

AJR INFORMATION

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SETTING SPECIFIC GOALS

Thoughts on Mobilising Help

One of the unique characteristics of the German Jewish immigration to this country, as everyone acknowledges, has been its readiness and ability to pull itself up by its bootstraps, to look to its own talents and resources to help the community face and solve its problems. This was valuable and important in the early days, when the challenge was to find a livelihood, to settle in to a completely new environment and master another language—and all that in a climate of economic recession and approaching war, not to mention the actual war when it came. In some respects it is an epic tale and one hopes it will be well told one day.

Meanwhile, we are faced with the problems specific to this stage of our history and development as an organisation. We have to and want to care for the ageing sector of our membership and our community. The Executive needs active members and the support of the younger generation to provide this practical aid. Without in any way preempting decisions about what form this can take, we can run our minds over some of the possibilities that arise when we contemplate the problems that face us.

Urgent target

An urgent target for attack is the problem of membership. One is continually astonished at the number of refugees and children of refugees one meets who are not members, or who have not even heard (or claim not to have heard) of our association and its work. Everyone has his or her group of friends and acquaintances and if we imagine what could be achieved by a devoted member galvanising those around him, and then concentric circles radiating from each of those in turn, the possibilities are considerable, even vast. Someone has to start, to press on the pedal and get the vehicle of recruitment going, and make sure it keeps on going, at speed. For the younger genera-

tions, whom we are particularly interested in attracting, there is the opportunity to become a Friend of the AJR. The larger the membership, the greater the opportunities for effective action.

A larger membership also provides a greater pool of potential volunteers to supply the contacts and companionship needed for the residents of the Old Age Homes who have no family of their own. It is this contact with others which keeps them mentally and emotionally alert and brings a proper sparkle into their lives, something to look forward to from week to week. The residents are there who need this contact, and there are warm and caring people out there willing to give it, but they must be brought together—a rewarding task for an advisory councillor, in conjunction with our Volunteers Co-ordinator.

Ambitious project

One of the proposals being given serious consideration, following the Chairman's mention of it at the last AGM is the idea of setting up a Day Centre. The object is to provide a focus for the active elderly in a relaxed but structured context, where they can mix with old friends and make new ones. This is an ambitious project which has to be taken stage by careful stage to fulfill its great potential.

To analyse the stages involved in pursuing such a project will require the energy and support of members old and young. Some individuals particularly enjoy working with people, others have talents in other directions. Thus, there would be an initial stage of fund-raising which could absorb the energies and enterprise of someone with wide contacts in the business world, above all someone who could activate others in a chain of well-organised help.

Subsequently, study groups could be set up which, reporting to the Executive, could secure the

advice and help of others experienced in the choice of premises or a site, and all the legal arrangements involved in such a transaction. Refurbishment or rebuilding of premises would call for close supervision and monitoring, and there again a knowledgeable volunteer would be required. Staff and volunteers would have to be recruited for the actual functioning of the Centre, and from then on a close and concerned interest taken in its routine and smooth operation, in maintaining a variety of interesting activities. Someone would also be needed to help arrange transport for less mobile participants. A whole range of voluntary aid would have to be recruited and maintained. The satisfactions derived from such voluntary work would almost certainly ensure the availability of a pool of volunteers, so long as there is someone to oversee and organise the structure.

Potential powerhouse

The Executive, supported by younger members, and perhaps formed into an Advisory Council, should become a powerhouse for the next stage of the AJR's development and activities. With members drawn from the second and third generations, it can also be a fertile recruiting ground for future members of the Executive, to carry on the work and responsibilities of the AJR in the next decade and beyond.

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Don't miss:

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Calling ex-Berliners page 8

Michael Rosenstock

CANADA AND THE EUROPEAN JEWS

A senior Canadian official was once asked how many Jews would be allowed into Canada. "None is too many," he said. These chilling words provide the authors of a recently published study of Canada's Jewish immigration policy with their title. (*None is too many: Canada and the Jews of Europe 1933-1948*. By Irving Abella and Harold Troper. Lester & Orpen Dennys, Publishers, Toronto. \$19.95.)

What would an historian consider a likely date for this reply? 1933? 1938? Surely not 1939. In fact, it was given in 1945. When they first began their research, the authors themselves would not have believed it possible. Their original intention was to write a shorter study which would end at the point when, in the face of events, Canada's negative attitude towards Jewish immigration changed. It finally became apparent that this only happened in 1948, when the creation of Israel removed the danger of a mass influx once and for all.

If the story is depressing, the reaction of the Canadian government and public to the book could not have been more heartening. Indeed, it must be the only work in Canadian history to influence government policy before its publication. A preliminary article published by the authors in 1979 was apparently made compulsory reading in the Department of Immigration and so set the stage for the rapid admission of 60,000 Vietnamese boat people, a sharp contrast to the 5,000 Jews admitted during the entire Hitler period. Both the Conservative minister responsible for immigration and his Liberal successor expressed their determination not to repeat the dismal record of the 1930s.

Discreditable episode

By a sad irony, the publication of the book was partly overshadowed by news of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, but this did not prevent its becoming a bestseller, contrary to all expectations. It was, after all, an academic study and it did deal with a particularly discreditable episode in Canadian history. It also contradicted Canada's rather complacent liberal self-image as a haven for the oppressed, be they escaped American slaves or European refugees. Reviews of the book were full of shame and anger. One reviewer even went so far as to call Prime Minister Mackenzie King a war criminal.

What lay behind Canada's attitude towards Jewish immigration? Some of the factors were common to many countries. Others may have been unique to Canada. The country was ruled by an Anglo-Saxon elite which had a patrician horror of what mass immigration had done to the cities of the United States. They were determined to do all they could to avoid a similar fate and so gave preference to immigrants with a farming background, Western and Northern Europeans if at all possible. Jews, it was felt, were incorrigibly urban and would rapidly find their way back to the cities even if they were settled on the land. They were also widely disliked.

If a group from one country was admitted, other countries would soon learn that they could "solve" the problem posed by their Jews by forcing them to emigrate. Apart from this, Jewish immigration

on a large scale could almost be guaranteed to lose the Government an election, particularly in Quebec, on which it depended for its survival. Finally, the Immigration Branch was run by a single-minded bureaucrat who devoted most of his energies to keeping potential immigrants out. His attitude to Jews is well illustrated by a suggestion he made in 1938, perhaps facetiously but probably in all seriousness, that they might profitably "have a day of humiliation and prayer", to be followed by a conference "where they would honestly try to answer the question of why they are so unpopular almost everywhere".

Poor record

Canada's policy throughout the thirties was governed by a 1930 order-in-council restricting immigration from countries other than Britain and the United States to those with enough capital to maintain themselves as farmers, even though farmers were probably the last type of immigrant Canada needed during the Depression. The number of Jews who met these requirements was small enough, but even those who did were not guaranteed admission: their applications, unlike those of other immigrants, were personally scrutinized by the director of the Immigration Branch, a man for whom it was axiomatic that Jews "do not . . . take to farming" and would leave the land for the city at the earliest opportunity. Canada's singularly poor immigration record made her reluctant to attend the Evian Conference. When the Government finally decided that attendance was the lesser of two evils, it began to reject applications from qualified Jewish immigrants so that, if necessary, they could be admitted after the Conference as a grand humanitarian gesture.

