Das Leben in Deutschland", published by the Lübbe Verlag, Bergisch-Gladbach, is the title of the impressive autobiography written by Hans Rosenthal, West Germany's most popular quiz master in radio and television. Born in Berlin in 1925, he lived underground in Berlin during the war and is now well-known for his popular programmes in W. Germany and abroad. For a number of years he has also been president of the "Representantenversammlung" of the Berlin Jewish community. E.G.L.

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NEWS FROM ISRAEL

WIESENTHAL GETS JERUSALEM MEDAL

Mr. Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem, presented Mr. Simon Wiesenthal, Director of the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna, with the Jerusalem Medal for his work in helping bring Nazi criminals to justice during the past 30 years. At the presentation ceremony in Jerusalem Mr. Wiesenthal predicted that the Auschwitz death-camp doctor Josef Mengele may soon give himself up from his hiding place in a Latin American country. Paraguay had deprived Mengele of citizenship last year and he had been running from country to country ever since. The "Angel of Death", accused of inhuman experiments on Auschwitz inmates and responsibility for murdering up to 400,000 Jews, was either on the verge of suicide or of surrendering to the West German authorities, who had been seeking him for 19 years, but had hitherto failed to obtain his extradition.

CARPING CRITICISM

That wondrous bird the Pelican (whose beak can hold more than his belly can, according to the popular limerick) has been playing havoc with a prosperous Israeli industry—the breeding of Carp. Kibbutz Maayan Zvi, 15 miles north-east of Netanya, is famous for its fish ponds, but was unable to market a single fish for a three-month period beginning last September, causing it a financial loss of nearly £30,000. The fish-ponds are a regular stop-over for some 1,500 Pelicans during their annual migration from southern Russia to Africa. This season instead of their usual two-week sojourn they stayed for three months, resisting all efforts to urge them southwards, and devoured 35 tons of carp, thus adding to the Jewish State's many hardships by curtailing normal supplies of gefilte fish.

KORCZAK TRIBUTE

The Polish Minister for Religious Affairs, Mr. Jerzy Kuberski, led a Polish delegation to Israel for a meeting of the Janusz Korczak Society, the international organisation to perpetuate the ideals of the Polish-Jewish educationist who chose to die with the 200 orphans in his charge at Auschwitz in 1942 rather than accept a Nazi offer of his personal freedom. The delegation also visited a number of Kibbutzim, including Yad Mordecai, named after the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising leader, Mordechai Anielwitz, and Yad V'Shem. They were received by President Navon and also held talks with members of the Association of Former Concentration Camp Inmates and Anti-Nazi Partisans. Before leaving Israel Mr. Kuberski said: "We knew you had a fine country but the reality exceeds all that we had anticipated."

GERMAN CONTRIBUTION TO CARMEL SYNAGOGUE

The Government of Baden-Wuerttemberg, the Stuttgart city treasury and the local churches are contributing about £4,000 to the building of a synagogue on Mount Carmel to be dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Dr. Fritz E. Bloch, who was rabbi of the State's Jewish communities from 1950 until his death in 1979. The Government accompanied its donation with a letter in which they said they wished to honour Dr. Bloch's devotion to peace and reconciliation and his continued dialogue with the Christian churches. They also wished to express their and the German people's determination to atone for the wrong done to the Jews.

HONOUR FOR WALTER HUBERT

An honorary fellowship of the Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv, was conferred on philanthropist, Mr Walter Hubert, at a dinner at St. Annes Synagogue which was attended by the mayor and mayoress of St. Annes and Blackburn and guests from Israel, Switzerland, Scotland, South Wales, London, Manchester and Sheffield. The Israeli Minister of Education, Mr. Zevulun Hammer, paid tribute to Mr. Hubert and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hubert, who were also among the 200 guests and expressed his admiration for their great munificence. The evening resulted in £25,000 being raised for the Hubert Scholarship Fund enabling needy students to attend Bar Ilan.

ERNST CHAIN CHAIR ESTABLISHED

A new chair has been established at the Weizmann Institute of Science in honour of the late Professor Ernst Boris Chain, 1945 Nobel Prize-winner for Medicine and pioneer in the development of penicillin. The first incumbent will be Israeli-born Professor Sara Fuchs.

