

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

C. C. Aronsfeld

PARADISE IN PARAGUAY

South America has long been a cherished refuge for European, especially German, Nazis. Immediately after the Hitler war, many of them levanted to Argentina and Brazil where the old spirit was soon spread in books (published by the *Dürer Verlag*, Buenos Aires) and journals (e.g. *Der Weg* and *Die Brücke*). A number then found it sufficiently safe to return, e.g. Hans-Ulrich Rudel, the Luftwaffe ace, now the patron of Dr. Gerhard Frey's German People's Union. More recently, however, some have again thought of settlement in South America, this time not to run away from danger but to live in a more congenial environment. The country chosen by them is Paraguay.

For some time past advertisements in neo-Nazi publications, both German and Austrian, have asked for "patriots" prepared to join a "patriotic settlement community". Both "active workers" and "passive investors" were wanted. The "activists" should "wish to withdraw from this racketeering society" and engage in "agriculture, cattle breeding and other ways of making a living". Candidates are promised, by the Hesse advertiser Gerd Lucka, "profitable capital returns and security" as Paraguay is considered "a politically stable zone of South America".

More specific statements were published by Thies Christophersen, author of the Holocaust-denying pamphlet *Die Auschwitz Lüge*, in his magazine *Die Bauernschaft* ("The Farmer") which under its innocuous title unrepentantly upholds the Nazi cause. There interest in "our paradise off the beaten track" (Paraguay) was solicited by one Rudolf Schmidt, of the *Anglo-Afrikaner Bond*, Bellville, South Africa. A former member of the Hitler Youth which he joined "not because I had to but because I wanted to", he left Germany in 1965 to find his Promised Land among the champions of Apartheid, but he has now become sadly disillusioned. He has discovered that the South African right-wing movement, even the diehard *Anglo-Afrikaner Bond*, must be written off as "lost".

His daughter said the "lonely and bitter man did everything in his power to fight for the cause of the White Man in South Africa but he received very little support. The Afrikaner proved to be more concerned about status and making money than his own future. Many people paid lip-service to my father's efforts but shied away when they were asked to make sacrifices. In the end my father fought a lonely battle. As a result, he decided to pack up and start a new life somewhere else". Incidentally, his pessimism is not shared by other Europeans with a Nazi record. Only recently South Africa admitted a high-ranking Dutch SS officer.

Schmidt chose Paraguay "for very special reasons" which he explained to German friends back home: "We wanted to liberate ourselves from the fangs of international high finance and so, outside Europe, we could hope to settle neither in North America, Canada, nor Australia or New Zealand, as these countries,

with their minerals and highly developed industries, are entirely under the control of international high finance. We would therefore have jumped from the frying pan into the fire. We were looking for a land with neither big industries nor prospecting of gold, diamonds and other minerals, in other words a land outside the interests of high finance". Schmidt goes on to describe the attractions of Paraguay (e.g. no income tax). To this information, the Nazi editor is pleased to add: "German settlers are in demand once again. Land in Paraguay has already been acquired".

In another neo-Nazi paper "honest advice" on investment and the purchase of real estate in Paraguay is regularly advertised by "a reliable expert who also administers estates". Actually, "fertile wooded and grazing land under German administration" was for several years canvassed by a Paraguayan Estates Company in the neo-Nazi weekly *Deutsche National Zeitung*. These adverts ceased to appear some time ago and have now surfaced in the general German press. So did others, e.g. Communal and Economic Advisers offer agricultural land (up to 2,500 acres), suitable for cattle breeding, at approximately £200 per acre.

Prominent Antisemites

Paraguay has in fact a long association with Germans. One of the earliest settlers was the prominent antisemite of Imperial Germany, Dr. Bernhard Förster, and his wife Elizabeth, the sister of Friedrich Nietzsche. They established in 1886, on the upper reaches of the Paraná, a colony called *Nueva Germania*, 130 miles Northeast of the capital Asunción. He received some financial aid from the Paraguayan Government, and his ambition was to live in accordance with Richard Wagner's teachings, especially his antisemitism, which the two had in common. Förster had been disillusioned by the apparent failure of the antisemitic movement in Germany. The old world, he thought, "shows the clearest symptoms of decrepitude, of senile impotence, of incipient dissolution . . . What is flawed and rotten in our modern society is just what society calls 'educated, liberal and humane'".

However, *Neu-Germanien* did not prosper. The pioneer who expected to redeem the Teutonic race in South American forests turned out to be, literally, a crier in the wilderness. The few who followed him fell out among themselves. Förster's foibles, compounded by the antics of his wife, reduced the colonising effort such as it was to farce, and when the financial basis was lost through no very creditable manipulations, the unhappy man committed suicide in an earlier German colony, called, ironically enough, San Bernardino. The year was 1889, a few weeks after Hitler was born.

At present Paraguay has a German population of about 20,000, though prominent Germans living there have put the figure nearer 50,000. Most of them, largely Mennonites, live in a part of the country close to the Southern Brazilian state of Santa Catarina

which has a German population of approximately 800,000 (out of a total of 2.5 million). In fact the German Mennonite settlement dates back to 1900. Only about 1,000 have been counted in the capital Asunción. The majority, including German settlers from the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul appear to be concentrated in a colony called Hohenau in Southern Paraguay, north of the Paraná port of Encarnación, with an area of roughly 75,000 acres. This colony, with others called Altos, Obligado, Bella Vista and Fordii, was steadily enlarged by arrivals, in 1907, 1920, 1931-34 and 1946-47, of Germans from countries other than Germany, mainly U.S.A. and Canada. Many of their descendants are playing a notable part in national life. The present head of State, for example, General Alfredo Stroessner, now 70, is the son of a German immigrant. There are some 100 German schools in the country.

RENT AND RATE
REBATE APPLICATIONS
German and Austrian Pensions

In our issue of November, 1981 we informed our readers that the City of Westminster had agreed to make the rebate calculations "by reference to the taxable element of the benefits received from the German and Austrian authorities." We are now advised that on further examination of the Guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment and of the position of the pensioners who, in many cases, were in receipt of several 'Renten' and pensions, the Westminster authorities felt that this concession went beyond the discretion allowed to them by the Department of the Environment.

The disregard or partial disregard of the German or Austrian payments in line with the taxation treatment has been withdrawn. A former disregard of £4 per week will also no longer be operative.

This withdrawal of the concessions previously in force will be applied in future rebate calculations. There will be no re-assessment of rebates already paid. All applicants will be informed that from the renewal onwards, the full pension(s) (including compensation 'Renten') will be used in rebate calculations and will therefore have to be stated in the applications.

As far as we know the position in Camden and other boroughs has not changed. In Camden, the first 25% or £4 per week, whichever is the higher, of German/Austrian "restitution pensions" will be disregarded for rent rebates or allowances, but not for rate rebates.

In 1977 we took this matter up with the Department of the Environment, which at that time had issued Guidelines for local authorities on which the Camden treatment for the calculation of rent reliefs is based. We have again written to the Department of the Environment in order to secure more beneficial Guidelines and a more uniform treatment by local authorities for rent and rate rebate purposes. We will inform our readers of the outcome of our representations.

In the meantime, we repeat our previous recommendation that any recipient of compensation "Renten" or social insurance pensions from Germany or Austria, as a Nazi victim, should clearly state the nature of such payments in the income section of his or her application. F.E.F.

Richard Grunberger

ROOTS OF HATRED

The Holocaust was a calamity of such dimension that intervening time has in no way diminished its horror. The lifespan of an entire generation has elapsed since, yet interest in it is apparently as great as ever—among historians and public alike. In 1981 both Walter Laqueur and Martin Gilbert published major works on this theme, while French complicity in the Final Solution has been the subject of a popular book by David Pryce-Jones, and various scholarly ones by specialist historians.

Unlike those works with their deep focus and plethora of detail *The Holocaust: Ideology, Bureaucracy and Genocide** is a "pantechonicon" of a book. It is in fact a collection of research papers on diverse topics read at symposia of the American Conference of Christians and Jews in 1978 and 1979.

A work of such wide focus presents the reviewer with a next-to-impossible task of compression. The best he can do is to select and comment on just a few of the findings or conjectures advanced by the contributors. The aspect of the book that held the greatest interest for me was the investigation of the precursors of twentieth century antisemitic thinking in earlier times.

A case in point is the so-called blood libel—the charge of ritual murder levelled against the Jews. This charge, endemic in Eastern Europe around the turn of the century (*vide* the Hülsner and Beilis trials) does not merely go back to the Catholic Middle Ages—Chaucer's tale of Hugh of Lincoln—but to classical antiquity. Nearly two and a half millenia ago, that is, the time of the Maccabean resistance to Hellenisation, myths about Jewish ritual sacrifice and cannibalism were in vogue among the ancient Greeks. The image of the Jews in ancient Rome was hardly more favourable. Tacitus called the Fall of Jerusalem "atonement for primordial Jewish sin, going back to its founder, Moses." Asked what exactly this primordial sin consisted of, Tacitus replied "The Jews consider profane all we hold most sacred."

His use of terms like sacred and profane would indicate that the Jews' alleged offence lay in the religious sphere. This was indeed the case—but it must be remembered that the Roman religion had at least as much to do with politics (exemplified by Emperor worship) as with spirituality. The Romans saw themselves as divinely predestined to greatness and world domination; their politico-religious state ideology of "chosenness" inevitably clashed with the Jewish conception of themselves as God's "chosen people".

When, two centuries after Tacitus, Christianity replaced the Roman state religion the negative image of the Jew was reinforced by the myth of deicide. "The whole synagogue of the children of Israel killed him" wrote Tertullian. This Church father deemed Jewish guilt to be inherited and therefore immutable. "Can the Ethiopian change his colour, or the leopard his spots?"

Comparable Judeophobia is found in other patristic writings. St. Chrysostom called the synagogue "a whorehouse, a den of thieves and a haunt of wild animals". In the view of Justin Martyr Israel was mankind's preordained pariah. "Circumcision was given to the Jews to separate them from other nations."