An equally cynical and more far-reaching move was to follow: on the advice of Vincent Massey, later to become Canada's first native-born governor-general, the Government decided to admit a substantial number of "Aryan" Sudeten Germans specifically in order to make it easier "to refuse to make a substantial increase in . . . admissions of Jewish immigrants". After all, even if Canada admitted no Jews at all from then on, it could hardly be accused of turning its back on the refugee problem.

The outbreak of war did nothing to alter Canada's policy. Even Jews with transit visas to Australia, the United States and Latin America were no longer admitted in case the countries which had agreed to take them as immigrants refused to accept them. No amount of capital and no type of expertise—not even that of an airplane mechanic—could gain a Jewish refugee admittance. As one outspoken Canadian critic of government policy remarked bitterly, "if they had not been in need of refuge, they would have qualified". Eventually, of course, the capital which belonged to the rejected Jews found its way into enemy hands and the expertise was simply wasted.

Several feasible small-scale rescue attempts came to nothing because Canada prevaricated disingenuously until it was too late. Events did nothing to alter attitudes. In London, a Jewish representative of the Polish government-in-exile was bluntly told that "the interest of Canada is to

prevent Jewish people from coming to Canada". The director of the Immigration Branch compared Jews trying to leave Japan to hogs at feeding time "when they are all trying to get their feet into the trough".

If remarks of this type had been widely known at the time, would Canadian public opinion have been shocked? Probably not. Even after the War, in October 1946, a Gallup poll revealed that, as prospective immigrants, Jews were the second most unpopular group. Only the Japanese were ahead of them. The Germans were fifteen percentage points behind.

An awareness of public attitudes of this sort partly determined the details of Canadian policy after the War. In 1947, the need for new immigrants was finally realized and Canadian immigration policy was almost reversed—almost, but not quite, because the Government remained acutely aware of widespread popular prejudice and feared that the entire new policy might fail if it was perceived as favouring a group as unpopular as the Jews.

Accordingly, the few Jewish applicants who qualified for the first two or three schemes—for agricultural and forestry workers and for domestic servants—were largely screened out by the immigration authorities. When schemes for workers in the needle and fur trades were devised, clearly with Jewish DPs in mind, they were accepted by the Government only on condition that not more than 50 per cent of those accepted belonged to any one group. This was later raised to 60 per cent when the difficulty of finding enough suitable non-Jewish applicants became all too apparent.

Irony of reversal

Jewish immigration did not cease to be a problem for Canada until the creation of Israel removed the pressure from the DP camps. The converse of an earlier criticism now became true: the Jews qualified because they were no longer in need of refuge. For several years after 1948, the authors tell us, the number of Jews admitted to Canada was larger than at almost any other time in Canadian history, but it no longer mattered, because they had become inconspicuous.

Was Canada's record during the 1930s and 1940s markedly worse than that of other countries? The numerical evidence—a mere 5,000 Jews admitted—has always been undeniable. To this quantitative measure, the authors of this study have now added a qualitative one. Human failings are exhibited with a starkness reminiscent of a mediaeval morality play in which the characters symbolize basic moral traits. The book begins with a particularly haunting passage:

"To the condemned Jews of Auschwitz, Canada had a special meaning. It was the name given to the camp barracks where the food, clothes, gold, diamonds, jewellery and other goods taken from prisoners were stored. It represented life, luxury and salvation; it was a Garden of Eden in Hell; it was also unreachable."

The Jews of Auschwitz could not know how uncannily apt their geographical symbolism really was.

LEGACIES

The AJR Charitable Trust has received legacies from the estates of the late Mrs. J. Ullman and the late Mrs. R. Bowen.

HOME NEWS

IRVING CHALLENGE TAKEN UP

This historian Gerald Fleming, whose book "Hitler und die Endlösung" was published in Germany in 1982, is hoping for an opportunity to examine Himmler's diaries and other documents preserved in the Soviet Union. His book, written in answer to David Irving's challenge to link Hitler directly with the Final Solution, was well received in Soviet publications and he believes that a visa will be forthcoming.

It was in 1977 that the revisionist historian David Irving said that he had not found a single document connecting Hitler to the Holocaust and said he would give \$1,000 to anyone who could disprove his statement. Whilst unable to provide the "single document", Dr. Fleming believes that his work conclusively proves Hitler's responsibility for genocide. An English version of his book will appear in January 1985 and shortly thereafter a Hebrew translation will be published. The Hebrew version will contain new documents not included in the German or English publications.

MOTHER SAVED FUTURE SURGEON

Co-director of the Wessex regional Transplant Unit in Portsmouth is Maurice Szlapak, one of the most honoured of Britain's kidney transplant surgeons. But he nearly met his death in pre-war Poland. Whilst on a railway journey with his mother, he was seized by another passenger, who tried to throw him off the train onto the track. His distraught mother snatched the child into her arms, while the attacker muttered, "Well, it would be one Jew less".

Such incidents induced the Szlapaks to emigrate from Poland and they settled in Nairobi. They worked at tailoring, then went into the hotel business. Mr. Szlapak died in 1965, but his wife Raciel still lives, honoured and respected, in Kenya, where she is the local leader of WIZO.

A CENTURY OF SONG

For years, researchers into Ladino have been consulting a London centenarian, Mrs. Estrea Aelion, for her wonderful memories of texts and songs in that language. When the Israel Broadcasting Authority asked for mediaeval Sephardic documents, Mrs. Aelion sent some written texts, only to be asked if she could sing the tunes. Thereupon she made a cassette recording which was broadcast in Israel and proved so interesting that the Broadcasting Authority asked for a second tape. Not until she had sent this to Israel did Mrs. Aelion explain how much effort the recording had cost her because of her great age.

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"NF INFILTRATING NCCL"

Publication of a letter from the National Front activist Joe Pearce has put the National Council for Civil Liberties on its guard. The letter, reprinted in the anti-fascist magazine "Searchlight", advised members of the "Nationalist Education Group" to join the NCCL. Larry Gostin, NCCL's general secretary, said there was not sufficient hard evidence at present to show that infiltration was occurring, but the Council would strongly resist anything of this nature.

Like their counterparts on the Continent, the National Front are also moving into "Green" politics, campaigning against acid rain, seal culls and straw-burning. Jonathan Porritt, director of Friends of the Earth, described this threat as "appalling". NF representatives deny that they are jumping on a band-wagon: they say only that in the past they have been too concerned with urban problems. "But the cities are dying and the country towns are thriving". Waterways, rural bus services and village shops are discussed in "Nationalism Today" and the NF even claims William Morris, founder of the Socialist League, as one of its philosophical ancestors.

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THE AJR CLUBS

There seems to be some uncertainty as to the respective functions of the "AJR Luncheon Club" and the "AJR Club" which both meet at Hannah Karminski House, 9 Adamson Road, London, N.W.3.

The Luncheon Club serves an excellent 3-course lunch at £1.25 per meal to AJR members and Friends on Wednesdays between 12 and 2. (It will be closed on 26 December and 2 January, re-opening on 9 January 1985).