GRAHAM GREENE WINS JERUSALEM PRIZE

British novelist Graham Greene is the 1981 winner of the Jerusalem Prize, which is given every two years to a writer who expresses in his work the ideals of human freedom.

NEW BOEINGS FOR EL AL

The Israeli Government has authorised the national airline, El Al, to purchase four fuel-efficient Boeing 767 aircraft to help cut the company's losses which have culminated after three years with a record deficit of \$98.6 million for the last financial year. The airline is threatened with closure if it does not reduce its workforce and cut expenses. Big economies in fuel consumption are expected when the new aircraft join the fleet.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthday

Guttman:— Hilde Guttman of London, N.W.1, will be celebrating her 80th birthday on 18 March. Her many friends and her family from all over the world wish her good health and much happiness for many years to come.

Philippson:— Mr. Felix Philippson (formerly Berlin and England) will celebrate his 90th birthday on 1 March.

Deaths

Besser:— Rose Besser, nee Bandmann, passed away peacefully on 9 February, sadly missed by her husband Felix, son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, sister and brother in Melbourne.

David:— Walter David of London, N.20, died on 14 January, deeply mourned by his wife Reggi and sons Bernard and Colin.

Goldschmidt:— Robert Goldschmidt (formerly Offenbach) died suddenly on 3 February. Deeply mourned by his wife, children and grandchildren.

Hammet:— Alice Hammet passed away peacefully on 24 January. Deeply mourned by her brother Otto Berneck, New York, niece and nephew, Betty and Tom Belina, San Francisco, her cousins and friends.

Lindley:— Ernest Lindley died peacefully on 14 January, aged 83. Mourned by his heartbroken wife Irma, relatives and many friends.

Rockman:— My beloved husband, Henry Rockman, passed away on 26 January after many years of suffering at the age of 88. Deeply mourned by his wife Irma, his beloved daughter, Stevie, relatives and friends.

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IN MEMORIAM

MRS. STELLA EPSTEIN

Stella Epstein who died on 12 January was not only a valued colleague, until she retired from the Secretaryship of the Jewish Refugees Committee in 1973, but also a dear friend to the end of her life. This, I am sure, is not only true for me, but for innumerable others.

She joined us in Bloomsbury House in 1939, soon after she came to this country from Austria. She remained a loyal and devoted member of the staff throughout the years, finally heading the team of professionals who cared for those seeking refuge in this country.

There must be many among your readers who benefited from her untiring efforts to help those in real need; many who appreciated, as her colleagues did, her almost uncanny perception which could discover the basic problems that her clients did not always recognise themselves. Stella was on the Interviewing Committee of the Old Age Homes for many years and always took a great interest in them. Her husband died in concentration camp, but her two sisters (only one of whom survives her) were very close to her and she was constantly concerned for their wellbeing.

Even today we miss her wise judgement and sound commonsense in the new problems which face the Jewish Refugees Committee and the tribute I want to pay is to a woman who always put others before herself and who is missed by all who knew her.

JOAN STIEBEL.

SIR ANDREW SHONFIELD

The distinguished economist and journalist, Sir Andrew Akiba Shonfield, has died aged 63. Since 1978 he had been professor of economics at the European University in Florence, having previously been Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) from 1972-77, following a period as economic editor of *The Observer*. The son of Rabbi Avigdor Schonfeld and the younger brother of Rabbi Dr. Solomon Schonfeld, he had a strictly religious upbringing, but moved away from orthodoxy during his student years. He was a frequent broadcaster and the author of several books on economics and international affairs, and served with distinction in the Royal Artillery during World War II.

DEATH OF THEKLA KAUFFMANN

Mrs. Thekla Kauffmann, known for her social and communal political activity in her native Stuttgart before 1933, has died in New York aged nearly 98. She was one of the first woman members of the Württemberg parliament after the First World War and afterwards head of the Social Welfare Department of the Land Labour Office. Between 1933 and 1941 she helped many people to emigrate, working as a Hilfsverein counsellor. In the US she was director of a Mothers' Home, and after her retirement worked for many years in the Chicago University library.

ESTHER KLEE RAWIDOWICZ

Dr. Esther Rawidowicz died in Waltham, Mass., at the age of 80. She was the daughter of the prominent lawyer and Zionist leader Alfred Klee and the sister of the late Ruth Klee-Goslar and Dr. Hans Klee. Her husband was the eminent scholar in the field of Jewish philosophy, Dr. Simon Rawidowicz, who died in 1957.