Yet for all the bigotry of these Graeco-Roman Church fathers Mediterranean Europe subsequently exhibited less virulent Judeophobia than the more Northern, least Romanised, part of the continent. Germany in particular became the breeding ground of what can only be described as chimeric antisemitism in the Middle Ages.

*THE HOLOCAUST: Ideology, Bureaucracy and Genocide. Edited by Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton. Kraus International Publications. \$35.

Chimeric antisemitism is best exemplified by the notion of the profanation of the consecrated host. This lethal fantasy was spawned in the aftermath of the Church's doctrine of Transubstantiation and the institution of the Feast of Corpus Christi. *Hostienschändung* thus became an accusation levelled against Jews in German-speaking areas at a time when their co-religionists in France and England had already suffered expulsion. Another charge levelled against the Jews at this time—the fourteenth century was also the period of the Black Death—related to *Brunnenvergiftung*.

Whereas in those unenlightened days the Jews in Germany had been targets of mob hatred, after Emancipation they served as lightning conductors for the sense of social displacement experienced by the so-called bourgeoisie of education. The "German mandarins" saw their traditional role in society—as the second estate after the nobility—increasingly threatened in the Wilhelminian Reich. On the one side was the new wealth of the captains of industry and commerce—on the other the new political power of the masses (Social Democracy and *Zentrum*).

Agents of Change

When the mandarins imagined society being cut adrift from its moorings they perceived all change as inevitably for the worse, and they furthermore saw the Jews as the agents of such deleterious change. There was much talk of Jewish-instigated disintegration, of "das Zersetzende und Zerschätzende", of the predominance of criticism over construction, etc.

Oddly enough, later mandarins took a much more detached view of the changes wrought by the advent of Nazism. The eminent Max Planck said "We scientists who do not understand politics ought not to make any difficulties for the government." Von Laue, another scientific luminary, disqualified academics *tout court* from participation in public affairs. "Political struggle" he wrote, "demands other methods and natures than scholarly research."

The upshot was that by refuting Aristotle's dictum about man being a "political animal" the custodians of German culture allowed Germany to be a country of mere animals.

"GOOD" TRANSFERRED

The late C. P. Taylor's play "Good" which deals with a Frankfurt university professor's development into a Nazi murderer, has won such general acclaim that it will be transferred from the "Warehouse" to the Aldwych Theatre for a limited season starting on April 20. It should be of great interest to our members.

UNSPORTING GREEK FANS

Israeli basketball followers who flew to Athens to watch Maccabi Tel Aviv beat the Greek team 86 to 78 came away with a sorry tale of spectator misbehaviour at the match. The pilot of the charter plane said that about 400 young Greeks were at the stadium for the sole purpose of harrying and insulting the Israelis. They waved placards painted with swastikas and shouted their hopes for a "new Auschwitz". After the match the Israelis' buses were surrounded by crowds banging the coaches with their fists or with sticks. Meanwhile the Greek police either looked on apathetically or contented themselves with arresting some of the Israeli fans.

BLANKS IN HISTORY

This is a small book* on a big and important subject. Mrs. Dawidowicz is well-known as the author of "The War Against the Jews" and "A Holocaust Reader", excellent and valuable treatments of their subjects. In the course of working on them she was struck by the extent to which this central phenomenon of twentieth century history was either wholly overlooked, or dealt with inadequately in so many historical works, ranging from the most serious to the popular, and including textbooks, which come somewhere in between.

When she started to explore the reasons for these extraordinary omissions, she found that the causes differed from country to country, each nation writing history within the confines of its own historiographical and national tradition. In Soviet-bloc countries, where all forms of expression from the academic to the popular media are mere functions of the national propaganda network, Jewish history in general and the Holocaust in particular have tended to be distorted or even to disappear completely in accordance with the party line of the moment—at one point the Warsaw ghetto uprising was described as "primarily a Polish battle". In the Soviet Union the memorial tablet at Babi Yar does not even mention the word Jews.

Act of Integration

In Western countries the situation is more complicated. In Germany there was the problem of seeing the Nazi period as part of the continuity of German history, with roots in the past, and not as an inexplicable break in that continuity. That act of understanding and integration was not really achieved until Fritz Fischer produced his "Griff nach der Weltmacht", and above all Karl Dietrich Bracher his "Die Deutsche Diktatur".

She notes the lack of insight into and experience of the importance of ideology among American and British historians as an explanation for their omissions, quite apart from the eccentricities of an A. J. P. Taylor or the "revisionist" distortions of David Irving (giving a good example of Irving's reversing a meaning by a selective quotation from Himmler). Her criticisms of Bullock and Trevor-Roper are shakier, since they were bound to see Hitler and Nazism from a British perspective, and she surely misreads "disdain" and "social prejudice", respectively, into their attitudes—very much an American misperception of British ways. She apparently thinks Lord Bullock was born to the ermine.

Confronting Facts

Nevertheless, Mrs. Dawidowicz is basically right about the reluctance of many historians to confront the facts of the Nazi phenomenon, even when the reasons are those indicated by Prof. Langmuir: "Inheriting a historiographic tradition hostile towards or ignorant of Jews, or both, and writing for a society little interested in Jewish history or more or less hostile to Jews, historians of the majority have been little attracted to the history of the Jews, little inspired even to read the work of Jewish historians, let alone to study the matter themselves."

Mrs. Dawidowicz does give full credit to the very fine school of British and American historians of German Jewish origin: George Mosse, Fritz Stern, Walter Laqueur, Guenter Lewy, Peter Pulzer, who have made major contributions to the subject, and with full understanding.

M.S.

*THE HOLOCAUST AND THE HISTORIANS, Lucy S. Dawidowicz, Harvard University Press, 1981. pp. 187, £10.50.

CORRECTION

In the footnote on page 8 of the March issue, the title of Professor Dr. Hermann Levin Goldschmidt's book should have been "Juedisches Ja zur Zukunft."

HOME NEWS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MEETING

This year's Holocaust Memorial Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 9, in the afternoon. The venue and the guest speaker will be announced in the next issue. It is hoped that members and friends of the AJR will consider it their moral duty to pay tribute to our nearest ones who perished and attend the function. For reserved seats, orders (with stamped and addressed envelopes enclosed) should be sent from the middle of April onwards to: The Secretary, AJEX, 5a East Bank, London, N16 5RT.

STEINER PLAY UNDER FIRE

Christopher Hampton's play at the Mermaid Theatre, "The Portage to San Cristobal of A H" based on a short novel by George Steiner, has met with fierce criticism from a number of reviewers on the grounds that, while the role of the aged Hitler contains an extremely long and controversial speech defending his actions, no character in the work is allowed to refute the views expressed, whether in general or in detail, and Hitler is left with the last word in his own defence. George Steiner admitted in a television interview that he would not stage the play in German before neo-Nazis, but said that as a teacher trusting in his students' intelligence he likewise trusted his audiences.

The historian Dr. Martin Gilbert, reviewing the play in the Jewish Chronicle, points out: "A non-specialised theatre audience, presented with only one side of the case, cannot be expected to have at its fingertips the knowledge of the historian or the theologian. . . . Much of the success of the real Hitler was due to the fact that his audience was neither knowledgeable or critical enough to see the distortions in his actual monologues." Mr. Roman Halter, a concentration camp survivor, felt that "The Portage to San Cristobal" left such a false impression on its hearers that he arranged for Dr. Gilbert's article to be reprinted for distribution to Mermaid patrons.

The bankers S. G. Warburg agree that they gave money to the Mermaid Theatre, in accordance with their usual policy of supporting the arts. These funds were used for the production but Warburg's say that press reports that their donation amounted to £60,000 were greatly exaggerated. In fact they state they donated only £2,500 following an appeal from Bernard Miles, the Mermaid's 'Managing governor'.

PROTESTS AGAINST BRITISH NAZIS

Pressing for a speedy strengthening of the Public Order Act of 1936, Members of Parliament have urged that racist publications such as "Bulldog" should be more easily prosecuted. Ivor Lawrence, Conservative MP for Burton, described the use of the Union Jack by British Nazis as a "sickening abuse" and its display at the Cenotaph a "hideous mockery" of those who had fought against Nazism. Greville Janner, Leicester W., pointed to the repeated trials of the "Bulldog" editor as proof of the insufficiency of present powers. Although the paper was evil racist rubbish, he said, it had taken three trials to reach a conviction and then only by a majority vote.

Jewish and other students mounted a protest against the continued employment of Andrew Brons at the Harrogate College of Further Education. Brons, the chairman of the National Front, is a lecturer in government and political studies. 500 people joined in the protest demonstration.

The British Nationalist and Socialist Movement (formerly the British Movement) has made applications to a number of local authorities for grants to set up "white cultural centres" throughout the country. Reaction from the authorities concerned has been decidedly unfavourable.

Leicester Council has been asked to ban the National Front and similar bodies from holding meetings in any premises owned by the council. In the case of election meetings, which cannot be forbidden, the city's Race Relations Unit recommends that the council should reserve the right to tape-record the meetings, to have official observers present and to limit the number of stewards and speakers. However, these proposals are not unopposed: Conservatives on the council consider that they represent a danger to free speech and the "Leicester Mercury" has published a leader entitled "Forbidden to Speak" and insisting that, while it remains a legal organisation, the National Front must have freedom to express itself in public, whatever its "repulsive policies".

MONUMENT TO HOLOCAUST VICTIMS?

The Government, in consultation with the Board of Deputies, is considering the possibility of a site being made available for the erection of a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Mr. Michael Heseltine said in Parliament recently that anyone who supports the idea should make his views known to the Board of Deputies.

JEWISH SERIES FOR TV

BBC TV is to present a series "The Jews", which will be transmitted in January 1983. Two separate writers submitted scenarios: Louis Marks proposed a 13-episode series on Jewish history, the Jewish contribution to civilisation and the situation of Jews today. Desmond Wilcox, former head of BBC features, envisaged a 9 or 10-part programme, concentrating more narrowly on the lives of Jews in various countries.

JEW'S COLLEGE TO MOVE IN SUMMER

Jews' College will be temporarily housed in the new Beth Hamidrash complex at Finchley Synagogue when it has to vacate its present premises in July. A particular headache is the storage of the library of 60,000 volumes which will be closed from mid-May. Eventually it is hoped that the present upheavals will lead to a new University of Judaism with a permanent site, serving the whole Anglo-Jewish community.