The AJR Club is a social club open Sunday to Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. Its members come to make and meet friends, to chat, read, or play games. Tea and cake as well as a light supper are served at nominal charges. One Sunday afternoon a month there is a musical entertainment, a slide-show or talk, and there are other, annual, events. Prospective new members or occasional friends are made welcome and soon come to enjoy the friendly atmosphere. The Club is now trying to organize transport for handicapped members. As from January 1985, the membership fee will be £4 p.a.

BOOK FAIR SUCCESS

A three-day Jewish Book Fair, the first ever to be held in North-East England, was recently organised in the Newcastle-on-Tyne area and enjoyed a great success. Under the auspices of the Newcastle United Congregation, the fair included speakers on Jewish subjects and a historical display of exhibits from Newcastle Central Library. As well as the hundreds of individual visitors from Gateshead and Newcastle who bought books at the fair, the Central Library also purchased a number of works to strengthen its holdings on Jewish subjects. At the close of the fair, the organisers could congratulate themselves on a real profit.

POLISH-JEWISH CONFERENCE

A lively conference on the subject of Polish-Jewish relations in the modern era was recently held at Somerville College, Oxford, where messages of goodwill were received from Pope John Paul and the Chief Rabbi. Professor Israel Gutman, a Jewish Underground fighter in the Second World War, stated that Jewish historians who after meticulous research criticised certain Polish institutions were immediately labelled anti-Polish: on the other hand, Polish historians faced similar strictures for "offending the sensibilities, and what is often the hypersensitivity, of the Jew". Other prominent Gentiles and Jews attending the conference were the Nobel Literature prizewinner Czeslaw Milosz, the distinguished philosopher Professor Leszek Kolakowski (a non-Jew who left Poland during the anti-Zionist campaign of 1968), Dr. Shmuel Krakowski and Dr. Michal Borwicz.

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BIRTHDAYS

REINHOLD LACHS AT 90

Dr. Reinhold Lachs, who was born in Berlin and now lives in Toronto, recently turned 90. He studied law in Berlin and Freiburg, served in the First World War, worked in the Pre-War Debts Office until 1925, and then from 1933 as a lawyer in Berlin. In that year he came to Britain, where he qualified as a barrister and was admitted to the Middle Temple in 1937. He was interned for a short while in 1940. From 1945-47 he was a legal adviser to the Foreign office, and from 1947 legal adviser to the Control Commission for Germany.

From 1950-56 he was Chief Executive of the Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany (founded by the CBF), working in Hamburg. It was in this period that Dr. Lachs, who had a profound and intimate knowledge of the workings of the German administrative process, contributed enormously to recovering heirless and unclaimed Jewish property. The proceeds were to be used for institutions built up for Nazi victims. It was from these assets that, among other projects, the Old Age Homes in this country could be established. After his return to London Dr. Lachs became a member of the Management Committee of the Homes, on which he excelled by his sense of justice and human understanding. He later went to Canada to join his daughter and her family after his wife died. We send our warmest greetings to a most distinguished and long-serving member of the community.

ERNST G. LOWENTHAL 80

On December 28, Dr. Ernst G. Lowenthal will celebrate his 80th birthday. One of the most versatile personalities in our midst, he has achievements in many fields to his credit. He has left his mark as an adaptable and conscientious organiser, as a journalist and editor and, last but not least, as an indefatigable research worker. To the wider German-Jewish public he is best known by his regular contributions to German-language Jewish newspapers all over the world, often hiding his identity under the initials "E.G.L." or a variety of pseudonyms.

The AJR feels particularly close to him because he was a co-founder and a member of its Executive.

His unique biographical knowledge of German Jews, past and present, enables him to assess their life stories with unsurpassed accuracy. His evaluations also refer to post-war publications on the history of Jewish communities in Germany, and the latest Leo Baeck Institute Year Book (1984) carries his fourth survey of publications in this field. Yet whilst the impact of articles may some-

times be short-lived, books remain lasting records of an author's work. In this respect, Ernst Lowenthal has also been fortunate. As the editor of "Bewahrung im Untergang" he has kept alive the memory of the perished German-Jewish communal workers, and only a short while ago, he completed a book on "Juden in Preussen", which carries short biographies of Jews who were born or lived in former Prussian territory; there he advisedly put the stress not on the prominent among them but rather on the "average" citizens.

Without wishing to repeat the landmarks of EGL's career which were enumerated in the tribute on his 75th birthday, it may be summarised in the following stages: Positions with the Central-Verein in Berlin and, after emigration, with the Jewish Refugees Committee, followed by senior appointments with various Jewish organisations built up under the Allied powers and, for the past 15 years, freelance work in Berlin, where his and his wife Cécile's beautiful home in Zehlendorf has become a hospitable venue for friends, fellow workers and acquaintances from all parts of the world.

Cordial greetings to one of the founder editors of this journal are extended from his friend and the last past editor.

HEINZ GERLING 80

But for the Bibliographical Dictionary of Emigrés we would not have known that on December 6 Heinz Gerling (Jerusalem) will celebrate his 80th birthday. Starting with the Jewish Youth Movement and the Zionist Students Fraternity KJV, he has been associated with Jewish activities since his early youth. He emigrated to Palestine in 1933 and since then has held responsible positions with the Organisation of Jews from Germany (later from Central Europe), the Israeli sister organisation of the AJR. After the war, he was also deputy head of the department for restitution of the Jewish Agency (1949-52) and from 1953 until 1970 he worked in the State Controller's Office in close personal contact with its first President, Dr. Siegfried Moses. When the Council of Jews from Germany was founded by the organisations of Jews from Germany in Israel, Britain and the US under the presidency of Dr. Leo Baeck, Heinz Gerling became one of its leading members. After the death of the Council's second President, Dr. Siegfried Moses, he was elected one of the three joint chairmen. He resigned from this office a few years ago but remained a member of the Presidium. For the past 20 years he has also been one of the leading Board members of the Israel Section of the Leo Baeck Institute.

His work for the Council has resulted in personal bonds with many of his fellow workers in this country. His clarity of mind, his wide outlook, linked with a strong sense of detail have always been an invaluable asset for the Council. We wish Heinz Gerling many more years of health, vigour and undiminished working capacity.

HANS FREYHAN 75

On December 8, Hans Freyhan will celebrate his 75th birthday. He is one of the small band of those who laid the foundations of the AJR. In those early years he made weekly rounds among refugees and enrolled them as members. At the same time, together with his wife Kate, he built up his life in Bedford as a teacher and also became music critic of the "Bedfordshire Times". Our own community also constantly benefits from his outstanding qualities as a musicologist by the voluntary services he has rendered throughout the years as author of the programme notes of the Self Aid Concerts. Last but not least he often contributes articles and book reviews to "AJR Information", on both musical and other subjects. The historic role played by Jews in Germany and the aftermath of the Nazi period are constantly in his mind. This is reflected not only in some of his articles but also in spontaneous letters he would write to the present writer. At the same time he and his wife are integrated into their English environment to a higher degree than most of those of us who live in London.

Gratefully remembering a personal relationship which dates back to our schooldays in Berlin my heartfelt birthday greetings go out to Hans Freyhan.

