

AJR INFORMATION

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Werner Rosenstock

CONSTRUCTIVE TENSION

The German Jewish Past Assessed

When the Leo Baeck Institute was founded in 1955 "for the purpose of collecting material on and sponsoring research into the history of the Jewish community in Germany and in other German-speaking countries from the Emancipation to its decline and dispersion", one of the motives was the desire to preserve this heritage as long as scholars who could speak from first-hand experience were still available. This condition applied, although decreasingly, for a great number of years and still exists to a limited extent. Yet, perhaps unexpectedly, the work has gone on in spite of the change of generation. The founder editor, Robert Weltsch, was assisted and ultimately succeeded by Dr. Arnold Paucker, and it is a fitting coincidence that the latest Year Book*, which was published when Robert Weltsch was still alive, carries the text of the address he delivered in 1980 in Jerusalem on the occasion of his being awarded the Leo Baeck Gold Medal. Published under the heading "Looking Back Over Sixty Years", the speech is full of lively memories of this greatest German-Jewish publicist of our time.

With few exceptions, the contributors did not grow up in Germany, and quite a few of them were born after the Second World War. Yet the history of Central European Jewry is obviously a fascinating subject for these detached scholars. In place of personal reminiscences they had to undertake thorough research. As was hardly to be expected, the amount of salvaged source material (periodicals, minutes of conferences, letters and other archival records) is greater than commonly assumed. At the same time, the authors must be complimented on having perused this material in its proper context and have avoided the fallacies of false interpretation, which might easily have arisen from lack of personal knowledge of the circumstances prevailing at the time of the actual happenings.

* Year Book XXVII, published for the LBI by Secker and Warburg, 1982 (£12.00)

One of the most interesting problems dealt with in the Year Book is the role of Zionism in German-Jewish life. The controversy between Zionists and "Assimilationists", as it existed until the outbreak of the Second World War or even until the foundation of the Jewish State, was certainly not restricted to Germany. It also existed in other Western countries, and, as an example, we only have to think of the mixed reception the Balfour Declaration received in this country. Here, too, it was feared in some sections of Jewry that an adherence to the idea of Jewish nationalism might cast doubt on Jews' loyalty to the state whose citizenship they enjoyed. Yet, with some oversimplification, it can be said that Britain had a wider interpretation of statehood. The originally Anglo-Saxon United States had even gradually developed into a multi-national state.

Role of Ideologies

A further difference arose from the fact that in no other Western country was antisemitism as manifest as a political, cultural and social phenomenon as it was in Germany and Austria.

Lastly, "ideologies" played a great part in German politics, whereas other countries were more inclined to solve their problems in a pragmatic way. It is this specific "German" approach which also determined the manner in which controversies in German-Jewish life were discussed. This raised the level of the polemics, and thus the tension was constructive.

The section of the Year Book which deals with Zionists and "Assimilationists", presents the assessment of the antagonism in chronological order: from 1897-1914 (Marjorie Lamberti), during the last years before the Nazi regime (Peter M. Baldwin), and ultimately during the first period of the Nazi era, 1933-1938 (Jacob Boas).

The relationship between the young Zionist movement and the non-Zionist largest organisation of the German Jews, the C.V. (Central-Verein deutscher Staatsbuerger juedischen Glaubens) underwent various changes. Yet, as the articles reveal, the representative personalities of the C.V. never took a strong "anti"-Zionist attitude. C.V. leaders like Eugen Fuchs realised the need for strengthening the Jewish roots of their followers. On the other hand, especially during the first period, most protagonists of German Zionism aimed at the establishment of a home in Palestine for those Jews who were persecuted in their countries of residence. They were anxious to avoid the term "nationaljuedisch"; thus, at the suggestion of Max Bodenheimer, this word was deleted from the appeal of the "Herzl-Bund der juedischen Jugend".

Things changed when a new generation came to the fore, led by Kurt Blumenfeld, who in his written and oral propaganda laid stress on "the insincerity and insecurity caused by assimilation" (p. 101) and who considered the Jewish problem as a "Persoenlichkeitsproblem". His antagonism to the C.V. was not shared by Alfred Klee, another leading Zionist, who pointed out that the C.V. was the most important Jewish organisation in German political life and advised the Zionists "to go along with the C.V. in a neighbourly way".

The resolution passed in 1912 at the Posen meeting of the Zionist organisation called upon every Zionist "to incorporate into his life's programme his own emigration to Palestine". However, as Peter M. Baldwin points out, allowing for exceptions, the statistics make it clear that German Jews, Zionist or not, did not emigrate until events forced them to do so.

The ascent of the Nazi regime initially produced different ideological reactions in the Zionist and non-Zionist camps. An article in the "Juedische Rundschau" of February 1933, quoted by Jacob Boas, condemned Emancipation for having brought "external freedom with internal slavery". On the other hand, as late as January 1935, Alfred Hirschberg wrote in the C.V. Zeitung that Germanism was the stronger reality, which no one and nothing could destroy, neither Hitler nor "Aryan" legislation. With hindsight it is amazing that such language could still be used during the first years of the Nazi regime, when the German press was already unreservedly "gleichgeschaltet". Boas also records that in summer 1933 the Zionists violently opposed the choice of "Nathan der Weise" as the first performance of the newly founded Kultur-

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CONSTRUCTIVE TENSION

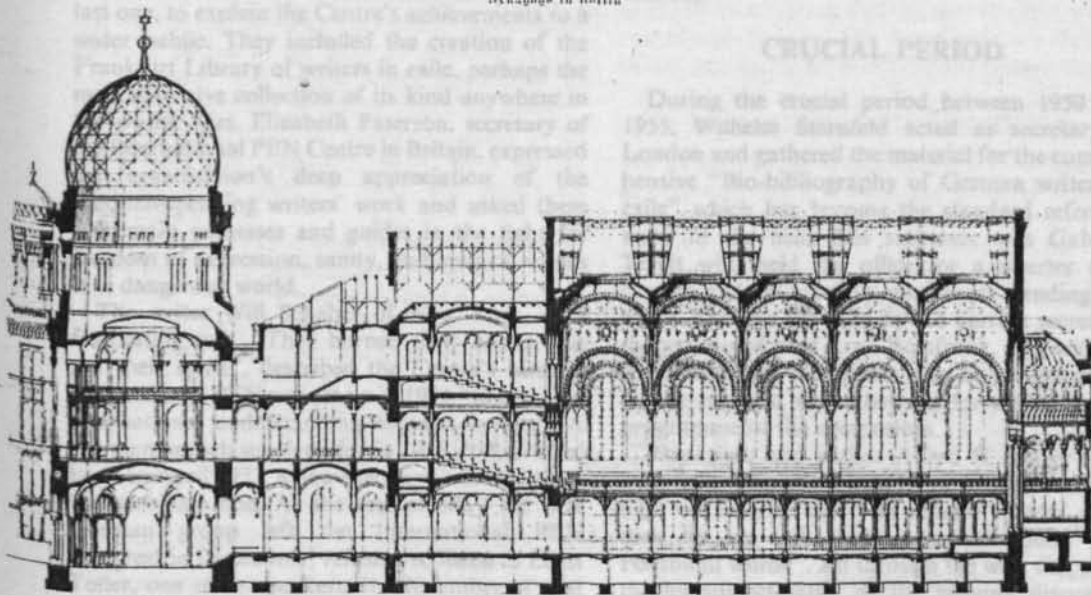
bund deutscher Juden. To stage a great work of humanism at this particular time, the Zionists argued, "indicated a dangerous looking backward . . . and was bound to revive the old antisemitic slur that German Jewry considered itself the 'educator of the German people' (Praeceptor Germaniae)." (p. 115) Boas also deals with the various attempts to achieve a modus vivendi between the Nazi state and the disfranchised Jewish community. In the light of later events it is interesting that such attempts were not considered futile at the outset.

Leaving apart the various—fertile—discussions it must be stressed that the pressure from without strengthened the unity of German Jewry; it deepened Jewish consciousness and created an urge for knowledge of our heritage. As a matter of course, "ideological" differences had no bearing on constructive social work and the organisation of emigration.