AJR CLUB

Although there was no advertisement in this paper about the AJR Club's 26th Birthday Bring-and-Buy Sale nearly 200 guests stormed the stalls on Sunday, the 28th February. Due to the outstanding work of the organisers and the joyful spirit of all our helpers we made £1,730, a marvellous success. Our sincerest thanks go out to them, upstairs and downstairs, and to our donors for their generosity in kind and cash. We are happy to continue our charitable work here and for Israel.

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DR. HUBERT'S GENEROSITY

In honour of his late wife Martha, Dr. Arthur Hubert has established a scholarship at Bar-Ilan University. His gesture was acknowledged at a meeting of appreciation in Salford, where Dr. Hubert was presented with a certificate by the Manchester Friends of Bar-Ilan and tributes were paid to the generosity of the Hubert family.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI SOLOMON SCHONFELD

The American-Canadian Committee has published a book to mark Rabbi Dr. Schonfeld's 70th birthday, entitled "Solomon Schonfeld: his Page in History" and edited by Prof. David Kranzler and Gertrude Hirschler. It details the stories of 40 of the many people rescued by Dr. Schonfeld from Nazi Europe.

"SPEAK OUT ABOUT SOVIET JEWS"

Over 130 scientists met for a seminar at Oxford recently in order to discuss the worsening plight of their Soviet refusenik colleagues. They heard Professor Mark Azbel, one of the most distinguished Jewish scientific emigrés, say that the ordinary Soviet citizen privately admires the efforts of the refuseniks despite endemic antisemitism in the country. The professor voiced the appreciation of Soviet Jewish scientists for the support given to them in the West and urged his hearers to speak openly to their Soviet colleagues on the subject: "Do not be afraid to speak to them and do not think that you will hurt the refuseniks, because you will not. A true service to science is to help Soviet scientists to have contact with their Western counterparts."

At an international conference in Washington, organised by the World Movement for Soviet Jews, delegates from 14 countries heard how the numbers of Jews leaving the Soviet Union had dropped from 52,000 in 1979 to 9,447 in 1981. Since 1970, 260,000 Jews have emigrated from the country, of whom 185,000 have settled in Israel. Not only have the numbers of exit visas dramatically dwindled, but Russian Jews are increasingly suffering from an atmosphere of growing antisemitism.

GOLDSMID CHAIR APPOINTEE

Professor Chimen Abramsky, the Goldsmid Professor of Hebrew and Jewish Studies at London University, has reached the compulsory retiring age of 65 and will leave his post in the coming September. He will be succeeded by Mr. Raphael Loewe. The Goldsmid Chair is over 150 years old, having been established in 1828, and it was feared last year that the University intended to leave it unfilled after Professor Abramsky's retirement.

NEW INCUMBENT FOR BELSIZE SQUARE

"Different from all other synagogues in England": this is how the new rabbi of Belsize Square Synagogue describes it. Rabbi Rodney Mariner of Edgware and District Reform Synagogue has been appointed to succeed the late Rabbi J. J. Kokotek. Going on to explain the difference, Rabbi Mariner said that in some ways the synagogue was in the orthodox style, yet it formed part of the most progressive movement in the country. When it was established during the Second World War, the German refugee founders brought with them "a very special brand of Jewish observance". "Belsize Square," the rabbi concluded, "attracts people from all over London—people pass a dozen synagogues in order to come to it."

SALZBERGER CENTENARY

On the occasion of the distinguished rabbi's centenary, Mr. C. H. Guttmann, J.P., will give a talk on "Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger the Teacher" on Monday, April 19 at 8 pm, at the '1943 Club', 9 Adamson Road.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Nixon's Prejudices — by Dr. Kissinger

In his newly published memoirs, Dr. Henry Kissinger speaks of the strange relationship between himself and President Nixon in the years when Kissinger was Secretary of State. He discusses Mr. Nixon's prejudices concerning the Jews, his belief that they were a predominantly liberal and powerful cohesive group who put Israel's interests above everything else. Jewish media control, the President thought, meant that American Jewry was a dangerous adversary; nevertheless Israel had to be forced into a peace settlement and Arab-American relations could not be put at risk. Dr. Kissinger characterises his position vis-à-vis the President as "never easy" and "particularly complex with regard to the Middle East".

Despite his prejudices, which the former Secretary of State describes as stemming from his lower middle-class Californian background, Richard Nixon had cordial relationships with many Jews and appointed Jews to key positions though "in the heat of the moment" he might blurt out his underlying feelings. "Yet in every crisis", says Dr. Kissinger, "Nixon stood by Israel more firmly than almost any other President save Harry Truman. He admired Israeli guts."

Ambassador Describes UN Atmosphere

In a recent interview, Mrs. Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, said that she had heard "whispers" concerning alleged "Jewish influence" in the American Mission to the UN. She also said that Israel was a "pariah" within the organisation, put on a lower plane than South Africa. Replying to newsmen's questions later, Mrs. Kirkpatrick repeated that she was not trying to imply that there was antisemitism within the UN, but nevertheless she had long ago heard "as gossip" that there were too many Jews in positions of influence. Another member of the US mission said that African ambassadors had asked him whether the fact that he was a Jew affected the US government's policy regarding Israel, but he had always turned such questions aside.

Later, speaking at an Anti-Defamation League meeting, Mrs. Kirkpatrick accused the UN of preparing the expulsion of Israel from the organisation.

US Museum Feared Reprisal

An archaeological exhibition from Israel was not put on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, because museum heads feared that American archaeological expeditions to Arab countries might be hampered or forbidden and that Arab oil companies would cease to contribute to the "Met". The museum director admitted as much to Israeli officials at a meeting in 1980, but refused to have his statement put on record.

Ukrainians Face Deportation

Two former Ukrainian policemen, Mikhail Dercacz and Alexander Lehman, have been brought before US courts in proceedings designed to rescind their American citizenship. A Brooklyn court has already reversed Dercacz' naturalisation on the grounds that he had concealed his police service when applying for admission and had also been personally concerned in ill-treating and murdering Jews. Subject to an appeal, Dercacz is likely to be returned to the Soviet Union. No decision has yet been announced in the case of Lehman, who is accused of murdering over 300 Jews.

HUNGARIAN RESCUER HONOURED

Ara Jeretian, a Hungarian of Armenian origin, was honoured in a ceremony at the Armenian Church in Vienna recently, when the Israeli Ambassador and the Prelate of the church joined in presenting him with the medal of Yad Vashem. During the Second World War, it is estimated that Mr. Jeretian managed to save at least 200 people. He established a medical centre in Budapest, where 40 Jewish doctors were employed. Because of this, they and their families managed to survive the persecution in Hungary.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

"MOSSAD INFILTRATION OF ITALIAN TERRORISTS"

Popular opinion in Rome has blamed the Italian security services for not heeding warnings by Mossad, the Israeli intelligence arm, that the Red Brigade, in collaboration with the PLO, the IRA and the Basque ETA, was planning a coup last November, shortly before the kidnap of General Dozier.

After the interrogation of two "repentant" terrorists, an Italian judge stated that the men believed that Israeli secret services had infiltrated subversive groups in Italy and had even helped the Red Brigades from time to time. The two men alleged that the Israeli aim was to inflame a civil war which would make Israel an indispensable factor in the field of Mediterranean security. The reports have been strenuously denied by the Israeli government.

Complicated links and confrontations between Mossad and the CIA have also been revealed by documents captured in the Teheran US Embassy and now published in the "Washington Post". Although both secret services have tacitly agreed to a co-operative co-existence, several attempts have been made by each to infiltrate the other. In most cases, so far as appears, these essays have been unsuccessful and several endeavours to recruit American Jews to Mossad have been rejected and reported to the US authorities.

PROTEST AT POLISH HERO'S ARREST

A protest against the detention of Wladyslaw Bartoszewski by the Polish military government has been raised by a prominent German worker for Christian-Jewish understanding. Günther Bernd Ginzler, Chairman of the Political Wing of the German Co-ordinating Council of Societies for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, points up two contrasting events in the year 1942. At that time, a used diesel engine in working order was delivered to the SS in Kulmhof for the unacknowledged purpose of gassing human beings: meanwhile, Bartoszewski, just 20 years old, decided that as a Catholic and a Pole he must fight against the Nazi regime and for the Jews who faced death. As a founder-member of the "Aid Council for Jews", he saved many people by hiding them and crawled through the sewers of the Warsaw Ghetto to bring help and encouragement to the beleaguered Jews. Surviving a year in Auschwitz, Bartoszewski remained in Poland after the war and became the General Secretary of the Polish PEN-Club. Only a few months ago he protested against the use of antisemitic slanders as a means of discrediting Solidarity. He was one of the first to be arrested when the military regime took over and is still in custody.

Recalling these events, Günther Ginzler makes a powerful plea "as a Jew for a Catholic, as a young man for an elder, as a German for a Pole" that freedom should once again be restored to Bartoszewski.

2,000 YEARS OF GRAECO-JEWISH COMMUNITY

What is perhaps the oldest Jewish community in Europe exists on a Greek isle. Chalkis on the island of Evia, lying 60 miles from Athens, can boast a synagogue whose foundations are at least 1,500 years old and a twelfth-century mikva which was largely reconstructed from an earlier building. Tombstones set in the walls of the synagogue were taken from the Castle of Chalkis which was demolished in the last century. The stones had been used to build the castle in the Venetian period and they bear dates which place them in the first years of the Christian era. The community itself believes that its history can be traced back at least 2,000 years and local records indicate that Jewish captives were brought to Evia in the 2nd century BCE. Among those who contributed to the sixth rebuilding of the synagogue in 1849 were the Duchess of Lakaidia, a convert to Judaism, and Ferdinand de Rothschild.

During the Second World War, a Chalkis Jew, Mordechai Frizis, was the first Greek officer to fall in action against the Italians in Albania and he has become a local hero. The Bishop of Chalkis managed to hide the Torah scrolls and other cult objects from the Nazis during the Occupation. Today there are 40 Jewish families living on the island, some of whom can trace their families back for 13 generations.