Esther Rawidowicz received her doctorate at the University of Munster and later was a research worker at the "Charité" in Berlin. After a stay in this country from 1933 to 1948, the family went to the US, where Simon Rawidowicz obtained an appointment at Brandeis' Department Near Eastern and Judaic Studies and his wife first became a research assistant in biochemistry and later a lecturer in European languages and Comparative Literature, specialising in the field of German literature. When she retired in 1967, the Brandeis Board of Trustees unanimously voted her an assistant professor emeritus. She is survived by her son Benjamin C. I. Ravid, Associate Professor of Jewish History at Brandeis, and two grandchildren, Sara Simone and Michael. A woman of unusual warmth and understanding, she was loved and admired by everybody who knew her.

DR. WALTER MEYER

Dr. Walter Meyer, who left Germany in 1933 with his wife Vera, a fellow medical practitioner, has died in Harrogate where they both settled. He was a member of the AJR and active in service to the local Hebrew congregation, where he was held in the deepest respect.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

Berlin. Because of reconstruction of the Schiller-theater, some of the planned performances got delayed, among them the Peter Zadek - Gottfried Greifenhagen dramatisation of Hans Fallada's "Jeder stirbt fuer sich allein". Fallada, as will be remembered, had his greatest success in the thirties with his novel "Wer einmal aus dem Blechnapf frisst". The second deferred premiere concerned Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a hot tin roof" (with Martin Held). In a slightly nostalgic mood the (mostly elderly) audience at the Renaissance Theater greeted Gerhart Hauptmann's "Einsame Menschen" which was first performed exactly 90 years ago. In a cast directed by Boleslav Barlog, Karin Hardt received special mention by the reviewers. She was a most charming representative of the "Early Talkie" generation of young actresses and had important screen successes before World War II ("Seeschwalben", "Liebesintermezzo" and many others).

Zuerich. The Swiss theatre is once more in the foreground of the German-speaking stage. Having just celebrated the 60th birthday of prominent author Friedrich Duerrenmatt, Switzerland's other popular dramatist, Max Frisch, presented his new work "Tryptichon" at the Schauspielhaus. The Bel Etage Theatre provided its audience with a re-

markable performance of Georg Kaiser's play "Zwei Krawatten".

London. Willy Boskovsky, for many years identified with the guiding spirit behind Vienna's "New Year's Concert" (and who is now officially retired) will conduct two Viennese concerts at the Royal Festival Hall: on 22 March (afternoon) and 28 March (evening).

Bregenz. The Lake Constance Festival, Austria's musical summer event No. 2, will have a particularly rich programme between Mid-July and Mid-August: Placido Domingo will be in Verdi's "Otello", and Leonard Bernstein's musical "West Side Story" will be presented on the new Lakeside stage.

New book. A most interesting publication of the correspondence between Richard Strauss and Gustav Mahler, dating from 1888 to 1911 (Mahler's death) has been issued by Herta Blaukopf (Piper Verlag, Munich). New light is thrown on the sincere friendship between the two rivals who at the time were both young conductors in Leipzig. The correspondence reveals burning problems of that era, in particular aspects of censorship and the continued interference of Alma Mahler-Werfel.

ROUND ABOUT GALLERIES

It is sometimes said that January, February and March are dead months for the arts, but despite—or perhaps because of—inflation and world recession, this year has proved an exception. There is so much activity in the galleries and all around, that it is only possible to give the briefest mention of what is to be seen.

Pride of place must go to the "New Spirit in Painting" exhibition at the Royal Academy even if some of the exhibits are not to everyone's taste. Amongst the 38 artists showing are Frank Auerbach, born in Berlin and now living in London, and Lucian Freud, grandson of Sigmund, who came to England in 1933. He is showing a number of pictures, including a beautiful portrait of his mother. The exhibition closes 18 March.

The Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, S.E.1, has an interesting exhibition (to 26 April) "Vivat Oesterreich" including graphics of World War One, while the Cottage Gallery, Hereford Street, W.2, is showing works by Leonard Baskin (20 February-21 March).

ALICE SCHWAB.

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