MAX GRUENEWALD 85

"Entwurzelung und Erneuerung" (Uprooting and Renewal)—these two words made up the headline of a kind of farewell article by Dr. Max Gruenewald published in the very last issue of "Juedische Wohlfahrtspflege und Sozialpolitik", a bi-monthly periodical of the Reichsvertretung (Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle) der Juden in Deutschland, Berlin. For during his last two years in Germany, Gruenewald was a (Zionist) junior member of the "Praesidialausschuss" of that central Jewish organisation. His scholarly, somewhat sermon-like essay appeared in October 1938, i.e. between the author's departure from Germany and the momentous November pogrom. In those days one had so-to-say to read between the lines in order to ascertain the actual meaning of what was said. No doubt, it was Gruenewald's aim and wish to point out the importance of maintaining solidarity after emigration, the sense of standing together.

continued on next page

Volunteers Needed Now

Contact Mrs. Matus at 01-624 4449

We wish our Association to continue and would therefore appeal to all former non-British subjects who served in the British Forces to join us.

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After his 12-year service in Mannheim as the communal rabbi and, since 1934 simultaneously as the chairman of the then still flourishing "Israelitische Gemeinde"—a unique case in German-Jewish communal history—he emigrated, by way of Palestine, to the United States. Under entirely different and somewhat difficult circumstances he continued his scholarly, religious and secular Jewish activities. His position as the rabbi of the congregation "Bnai Israel" at Millburn, N.J. from 1944 to 1970 was in no way connected with Jews from Germany; nonetheless his work was time and again highly appreciated by his congregants who have made him a Life Member.

However, his manifold other engagements, mainly in New York, were and still are concerned with facts and problems arising from the fate of former German Jews. During the period 1940-43 he presided over the "Theodor Herzl Club". Up to 1945 he acted as the vice-chairman of "Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.", the America-based international body dealing with the distribution of unclaimed, heirless and institutional cultural property discovered after World War II in the U.S. Zone of Germany.

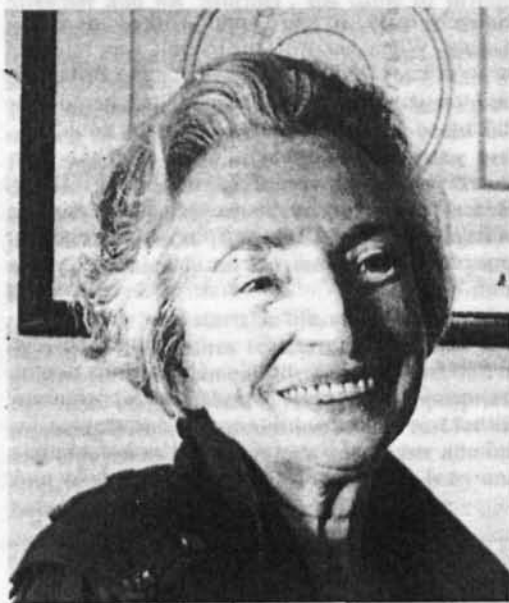
For a full decade Dr. Gruenewald served as the president of the "American Federation of Jews from Central Europe", thereby being elected a vice-president of the "Council of Jews from Germany" (originally named "Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany") with offices in London and Jerusalem. In that capacity, for example, in London in 1952 he addressed a huge audience of Jewish refugees from Nazi oppression, speaking on "The Case of the German Jew", underlining their hope for a fair and adequate participation, also on moral grounds, in the proceeds of restitution.

In addition, since 1955 and with ever increasing intensity, Gruenewald's main efforts, next to his congregational duties, have been concentrated on the development of the Leo Baeck Institute, primarily its New York section, of which he is a co-founder and long-time president. From 1974 onwards, in succession to Dr. Siegfried Moses, he has acted as the president of the whole L.B.I., consisting of three centers.

Those having had the privilege of attending international L.B.I. conferences under Dr. Gruenewald's chairmanship are full of praise for his scholarly mind and for his wise impartial guidance which is helpful in smoothing out different views that inevitably come up.

Today the Koenigshuette-born and Breslau-trained rabbi, who ever since his arrival in the United States has been close to the teaching-staff of the conservative New York Theological Seminary, has become a highly respected personality in American Jewish life. Two Hon. Doctorates (New York 1960, Bar Ilan 1976), one Hon. Fellowship (Jerusalem 1970), and the "Jewish Public Service Medal", awarded to him by the "American Federation of Jews from Central Europe" in 1981, testify to the esteem of this scholarly rabbi and grand organiser. The Baeck Institute, in particular, can consider itself fortunate to have a man of Dr. Gruenewald's stature as its spiritual leader. He will be 85 on December 4, his vigour appearing undiminished. His friends wish him very many years of confidence and satisfaction.

ERNST G. LOWENTHAL



ANNELLY JUDA

Annelly Juda is a long-standing friend of our Association and, in her own words "greatly admires the work it does." It is not only for that reason, but for her achievements in the art world, that we are happy to congratulate her on her seventieth birthday which she has just celebrated.

Annelly Juda, daughter of Dr Kurt and Margaret Brauer, was born in Cassel. From her earliest days she was interested in art—her mother being a good painter in her own right. In 1933 the family emigrated to Palestine where her father, a chemist by profession, started a factory. But Annelly's ideas were set on higher things than the manufacture of custard powder and in 1936 she came to England. Like many German refugees at the time she started by earning her living in domestic service, but studied art in her spare time. In 1939 she married, but the marriage ended in 1955 and she was left with three children to fend for herself. Her son Charles is now a very active partner in the business.

At first she worked as secretary to an art collector, but two years later managed to find a partner with whom to start a gallery. For various reasons these first commercial attempts failed, but eventually she established herself on her own in her present premises in Tottenham Mews (very roomy, but what a staircase!), where she has gone from strength to strength.

Annelly Juda first became interested in Russian painting in 1970 when somebody brought some drawings and documents of Kasimir Malevich (1879-1935), the Russian abstract painter, into the gallery. Since then the gallery has largely specialised in the field of modern and abstract art, and is an acknowledged leader in the field..

From very small beginnings Annelly Juda has built up a great reputation in her chosen field. May she and her gallery continue to prosper.

ALICE SCHWAB

BEATE KLARSFELD HONOURED

Mrs. Beate Klarsfeld, who has been instrumental in bringing a number of escaped Nazi war criminals before the courts, not least Klaus Barbie, has been honoured by the French Government. In a ceremony at the Quai d'Orsay, she was appointed a Knight of the Legion of Honour.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT

After the Archbishop of Paris (Lustiger) and the Bishop of Birmingham (Montefiore), there is now the Bishop of Kingston, Canon Peter Selby, who was consecrated in November in Southwark Cathedral. His father came to Britain as a Jewish refugee, as did his half-Jewish mother, and he has an aunt who is a member of the AJR. The new Bishop plans to express his faith 'in terms which command respect from thinking people.'

WALTER BERENDSOHN EXHIBITION

In September 1984, Walter A. Berendsohn would have been 100 years old: but earlier in the year he died in a Stockholm old age home. His centenary was marked in Hamburg, his former home, by a memorial exhibition. As the father of exile literature research, he was fittingly remembered by a display of his correspondence with numerous exile authors. But the rest of Berendsohn's life was not forgotten: his involvement in the First World War, his years of teaching and his masterwork on exile literature "Die Humanistische Front".