SWISS-ISRAELI AIR FORCE CO-OPERATION

Military collaboration between Switzerland and Israel in the past few years has included training of Swiss pilots by Israeli officers and a visit by an Israeli test pilot to the Swiss air force base at Emmen to help with engine problems. The Swiss Defence Ministry maintains that the exchange of technical information between the two air forces does not affect Swiss neutrality.

ART OF THE HOLOCAUST

I hesitated to open this book because of the terrible memories that the Nazi years evoke. Yet it is right that not only written records should be preserved of this unique tragedy in world history, but also pictorial representations that reflect human experiences of a time that defies reason and understanding.

The 350 pictures in this volume* are not all good art, although there are some very fine pieces amongst them. They are important, whatever their quality, because they show how individual artists came to terms with the horrors they saw and the sufferings and indignities they underwent. Some of the artists retreated into themselves and painted the sort of pictures they might have executed anywhere. For instance, the "Three Women in Front of Barracks" by Mabull could be any three women having a nice quiet gossip. Ranged beside that picture is an extraordinary work by Felix Nussbaum wherein he shows in sombre colours the despair of camp inmates and, in a way, their inward thoughts. As is to be expected, the book contains many pictures of brutality and bestiality, unpleasant representational art; not pictures to enjoy, but important records of events depicted by actual observers, as for instance "The Guard Metes Out Punishment," executed by Frances Audol at Ravensbruck in 1944/5.

There are also more pleasing, softer pictures, many from Theresienstadt. "Faraway Landscape" by Otto Karas-Kaufman, is full of nostalgia for the countryside which makes one realise how the artist must have forced himself to look outside his grim present.

It is impossible to make a real selection from such a collection covering ghettos, transit camps, prisons and POW camps, the illegals, partisans, concentration camps, etc. The authors of the book, Janet Blatter and Sybil Milton, have made a careful and comprehensive choice, concentrating on professional artists and basing their selection on intrinsic artistic values and their value as historical documents. This a book to have, to keep, to look at from time to time as, perhaps, one's memories fade.

ALICE SCHWAB

*THE ART OF THE HOLOCAUST, Janet Blatter and Sybil Milton, Pan Books, £7.95.



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LUDWIG SPIRO AT SEVENTY

Never was a title more misleading than the one above, though the actual date is the first of May. One's first impression on meeting Ludwig Spiro is of drive and energy, of a youthful vitality very much at work in the world, acting on events and shaping them, deeply involved in a stream of turbulent activities professional and voluntary, concerned with people and their needs, with their worries and preoccupations. Retirement for him has clearly been a fiction: he is still active as a high-powered marketing and sales consultant for several heavy engineering firms, including the one to which he devoted so many decades of his 'official' working life. He travels widely and often on business.

There is an early episode in his career which encapsulates much of his distinctive contribution to the British engineering industry. Shortly after the war his Scottish engineering firm sent him to France to compete with other industrialists for a large contract for heavy-duty pumps to be used in processing sugar beet. The competitors made their presentations, then Engineer Spiro made his, in French, since he believed that one should speak to one's clients in their own language if possible, though his French at that time was not yet as smooth and fluent as it was to become.

When he had concluded his presentation, the French managing director addressed him with a directness and decisiveness that took Spiro by surprise. The Frenchman said that he had no doubt whatever that he wanted to buy Spiro's pumps. All the others could only pump the sugar beet to a height of nine metres, while Spiro's pumps could get the beets to nineteen metres! This would eliminate the need for the expensive and elaborate escalators to lift the beet one storey upwards. Spiro went away overjoyed at having won the valuable contract, and worried to distraction by the slip in his French which had turned nine into nineteen! And then, typically, he saw the slip as a challenge. Back in London, he started urgently to experiment. The problem was to get the sugar beet pumped under much heavier pressure to the greater height without damage to its surface, so that it didn't 'bleed' out the sweetness—which would frustrate the whole object of the exercise. He devised an ingenious but simple way of testing the process. He found a pump of his firm's manufacture in the service of the Thames water authority, and got permission to try his idea. He used simple beetroot for the experiment—if it 'bled' you could see the red beetroot juice in the water. It didn't 'bleed', the pump raised the beetroot intact to the requisite nineteen metres height, and the contract could be fulfilled with equanimity. He had snatched victory from the jaws of defeat and in the process had revolutionised the sugar beet processing industry.

There was an unnerving sequel to this success story. Several months after the installation of the pumps the French factory manager suddenly phoned him up, and told him—so far as he could grasp over the crackling

telephone line—that the pumps had exploded! Spiro hung up to take this information in, and then rang back on a better and clearer line. There had indeed been an explosion, but it had nothing to do with the pumps themselves. A load of beetroot had inadvertently contained a landmine—left over from the recently concluded war—and the pressure of the processing had detonated it; no one was hurt, but the pumps needed replacing.

Spiro is much concerned by the status and education of engineers in Britain, where they are seen as technicians, and thus, in contrast to the continent, Japan and the United States, they remain narrowly confined to their profession, whereas in those other countries—so much more vigorous industrially—they are encouraged to aspire to the highest managerial functions, thus being able to combine expert knowledge with crucial decision-making at the top levels. He grew up in that continental tradition in Germany, where his father held a position of great responsibility in the railway system, one of the very few Jews to do so. Spiro is also involved with making a film in association with his old firm, in which he hopes to present his creative ideas about the responsibilities of his profession, the need to understand its function in industry and in the wider social context as well. He stresses that in marketing for export, the engineer's technical skills are assumed, but it is up to him to get to know the mentality and special needs of his potential foreign clients. As he says, "You can have a first class product but you will not sell it unless you have fully studied the customer's problem and can demonstrate that you can provide the solution." Spiro studied mechanical engineering at the University of Munich (he was born in Trier) and graduated with honours in 1936, coming to London a few weeks afterwards. He eventually became Deputy Managing Director of the firm he served so well and so long.

Impulse to Serve

However, he did not content himself with his outstanding services to British industry, which are fully appreciated. He also felt a strong impulse to serve the German refugee community of which he has always been a fully-conscious part. Having been particularly successful in his career and in social integration into British society, he wanted to help those refugees who were less fortunate and who were faced with problems as they aged. By having been, as an immigrant, old enough to be shaped by the values of his country of birth yet young enough to adapt to this country which gave him refuge, he has been in a unique position to do so. He has never glossed over his origin, so that his personality is characterised by an organic fusion of the two strands in his life. It is his loyalty to his fellow immigrants which has prompted him to devote his energies to the cause of the AJR, despite the strenuous claims of his professional life.

He joined the Executive of the AJR in 1968, but it was in the seventies that his services to the cause became intensely focused. He is now one of the mainstays of our organisation, and his duties include constant participation in the day-by-day administration.

As Hon. Treasurer of the AJR, he keeps a close watch on financial developments, which is also the case with his activity as Trustee of the AJR Charitable Trust. With his valuable experience gained in large commercial firms he makes constructive proposals, and his attention to detail leads him to the danger spots.

He realises that the AJR must be kept strong and vigorous if it is to fulfil its social responsibilities inside as well as outside the Homes, which will be required for a long time to come. He is concerned with the

replacement of natural membership losses by making those still aloof join the AJR. While community solidarity should come naturally to the older generation, he understands that some of the younger people may be reluctant to be termed 'refugees'. To overcome this difficulty, he has been among the most forceful originators of the idea of the 'Friends of the AJR'.

His qualities are equally valuable for the Homes, those jointly administered with the CBF and those which are the property of the AJR (Hannah Karminski House, Marie Baneth House in Golders Green and Otto Hirsch House in Finchley). Whenever there is an emergency, whether involving a resident or a building, Ludwig Spiro is on the spot. The value of his involvement is enhanced by the fact that as an engineer, he can give advice about damage and can then ensure that the work is carried out properly.

As Chairman of the Management Committee of those homes jointly administered with the CBF he conscientiously provides guidance with the many problems involved in the running of the four Old Age Homes (Otto Schiff House, Leo Baeck House, Heinrich Stahl House, and Osmond House) and the Flatlet Home (Eleanor Rathbone House). This is a major enterprise, not least financially, for which the professional staff and the members of the Management Committee bear responsibility. Ludwig Spiro does not spare himself in his devotion to this work, and since he is constantly visiting the Homes, his advice is always based on first-hand knowledge.

He is a regular visitor to the AJR office, where he is regarded by the professional staff not as a 'boss' but as a helpful friend. We are fortunate to have such an experienced, devoted and lovable man among the circle of the AJR workers. His birthday gives us the opportunity to thank him for all he has done and is doing, and to wish him—and us—that he will continue with his characteristic vigour and energy to enjoy long life and to enhance ours.

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SIR HANS REMEMBERS

During a lively conversation last October Hans mentioned to me that he had been asked to write his memoirs. I did not realise then that their publication was already in progress, nor that that was the last time we would be talking to each other. Even further from my mind would have been the thought that one day in the near future I, a mere relative with no deep knowledge of chemistry or medicine, would be called upon to review the life story of this giant in the world of biochemical research—"the greatest German-Jewish scientist after Einstein", as he was called in one of the many recent obituaries. This, however, being the family's wish, and details of his professional achievements (which had led to the Nobel Prize in 1953 and a Knighthood a year later) having already been given in the January issue of this journal, I am glad of this opportunity to speak about the human aspects of this world-famous personality as they emerge from the pages of his reminiscences. They show him to be one of the great architects of the cathedral of science—so described on the occasion of the memorial service held in Oxford, the city that had become his home, for "home is not where a man is born, but where he wants to die, where he wants to carry out his life and bring it to a close as is ordained. It is where he has put his own roots down into the earth which he has broken by his own toil." (Quoted by Sir Hans from Carl Zuckmayer.)

Unbelievable though it may seem, this man, who by the end of his life had collected 21 honorary doctorates and countless honours and awards—a fact which he used to refer to jokingly as the Matthew Effect (For unto everyone that hath shall be given and he shall have abundance; but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. *Matth. 25:29*)—had started his career with no greater ambition than to survive by his own efforts in a world of severe competition, a fact impressed upon him and his younger brother by their stern father. Dr. Georg Krebs was an ear, nose and throat specialist who, born and bred in Gleiwitz/Upper Silesia, had settled in the North German town of Hildesheim. Young Hans had decided early to follow in his father's footsteps and become a doctor, and was strengthened in his resolve when he read in Homer's *Iliad* of Machaon, the wounded field surgeon who was quickly carried to safety, "for a doctor is not one life, but the lives of many."