The relationship between Jews and the majority population in Germany and Austria is also dealt with in the Year Book's section headed "Jewish Students". Moshe Zimmerman describes the development of the various Zionist Students' organisations in Germany. Brought into being about

ten years later than the first fraternities of the non-Zionist K.C. (Kartell-Convent der Verbindungen deutscher Studenten juedischen Glaubens) the Zionist fraternities also laid stress initially on fencing and "giving satisfaction", which was "the standard of behaviour among the German national students". The position of Russian-Jewish students in Imperial Germany is dealt with by Jack Wertheimer. Those who fought against the restrictions to which they were subjected included Karl Liebkecht. The K.C. criticised new regulations against Russian students as anti-semitic.

Records of Jewish students in Austria are dealt with in the essays by Julius H. Schoeps about the "Beginning of the Vienna Kadimah (1882-1897)" and Marsha L. Rozenblit about "Jewish Student Nationalism at the University of Vienna before the First World War". The situation in Austria differed from that in Germany since the pre-1918 Austrian Empire, albeit dominated by Germans, comprised several nationalities. Though the Jews in non-German parts of Austria did not answer to all criteria of a specific nationality, a Jewish national attitude was more easily accommodated than in the one-nation State of Germany.



Architect's drawing for the Oranienburgstrasse Synagogue in Berlin, destroyed in 1938. From "Synagogen in Berlin: Zur Geschichte einer zerstörten Architektur", reviewed last month in AJR Information.

LUDMER MEMORIAL PRIZE

Maurice Ludmer, who died in 1981, founded and edited the anti-Fascist magazine "Searchlight" and his memory is recalled in the Maurice Ludmer Memorial Prize for contributions to anti-Fascist and anti-racist research. First to receive the annual award is Andrew Drummond, a journalist who wrote a series in the "News of the World", throwing light on current racist attitudes. The judges commended London Weekend TV for a programme in the "Credo" series entitled "Antisemitic Terror" researched by Donald Tereshchuk.

BANK ACCEPTED ARAB BOYCOTT

For the first time, a major British company has been punished for a violation of the anti-boycott provisions contained in US law. Lloyds Bank International was fined £16,000 for complying with Arab boycott rules when shipping material to Near East countries. The bank accepted a condition that transactions should not involve goods of Israeli origin, nor must the cargoes include anything exported from Israel, whether as raw material or as manufactured items.

The position of Jews as a minority in 18th and 19th century Prussia is surveyed by Stefi Jersch-Wenzl, and the specific situation of women in Jewish life is dealt with by Marion A. Kaplan. During the period of increasing acculturation, she states, women often preserved the Jewish atmosphere of the home. Among other things, her elaborate essay also provides statistical material revealing that a higher proportion of Jewish girls and women went to secondary schools and universities than was the case among their Gentile counterparts. Alfred Jospe assesses the facilities for higher Jewish studies and Harry Zohn writes about "Stefan Zweig, the European and the Jew". Much new ground is covered in Hans Feld's detailed essay on Jews in the various branches of the film industry, where they played a leading part. The article includes a reference to the film "Der Fuehrer schenkt den Juden eine Stadt", (Theresienstadt) shot at the order of the Nazis by Kurt Geron, who later perished in an extermination camp. It also mentions artists who performed again in Germany after the war, among them Lilli Palmer and Ernst Deutsch.

Within the limited frame of a review, it is not possible to do justice to these and other stimulating contributions to the Year Book. Special mention has, however, to be made of the bibliography of books and articles in 1981, compiled by Irmgard Foerg and Annette Pringle and carrying no less than 1,100 entries. As in previous volumes, AJR Information is repeatedly quoted as source material.

We are also pleased to welcome this year a general index of the first 20 volumes (1956-1975) of the Year Book, compiled by Eli Rothschild and published by Secker & Warburg at £15. The wealth of material accumulated during these two decades is classified according to authors, subjects and persons referred to in the essays. It is an indispensable medium not only for the professional research worker but also for the ordinary reader of the Year Books. Meanwhile, seven further volumes have appeared and they will be followed by publications in years to come. The zest for scrutinising the modern history of European Jewry has not only not diminished but has grown considerably and the Leo Baeck Institute is to be congratulated on continuing to collect and preserve the harvest.

JEWISH ASPECTS OF HOVE

Radio Brighton listeners were treated to a guided tour of Hove with a difference a few weeks ago, when historian David Spector walked with a "Sussex Scene" presenter to various points of Jewish interest in the area. At St. Andrew's Old Church, he noted the graves of Disraeli's uncle and of General Sir George D'Aguillar, the first Jewish general in the British Army and father of another general. Mr. Spector described the disabilities suffered by British Jews up to 1890, which accounted for many conversions. The architect David Mocatta, who designed Brighton railway station, had nevertheless remained a practising Jew.

Other famous names mentioned by Mr. Spector were those of Barney Marks, thrice Mayor of Hove, Arthur Sassoon, the friend of King Edward VII, and the Goldsmid family, five of whom became MPs, while three more rose to the rank of Major-General.

Margot Pottlitzer

HOME NEWS

GERMAN WRITERS IN EXILE

TALK ON THE OLD AGE HOMES

REFUGEE PROBLEMS AHEAD

It is 50 years since all over Germany students burned books which the Nazi regime considered "un-German". Some writers, by no means all of them Jewish, had left the country before that fateful 10th May, but many more then followed. Soon afterwards the PEN Centre of German-speaking writers abroad was set up. It was based in London, though not all its members had come to Britain. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of that event, the Goethe Institute of London, together with the PEN Centre, recently held a three-day symposium during which members of the Centre made an invaluable contribution to the intellectual history of these fifty years by talking about the part they played in it. Many of these experiences only remain in the memory of the diminishing number of survivors and will be forgotten, unless they are recorded at this late stage.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Koenen, head of the Goethe Institute, praised the Centre's efforts to end the appalling spiritual segregation created by the Nazis and its contribution to the re-establishment of PEN in post-war Germany. Professor Dr. H. G. Adler, the current president of the Centre, welcomed the opportunity, possibly the last one, to explain the Centre's achievements to a wider public. They included the creation of the Frankfurt Library of writers in exile, perhaps the most extensive collection of its kind anywhere in the world. Mrs. Elizabeth Paterson, secretary of the International PEN Centre in Britain, expressed her organisation's deep appreciation of the German-speaking writers' work and asked them to remain witnesses and guides in the fight for freedom of expression, sanity, and cultural values in a dangerous world.

The writer Will Schaber of New York, in a fascinating talk, "They burned their books, but not their spirit", described the Centre's history. International PEN was set up in 1921 "to promote international understanding between writers". A German branch was founded in 1925. It flourished until, in April 1933, a new executive was elected to toe the Nazi line. At the end of May the new German group left the International PEN Congress in Dubrovnik, refusing to listen to Ernst Toller, one of its speakers. In November of that year, their "purified" group of some 88 members withdrew from PEN International. The writers in exile, scattered across Europe and the United States, subsequently decided to set up their own group. This happened in December 1933. One of its first members and soon its first president was Heinrich Mann, Thomas's gifted brother, and its first secretary the writer Rudolf Olden. In spite of its initial lack of formal proceedings, the new organisation was successful, with the help of

British friends in rescuing a number of threatened authors trapped in the Nazi orbit.

When war broke out, many members were interned. After his release from internment, Olden tried to go to the United States, but lost his life when his ship was sunk by a German U-boat. His work was continued by Friedrich Burschell (Oxford) and Richard Friedenthal, whilst Alfred Kerr became the organisation's new president. From 1941 to the end of the war, regular meetings—altogether 30—were held.

After their release from internment, many writers worked for the BBC and for the war effort generally. When the war ended, the Centre had some 40 members. By now, in 1983, there are 88 living in various parts of Europe, in North and South America, and Israel, with Britain and the United States the focal points. The Centre made it its foremost task to re-establish relations with German writers and to revive the PEN Club within Germany. This was only achieved after prolonged deliberations in 1948, but the hopes for a single PEN Centre for both East and West Germany did not materialise. There are still separate centres to this day.

CRUCIAL PERIOD

During the crucial period between 1950 and 1955, Wilhelm Sternfeld acted as secretary in London and gathered the material for the comprehensive "Bio-bibliography of German writers in exile" which has become the standard reference work in the field. His successor was Gabriele Tergit who held the office for a quarter of a century and did much to enhance its standing and scope. She was followed by the current secretary, the writer and poet Arno Reinfrank, who with his wife Dr. Karen Reinfrank is to be congratulated on the splendid work they did for the ambitious programme of the symposium.