PROFESSOR LAQUEUR'S PRIZE

Professor Walter Laqueur, director of the Wiener Library in London, has received the Inter Nationes Prize for Literature and the Fine Arts. The Bonn foundation awards the prize annually and the 1984 presentation is made in recognition of Professor Laqueur's work for international understanding. It carries a grant of approximately £2,500.

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MRS. WILLIAMS RETIRES

After thirty-two years of devoted service, the AJR's veteran social worker, Mrs. Margot Williams, will be retiring at the end of this year. Her rich experience embraces the early creative years of the Association's flowering, when the Old Age Homes were set up by the CBF and the AJR provided the residents, as indeed it does and will continue to do.

Mrs. Williams, who was born in Berlin, originally planned to study medicine, but had to abandon the idea under the Nazi regime. She came to Britain on her way to New Zealand to take up a position as a probationer-nurse, but remained in this country for personal reasons, and went on to become an SRN, after internment on the Isle of Man. After marrying Maurice Williams she trained at St. Alphage's, Greenwich, and St. George's, then at Hyde Park Corner, and their daughter was born at the end of the war.

Mrs. Williams first came to the AJR as a volunteer soliciting ads for a green brochure produced in connection with a concert featuring Benno Moiseiwitch playing at the Embassy Theatre in Swiss Cottage. Soon afterwards, when the Old Age Homes were being set up, she joined as the social worker dealing with applicants for residence in the Homes.

Changing scene

She remembers how different things were in those days. A considerable number of refugees were living in bedsitters, and many of them were supported by the then National Assistance Board. It was a great pleasure and quite exciting to be able to offer an applicant a room in the first Home, which was the Otto Schiff House. The financial situation of the necessitous refugees improved when restitution started about 1954, which naturally resulted in individuals wanting to remain in their own homes as long as possible. However, this financial improvement did not relieve loneliness and other particular problems of refugees, which still require attention.

Mrs. Williams's work has concentrated on getting to know the applicant and gaining his or her confidence so that as many details as possible can be available for assessment. Her inquiries are never intrusive, and a positive outcome provides the security of a Home where the individual is relieved of most of his worries and some responsibilities.

Most referrals of applicants come from social workers in hospitals or local councils, from G.P.s and members of the family; fewest come from the applicants themselves. Reports are submitted to the management committees of the Homes and to the local authorities who have to give their approval and accept financial responsibility where necessary. Mrs. Williams has met regularly with the CBF to discuss the various stages of the applications, of which there are always 25 on an active list. She has established very good relations with the CBF and has enjoyed working with her younger colleagues. She counts not only them, but also many clients as long-lasting friends.

Margot Williams looks forward to her retirement, so that she can devote more time to her daughter and two grandsons, and to mastering a musical instrument, probably the organ. She will keep in touch with her AJR colleagues, and they with her, valuing her great qualities of warmth and

understanding and her inexhaustible fund of experience. Much as we shall miss her in the office, we wish her a happy and fruitful retirement.

TRUDE OETTINGER RETIRING

Mrs. Trude Oettinger, who has run the reception and has administered the membership department of the AJR for eighteen years, will be retiring on December 31. Her very efficient and elaborate system of keeping track of a very varied membership with all kinds of special requirements, is well known to all in the Association, and her persistence in following up neglectful subscribers is legendary and has done much to maintain both numbers and income.

She had family connections in Britain going back to the turn of the century. Like many Nürnbergers subjected to the vicious pressures of Streicher and his 'Stürmer', she came to Britain relatively early, in 1936, and worked at dress-making. When her working permit was refused, she went back, but was able to return to Britain in 1937 on condition that she confined her dress-making to alterations only, a gap she could fill. Five years later she was allowed to make new dresses, etc., and eventually set up as 'Trude Modes', employing seven workers. Her mother joined her here in 1939, and they lived together very harmoniously till her mother died 29 years later.

After four 'new starts' in life, she sees retirement as a fifth. She retires reluctantly, since she is a glutton for work, but considers the introduction of the new computerised system an appropriate moment. With keen admiration for her zest for life and enjoyment of the arts, as well as her administrative skills, her colleagues wish her a busy and happy retirement.

MRS. ILSE JOSEPH 85

Mrs. Ilse Joseph MBE has just turned 85. Known as the 'Lady of Peace' by her many admirers, she

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has given innumerable concerts for good causes, and especially for peace and reconciliation among peoples in this country, in Germany and in Ireland. She had learned to play the violin after hearing Jascha Heifetz play when she was 12, and after long years of music-making donated her two-centuries old Dalla Costa violin to the Royal Academy of Music to be used by promising young violinists at the beginning of their careers.

Her devotion to good causes from Save the Children to Youth Aliyah was strongly motivated by her loss of her own two children and two stepchildren at Auschwitz. Her assiduous work for peace and reconciliation has resulted in the award of the MBE, the Federal Republic's Cross of Merit, First Class, and audiences with the late Prime Minister Golda Meir and the present Pope. She has been a member of the AJR almost from the beginning. We wish her health and strength for many more years to continue her tireless activities as the 'Lady of Peace'.

NEW YORK MUSIC PREMIERE

Composer Ronald Senator will next year see his major work "Kaddish for Terezin" premiered at New York's Lincoln Centre. He has written the oratorio in memory of his late wife, an Auschwitz survivor, and in commemoration of the Holocaust. The words are taken from poems and diaries written by Terezin inmates within a framework of liturgical text. Dr Albert Friedlander of Westminster Synagogue has collaborated with Dr. Senator on the text.

After the premiere at the Lincoln Centre, where the narrator will be Elie Wiesel, the work is to be performed at Temple Emanu-El and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, the Kennedy Centre in Washington and in other places throughout the United States.

The first opportunity to hear the oratorio in Britain is also scheduled to take place in 1985 in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, where the Zemel Choir will take part. The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra is expected to participate in Israeli performances of "Kaddish for Terezin".

Another composition based on the Kaddish was heard this year at the Promenade concerts, when Brian Elias's "L'Eylah", commemorating the death of his sister, was played by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall.

SPIEGL'S LOOKING GLASS

In the gift-giving season it would be hard to imagine a more appropriate present for a musical person than Fritz Spiegl's new book (*Music Through the Looking Glass*, Routledge, £5.95). Arranged alphabetically, it is packed with interesting and reliable information about all sorts of matters musical, including the works and their nicknames, instruments and their peculiarities, composers and their quirks. And being by Spiegl, it is full of fun and jokes, and very good ones too. One wants to quote endlessly, but we only have room here for these two: under *Prepared piano*, after describing the procedure: 'an outrage for which any respectable piano is totally unprepared'. And under *Quadruphony*: 'An expensive but short-lived electronic fad devised in the late 1960s on the false assumption that music lovers had four ears and liked to hear music from the same position as the fifth viola player in the orchestra...' M.S.

A LEARNED FAMILY

In 1581, Rabbi Zacharie Mendel, a descendant of Rashi, was awarded the honorific title of The Learned One—der Gelernter. Today, his many times great-grandchildren still bear that proud name and Gelernters are to be found in Bolivia, Israel, France, West Germany, Alaska and Australia. Barbara Silvergold, granddaughter of a Gelernter, has spent 11 years researching the family history from her home in Aix-en-Provence.