Very Hard Work

The young schoolboy's powers of observation, so important in a future research worker, showed themselves early. When learning to play the piano—a hobby Hans cherished to the end of his days—he had to admit to himself that no matter how hard one tried, the standards in technique and interpretation that can be achieved necessarily vary from person to person, which means—as he later formulated it—that innate talent, i.e. genetic factors set a limit to the proficiency which can be attained in any field, and that even those who are gifted can reach and maintain their peak only by very hard work. He was not a believer in effortless superiority.

After his father it was Otto Warburg (1883-1970), the world-famous biochemist who exercised the greatest influence on the young doctor, when in 1925, after his years of medical study at the Universities of Göttingen, Freiburg, Munich and Berlin, he was accepted by him as a temporary research assistant at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute fuer Biologie at Berlin-

Dahlem. It had been set up in 1910 to provide outstanding scientists with the best of research facilities (in 1948 it was renamed the Max Planck Gesellschaft). Warburg was a distinguished member of the old Jewish family that had brought forth bankers, art historians and publishers, whose traceable history goes back to 1559 when an ancestor, Simon of Cassel, represented the Jews of Warburg in negotiations with the Prince Bishop of Paderborn.

This post-graduate apprenticeship with one of the most eminent scientists of his time had set him on the right course as an investigator, and in retrospect Hans considered it as the first proof of the extraordinary luck that had accompanied him throughout life, still striking him, as he says in his reminiscences, with a sense of wonder and gratitude. Although he did not realise it at the time by joining Warburg's laboratory he had applied the first of three principles he had formulated as he looked back on his achievements: 1. Attach yourself to a centre of excellence; 2. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day; 3. Be prepared when luck strikes (from Pasteur's dictum "Le hasard ne favorise que les esprits préparés" (chance favours only prepared minds).

In 1930, after four years with Warburg, who did not like to keep senior scientists in his laboratory, his temporary appointment was terminated. With nobody else to offer him a job, this highly qualified young man came to the conclusion that his talents were apparently rather mediocre. Only in August 1970, some three weeks after Warburg's death, did he become aware of his former teacher's real opinion of him, as expressed in a dedicatory preface written by him for a volume "Essays in Cell Metabolism".

Thoughtful Youth

"When Hans Krebs in 1925 appeared at Berlin-Dahlem in the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Biology, he was a modest, thoughtful youth, very intelligent and already wise in spite of his youth. At the beginning of his four years' visit you could not see who he was. But at the end you could. Nearly 40 years later I met him in Dublin at an important meeting. He was now Sir Hans and the chairman of the meeting. Few scientists were more famous. How civilized he is, I thought, if I compared him even with myself."

That feeling overcame me, too, when on a hot Sunday afternoon, dressed in shorts, Hans showed me round the garden at his home in Iffley near Oxford. A keen gardener, he pointed out to me the various trees, shrubs and flowers, some originating from the garden of his youth in Hildesheim, that had survived the bombed family home. On the occasion of his visit in 1949 he had found it reduced to a heap of rubble, overgrown by trees, bushes and weeds. Whilst talking and walking along the garden paths he gathered into a basket luscious gooseberries which, with old-worldly chivalry, he later offered me as refreshment.

As to his second maxim "Never put off till to-morrow what you can do today", this possibly saved his life. When he was an assistant and later Privatdozent at the Department of Medicine in the University of Freiburg, driven by a sense of urgency, he completed his research, which at the beginning of 1932—a year before Hitler came to power—led to the discovery of the first identifiable metabolic cycle. This subsequently proved to be of crucial importance to him, since it was recognised by Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, Pro-

fessor of Biochemistry at Cambridge, and President of the Royal Society of London, as an important advance in modern biochemistry. When on the 15th July 1933 Hans Krebs was dismissed from his first post as University Teacher (the document was signed by the Rector, Martin Heidegger, the philosopher with an international reputation who was an enthusiastic supporter of Hitler), it was Hopkins who brought Krebs to Cambridge. This later led to a lectureship at the University of Sheffield and eventually to his appointment as Head of the newly created Department of Biochemistry. During his 19 happy years in Sheffield he made his second important discovery: the citric acid cycle (now called the Krebs cycle), which defines some of the chemical changes foodstuffs undergo when they are metabolised in the body, following which the Nobel Prize was awarded to him in 1953.

So when in 1954 the Whitley Professorship of Biochemistry became vacant at Oxford, he was prepared for luck to strike. He observes that the vacancy had occurred at the right time for him.

As we are told in this book of reminiscences, Dr. Georg Krebs, the stern father, an ardent believer in assimilation (which did not save him, however, from being thrown into prison in November 1938) had denied his children any Jewish religious teaching. Instead, they had to take part in general scripture lessons at school, which gave them a thorough introduction to the scriptures, an experience, as Hans says in his memoirs, he had always treasured.

Jewish Causes

In later life he identified with many Jewish causes, culminating on the 8th November 1965 in his speech, when on behalf of the AJR's "Thank you Britain Appeal" he handed over to the British Academy a cheque for £90,000. This moving speech is reproduced in the book, which also includes a number of excellent photos commemorating important occasions in the author's life.

One of the most fascinating, taken in Stockholm, shows Lady Clementine Churchill (she had come in place of her husband who was unable to attend to receive the Literature Prize that had been awarded to him) speaking to the three Krebs children and their charming young mother. With her great capacity for love, and blessed with plenty of common sense, Lady Krebs had contributed so much to a happy family life, preventing the children from developing a sense of inferiority in the face of so much distinction, playing down the importance of their father's professional standing and pointing out that in many ways—as her husband was the first to admit—he was quite ordinary.

Hans, who had worked with his team of dedicated scientists almost to the last day of his life at his Oxford laboratory, was often asked by friends and colleagues, "Why do you carry on working? Why aren't you enjoying yourself? Why are you not doing all the things you wanted to do earlier in life?" Such questions could, as he says, only be asked by people who had never experienced the profound satisfaction and enjoyment to be derived from creative work. And to the suggestion that listening to more music (which he loved) would give him supreme joy, he could only reply how much greater the joy of creating music must be, quoting Noel Coward: "Work is fun; there is no fun like work!"

A suitable epitaph for this outstanding member of the Krebs family, and the larger family of mankind, could well read like that written by him for his teacher Otto Warburg, of whom, as he wrote, it may be said, as Goethe said of Faust, he was one of those "who never ceased to strive", and thus, like Faust, he was a good man. His own last words in his book of reminiscences reveal him as a man blessed with the humility of the great:

"So I set out expecting nothing special from life—as I had been brought up to do—except to survive by my own efforts. But because I have had more than my share of luck, and a lucky constellation of genes, life has felt special indeed."

William Guttmann

THE KARL MARX STORY

Before deciding to write his massive Marx biography ("Karl Marx—Sein Leben und seine Zeit", edited by Christine Soetbeer, published by R. Piper & Co., Munich 1981, DM48) the late Richard Friedenthal (he died in 1979) had contemplated a work on the microcosm of emigrants from all corners of the world living in London in the 19th century. Of course, he himself had lived and worked for many years as a refugee in London, and so ultimately his interest concentrated on Marx, the fellow exile who had spent more than half his life, and produced most of his work, in the British metropolis. Thus Friedenthal's book, scholarly and based on wide-ranging research, is in some ways a very personal one, the narrator taking his listeners into his confidence, explaining his approach to a particular situation and problem, the complexity and difficulty of certain aspects of the narrative, anticipating and going forwards and backwards in order to make things easier for the reader and hold his attention.

He emphasises that "criticism of Marxist teaching is not my theme—I am concerned with his life and his times;" but he does convey in terms that are not too taxing for the ordinary reader the gist of Marx's thoughts (though a study in depth of *Das Kapital* was cut short by his death) and actions, not without revealing his own opinions by some ironical remark or a subtle turn of phrase—a method also used with regard to personalities and events.

Marx's life and times—1818 to 1883 to be precise—conjure up a vast panorama of historical events; wars, revolutions, the march of technology and industry on the one hand; on the other a long parade of outstanding personalities, the friends and foes of the master, headed of course by Friedrich Engels, Ferdinand Lassalle, Heinrich Heine, Ludwig Boerne, Ferdinand Freiligrath, Georg Herwegh, Bakunin, to mention only a few, his family and the multitude of others, famous, infamous or forgotten, who played a part in Marx's world.

It is a fruitful field for the storyteller, for his zest and enthusiasm and perhaps a measure of self indulgence; and every now and then he stops for an aside, a piece of information that arouses his curiosity such as the operation of pawnbrokers in London, the role of tailors or emigrant artisans in the Labour movement, the grisettes and the German "guestworkers" in Paris, the origins of the Red Cross, and so on. It is all very colourful and no doubt revealing background material, but it helps to swell the book to its length of over 600 pages.

In the midst of all this stands Marx himself, the revolutionary and agitator, philosopher and scholar, the genius who profoundly influenced history. He was a man full of contradictions, a German Jew and socialist exiled in a foreign land and in a non-Jewish and bourgeois world, a man of many hatreds and a loving paterfamilias.

He came from a Jewish family with many rabbis among its ancestry (which may or may not have had a bearing on Karl's intellectual make-up) but the father abandoned his faith and Karl was baptised as a child, forever remaining detached from any Jewish link. He enjoyed a happy childhood in the harmonious and prosperous home and at school, indeed he was not beset by any difficulties of the adolescent which could have left their mark and caused problems in his later development.

Yet perhaps it was that strenuously rejected Jewish background which was responsible for later attitudes which exposed Marx to the accusation of being anti-

semitic, and the suggestion has been made rather vaguely that this was due to Jewish "self-hatred". Indeed Marx denounced and vilified the Jewish financiers of his day, the Rothschilds in particular, as the personification of the scourge of capitalism. The combination of Marx seeing the Jews as the incarnation of the evils of capitalism and he himself being denounced as the incarnation of the evils of communism has certainly become a weapon in the armoury of contemporary antisemitism.