Playwright and author Alfred H. Unger came over from Cologne where he now lives, to throw light on another aspect of refugee writers' activities, in his talk "Als der Kulturbund zum Politbund wurde". All through the war, this was a thorny subject, and, as the ensuing discussion showed, it is still far from uncontroversial. Writers and artists set up the *Kulturbund* during the Thirties in order to share cultural interests and to help others to escape to this country. It had the support of many British friends. Its first important public meeting in 1939 attracted an audience of 300, and amongst its speakers were Stefan Zweig

and the playwright Hans I. Rehfisch, as well as Wickham Steed, for many years the Times correspondent in Berlin. It soon had a membership of several hundred refugees, many of them gifted writers or performers, but quite a few who were nostalgically attracted by its star-studded theatre and cabaret performances and its German-language lectures. Its honorary chairman was Thomas Mann. However, in late 1942, there was a noticeable shift to the left and an ever-growing, if hidden, Communist influence. In due course, the majority of the founder members who strongly disapproved of the new trend, left the *Kulturbund* and set up the still flourishing *Club 1943* which celebrated its 40th anniversary earlier this year.

There were other talks of great interest. Professor Dr. Adler went far beyond the limits he had set himself in discussing German literary exiles since the "Winterking" at the beginning of the Thirty Years War. He included musicians and artists among the eminent personalities who found new homes in Britain from the early 17th century onwards, but he pointed out that Britain had always been a popular haven for literary refugees, particularly after 1848 and even more so after 1933.

Robert Lucas painted a delightful picture of the small and muddled beginnings from which the important war-time broadcasts of the BBC developed into a major weapon of war, and to which refugee writers contributed greatly. At the end of the war, the German-Language broadcasts, aimed at various groups of the German public, were listened to by 10 to 12 million people.

Besides the talks which helped to establish the historical position of the German language PEN centre, there were other events. On the first evening, Will Schaber opened an exhibition of original pen portraits of well-known personalities of the Twenties and early Thirties by the gifted caricaturist B. F. Dolbin. A 1982 German film "Gedächtnis" contrasted the lives and careers of the actors Curt Bois and Bernard Minetti.

A film of a different kind, made for German TV in 1964 by Egon Larsen (Lehrburger), proved to have lost none of its impact since its first showing. Rather the opposite has happened: it has now become a historical document of great value. On another occasion, tapes of Heine poetry, spoken by Lilly Kann and Walter Hertner at the 1972 Goethe Institute celebration of Heine's 175th birthday, were played.

* As a fitting conclusion to the symposium, members of the Centre read chosen passages from their own work and from that of relevant authors, including Thomas Mann's letter to Bonn University after he had been deprived of his honorary doctorate. All of them, F. Hellendall, Dorothea Gotfurt, H. G. Adler, Egon Larsen, J. W. Bruegel, and Arno Reinfrank bore witness to the creative spirit which continues within the circle of German writers in exile. Dr. B. Holubek, cultural attaché of the Federal German Embassy, praised the positive and conciliatory attitude shown during the meeting.

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HARM HOME NEWS IN TWO SPHERES

TALK ON THE OLD AGE HOMES

The AJR's Senior Social Worker, Mrs. Margot Williams, recently gave a talk to the Senior Citizens Group of the Belsize Square Synagogue, explaining the Association's work in the old age Homes.

Mrs. Williams described the financing of the Homes with the CBF, how the funds originally came from heirless Jewish property, and with the drying up of that source there have been rises in maintenance fees. But Mrs. Williams stressed that there was no difference in the treatment accorded to local authority and to self-paying residents of the Homes.

She explained how, in dealing with all pre-admission procedures, her work consisted of getting to know the applicants for the old age Homes, trying to gain their confidence and obtaining as many details as possible for the assessment she has to make. Referrals are made by social workers in hospitals and boroughs, by G.P.s, by members of the family, and most rarely of all, by the applicants themselves. Reports have to be submitted to the AJR's Management Committee and to local authorities, which have to give their approval and accept financial responsibility where necessary.

The AJR and CBF committees meet regularly and discuss the various stages of the applications. There is an active list with 25 applications, to which names are added when admissions to Homes, withdrawals or deaths reduce the number, which is then brought up to strength again. A lot of thought and consideration is given to the decisions before they are made, and places are much sought after.

Life in the Homes is what the residents make of it, and those who are fitter than their neighbours help them. There is a preponderance of women in the Homes, since they are so much longer-lived.

Mrs. Williams stressed that there was great need and scope for volunteers to help, and mentioned the Arts and Crafts Centre, where, for example, Mrs. Heddy Friedmann is a voluntary helper to the two professional occupational therapists.

"NF FUNDED BY SAUDI ARABIA"

The National Front has branched out in its anti-semitic propaganda by publishing a supplement to "Nationalism Today", allegedly designed to tell people about the "Jewish atrocities" in the Middle East. The supplement carries an article stating that the NF had not done "as much as we would like on behalf of the Palestinians". Another sentence runs, "Two wrongs do not make a right and a mythical Jewish Holocaust does not justify a horribly real Arab Holocaust".

Dr. Jacob Gewirtz, defence director of the Board of Deputies, has pointed out that the content and language of the magazine is largely based on PLO sources and is indistinguishable from ultra-left anti-Zionism. He believes that the NF has obtained financial backing from Saudi Arabia and states that "the material found in this supplement is far more common in a communist publication than in one put out by the extreme right."

REFUGEE PROBLEMS AIRED

Speakers at a recent meeting of the Birmingham Jewish History Research Group considered not only the problems confronting Jewish refugees in the 1930s, but also the present-day difficulties faced by historical researchers into the subject. Personal testimonies were given concerning emigration from Germany to Birmingham and the problems of integration into the new world which faced the German-Jewish refugee. Professor John Grenville, himself an emigrant and now professor of modern history at Birmingham University, gave his own account of the obstacles in the path of researchers. The Research Group has now begun to collect evidence and information from former refugees living in Birmingham.

ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN PLAY TO BE SEEN

Tom Kempinski's play "The Beautiful Part of Myself", which has run into difficulties because of its allegations that Zionists collaborated with Nazis, is to appear at the Palace Theatre, Watford. Warren Mitchell will play the leading role. A representative of the Palace Theatre said that there had been some revision of the play, but the Board of Deputies still fears that the overall effect will be one of anti-Zionism. Mr. Kempinski is a member of the anti-Israel Worker's Revolutionary Party.

HOW OLD IS THE OLDEST?

The oldest man in Britain is Mr. Harris Shoerats, at present living in an old age home in Bournemouth. But there is no certainty as to his exact age: on his last birthday, he was stated in the Press to be 111, but the Guinness Book of Records puts his age at 112. Mr. Shoerats himself "thinks he might be 117"!

WALLENBERG EXHIBITION ON TOUR

The Raoul Wallenberg exhibition first held in the crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields last year has since travelled to Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton and Edgware. Organised by Colin Shindler of the Board of Deputies, the display showed the Swedish rescuer's life history before he disappeared into Russian custody after saving about 100,000 Jews in Hungary. There were 440 visitors at Edgware alone and many of them signed a petition for increased government pressure on Wallenberg's behalf. They also had the opportunity to question the Soviet Minister of Prison Camps by means of postcards addressed to his Moscow office.

On the 70th anniversary of Wallenberg's birth, Israel announced that it was conferring honorary citizenship on the Swedish diplomat. Members of his family were present in the Knesset when Mr. Begin declared that the Jewish people would never forget Raoul Wallenberg.

WOMEN TELL OF HEROISM

A meeting in London, held some weeks ago under the auspices of WIZO's education department, heard four stories of the Holocaust given by women survivors. Mrs. Inez Cartwright had escaped from Romania with 120 others on a fishing boat designed to hold 20 people. The boat was wrecked off the Turkish coast. Mrs. Masha Segal of Lithuania was sent on a "death march" from Stutthof concentration camp; she was left for dead on the frozen road, but still managed to escape. Mrs. Reta Rogoff was transferred from Auschwitz to Ravensbrück, where an air raid gave her the chance to run away to a neighbouring town, where she hid. More fortunate than Anne Frank, though hiding in the same Amsterdam street, was Mrs. Sybilla Friedler. She and her family took refuge in an attic, never leaving the house for three years.

After the speakers' accounts, several members of the audience rose to tell their own stories of escape.