One boast of the Gelernter family is that it can number 15 generations of rabbis dating from Zacharie Mendel: the present representative is working in Ramat Gan. One British branch is descended from Gershon Gelernter of Jasnowicz, who left Poland in 1892. A short time ago, a reunion was arranged for all Gelernters and, after telephone calls to everyone of that name in American directories, some 200 family members gathered at a resort in the Catskill Mountains.

GDR AWARD FOR JEWISH JUDGE

Dr. Kurt Cohn, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of the German Democratic Republic, was awarded the Golden Star of Friendship between Nations, one of the highest distinctions of the GDR. An outstanding jurist, he was a judge in Germany until 1933. At the same time he had taken an active part in Jewish affairs from his student days, especially the Central-Verein, of which he became a full-time official after his dismissal from the judiciary. He emigrated to England, but returned to Germany after the war. He was a member of the (East)-Berlin Jewish Community, but also retained his personal contact with his former fellow-workers under the Weimar Republic and the Nazi régime.



Woman's Head by Kokoschka

GERMAN PRINTS

The British Museum has recently been showing its fine collection of German prints, most of which have been acquired over the last five years. To mark the occasion and in response to awakening public interest in the work of the German Expressionists, Marlborough Graphics Gallery, 39 Old Bond Street, W1, have mounted an exhibition (until 21 December) of Prints and Drawings from Germany, 1894-1931. It is not a large exhibition, but nevertheless manages to contain superb examples of works by the great masters in the field: Munch, Kollwitz, Kirchner, Kokoschka,

Heckel, Nolde, Schmidt-Rottluff, Feininger, Klee, Schwitters and Nesch. There are also a few prints by other European masters: Matisse, Picasso, Braque and Hockney. These are all collectors' items and certainly not cheap, but very well worthwhile looking at. In the neighbouring Marlborough Fine Art Gallery, 6 Albemarle Street, is an exhibition (until 7 December) of bronzes by that superb sculptor, Edward Chadwick.

Marlborough Graphics are also holding a Christmas exhibition (until 21 December) of Prints from Vienna, being a selection from the portfolios published annually by the Gesellschaft für Vervielfältigende Kunst, Vienna between 1898 and 1913. A large number of artists are represented, not only Austrian, and the prices vary from £60 to £680. A.S.

CULTURAL LIFE FLOURISHING

A welcome change from media discussion of Israel's problems is given by a series of statistics compiled in the light of the recent Book Week, which reveal a picture of Israel's flourishing cultural life. In the year 1983/84, no fewer than 4,000 new books in Hebrew were published, 40% of them on literary and poetic themes. 11% related to Judaism and a further 18% to the arts and humanities. In total, 12 million books were produced to serve a population of 3.5 million, a proportion unlikely to be rivalled anywhere in the world. And Israel certainly holds one cultural record: subscribers to the Philharmonic Orchestra number 36,000—in comparison, the New York Philharmonic can show only 24,000 registered subscribers. At one concert in a Tel Aviv park, the audience made up one-tenth of the country's entire population.

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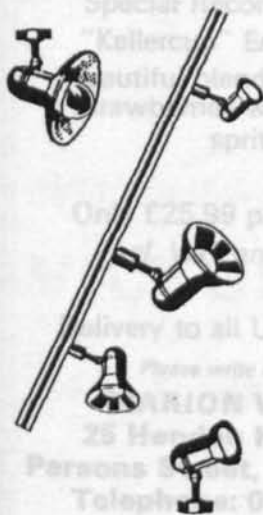
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CALLING ALL EX-BERLINERS

Those of us who lived in Berlin during that regrettably short period of bloom in the late 1920s and early 1930s are somewhat surprised that today it is all the rage, especially among Germany's young generation, as the time when our buoyant, lively, fertile city was Europe's cultural metropolis—probably the most fascinating chapter in the country's history.

Alexander Reissner, a Berliner born in 1917 and now a distinguished man of letters in Britain—author, lecturer and linguist—expresses a different view in his recent book, *Berlin 1675-1945* (Oswald Wolff, £7.95): "Berlin was not happy; her gaiety was a *danse macabre*, elegant and cosmopolitan but without hope and without light." And he goes on to describe "Berlin as she was", as a town that was "at first liked, then feared, eventually hated and finally pitied".

Fortunately, his book does not really bear out that gloomy opinion; his love of Berlin keeps breaking through. He surveys extensively the city's history from a small provincial place, made into Brandenburg's administrative centre by Frederick "the Great", to Prussia's and then the German Empire's powerful capital. The last chapter of that rise, and the beginning of Berlin's downfall, he sees in 1888 when Wilhelm II ascended the throne, soon to dismiss his faithful adviser Bismarck and embark on his sabre-rattling aggression, culminating in the First World War and his own downfall.

Republican Berlin during what we now call the "Weimar" period has been described in many

appreciative books, but Reissner looks upon "dancing Berlin" more critically as the era of Hitler's rise and the growth of rabid antisemitism. I wish, however, he had mentioned Rudolf Hilferding, the Austrian-born Jewish Socialist and children's doctor whom Stresemann made his Minister of Finance, as the man whose financial strategy actually stopped the runaway inflation in 1923, instead of Schacht who was merely the propagandist of the stabilisation.

Anecdotes

"Weimar" Berlin's end came in January, 1933: "People began to emigrate. Bearers of great names in theatre and literature left in a hurry. Some were beaten up by the Brown Shirts for their "corrupt" ideas, others landed in camps waiting to be ransomed. The Press was "adjusted", editors were sacked and party members sent to replace them. The newspapers spoke of the Great Revolution which would bring the Millennium. Large stores were taken over . . ."

Reissner traces the tragic road to the Second World War, the bombing of Berlin, the mass murder of its Jewish citizens, the occupation of the ruins by the Russians, the division into East and West Berlin. The sombre tale of the book is often interspersed with anecdotes. It finishes with this one: When the Russian soldiers arrived at what was left of the famous Hotel Adlon, they asked for

the manager. A secretary called Louis Adlon: "Herr General," (an abbreviation of his title of *Generaldirektor*), "Die Russen sind hier!" The soldiers heard this and misunderstood it as they saw a distinguished-looking, white-haired gentleman. The "Herr General" was led away. Louis Adlon, hotelier and grand seigneur, vanished together with his beloved city.

This book, splendidly illustrated (though the captions are not under the pictures but hidden away somewhere at the back), seems to call upon all ex-Berliners who still feel nostalgic about their once magnificent town: it is an efficient remedy for their malaise—sober, truthful and knowledgeable.

EGON LARSEN

FRENCH RESISTANCE HEROINE REMEMBERED

A Jewish Resistance heroine has been honoured in Annemasse on the French-Swiss border. Marianne Cohn, born in Mannheim, settled in France with her parents in 1939. In 1942 she joined the Jewish Resistance in Grenoble and later was given the task of ferrying Jewish children across the border to Geneva. After only a few months, she was captured with a party of 32 children by the Gestapo. Although the French Resistance offered to engineer her escape, she insisted on staying with "her" children. The Mayor of Annemasse succeeded in saving 15 of these children, but Marianne and five other Resistance members were killed by the occupying forces in July 1944. At the suggestion of a former Resistance man, the town has now named a group of schools after Marianne Cohn and a plaque has been set up in her honour.