On a lower level Marx had always been free with vulgar antisemitic taunts to vilify any pet enemy, for instance calling Lassalle "a Jewish nigger", "Baron Itzig" or "Ephraim Gescheit". Friedenthal discusses the point at some length and concludes that, however inexcusable Marx's behaviour is, it is comprehensible; it is, he thinks, largely a matter of tact and taste—bad taste. This is a debatable point, but it is true that tact was not Marx's strong suit, and he was liberal in the use of a vocabulary of obscenities and vilification on anybody who aroused his temporary displeasure, for instance calling his fellow exiles on occasion asses, emigration swine, guano. And with his scholarly bent and his intellectual curiosity (Friedenthal gives many examples of his almost inordinate thirst for knowledge, the time and effort he spent on studying any subject that had aroused his curiosity) he made a special study of "Grobianism"—the use of rude language, in German 16th century literature.

Rude and Tactless

Even to the people of his host country he was not very considerate or tactful. He liked living and working in England (where the authorities left him in peace considering him harmless from a security point of view) but never learned the language to perfection (using a sort of Emigranto) and showed little interest in making contact with the local population. He remained very much of a German. There is a story of a pub crawl up Tottenham Court Road with his boon companions when he addressed some Englishmen on the superiority of German science and music, saying, "Englishmen, who had no music, were in reality far below the Germans".

Immersed in his lofty ideas and his ultimate aims he was in many ways remote from reality. Campaigning for the working classes, having studied all the statistics about their conditions, he hardly had any direct contact with them. One fellow socialist told him: "The misery of the workers, the hunger of the poor is for you only of scientific, doctrinal interest".

His life style in fact was always rather bourgeois, even snobbish, witness his preference for well-tailored suits and a gold-rimmed monocle, and he knew poverty only because he tended to live beyond his means, largely at the expense of others, friend and collaborator Friedrich Engels above all. The great economist, the man whose thirst for knowledge drove him in his mature years to study higher mathematics (apart from a plethora of other subjects) was not very good at figures, unable to balance his budget and often forced to take the family silver to the pawnbrokers.

In many ways Karl Marx was, to put it mildly, not a very attractive personality and Richard Friedenthal's portrait shows him warts and all. But there is also the other Marx, the loving husband and father, fond of children and animals. And, after all, genius has its own laws and cannot be judged by the standards that are valid for ordinary mortals.

KÄTE FRANKENTHAL

Dr. Käte Frankenthal (1889-1976) must have been one of the first women medical practitioners in Wilhelm's Germany. Hailing from a well-to-do Jewish family at Kiel, she must also have been among the first of her kind to join the socialist movement. She certainly was the first woman notorious for chain-smoking cigars. At the outbreak of war in 1914 she tried to join the military medical service of her country, but the strict regulations of old Prussia did not foresee such revolutionary novelties as wounded soldiers being treated by a woman doctor. So she served in the Austro-Hungarian army hospitals in Galicia and Dalmatia.

During the Weimar Republic Dr. Frankenthal worked as *Fürsorgearzt* in the Berlin borough of Neuköln. She joined the Berlin town council as an SPD member, and later for a short time sat in the Prussian Diet, but within the SPD she was always in opposition to official policy, which she criticized as half-hearted and excessively influenced by nationalist thinking. Consequently, in 1931 she exchanged membership in the SPD for membership in the newly created and more radical Sozialistische Arbeiterpartei (SAP), but was careful to immediately join the opposition in that party as well. Years of extreme misery in exile followed without any possibility of working in her field—first in Prague, then Paris, Zürich, and Prague again, where she could make herself useful in helping Marie Schmolka to care for refugees from Germany. In 1936 she emigrated to the United States, but it took years before training in psycho-analytical treatment offered her the basis of a normal livelihood.

In 1940, she wrote an autobiography and we must be grateful to its editors that the memoirs of this extraordinary woman—a book of absorbing interest—could be published now after all those years (*Käte Frankenthal, Der dreifache Fluch: Jüdin, Intellektuelle, Sozialistin, Lebenserinnerungen einer Aerztin in Deutschland und im Exil*, Herausgegeben von Kathleen M. Pearle und Stephan Leibfried, Campus-Verlag, Frankfurt 1981, 320 pp., DM28).

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NEWS FROM ISRAEL

"ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION" ON FILM

Kibbutz Lohamei Hagetaot has produced a documentary film on the "illegal immigration" into Palestine. Entitled "The Last Sea", the film shows displaced Jewish survivors returning to their ruined homes in Eastern Europe at the end of the Second World War, the post-war Polish pogroms, the long trek on foot across Europe and the refusal of entry when they finally reached Palestine. "The Last Sea" is two hours long, but those who were present at a showing organised by the Friends of Israel Educational Trust were silent and engrossed until the very last moment.

OPPOSITION TO PIRATE RADIO

Pirate radio transmissions from Abie Nathan's "peace ship" operating outside Israeli waters have proved very popular with young Israelis. But winter storms forced him to put into port and a special bill has been put before the Knesset to enable him to continue broadcasting his pop music programme from an Israeli port. However, this has aroused the anger of Agudat Israel which has warned that if the legislation is passed the party would be free to vote with the opposition in the Knesset on a number of issues. Agudat Israel feels that the pirate broadcasts have nothing to do with Israel or Judaism and are a desecration of the Sabbath.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nathan has threatened either to take his "peace ship" into Northern Irish waters or to sink her off the Tel Aviv coast. The bill allowing him to broadcast from an Israeli port having apparently run aground in a Knesset committee, the former Tel Aviv restaurateur and RAF pilot is reported to have sold his flat in Israel and left for Belfast.

Another bill introduced by the Agudat Israel Party is intended to halt archaeological digging wherever

human bones are found. This in its turn led to an archaeologists' protest demonstration outside the Knesset.

HOESS CONFESSION AT YAD VASHEM

When Rudolf Hoess, the notorious commandant of Auschwitz, sought safety in a sugar mill after Germany's defeat, he was traced to his hiding-place by two members of the British Army Intelligence Corps, one of whom was Karl Abrahams. Mr. Abrahams preserved Hoess's signed confession and after his death in 1980, Mr. Abrahams' widow sent the document, together with a Hitler autograph, to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial archives.

MILLION AND A HALF FINE STILL UNPAID

Nearly one and a half million pounds sterling is still owed by Yehoshua Bension, the general manager of the former Israel-British Bank.

The money represents a fine imposed by the Supreme Court over six years ago, following Bension's conviction for embezzlement. The prison sentence of 12 years then pronounced against him was remitted in 1977 on the recommendation of Mr. Begin, then acting Justice Minister as well as Prime Minister. Now the bank's receivers have obtained a power of attorney, after a legal struggle with Bension, to help them to discover whether he has money "salted away" overseas.

ANTHEM FOR PALESTINIANS

The Palestine Liberation Organisation has acquired its own "national anthem". Written by the Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis, it is entitled "Road to Jerusalem".

STAMPS FEATURE "STATE MARTYRS"

Israel is to honour some of those who died in the struggle for the State by issuing a series of martyr stamps. Among those who will be recalled in this fashion are Hannah Senesh, who parachuted into Hungary during the Second World War, Elie Cohen, the Israeli spy executed in 1965, several members of Irgun Zvai Leumi and two of the Stern Gang who were executed for murdering Lord Moyne.

NONAGENARIAN EMIGRATES TO ISRAEL

Life president of Sutton Synagogue, Josef Cohen has decided to make his life in Israel—at the age of 90. Mr. Cohen came from Germany with his family in 1939 and established a firm dealing in cardboard. He and his daughter recently left England for Israel, where he has grandchildren and great-grandchildren living.

TREPPER'S POSTHUMOUS AWARD

"Red Orchestra" leader Leopold Trepper has been posthumously awarded the emblem of Israeli fighters, Ot Halochem. One month after his death his widow received the badge from Defence Minister Ariel Sharon at a special ceremony. However, former partisans criticised the delay in recognising Trepper's fight against Nazism in view of the fact that he had lived in Israel for seven years before his death, and that his was one of the boldest and most successful undercover actions against the Nazi state.

"JEWISH LIFE" DISPLAY IN ESSEN

Nearly two years ago, the Old Synagogue in Essen was re-opened by the joint efforts of the city authorities and the Jewish community as a permanent exhibition devoted to resistance and persecution in Essen during the Third Reich. On the fortieth anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, a further special exhibition celebrating "Jewish Life" was mounted under the direction of Benno Reicher. The four separate but related themes of the display comprise the building and furnishing of a prayer-room as it would have appeared before the 1940s; everyday Jewish life in its religious aspects, including paintings by Oppenheim and Kaufmann; architectural drawings and models of synagogues throughout Central Europe; and a section on antisemitic cartoons and leaflets.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

CONTRASTS OF LEFT AND RIGHT

The Bonn Interior Ministry has recently carried out a survey of the life stories of 227 left-wing terrorists with a comparative analysis of the careers of 23 violent criminals on the right-wing. The right-wingers, the analysis shows, are mostly of a low educational level, there are no women among them and they are usually attracted to the movement by the cult of uniforms, romantic notions of heroism and struggle, and the masculine nature of the groups. By contrast, the left-wing terrorists tend to come from a middle-class environment with pretensions to education—indeed their parents often over ambitiously drive them to educational achievements beyond their powers. It is the consequent disappointment coupled with a desire to rise that seems to be a striking feature in their lives. Women members, often with high academic qualifications, are a commonplace among the left-wingers.

However, the survey comes to the conclusion that "there is no typical terrorist, nor a typical terrorist career". It notes that, before turning to violence, many of the young people concerned had lived in communes and other closed groups, which induced them to see the world in black and white, friend and foe, so that injuring or even murdering their fellow beings could be seen as justified, if not a positive duty. But the Interior Ministry's analysis emphasises that terrorism in no way represents a "revolution of madmen".