OPEN SKY OVER SYNAGOGUE

August should see the completion of a unique synagogue in Britain: the Machzike Hadath in Golders Green will be fitted with an opening roof so that ceremonies can be held under an open sky.

LUNCHEON CLUB

The opening of the Luncheon Club in the Swiss Cottage Area, in Hannah Karminski House, has proved to be a resounding success. Mrs. Anderman, who originated the idea, and her helpers were surprised at the response—almost fifty people turned up at the opening on May 25. The atmosphere was very pleasant and friendly, with cheerful green-and-white table mats and flowers, and the food was excellent (soup and a schnitzel or casserole for £1, a sweet for 25p). We wish the enterprise every success, which it shows ample signs of achieving. D.S.

LEGACIES

The AJR Charitable Trust has received the following legacies: From the estate of the late Mr. Kurt Bloch £2880, from the estate of Miss Julie Weiszberg £200, from the estate of Mr. Herbert Hirsch £500, from the estate of Mrs. Rose Stevens £1000 and £100 from the estate of Mr. Preston.

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HARMONY BETWEEN TWO SPHERES

Dr. Eva Reichmann at German Embassy

On June 1, the Grand Cross of the Federal German Order of Merit was awarded to Dr. Eva G. Reichmann. In his introductory address, the German Ambassador, Dr. Juergen Ruhfus, paid tribute to Dr. Reichmann's activities in promoting a new relationship between Jews and post-war Germany. He recalled the addresses she gave at an early stage to Christian church conferences in Germany and also referred to her books and numerous articles on the subject, including a collection of her essays under the significant heading "Groesse und Verhaengnis deutsch-juedischer Existenz". In 1970 she was awarded the Buber-Rosenzweig Medal, and last year she was honoured by the Moses Mendelssohn Prize in recognition of her service to the idea of tolerance.

In her reply, which again testified to her mastery of German prose and the deep involvement of her personality in every statement she makes, Eva Reichmann said that she was well aware of the grateful response to her efforts. Yet only gradually had she come to see that her work had been worthwhile. "My life", she said, "has shaped me as a hybrid personality. I am no longer a German, but I will never become English, though I know that this country has given me the right to live, when my homeland denied it to me. I am a former German Jewess of British nationality—a somewhat complicated phenomenon, whose multiple facets with their struggle for equilibrium are sometimes bound to create uneasiness." Yet in the course of time she has come to terms with her

position. After all, she said, the term "Exile" has changed its meaning. It no longer implies waiting to return to the homeland, but it can also result in an awareness of an all-embracing Western culture and enable us to feel at home in the neighbouring country as well.

Eva Reichmann's concluding remarks were based on the poem "Schloss Boncourt", in which the emigré Chamisso imagined a visit to the destroyed castle of his family in the Champagne. After having overcome his feelings of sorrow, he blesses the site on which the castle stood and also the people who now plough its soil. It took some time, Eva Reichmann said, until she felt able to "bless" the soil of her former homeland. Yet it took a considerably longer time until she could also bless the people now working in the country. Yet gradually she had met people who from their side had looked into the abyss with the same shudder. These individual experiences were complemented by general manifestations of good will both in the emotional and the material sphere.

Quoting Goethe's saying that joy is the mother of all virtues she thanked her lost homeland for the joy given to her by the award of the "Grosse Verdienstkreuz".

Eva Reichmann's address was a unique experience for those who were privileged to hear it. It touched upon the deeper layers of our condition which we sometimes ignore or overlook in the rush of our daily activities.

W.R.

LILY FREEMAN

An exhibition entitled "Happy Paintings" comprising watercolours and oils by Lily Freeman was held at Margaret Fisher's gallery, 2 Lambolle Road, NW3 in May and June. Lily Freeman is Austrian born and studied in England. She has had many exhibitions in this country and her work has also been shown in Austria, Spain and Switzerland.

ALICE SCHWAB

PEACE PRIZE FOR WIESEL

The International Literary Peace Prize, founded in 1954 by Belgian Resistance members, has been awarded to Elie Weisel, the Hungarian-born writer, who now lives in the USA. His latest works, "Paroles d'Étranger" and "Le Testament d'un Poète juif assassiné" were particularly mentioned in the citation to the honour.

DISTINCTION FOR DR. F. A. MANN

The internationally known jurist Dr. F. A. Mann, CBE, FBA, was one of this year's recipients of the "Forschungspreis der Alexander-von-Humboldt-Stiftung" (Bonn). He was also recently awarded an honorary doctorate of the University of Zurich. Dr. Mann is a Trustee of the Council of Jews from Germany and a Board member of the United Restitution Organisation.

FELIX CARLEBACH CONCERT

In connection with the Halle Orchestra 125th Anniversary Appeal in Manchester, the Jewish Community there has launched a project to endow an annual 'Felix Carlebach Concert' in honour of Rabbi Carlebach, to link the city, the community, the Halle Orchestra and the distinguished Rabbi.

ASSASSIN MANQUÉ

In February 1943, Joseph Goldberg was arrested on a casual visit to Lyons and later deported to Auschwitz, one of Klaus Barbie's many victims. His son Michel would have accompanied him if his mother had not kept him at home because his boots were being mended. He and his mother survive the War under assumed identities, a situation which, in a sense, continues after the War when he adopts his non-Jewish stepfather's surname. Obsessed with Barbie and troubled by a strange pain in his right hand which no doctor can diagnose (an itchy trigger finger or the exact opposite?) he makes his way to La Paz but fails to kill the Gestapo chief when he has the opportunity.

Later, he is a passenger on the Air France plane hijacked to Entebbe and plays a significant role during negotiations with the terrorists. He continues his career as a senior banking executive but is tactfully asked to resign when his "thin-skinned" objection to an antisemitic report on a client causes embarrassment. Finally, he tries to find the last traces of his father before and after deportation and, as he says, "buries" him.

This is the outline of an autobiography* which, judging by the quotations on the dust jacket, has deeply impressed a number of French reviewers. Readers who have not been brought up in a tradition of somewhat over-intellectualised "confessions" may find the work a little tedious. The author does not simply tell his story. He stands back from the events he describes and tries to analyse his own motives. To what extent is he really qualified to do so? One wonders. Self-criticism amounting at times to self-deprecation is no guarantee of honest objectivity, although the two are often confused. We are still asked to accept the author as he would like us to see him.

BURDEN OF GUILT

Parts of the book are certainly moving. On the third page, Michel Goldberg writes: "I was not deported and so only I can free myself of the burden of not having accompanied my father". That, of course, is the main point of the work, in the author's eyes. If the burden is gradually lightened, it probably sheds most weight during an ironic "hiccup of history", as he calls it, when he is accompanied by his son during the Entebbe hijacking. Incidentally, his balanced account of the Entebbe affair makes a refreshing change from the sensationalised versions with which we are familiar. In this and other chapters, the author's laconic style can be quite effective, as when he describes Jerusalem's French Jews: "... to all appearances exactly like their brothers of the XIth Arrondissement ... And yet they were different: they were less Jewish ... They could bad-mouth the rabbis to their heart's content, they could mock the Hassidim without being traitors, and they could see Arabs humiliated without identifying with them. They were home." Nevertheless, taken as a whole, the book is less absorbing than it should be. Why, one asks oneself? Michel Goldberg does not ask to be loved or admired, but he does ask us a little too insistently to find him interesting.

MICHAEL ROSENSTOCK

* Goldberg, Michel. *Namesake*. New Haven & London, Yale University Press, 1982. £8.95.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reichstag Fire

Sir,—I think John Kahan in his article on the Reichstag fire made a fairly serious mistake.

He talks about van der Lubbe and says that he saw him in a brown shirt in 1933. As far as I remember van der Lubbe lived in Holland at the time and walked all the way from Holland to Germany before the Reichstag burst into flames. He certainly had communist leanings, but I do not think he was ever a member of the SA.

75 Hornsey Lane,
London, N6.

GEORGE CLARE

Reply

Sir,—I did not make a "fairly serious mistake" because I did not write that I saw van der Lubbe wearing a brown shirt. I am not interested in how he came to Berlin and how he got acquainted with the hooligans of Storm Troop 33, who took him to the Reichstag Building and left him there to be arrested. It has never been stated officially what he was wearing when he was found.