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IMPORTANT SEARCH

In preparation for the Berlin trial, The Sons of
Daughters of the Deported Jews of France
trying to locate the relatives of the 41 children
(also their teachers and monitors) of the upper
age at Iers (Ain Department, France) who were
sentenced on Klaus Barbie's orders in April 1948
and deported to Auschwitz, where they were
murdered. They have been successful in 34 cases
they are still seeking relatives of 17 of the victims
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OBITUARIES

DR. HILDA EISNER

A dedicated worker for Israel, Dr. Hilda Eisner has died in Birmingham. She was 85 and for the last ten years had lived almost as a recluse because of severe arthritis and spinal disability. Hilda Eisner was born in Silesia and qualified as a doctor in Germany. Emigrating to England in 1939, she practised medicine until her retirement in 1965. But the bulk of her income, as well as her compensation from Germany, was spent in helping the development of Israel. In the name of her late mother, she planted 18,000 trees in a JNF forest: she contributed £80,000 for watchtowers and park facilities: created three scholarships to enable underprivileged children to take up a medical career; and all this was done anonymously. At her death, her personal possessions were very few, consisting mainly of grateful letters from Israeli medical students to their unknown benefactor.

MRS. GERTRUDE HAMBURG

Mrs. Gertrude Hamburg died on October 31 at the age of 92. Her name is closely linked with the first years of the AJR when, by her wide personal connections, she succeeded in obtaining members for the still struggling organisation. The arrangement of drawing room meetings was one of her means towards that goal. Mrs. Hamburg was a member of the AJR Board almost since its inception and attended its meetings as long as her health permitted. She spent the last years of her life at Osmond House. The AJR gratefully remembers her spadework for our cause.

HANSI ROSENBERG

Mrs. Hansi Rosenberg died suddenly in late October at the age of 80. For many years she worked devotedly on the House Committee of Otto Schiff House and supervised the kashrut there. She was a great friend of the residents, whom she visited regularly. She will be greatly missed by them all, and deepest sympathy goes out to her family from the House Committee of Otto Schiff House and its Matron, Miss A. Rieger, and from the AJR.

DR. FRITZ BAMBERGER

Dr. Fritz Bamberger, who died in New York at the age of 82 after a short illness, was "a man of many parts": philosopher, philologist and theologian as well as an erudite teacher, journalist and brilliant author. He also had an unusual gift for organising educational and research institutions. Faithful to his general and Jewish spiritual heritage, he had an open mind for the values the "New World" had to offer to him.

Born in Frankfurt/Main and growing up in Gelsenkirchen, Fritz Bamberger lived and worked in Berlin from 1920 onwards. Having obtained his degree as Doctor of Philosophy at the early age of 21, his activities in Berlin between 1926 and 1933 covered three spheres: research work under the auspices of the Academy for the Study of Judaism, co-editorship of the three-volume "Lehren des Judentums" and of the Jubilee issue of the Collected Works of Moses Mendelssohn.

During the first year of the Nazi regime, he worked as lecturer in philosophy at the Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums, at which he had completed his studies seven years before. Later he became Director of the Juedische Lehrerbildungsanstalt, Pedagogical Head of the School Department of the Berlin Jewish Community and co-principal of the Juedische Lehrhaus. During that period he also wrote "Das System des Maimonides" (1935) and a "Geschichte des juedischen Geistes von Moses bis Mendelssohn", originating from a series of articles in the "C. V. Zeitung" (1936).

After his emigration to the United States at the turn of 1938/9 he first obtained a leading position with the Chicago Organisation for Adult Education. Later he became research director of two magazines in New York, "Coronet" and "Esquire". In 1962, he was appointed Professor of the History of Humanities at the Hebrew Union College/Jewish Institute of Religion (Cincinnati/New York), an office from which he retired as Professor Emeritus in 1978.

Fritz Bamberger was a co-founder and Vice-President of the New York Leo Baeck Institute. For this Institute, to which he rendered his devoted expert services, his sudden death is an irreplaceable loss. ERNST G. LOWENTHAL

MRS. GABRIELLA GROS-GALLINER

Mrs. Gabriella Gros, who died on Sept. 14th, at the age of 61 after a long illness, was a talented writer, a gifted artist and had a beautiful singing voice. She was born in Frankfurt-am-Main, the daughter of the art historian and painter, Dr. Arthur Galliner.

Mrs. Gabriella Gros was a prominent member of the English Glass Circle, the foremost association in this country for the study of the history and development of fine glass. Her grounding in European culture explains her predilection for and understanding of the Art Nouveau period, which must be regarded as the greatest period for glass as an art form. In her book "Glass—A Guide for Collectors" (1970), she made a major contribution to our knowledge of glass of this period. One of her major studies was that of the life and works of Emile Gallé. She was Joint Editor of the Glass Circle's journal Glass Circle News.

She wrote essays on one of the few women

painters in the history of art, Vigée Le Brun. Her more serious interest was in the Italian Renaissance and she has written a book on Andrea del Sarto.

She possessed a fine soprano voice, which she used to great effect in both opera and song. Her easy command of the French, German, Italian and Russian languages made her particularly at home in Lieder. She wrote numerous articles on general music matters for various publications, including Covent Garden's "About the House". She leaves a husband and two daughters.

BENNO SCHOTZ

The Queen's Sculptor, Benno Schotz, has died, aged 93. Born in Estonia, he studied engineering in Darmstadt and came to Scotland to continue his studies before the First World War. Until he arrived in Britain, Benno Schotz had never seen a piece of sculpture, yet he was deeply attracted by art and attended evening classes at the Glasgow School of Art. In 1923 he decided to become a fulltime sculptor. From 1938 to 1961, he was head of the sculpture and ceramics department at the Glasgow School of Art. Renowned as a portraitist—his busts included those of Trotsky and Theodor Herzl—his later work became more abstract and symbolic, often based on Jewish themes inspired by the Holocaust. Benno Schotz was held in great honour in Scotland and his work is known in Israel, Russia and in many other countries.

PAUL GREEN

One of the founders of the Czechoslovak Jewish Aid Trust, Paul Green has died at Cokermouth at the age of 77. Born in Brno, he was active in the Zionist students' movement and emigrated to Britain after Munich. After the war, he became one of the leading spectacle frame manufacturers in Britain. To the end of his days, Paul Green maintained his interest in Zionism and Czechoslovak Jewry.

IMPORTANT SEARCH

In preparation for the Barbie trial, The Sons and Daughters of the Deported Jews of France are trying to locate the relatives of the 41 children (also their teachers and monitors) of the orphanage at Izieu (Ain Department, France) who were arrested on Klaus Barbie's orders in April 1944 and deported to Auschwitz, where they were murdered. They have been successful in 38 cases, but are still seeking relatives of three remaining children:

Max and Hermann Teitelbaum, sons of Jankel and Sefa Silberberg Teitelbaum, born in Antwerp on 1 January 1933 and 13 August 1931 respectively. Their parents were from Radom and Ostrow.

Emile Zuckerberg, born on 15 March in Antwerp of Polish parents, his father having been born in Stara Wies.

Anyone with information should write to: F.F.D.J.F., 78 Rue de la Fédération, Paris-75015, France.

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FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge, but voluntary donations would be appreciated. Texts should reach us by the 10th of the preceding month.