SS-MAN'S TRIAL TO BE RE-OPENED

After three-and-a-half years, the Frankfurt trial of Horst Czerwinski for murdering eight Russian prisoners was halted on the grounds of the accused's poor health. Now, over a year later, he has been certified as fit to stand trial and the proceedings will re-open in August. Czerwinski, a Nazi SS sergeant, is alleged to have committed the crime in 1943 at Lagische, a sub-camp of Auschwitz.

New trials will open in August this year of Wilhelm Westerheid, formerly a Nazi district commissioner, and his secretary at the time, Johann Zelle. In 1979, both were acquitted of complicity in the murder of 9,000 Jews in the Ukraine during the war. Following a prosecution appeal, the West German Supreme Court ordered a re-trial almost two years ago.

NO CLUE TO LUEBECK VANDALS

On several occasions during the past year, the Jewish cemetery in Lübeck has been desecrated and swastikas scrawled on the gravestones. The police have no clue to the perpetrators.

PEOPLE'S COURT JUDGES INVESTIGATED

Investigations are currently proceeding in West Berlin against 74 former judges and lawyers from the National Socialist "People's Court". At present 2,000 cases are being studied to decide whether the judgments given during the Third Reich were according to the law, and it is not expected that there will be any early prosecution. The Federal Minister of Justice has admitted that the public's sense of justice has been damaged, since there has not been a single conviction against any member of a People's Court. It is over two years since the investigation started and a year after its inception documents were provided by the East German Attorney General from the Deutsches Zentralarchiv in Potsdam.

CIVIL SERVANT DISMISSED FROM LAW POST

By his active membership of the National Democratic Party, an extreme right-wing group, Hans-Jürgen Beimler violated the loyalty he owed to the democratic state of the Federal Republic of Germany. This was the ruling of a Regensburg court a few weeks ago, the first time such a pronouncement has been made by a West German court although many hundred German functionaries are known to belong to the NDP. Beimler, aged 37 and a chief inspector in the legal department of the Rhineland Palatinate, had been a leading member of the party for the last 13 years and had frequently been warned and reprimanded for acting as an official within the NDP. The court considered that he had identified himself with the anti-constitutional aims of the party and had thereby made himself unsuitable for employment as a civil servant. Accordingly it ordered that he should be dismissed from his post.

JOACHIM BUST RESTORED IN BERLIN

A second cast of the bronze bust of the great violinist and founder-director of the Hochschule für Musik in Berlin, Joseph Joachim, was recently dedicated in a ceremony held at No. 1 Fasanenstrasse in the city, in honour of his 150th birthday, and in the presence of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The original bust had been removed by the Nazis in 1936 and had disappeared, the second cast being provided by the Karl Klingler Stiftung, Prof. Klingler having been a pupil of Joachim.

MEDAL FOR SHALOM BEN-CHORIN

After Munich-born Fritz Rosenthal emigrated to Palestine in 1935, he became well-known as Shalom Ben-Chorin, journalist, scholar and philosopher. Now the German Co-ordinating Council of Societies for Christian-Jewish Co-Operation have awarded him this year's Buber-Rosenzweig medal. Mr. Ben-Chorin's "Germania Hebraica", a collection of essays and lectures on Jewish-German relations, has just been published by Bleicher-Verlag, Gerlingen.

JEWS IN GIESSEN

The author of the documentary record of the "Jüdische Bevölkerung Giessens 1933-1945", Prof. Dr. E. Knauss, is now preparing the third edition of the book and would be grateful for information from or about former Giessen residents living in Britain. The information should be sent to the Stadtarchiv Giessen, Berliner Platz 1, 6300 Giessen, West Germany.

Dr. Knauss, the city archivist, also wishes to inform former Jewish citizens of Giessen that they are invited to the unveiling of the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in the week of 25-31 August. The guests will be accommodated privately with Giessen families and kosher food will be provided where required. Some funds, though limited, are available to help those who cannot afford the travel expenses. During the week other events and trips will be arranged. Every former Jewish citizen of Giessen who writes to the Magistrat der Stadt Giessen, Berliner Platz 1, 6300 Giessen, before May 31, will receive a personal invitation including the details of the programme.

STILL NO HEINE UNIVERSITY

The Constitutional Committee of the University of Duesseldorf has rejected by a majority of 44 against 41 the renaming of the University after Duesseldorf's most famous son. Details will be reported in the next issue.

"PEOPLE'S LABOUR PARTY" BANNED

Declaring that the movement wished to revive Nazism, the West German Minister of the Interior has issued an order banning the Volkssozialistische Bewegung Deutschlands Partei der Arbeit.

AUSTRIA

Terror Threats against Chancellor

Threats have been made to the life of Dr. Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, following the conviction of two Palestinian terrorists who were sentenced to life imprisonment for their part in the bombing of the Seitenstettengasse synagogue. Al Assifa presented the Austrian government with an ultimatum, demanding the release of the two criminals, calling on Austria not to accept a PLO representative appointed by Yasser Arafat, and stating that if these demands were not met the life of the Chancellor would be in danger. Dr. Kreisky has called the affair a "monstrous impertinence" and says that Austria will not be blackmailed. Meanwhile security forces have been put on full alert.

The Belgian government has asked Austria to extradite both terrorists to stand trial for the murder last June of the PLO representative in Brussels.

Chancellor's Moves on Middle East

On a later visit to the Gulf States, the Austrian Chancellor Dr. Bruno Kreisky had a meeting with Yasser Arafat at which, the Chancellor said, all misunderstandings with the PLO had been settled. Dr. Kreisky has also, at his own request, been meeting prominent Israelis to discuss the Middle East situation. He has held conversations with Dr. Josef Burg and Mordecai Gur, among others.

Austrians Help to Restore Worms Prayerbook

A historic relic, the Machzor of Worms, has recently undergone restoration in a joint Israeli-Austrian project. Written and illuminated on parchment and dating from 1272, the manuscript is one of the few decorated prayerbooks surviving from mediaeval Europe. It was used by cantors of the Worms community for over 650 years and it seems almost miraculous that it could have survived the pogroms and persecution of the Third Reich. The book is now in the possession of the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem, where most of the restoration work was carried out. The decision to repair was taken on the advice of Professor Otto Wachter, director of the Austrian National Library's restoration department, and some of the pages were sent to Vienna so that he could supervise the special treatment required. An Austrian-Jewish philanthropist, Max Berger, provided part of the funds necessary to enable the work to be carried out.

New Head for Vienna Community

The Socialist Bund Werktätiger Juden no longer controls the Jewish Community Council in Vienna. An opposition list headed by Simon Wiesenthal of the Jewish Documentation Centre now holds 11 of the 23 Council seats. Support from only one of the religious splinter groups on the Council will ensure a majority against the Socialists. Mr. Wiesenthal has no wish to be President of the Community and Dr. Ivan Hacker, the B'nai B'rith president, is expected to succeed to the position.

Austria to Hear "Last Waltz"

At a reception in London held under the auspices of the Balfour Diamond Jubilee Trust, George Clare, the winner of the W. H. Smith Literary Award, confessed that he had been "staggered" by the public response to "Last Waltz in Vienna", telling of the rise and fall of his Viennese family. He went on to say that although his book criticised Austria, it had been favourably received there and was to be serialised on the Austrian broadcasting service.

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OBITUARIES

LOTTE REIZENSTEIN

I have visited Miss Reizenstein's exhibitions several times and I have seen her works in her own flat. The strongest impression was of the wholehearted dedication of the artist to her craft and art. But, there was also that mood of serenity, of joy, of love of nature that pervaded her canvases. Miss Reizenstein, who died in February, was born in Nuernberg in 1904. Although her father was a collector, her parents did not easily welcome the prospect of their daughter becoming a painter. Her own energy overcame those obstacles. She loved the world as something visible that was crying out to be celebrated on paper or canvas. Miss Reizenstein travelled a lot, particularly in Italy and Spain, where there were bright colours, sun and light.

But Lotte was not onesided or narrow. She was an excellent draughtswoman and used this gift to work for industry. She designed dresses, handbags, paper napkins and other objects of daily use.

But behind this optimistic and luminous façade was a heart conscious of the conflicts and tragedies of life. Thus she had a deep love for Kaethe Kollwitz.

She did not shun the terrible problems of our world. She could be called a socialist humanist, her wide reading, her long conversations with likeminded friends testify to it. The light she produced will glow in us for a long time yet. ALFONS ROSENBERG

ANNY GUTMANN

Anny Gutmann, perhaps better known under her pen-name of Anny Latour, has died in Paris at the age of 83. Born in Graz, Anny Gutmann became a leader of the Resistance during the years of the Second World War and after 1945 she wrote a number of books, including "Jewish Resistance in France". In later life, she developed a deep interest in fostering Christian-Jewish relations and the cause of ecumenism.

MRS. GERTRUDE SALAMAN

Mrs. Gertrude Salaman, who died a few weeks ago, at the age of 95, became active in public life as a young woman. First a Suffragette and then a wartime VAD, she married the eminent biologist Dr. Redcliffe Salaman in 1926 and was his mainstay in his rescue work for refugees from Nazism in the '30s. Their joint endeavours made possible the immigration of many scientists into Britain.

LEON MICHAEL HERTZ

Last surviving son of the late Chief Rabbi, Leon Michael Hertz died recently in Haifa. After spending the early part of his life in England, he emigrated to Palestine in 1935 but was later posted to the London office of Barclays Bank. A profound interest in the visual arts and in archaeology led to Mr. Hertz joining the committee of the Jewish Museum in London. In recent years he had divided his time between London and Israel.

POLISH EXILES MADE THEIR MARK

Two Polish exiles, each of whom was of some significance in the Second World War and after, died recently in London within a few days of each other. Dr. Tadeusz Bielecki, who was 81, formed the exile "anti-Yalta Government" in 1943, which eventually became the focus of emigré-Polish activity. Dr. Bielecki was president of the Polish Council of National Unity up to 1972.

The work of 72-year-old Professor Adam Scibor-Rylski has had a lasting effect on vehicle design. He was a world authority on aerodynamics. During the war he escaped from Poland and his talents were exploited by the Allies to increase airborne troop effectiveness and in designing military aircraft.

LEGACIES

The AJR Charitable Trust received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of the late Mrs. Erna Auerhann.