35 Grosvenor Court,
London, NW6

JOHN H. KAHAN

A Letter of Thanks

The birthday child of one hundred-and-one
Heartily thanks everyone
For flowers, greetings and presents they sent
On this happy, extraordinary event.

MARGARET JACOBY

Survivor Murdered

Sir,—I wish to refer to your article on page 4 of the May issue. Under Home News there is an item "Survivor murdered".

Mrs. Carmen Blanck-Sichel came to this country long before the War and had lived in London ever since. There is no truth in the report that she was a death camp survivor. It is important to report these facts accurately and not exploit general public sympathy for "death camp survivors".

The first paper to report this invention was the "Star". Later the Jewish Chronicle repeated the story. When I wrote to the Jewish Chronicle, their reply was: "Any Jew having survived the war is a death camp survivor". They were not repentant.

The case is tragic enough and does not require these embellishments.

43 Nightingale Lane
London, S.W.12

W. NELKI

Sir,—Your report "Survivor Murdered" in AJR Information May 1983 is incorrect. Carmen Blanck, whom I already knew in Hamburg, did not survive the years of the Holocaust in Germany, but early in 1936 had already been working for some time in my laboratory in Norwich.

41 Sunningfields Road
London, N. W.4

HANS ENOCH

Poor Hitler did not know . . .

Sir,—It seems to me to be one of the most shameful facts of modern historiography that a discussion of the extent of Hitler's knowledge of the mass murder of Jews is necessary at all. Lord Dacre's statement in his original article ("The Times", April 23), namely that Hitler "was determined that his name and his authority should never be associated with that squalid business" of the mass murder of Jews has so far found no echo whatsoever. There is not the slightest proof for this alleged "determination", and the noted historian Prof. Trevor-Roper would be hard put to it to substantiate his surprising allegation. Far from wanting to dissociate himself from anything, Hitler had boasted in his Reichstag speech of January 30, 1939:

"Today I will once more be a prophet. If the international Jewish financiers inside and outside Europe should again succeed in plunging the nations into a world war, the result will not be the bolshevization of the earth and thus victory of Jewry, but the annihilation of the Jewish race (die Vernichtung der jüdischen Rasse) throughout Europe"

Recording these words in his book "The Final Solution" (1952), the late Gerald Reitlinger pointed out that they were not spoken at random. "In years to come Hitler was often to remind listeners of his prophecy and on at least five occasions (January 30 and September 30, 1942, February 24, March 21 and November 9, 1943) he repeated the words verbatim in public".

I would like to add a so far unpublished detail. On January 21, 1939, Hitler had been even more outspoken, when he received the then Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Dr. Franktisek Chvalkovsky and used that occasion for blackmailing the helpless representative of a helpless country. In his diary for the years 1932-1939, the Czechoslovak Press Attaché in Berlin Camill Hoffmann, himself a Jew, murdered at Auschwitz in 1944, wrote down what Chvalkovsky had told him about his interviews with Hitler and Ribbentrop. Both had emphasized the "necessity of the extermination of the Jews" (Notwendigkeit der Ausrottung der Juden). For obvious reasons this was not incorporated into the minutes made about these conversations for the files

of the German Foreign Ministry (Documents on German Foreign Policy, Series D, Volume IV, No. 158 and 159). Comparisons with other meanwhile published diplomatic documents confirm that Camill Hoffmann had always faithfully recorded what he had heard. In his Reichstag speech Hitler had used the slightly more general term "Vernichtung". It seems that the more explicit term "Ausrottung" had been coined by him nine days earlier.

J. W. BRUEGEL

MUSIC IN GRAPHIC ART

Vice-President of the B'nai B'rith Leo Baeck Lodge, Harry Mathews interprets music in an unusual way—not with voice or instrument but by graphic illustrations. Stylised figures of the performers—among them Maria Callas, Sammy Davis Jr., and the Amadeus Quartet—appear amongst fragments of the score. For example, to illustrate the "Trout Quintet" passages from the score are arranged into fishy shapes: for Paganini's "Caprices", they form part of the dancers' dresses. Mr. Mathews' design of the Amadeus Quartet, signed by the performers, has recently been sold for the benefit of the Daleham Gardens Leo Baeck Day Centre.

Mr. Mathews was born in Berlin and studied art there before arriving in Britain in 1938. During the war he drew cartoons for Army newspapers, but later went into the fashion industry. He hopes to take his art into the third dimension with a project for stylised musical sculpture.

WORLD'S SECOND BIGGEST BOOK FAIR

Only outranked by the Frankfurt Buchmesse, the Jerusalem International Book Fair closed a short time ago after eleven successful days. As well as publishers and book-dealers, many members of the general public attended the fair, including West Bank Arabs and numerous families with small children. It was worth missing a few hours' school, the parents declared, for their children to have the privilege of handling and browsing through such a vast number of books. Thirty-one countries were represented by a thousand publishers, who heard the Mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, give a warning against raising prices out of the reach of ordinary readers.

Besides the display of books, a number of symposia and conferences were held.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY ON SHOW

Examples of Israeli medical technology made up an impressive display as part of a seminar held by the British-Israel Chamber of Commerce. The hundred or so participants saw surgical lasers, computerised body scanners, cardiological monitoring systems and the Rhinotherm, the "cold cure machine". Demonstrations of the instruments and descriptions of their use were also included in the seminar. Jack Broadhurst, editor of "Clinica", told the audience that Israel was the only country in the free world where development of medical technology had outstripped the ethical pharmaceutical industry. However, an Israeli pharmaceutical representative was quick to remind participants that his side was catching up.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Wiesenthal Prize for UN Delegate

Mrs. Jeane Kirkpatrick, the chief US delegate to the United Nations, has been awarded the Simon Wiesenthal Prize for services to humanity. The citation described her as a "faithful and true friend of the Jewish people... she has defended the cause of Israel and of the freedom-loving peoples of the world".

War Crimes Expulsions Face Snags

Obstacles to the expulsion of war criminals from the United States are now becoming apparent after years of work by the US Justice Department. Romania has refused to accept Archbishop Valerian Trifa for trial for his part in the Bucharest pogrom of 1941, while Hans Lipschis, deported because of his record as a guard at Auschwitz, has been accepted by West Germany without any charges being brought against him. Lipschis was the first suspected war criminal to be expelled from the US for 30 years.

Talks are now under way with Israel concerning the possibility of proceedings against the ten suspects still living in America. US legislation does not permit crimes committed in other countries being brought before its courts. Israeli laws would allow such trials, as in the case of Adolf Eichmann, but it is felt that, if the prosecution were unsuccessful, the accused would then have the right to become a citizen of Israel.

EXILES IN NEW YORK SHOW

As part of the international festival "Britain salutes New York", the Jewish Museum in New York is holding a display of work by British Jewish artists. Entitled "The Immigrant Generations: Jewish artists in Britain, 1900-1945", the exhibition includes paintings and sculpture by David Bomberg, Josef Herman, Mark Gertler, Jacob Epstein, Jacob Kramer, Bernard Meninsky, Jacob Bornfriend, Jankel Adler and Alfred Aaron Wolmark. At the same time, thirty portrait photographs of Jews in Britain by Judy Goldhill will also be on show. The exhibitions will continue until 2 October.

DUTCH RESISTANCE WOMAN HONOURED

A courier for the Resistance working in Holland and France, Marga van der Kuyt carried forged identity papers and ration books in order to save the lives of Jews and Allied pilots hiding in Occupied Europe. She was eventually arrested and sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp, but towards the end of the war she was included in an exchange of prisoners for goods supplied by the Red Cross. She came to Britain, where she is still living.

But "Marga van der Kuyt" was only an alias assumed to conceal the fact that Selma van de Perre (her married name) is in fact Jewish. It was a successful cover, since she was treated as a non-Jew after her arrest and would surely not have been among the exchanged prisoners. Selma van de Perre has now received the Dutch Cross of Resistance, presented to her at the London Embassy.

OSLO'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Nansen Committee in Oslo, together with the US Holocaust Memorial Council, recently held a three-day conference on "Antisemitism in Our Time". Chaired by Elie Wiesel, the conference heard contributions from Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, Léon Poliakov and Bernard-Henri Lévy, among others.

NO "MEIN KAMPF" FOR FINLAND

The Bavarian Land Ministry has refused to allow a Finnish publishing house to produce a translation of Hitler's "Mein Kampf". Five thousand copies were to have been issued, but the Munich authorities have consistently refused permission for reprinting by foreign publishers. The copyright in Hitler's writings was vested in the State of Bavaria in 1945.

SPAIN WAVERS ON EXTRADITION

For a time it looked as though Spain had created a precedent in agreeing to extradite Auke-Bert Pattist, a former Dutch SS man, who escaped after the war and now runs a language school in Oviedo. The Netherlands government had requested his extradition in 1979, but it was not until early this year that the Spanish authorities had him arrested. Pattist has already been sentenced to life imprisonment in absentia in a Dutch court for torturing Jews during the Second World War.

However, only a short time later the Spanish Supreme Court reversed the earlier decision and Pattist was set at liberty.

After conflicting evidence given by witnesses from Israel and the US, another suspected Dutch war criminal has been acquitted in Holland. Albert Talens was accused of having taken part in the "euthanasia" programme at a Dachau sub-camp where subnormal children were systematically murdered.

NICARAGUA'S ANTISEMITIC SYSTEM

A report published in the Bulletin of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith tells of the expulsion and spoliation of the fifty families making up the Jewish community of Nicaragua. The left-wing Sandinista government has close ties with the PLO, which provided weapons, training and finance during the struggle with the Somoza regime. The anti-Jewish measures were taken in 1979. The president of the community was jailed, forced to sweep the streets, his fellow-workers were told to threaten him and his savings were confiscated. The synagogue in Managua was converted into a youth club and its inner walls are covered with anti-Zionist propaganda. Even though there are no Jews left in the country, the leading newspapers continue an antisemitic campaign, including references to "the synagogue of Satan". Attempts by the ADL to establish conversations with the Nicaraguan authorities have so far proved unavailing.

BELGIANS RECALL CHILDREN'S PROTECTOR

Following the opening of a painting exhibition dedicated to the memory of Janusz Korczak, an Association of Friends of Janusz Korczak has been established in Belgium.

EGYPTIANS STUDY JEWISH TOPICS

When the Israeli Academic Centre in Cairo was first founded over a year ago, many Egyptians believed that it would provide information to help them understand the "Israeli enemy". But today, according to the Director, Professor Shimon Shamir, Egyptian students use the centre's facilities in the true spirit of academic enquiry. Israeli researchers also study themes on Jewish religion and history, while seminars on topics of common interest—such as ancient Jewish documents found in Cairo—are well attended.

HOLOCAUST DENIAL TOURS AUSTRALIA

"The Hoax of the Century" is a familiar accusation in neo-Nazi literature seeking to deny the fact of the Holocaust. But the Constitutional Museum in Adelaide, South Australia, has accepted this title for an exhibition mounted on its premises by the Australian League of Rights, a neo-Fascist organisation. The museum director expressed disgust at the display, but said that to have refused exhibition space would have been "tantamount to denying free speech". "The Hoax of the Century" has had a five-week showing in Adelaide and will be taken on tour throughout the country.

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THE HAGUE OBITUARIES

DR. MAC GOLDSMITH

Dr. Mac Goldsmith (Leicester), who died on May 15 in his 81st year, was one of those immigrants from Germany who, by their achievements, added lustre to our community. He was a successful industrialist and, at the same time, a generous benefactor to numerous general and Jewish causes. Born near Frankfurt, he came to this country in 1937, where he founded Metalastic in Leicester which rendered significant services during the war by producing components for naval vessels and fighting vehicles. The firm later merged with the John Bull Rubber Company which, in 1958, joined the Dunlop Group of Companies. Among the proudest moments of Mac Goldsmith's life was receiving the Queen's Award to Industry to his firm in 1967 for outstanding contributions to railway engineering by introducing rubber suspension in railways. First to be equipped was the London Underground.

On his retirement in 1970, he concentrated even more on good works and philanthropy. His donations to Leicester, of which he was made a Freeman in 1971, included, among other things, one of the largest record libraries outside London, an intensive coronary care unit at one of Leicester's hospitals, and a closed circuit television to the post-graduate medical centre. He was given an honorary Doctorate of Law by Leicester University, of which he was treasurer for 11 years and a life member of the university court and a trustee.

He was equally dedicated to the Jewish community. He was a trustee of the Hebrew Congregation, president of the Leicester Maccabi and

honorary vice-president of the Leicester Jewish Students Society. He was also life governor of London Hillel House, member of the national advisory committee of the CBF and a founder of the Winston Churchill Chair of Bar Ilan University.

Dr. Mac Goldsmith always remained conscious of his origin, and the AJR considers it a privilege that, throughout the years, he identified himself with our efforts and lent us his generous support. We extend our sincerest sympathies to his widow and the other members of his family.

REUVEN GOLAN

The Israeli sister organisation of the AJR, Irgun Olej Merkas Europa, suffered a severe loss with the sudden death of its General Secretary, Reuven Golan, at the age of 68. He was born in Kiel. Before he took over his post with Irgun, he held positions with the Jewish Agency and Youth Aliyah. In his capacity as General Secretary he was particularly concerned with the organisation's homes for the aged, and his constructive activities in this sphere were marked by an unlimited sense of compassion and devotion. His untimely death also means a sad loss for the Council of Jews from Germany, of which he was an active member and to whose Presidium he was co-opted at the latest Council Meeting, held in Tel Aviv in 1982.

CORRIE TEN BOOM

The death in California of Corrie ten Boom was recently announced. She died on her 91st birthday. The ten Boom family, acting on Christian principles, are believed to have saved the lives of over 700 Jews by helping them to hide in Haarlem. Corrie ten Boom's family was eventually arrested: her father, brother, sister and nephew all perished and she herself was saved from execution at Ravensbrück merely by a clerical error. Until a few years ago, she toured world-wide speaking on her experiences and her triumph over the horrors of occupation and the concentration camp.

GABRIEL STERN

Gabriel Stern, who was the political correspondent of the Israeli daily Al-Hamishmar for 35 years, died recently in Jerusalem at the age of 70. He was born in Attendorn in Germany and emigrated to Palestine in 1937 after studying agriculture in Holland. He was an assistant to Martin Buber at the Hebrew University, and had recently been translating Buber's correspondence. He was a lifelong friend of Robert Weltsch, and was active in interfaith work between Jews, Christians and Muslims.

RABBI HUGO STRANSKY

Rabbi Hugo Stransky died a short time ago in Israel at the age of 78. A citizen of Prague, Dr. Stransky studied in Cologne and Berlin before returning to his native country. He emigrated to Britain in the 1930s and served as Field Rabbi to a Free Czechoslovak unit in the Second World War. Some years later, Dr. Stransky moved to the USA, where he became President of the Society for the History of Czechoslovak Jews.

ANDRÉ DUPONT-SOMMER

The French scholar who was among the first to decipher the Dead Sea Scrolls, Professor André Dupont-Sommer, died some weeks ago in Paris. His book on the subject, "The Jewish Sect of Qumran and the Essenes", appeared in 1954.

ANNA SEGHERS

The German Communist writer Anna Seghers has died in East Berlin at the age of 82. Whilst in exile during the war she wrote "The Seventh Cross", a novel about Communist resistance and escape from a Nazi concentration camp. The book was filmed successfully with Spencer Tracy in the main role. She returned to Germany in 1947.

MRS. ELLY VAN WEJK

The death of Mrs. Elly van Wejk at the age of 63 was announced recently. Readers of Anne Frank's diary remember her as Elly Vossen, the Frank family's link with the outside world. Her real maiden name was Elly Voskuel (a name borrowed by Margot Frank in applying for a correspondence course) and she provided food and drink for the hidden Jews.

SIEGFRIED EINSTEIN

The poet, novelist and journalist Siegfried Einstein died recently in Lampertsheim, aged 63. As a boy of 15 he was sent to school in Switzerland to avoid the overt antisemitism in the local school. He did not return to Germany until 1952, where he received a number of prizes in recognition of his writings.

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THE HAGUE SCHOOL

It is very appropriate that Unilever, a great international company, should have sponsored the superb exhibition of "The Hague School, Dutch Masters of the 19th Century" which is being held at the Royal Academy from 16 April—10 July. The Hague School was built upon a reverence for the Dutch art of the 17th century, combined with an attempt to furnish an objective record of the external world. It reflected the 19th century Realist movement with the addition of personal sentiment and a strong element of nostalgia. Despite this, these pictures by artists such as the Maris brothers, Roelofs, Mauve and Josef Israels are not just pretty, but convey the enchantment of subtle tones, peace and a hazy atmosphere.