LILIAN GLADYS GRUNWALD

Lilian Grunwald died recently in London at the age of 81. From her Viennese youth onwards she devoted much of her energy to working with Jewish children in various places and capacities and pioneered the Montessori method. She established her own kindergarten, taught older children and worked at remedial problems. She married Robert Grunwald, the collaborator of Bertolt Brecht, and came to England with her husband and small daughter in July 1939. Here she was warden of a refugee hostel, school and kindergarten.

LUDWIG WOLPERT

A native of Heidelberg, Ludwig Wolpert has died in New York at the age of 81. He studied sculpture and metalwork in Frankfurt and emigrated to Palestine in 1933, where he became Professor of Metalcraft at the Bezalel School for Arts and Crafts in Jerusalem. Later he went to New York, where he held the post of resident artist for the Tobe Pascher Workshop at the Jewish Museum, New York.

EINSTEIN'S NEIGHBOUR AT SOBELL CENTRE

Devices to help the handicapped are the stock-in-trade of a tiny shop recently opened at the Sobell centre. The voluntary manageress is Miss Trudel Levi, who is herself an arthritis sufferer, and who was a midwife and matron of the Highbury Baby Home from 1939 until 1975. But that was not her first career: born in Mannheim, Trudel Levi trained as a kindergarten teacher and later became a tutor at several Jewish schools. Among these was the school at Caputh near Berlin and there she came to know Albert Einstein, who lived nearby. Today, in addition to running the shop, she checks laundry at the Sobell centre, organises first aid equipment there, collects books to raise money and drives round London once a week in her invalid car to distribute charity.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Basson:— Mrs. Jannette Basson will be 95 on the 16th April. There will be a small reception from 11-30 to 12-30 at Leo Baeck House, The Bishop's Avenue, N2.

Fabian:— Mrs. Frieda Fabian, of 1, Elmcroft Crescent, NW11 will be celebrating her 85th birthday on the 14th April.

Philipsson:— Dr. Johanna Philipsson, of 50, Ashness Gardens, Greenford, Middlesex, will celebrate her 95th birthday on 23 April.

Engagement

Elting:— John and Inge Elting, of 3, Arden Close, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, are delighted to announce the engagement of their son Stephen to Helene Watts, daughter of Philip and Pauline Watts, How Lane Farm, White Waltham, Maidenhead, Berks.

Death

Tuerkheim:— Mrs. Tuerkheim, formerly of Hamburg, died suddenly in November 1981. She is greatly missed by her family and many friends.

In Memoriam

Sinai:— In cherished memory of a dearly loved wife "Rose", who passed away on Nisan 4 (17 March 1964). Never to be forgotten by her still grieving husband, children and grandchildren.

CLASSIFIED

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Miscellaneous

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Personal Enquiries

Lobell (née Polack):— Irma Balkind, of 97, Kenmore Street, Glasgow G41 2NT. Telephone 041-429 5280 is looking for Hedy Lobell née Polack, of Patzmanitengasse, Vienna, last known address 103, Messina Avenue, Kilburn, London, NW6.

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Letters to the Editor

"A NEW LUDWIG GUTTMANN—STRASSE"

Sir,—In your March issue you state "a street has been renamed in Ludwigshafen after Sir Ludwig Guttman" the first town in Germany to honour the famous neurophysician in this way". Ludwigshafen was not the first town in Germany to do so.

In a letter to me, dated 17th April 1979, Ludwig Guttman, a member of our Fraternity, wrote inter alia "In Heidelberg there is a Ludwig Guttman Strasse and also in Doorn, Holland, the Doctor Guttman Avenue." 17 Tenterden Drive, (Dr.) L. NELKEN
NW4 1EA Chairman K. C. in Great Britain

STORY BEHIND STORY

Sir,—Ref. page 2, your issue of March 1982, "German-Jewish Author recommended by Nazis".

First—to put matters right: My Diaries, 1914-18, 50 Months on the Western Front (not "reminiscences", written after the war!) were published in Berlin in 1934 and the book was praised "sky high" by the Nazi press! The English translation was re-published (2nd edition) last summer (Not a few years ago) and the German Embassy purchased a few hundred copies, of which a copy each was sent to the History Dept. of every British university! The recipient—not, as you say, "now attached to York University"—was and is the Head of the History Dept. University of York! In 1945 he was a Hitler-Pimp!

in Munich and forced to read "Zwei lebende Mauern" by Herbert Sulzbach . . . and here you missed the 2nd and stranger story: " . . . I must have got about half way through it, when on Monday, 30th April 1945, at the ripe old age of 11 years I became a POW of the Americans. My assault pack was searched, which also contained this book. An American lieutenant thumbed through it and then threw it into the river Isar. Thus, 36 years later I have at long last had the opportunity to finish reading a book begun in 1945 . . . In any case I wish the book the good sales it deserves." So the 2nd point is: the Allies believed my book to be too German or too patriotic and destroyed it . . . So, the Nazis recommended it zum Durchhalten and the Americans forbade it as too kriegerisch. Yet, the last review here, Dec. 1981, is headlined "A story of love . . ."

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London, N.W.3

HERBERT SULZBACH

CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

Sir,—With reference to your announcement on page 9 of the February edition of AJR Information about the establishment of an SOS Children's Village at Arad, I am pleased to inform your readers that facilities for UK residents to sponsor this village are available. Anyone interested in helping in this way should contact me at SOS Children's Village UK, 64 King Street, Cambridge.

STEVE BLYTON

GERSHOM SCHOLEM

Gershom Scholem, one of the great creative scholars of this century, died in Jerusalem in February at the age of 84. Born in Berlin, he originally studied mathematics in Berlin and Jena and then graduated in semitic studies at Munich. He emigrated to Palestine in 1923 and two years later was appointed Professor of Jewish Mysticism at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Prof. Scholem is considered to have created the subject of Jewish mysticism, which had been ignored or shunned in orthodox circles, and was unknown, except as an occult matter, in the non-Jewish world. Scholem turned it into a field of profound interest and importance through the use of strictly scholarly methods, ascertaining the authorship and significance of *Sefer HaZohar (The Book of Splendour)* and of other kabbalistic texts which he discovered or rediscovered and expounded. He added a whole new dimension to Jewish studies which has had an impact far beyond its original scholarly field. "Major Trends in Jewish Mysticism" his best known book, has become a classic and was dedicated to his close friend Walter Benjamin. He was also interested in Jewish messianic movements, and wrote a majestic study of Shabbetai Zvi, the false messiah who started a mass movement in the seventeenth century. He was also a great teacher and left many students to carry on his work.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

Nostalgic Musical. One of the great films of the Thirties, "Maskerade" which starred Paula Wessely and Anton Walbrook (then Adolf Wohlbrück) is being made into a musical with music by the Austrian cabaretist Georg Kreisler, and is scheduled for its Gala Premiere at Vienna's "Josefstadt". This year, almost half-a-century after the film first appeared the Walbrook role will be sung by Eberhard Waechter of the Vienna State Opera.

Tit-Bits. Thomas Mann's novel "Der Zauberberg", acclaimed as film event of the year, starring Rod Steiger and an international cast, had its first showing in Germany and Austria. *Elisabeth Schwarzkopf*, now retired from the operatic stage, will talk to John Amis about her life and career on April 28th at the Waterloo Room of the Royal Festival Hall.

Birthdays. *Paul Hoffmann*, one of the finest German-language actors, and between 1968 and 1971 director of the Vienna Burgtheater, is 80. *Erich Leinsdorf*, the Vienna-born conductor who before the war assisted Bruno Walter and Toscanini at the Salzburg Festival, later worked at the "Met" in New York, and also became chief conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, celebrated his 70th birthday.

Obituary. The actor *Hans Hermann Schauffuss* has died in Munich at the age of 88. Leipzig-born, Schauffuss had a long and successful career; he worked

in Berlin for some 25 years, and in Munich under Juergen Fehling. The death in London at the age of 74, of *Dr. Heinz Beran* is profoundly regretted, in particular by all who knew his charming and always cheerful personality. Dr. Beran who had been programme organizer for the Austrian Broadcasting Service of the BBC, and after its dissolution producer with the German service, made innumerable broadcasts to the continent and with his inimitable gift for the Austro-German language gained great popularity among listeners on the other side of the channel, who were enthusiastic about his fair and always individual style.

A great letter writer. *Friedrich Torberg* who died last year, considered himself the "last Jewish novelist writing in German." A book, just published, called "In diesem Sinne" (Verlag Langen-Mueller, Munich) contains letters written over a period of four decades which deal with subjects concerning Jewry, the responsibilities of an author and anti-communism. Among his correspondents we find Max Brod, Alfred and Robert Neumann, Werfel and Zuckmayer. Hans Weigel has prefaced the book, wondering how Torberg with his immense output of novels, translations and theatre reviews could have found time for all these beautifully written letters which are often enriched by satirical and acute observations.

S.B.

ROUND AND ABOUT THE ARTS

Anselm Kiefer, a young German painter of allegorical scenes and landscapes, will be having his first exhibition in England at the Whitechapel Art Gallery until 2 May.

An outstanding exhibition of works by the German Expressionists, including Beckmann, Corinth, Dix, Heckel, Kokoschka, Liebermann, Nolde, Pechstein, Schmid-Rotluff, Sohl and others, will be held from 26 March to 8 May at Leinster Fine Art, 9, Hereford Road, London W2.

Henry Mathews, our old friend, had a comprehensive exhibition of paintings, gouaches and collages at the Harrow Library in the early part of March. The exhibition represented a year's study and attempted to give a new dimension to the idea of expressing music and thoughts through faces, figures and movements.

Suzanne Lackner has been showing some of her recent sculptures at the St. John's Wood Library in Circus Road, NW8. The exhibition was sponsored by the City of Westminster Arts Council. The works, mostly representations of animals, are skilfully executed in marble, soapstone, onyx, wood or bronze.

ALICE SCHWAB

CRAFT FAIR EXHIBITION

Mrs. Sascha Landsberger will be exhibiting silk-screen prints, batik and jewellery at the 7th London Craft Fair at the Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, NW3, on 2-4 April from 11 am to 6 pm daily.

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