Josef Israels himself (1824-1911) only moved to the Hague in 1871, at a time when he had already established a great reputation, especially in English-speaking countries. He lived there for the rest of his life in the company of his artist friends and was buried in the local Jewish cemetery. In his life he had great influence on other painters, including Max Liebermann, who wrote in 1901 that "the Munich Sezession gratefully acknowledged its debt by making Israels an honorary member, for it was Israels who shaped the modern Dutch school".

There are about 90 oil paintings and 40 watercolours in the exhibition and they have been gathered from far afield since the paintings of the Hague School were immensely popular outside Holland, especially in Great Britain and America.

A most comprehensive illustrated catalogue, with essays and a bibliography, published in association with Weidenfeld & Nicolson, is available, price £6.95.

An exhibition organised by the Goethe Institute, Munich, of illustrations and caricatures for *Simplicissimus*, the Munich satirical weekly first published in 1896, has recently been shown in Canterbury. It will also be shown in other centres, including Rye, Sussex from 9 July—11 September. The artists include Olaf Gulbransson, Eduard Thorig, Thomas Theodor Heine, Heinrich Kley, Käthe Kollwitz, Alfred Kubin, Heinrich Zille and many others.

Alice Schwab

"TRANSLATOR WAS MURDERER"

A translator formerly attached to a German police unit during the invasion of Russia has been charged in Munich with murder during the Nazi occupation of Galicia.

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THE FIRST

CONCENTRATION CAMP

In an article carried recently by the "Allgemeine juedische Wochenzeitung", Dr. Hans Lamm, president of the Munich Jewish community, reproduced the first announcement of the concentration camp at Dachau.

The "Muenchner neueste Nachrichten" of 22 March 1933 printed the news item as follows:

A Concentration Camp for Political Prisoners Near Dachau

"In the course of a press conference, Commissarial Police President of Munich Himmler gave the following information:

"On Wednesday the first concentration camp will be opened near Dachau. It has a capacity of 5,000 persons. Here will be brought together all communist and—when necessary—Reichsbanner and Marxist functionaries who represent a danger to the security of the State; for, if the apparatus of state is not to suffer a heavy burden, there is no long-term possibility of leaving individual functionaries in local court prisons, while on the other hand it is not practicable to set these functionaries free. Isolated experiments which we have made resulted in renewed agitation on their part and attempts to organise themselves. We have undertaken these measures without regard to pettifogging scruples, in the conviction that we are thereby working to allay the fears of national public opinion and in accordance with the people's feelings."

Police President Himmler went on to give an assurance that protective custody in individual cases would not last longer than necessary. Nevertheless it was evident that the material, which has been seized in great and unforeseen quantity, would take some time to inspect. The police would therefore only be held up by persistent questioning as to when this or that person in protective custody (*Schutzhaefling*) would be released. The falsity of the widespread rumours about the treatment of *Schutzhaeflinge* had been demonstrated by the fact that some *Schutzhaeflinge*, for example Dr. Gerlich and Frhr. v. Aretin were immediately granted their wish to receive spiritual consolation."

BEGINNING OF ROAD

Dr. Lamm went on to point out that this was the beginning of the Third Reich's road of terror for Jews and others, a road which may without exaggeration be said to have led straight from Dachau to Auschwitz. It appears from official records that at least 206,000 prisoners of 27 nationalities were sent to Dachau; 31,951 met a violent death there and a further 3,166 were murdered in the gas-chambers of Schloss Hartheim. Thousands of Russian POW's also perished. It is misleading to distinguish between "milder" concentration camps (such as Dachau and Theresienstadt) and "harder" ones (of which Auschwitz is not merely the symbol). Ruthless killings took place in every camp (Dachau had subsidiary camps throughout Southern Germany—for example in factories: BMW, Krauss-Maffei, Messerschmidt and the Freimann railway repair works): but in Auschwitz and the other camps "at a distance" murder was committed on a systematic, millionfold scale.

The small town called Dachau—with a 1928 population of some 7,100 and today numbering about 30,000—had no immediate relations with the camp.

The Nazis chose the area because a disused armaments factory was available, which it was thought would house about 5,000 people. When the camp was liberated on 29 April 1945 there were 32,335 prisoners still alive there.

Dachau itself was as a town not particularly inclined towards Nazism; even in the elections of 5 May 1933 the NSDAP obtained only 23.9 per cent of votes (as against a nationwide percentage of 44.0), which was considerably less than votes for the Bayerische Volkspartei or the SPD. On 20 March, two days before the concentration camp was opened, 60 communists were arrested in Dachau.

For many years the town has been trying to dissociate its image from that of the camp, which lies nearly two miles away. The local Josef-Effner-Gymnasium has successfully promoted pupil-teacher exchanges with Israel and the society "Zum Beispiel Dachau", a working party for research into Dachau's history, has recently mounted an exhibition "Die Stadt und das Lager".

Pleading "fire regulations", the Bavarian Finance Ministry refused the exhibition room in the Palace of Representatives. However, a place was found for it within the town.

As well as the catalogue put out by "Zum Beispiel Dachau", the chairman of the Society, Hans-Guenter Richardi, has issued "Schule der Gewalt" (Munich, C. H. Beck), a comprehensive book about the camp. In addition the camp site houses a museum, which includes two churches and a synagogue. It is visited by 800,000 people each year.

JBS TO EXTEND AID FIELD

The Jewish Blind Society is to expand the sphere of its activities. It has already offered the Jewish Deaf Association help from its social workers, who at present deal with the blind and deaf but who are to extend their expertise in the service of the sighted deaf. It is intended that other disabled people between the ages of 18 and 60 will receive assistance in the fields of occupational therapy, mobility and counselling.

WUPPERTAL KEEPS IN TOUCH

The town of Wuppertal has made a practice of sending out its periodical "Wupperbrücke" to all former citizens living abroad. Among the recipients of the journal, printed on airmail paper, are 170 Jewish emigrants living in America, Israel and the UK. Any former Wuppertal citizens wishing to receive the paper should contact the Presse- und Informationsamt, Wuppertal.

A CHURCHILL "SABRA"

Sir Winston Churchill's great grand-daughter Emily MacManus took her first look at the world in Hadassah Hospital recently. Her mother Mrs. Emma MacManus, the daughter of Lady Soames (née Mary Churchill), is the wife of the "Guardian" correspondent in Jerusalem.

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

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PETER C. RICKENBACK

RIGHTISTS IN AUSTRIAN COALITION

Friedrich Peter, once a member of the First SS Infantry Brigade, is standing down in his attempt to become Third President of the Austrian Parliament. He has consistently denied that he knew anything of the atrocities carried out by the SS Infantry Brigade, but his candidature led to a storm of protest. Friedrich Peter is head of the rightist Freedom Party in Austria.

However, a number of rightwing members have been appointed to posts in Austria's new government. A Freedom Party man, Harald Ofner, will be Minister of Justice and, from the same party, Gerulf Murer has also been given cabinet status. He is the son of Franz Murer, head of the Vilna Gestapo during the Second World War. Another notorious name crops up with Hermann Eigruber, whose father was Gauleiter of Upper Austria and was executed after the war. Although the Socialist Party's election promises had included tougher anti-Nazi laws, the fact of coalition with the Freedom Party has meant that this particular pledge has been quietly dropped.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.



ORADOUR KILLER'S SENTENCE

Once an officer in the SS tank division "Das Reich", Hans Barth has been sentenced to life imprisonment by an East German court. He was found guilty of complicity in the massacre at Oradour sur Glane in France, where those villagers who were not shot were deliberately burnt to death in the church. During the trial, Barth also admitted to his part in the murder of partisans and villagers at Lidice in 1942 and expressed remorse for his crimes.

The judge in East Berlin rejected the defence of "acting under orders" and referred to the principles of the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, which excluded such a plea. East German law would have permitted a death sentence in this case, and a Bordeaux court had already passed sentence of death in absentia; however, despite the judge's description of the 62-year-old former SS man as a convicted Nazi who unscrupulously carried out orders to kill with great commitment, the lighter sentence was passed.

Barth had been arrested two years ago at the instance of the victims' families, after living for 37 years in the DDR under various aliases.

Left: (See article on page 3) Martin Buber, philosopher and Bible translator. Drawing by Dolbin.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge, but voluntary donations would be appreciated. Texts should reach us by the 15th of the preceding month.

Birthday

Fuss:—Ilse Fuss, of 55 Aytoun Road, Glasgow G41, celebrates her 81st birthday on 8 July. Congratulations and best wishes from Ilse Sobel and Charlotte and Alan Alexander.

Engagement

Leyser:—Paula Leyser is delighted to announce the engagement of her only granddaughter Miriam, daughter of Stephanie & Simon Kester, Highpoint, London, to Russell Julius.

Deaths

Baumgardt:—Philippine Baumgardt passed away on 21 May, aged 93. Sadly missed by her many friends.

Kaufmann:—Dr. Walter Kaufmann (68), of New Hyde Park, N.Y., grandson of the well-known painter Isidor Kaufmann. Sadly missed by his wife, children and grandchildren and specially mourned by his sister Kitty Schafer and family in London, following his tragic death on 27 May.

Loewenhardt:—Friedel Loewenhardt passed away on the 23 April. Deeply mourned by her niece, family and many devoted friends.

Preszow:—Abraham Preszow died 28 May, aged 86. Deeply mourned and lovingly remembered by his daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchild, relatives and friends, Brussels and London.

CLASSIFIED

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Situations Vacant

WE WOULD WELCOME hearing from more ladies who would be willing to shop and cook for an elderly person in their neighbourhood on a temporary or permanent basis. Current rate of pay £2.20 per hour. Please ring Mrs. Matus 01-624 4449, AJR Employment for appointment.

Miscellaneous

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR from lady or gentleman interested in sharing apartment and expenses during holiday in Tenerife from 9-23 October 1983. Suggested age 50 to late 60s. Please write to Box 983.

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INFORMATION REQUIRED

Personal Enquiry

Aron:—Could Dr. Ernst Aron or anyone knowing his address please contact Gerd Ledermann, P.O.B. 34, Kiriat Ono, Israel.

RUDI SABOR would like to hear from colleagues and former pupils of Berlin Auguststrasse, 6, Kedleston Drive, Pettswood, Kent.

1933 BOOK-BURNING REMEMBERED

The Walter Meckauer Circle, Cologne, has decided to award a plaque to persons or institutions who have helped to preserve or bring to public notice banned, censored and defamed books and writings. The decision was made on the anniversary of the Burning of Books in May 1933, in order to commemorate the fact that Walter Meckauer's works were banned by the Nazis.

"DELIBERATE INTENT TO SHOCK"

After accusations in "Private Eye", Tony Wilson, a Granada TV presenter and director of a record company, has strongly denied that his company encourages fascist punk groups. One band, managed by Mr. Wilson's Factory Records, has taken the name "New Order" after dropping its previous label "Joy Division" (a slang term for concentration camp brothels). "New Order's" first album sleeve depicted a Hitler Youth drummer boy.

However, Tony Wilson declares that the group is no different from other punk groups whose aim is deliberate shock. It is, he says, in no way fascist.

FRANKFURT OPENS ITS DOORS

For the fourth time, Frankfurt am Main has played host to its former Jewish citizens. About 110 people, most of them 80 years old and more, visited the city for a two-week period in May and were entertained by receptions, excursions and sightseeing. The majority of the visitors are at present living in Israel or America.

BERLINERS GO BACK

West Berlin has recently played host to 200 former citizens, invited to the city from the USA. After revisiting the once-familiar places, one guest declared that it was all like a dream, while another summed up the party's reactions in the words, "I cannot forget, but what I feel in my heart is not rancour but sadness."

AGED SS MAN SENTENCED

Former SS man Karl Tollkühn has been found guilty of complicity in the murder of about 1,400 Jews in Riga. Now aged 80, Tollkühn was sentenced by a Hamburg court to three and half years' imprisonment.

WAR MUSEUM SEEKS EVIDENCE

Following the "Stern" allegations about the sinking of prison ships and the subsequent "Daily Telegraph" correspondence (See AJR Information, May 1983), the Imperial War Museum in London is writing to the people who came forward to give their own memories of the events at that time. The museum hopes to assemble a collection of personal reminiscences on the sinkings, since it is felt that the "Stern" articles demonstrate the need for eye-witness accounts.

PROTESTS AGAINST SS REUNION

Bad Hersfeld, Hesse, was the scene of demonstrations a few weeks ago when 5,000 people protested against the annual rally of former SS men, who have been meeting in the town since 1979. Despite demands by trade unions, Jewish student organisations, political parties and other pressure groups, the Mayor of Bad Hersfeld said that he had no power to stop the SS reunion. The protesters also called for a ban on the "National Socialist Action Front", which is proposing to form a local branch in the town.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

European Festival Fare. Music and Drama Festivals have provided a varied menu for many summers (Salzburg started in 1920, Glyndebourne in 1934, Edinburgh in 1947). However, 1983 appears to be setting a record with over 30 venues, ranging (alphabetically) from Athens to Zürich, and from Baden near Vienna to Wiesbaden in Germany. Apart from the above-named original sites, operatic performances will take place at Lyon (until the end of September), Verona (until the end of August) and Ljubljana (also to the end of August) in which latter town Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" will be featured. Schwaebisch Hall presents Brecht/Weill's "Dreigroschenoper" (until the 6th of August), and Bergen in Norway deserves a mention although their Festival has just ended: a mixed bill of Verdi, Shakespeare and Ibsen was enriched by a Berlin cabaret show of the Twenties, called "Was nun, mein Freund" by Kurt Tucholsky.

Tit-Bits. Peter Shaffer's Mozart-Salieri play "Amadeus" is still attracting audiences at the Schauspielhaus in Graz, Schillertheater in Berlin, and Residenz in Munich. Vienna's "Theater an der Wein", faithfully adhering to its annual revival of the "Merry Widow" during the summer season, will present the Lloyd Webber musical "Cats" in the autumn; "Cats" had its much praised premiere recently at the Madach theatre in Budapest where

it was called a "happy and magical musical event". **Birthdays.** Dresden-born Kurt Boehme, who has sung operatic bass roles all over Europe and South America, has appeared at Covent Garden and at the "Met", and has been highly praised as a Wagner singer and an outstanding "Ochs" in "Rosenkavalier", celebrated his 75th birthday. Leonard Bernstein, the prominent American musician, composer and conductor, whose works are widely played, will be 65 next month. Earlier successes ("Candide", "Trouble in Tahiti") were eclipsed by the tuneful musical "West Side Story" which put his name in lights all over the world.

Biography. The glory and popularity of film stars are often shortlived, but not so in the case of Hans Albers who died in 1960 but is still to be found among the top 10 German film actors in order of fame and demand. Joachim Caldenbach has written Albers' life story, called simply "Hans Albers" (Universitas Verlag, Munich.) The book has many illustrations and tells in a quite touching way how Albers, who became a star in his later years was the only German film actor who could possibly be compared with the American Greats Gary Cooper and Clark Gable. From "Hoppla, jetzt komm' ich", his life size (sometimes over-life size) figures reached perfection in his interpretation of Molnar's "Liliom".

BELATED HONOUR FOR DUTCH HEROINE

A heroine, now living in the West Country, who saved at least 68 Jews by helping them to escape from Holland, has been honoured by the Dutch government. Mrs. Wilhelmina Tovey-Vossen, suffering from disabling illness, was urged by her Dutch relatives to claim a pension from her native country and in consequence the story of her courage came to light after nearly 40 years. At the age of 75, she has been awarded the Resistance Cross of Holland.

Mrs. Tovey-Vossen was friendly with a Rotterdam Jewish family named Blitz; when the Germans invaded Holland she hid Isaac Blitz and his little daughter Clara. Isaac was later captured, but other Jews heard of Wilhelmina's charity and approached her for help. Nearly 70 people were able to escape to Switzerland with her assistance, but eventually she was forced to go into hiding with Clara. After the liberation, she married a British soldier and came to live in England.

When Clara's mother was found to have survived Auschwitz and asked to be reunited with her daughter, Mrs. Tovey-Vossen felt it was her duty, however sadly, to return the child to the natural mother.

ISRAELI DOCTORATE FOR SCULPTOR

Tel Aviv University has conferred an honorary doctorate of philosophy on Henry Moore. The 84-year-old sculptor received the title at a Royal Society of Arts dinner in London.

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