Birthday

Steiner:—Mrs. Steffi Steiner of 790 North Circular Road, NW2 will celebrate her 60th birthday on 18 December. With love and good wishes from her husband and all the family.

Engagement

Fink-Shipman:—We are happy to announce the engagement of Susan Hilary, daughter of Heinz and Ursula Fink, Harrow, to David, son of Susie and Frank Shipman, Ilford.

Deaths

Gregory:—Dr. Anita Gregory, mother of Catherine and Hilary, daughter of Elisabeth Kohsen, nee Unger, sister of Monica Schubert, died peacefully at home on 7 November. A great person—she will be deeply missed.

Rosenau-Carmi:—Dr. Helen Rosenau-Carmi, aged 84, died on 27 October, after a long illness. Deeply mourned by her son Michael, her daughter-in-law Louise and grandchildren Adam and Deborah. She will also be greatly missed by her colleagues in the Art Historical and Jewish Historical world.

CLASSIFIED

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INFORMATION REQUIRED

GERTRUDE STEIN, born in Vienna on 12 September 1919, arrived in the United Kingdom on 17 March 1939. Her mother was Sidonie Stein and her father, Julius Stein, died in Vienna in 1936, as far as is known. She is sought by a relative, Arnold Stein, who lives in the United States. Refugees Committee, CBF, Drayton House, Gordon Street, London WC1.

STERN. Descendants of the Stern Family, Kempen, Germany: Israel Stern (Bralinsky) (ca. 1778–24 October 1845) and his son, Abraham Stern (Bralinsky) (ca. 1800–1865) and wife nee Horowitz and their Stern children 1. Golda (26 October 1825–?) 2. Haye (21 November 1827–?) 3. Michael (6

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Captain' Bilbo

Sir,—May I add a few lines to the excellent article "A Tale of Internment" by Mrs. Pottlitzer which appeared in your October issue. Although she mentions the book written by Benzin Patkin, she unfortunately omitted any word about Cyril Pearl's "The Dunera Scandal" (Angus & Robertson Ltd.) which in objective reporting and true description of the events surpasses the former by far.

I was interested to see Jack Bilbo's name in the same article. Whilst I would agree that he was a "Fibber par excellence" he was also most helpful to quite a number of people. After the war he had his own art gallery first in Cannes, then in Berlin where he was moderately successful with some of his exhibitions. He was then known as "Capt'n" Bilbo and on the occasion of his 65th birthday the Mayor of Schöneberg gave a reception in his honour. He died in Berlin.

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RESEARCH FOUNDATIONS IN AUSTRALIA

Although the Jewish community is one of the oldest and most clearly defined in Australia, valuable records have been lost because no proper archive was established until recently. The Archive of Australian Jewry was set up in 1983 at Sydney University, and in the same year received the Max Joseph Papers, a rich fund of information on the life of a German-Jewish refugee in the Antipodes. The papers also include the records of the "Association of New Citizens". The project, encouraged by the Australian Jewish community, seeks to preserve pamphlets, documents, tape recordings and photographs. Under the leadership of Dr. Alan Crown, the archive has already acquired a quantity of such material and plans are on foot to make computerised records and microfilms of otherwise inaccessible documents.

Another Jewish museum is to be established in Australia—a memorial of the Holocaust as part of a Bondi yeshiva complex. Over £78,000 has been donated by Mr. & Mrs. Kleinlehrer of Sydney to set up the museum.

SCHINDLER MEETING IN FRANKFURT

Two years ago, the name of Oskar Schindler went round the world after the novel "Schindler's Ark" by Thomas Keneally had received the Booker Prize. 1984 marked the tenth anniversary of the death of the tricky businessman and upright rescuer, and a memorial gathering was held in Frankfurt, addressed by (among others) Michael Friedmann, whose parents had been saved by Schindler.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

A most unusual couple. "Und verbrenn in seinem Herzen", a book by Guido von Kaulla, is published by Herder, Freiburg. The couple are Alfred Henschke (his pen-name was Klabund) and his wife, actress Carola Neher, known as the "Dreigroschenoper-Polly", two characters who enlivened the pre-war German theatre scene. Carola Neher acted in Berlin and Vienna and excelled in Shaw and Strindberg parts; she emigrated to Moscow in 1934 and was murdered there in 1942 after a Stalinist spy trial. Klabund's lyric and dramatic works ("XYZ", "Kreidekreis") were successful during the twenties. Strange that more than 55 years after their death the memory of these two personalities is revived in this small but remarkable volume.

Names. *Louis Tranker*, "King of the Mountains", now aged 92, was interviewed on Austrian Television, pipe in mouth, and eloquent, as usual. *Ilse Werner*, the German singing and whistling actress is recovering after an accident and resuming her film career so successfully started in the thirties. A new production of Raimund's "Diamant des Geisterkönigs" at the Vienna "Burg" was enriched by the appearance of *Paula Wessely* and *Attila Hörbiger*, both in small roles. *Rolf Carston*, producer at London's "Blue Danube" cabaret in Finchley Road until it closed its doors in 1954, and who now lives in Canada, visited his old friends in Vienna, Zürich and London.

Birthdays. German actor *Paul Dahlke* who has numerous films to his credit, is 80. *Will Quadflieg*, best known as Salzburg's "Jedermann" in the fifties, for his recital evenings and his acting in

classic dramas (Egmont, Orest, Mephisto) is 70. Soprano *Irmgard Seefried*, wife of violinist Wolfgang Schneiderhahn, is 65 years old.

Obituary. The death at 77 is announced of *Manfred Inger* who in 1933 was one of the co-founders of the Viennese cabaret "Literatur am Naschmarkt". Starting as stage designer, later changing over to acting, he had his career interrupted when, as so many in 1938, he emigrated to the United States. Called back to Vienna, he became a member of the Burgtheater in 1960, where he remained until his retirement. *Oskar Werner* who, as an actor of undisputed talent and many personal problems, was a much-discussed, brilliant but unsettled international film star, has died at the early age of 60. He appeared in German, British and French films ("Jules et Jim", "The Spy Who Came in From the Cold") and gave lectures and recitals. As a young man, he was married to the Viennese actress Elisabeth Kallina. S.B.

SHEPARD'S PIE

FOOL FOR LOVE. A new play by Sam Shepard. Directed by Peter Gill. The National Theatre, in repertory at the Cottesloe.

Good plays can be experienced at various levels. However, there is something odd about a play which rivets the attention as this one does, but keeps one asking oneself what it is really about. Everything seems clear and in the open; no prob-

lems of communication here. The setting is a seedy motel room on the edge of the Mojave Desert, with cracked walls strong enough to take the repeated battering of fists and feet. Eddie, a peripatetic rodeo showman, has once again dropped in on May, who has had enough of his repeated disappearances. They can live neither with, nor without each other.

The theme of the unreliable male is reinforced by the intermittent comments of The Old Man, spotlighted and seated slightly off-stage. We eventually learn that he is *their* old man in the other sense, having run two households with different women, periodically abandoning one for the other, and then both. This element of half-incest seems to add nothing to the point. That point would appear to be the familiar American theme of the incapacity of a man and woman to develop a mature and enduring relationship, the mobility of American life being less of a cause of than an escape from the dilemma. In a classic novel like 'Moby Dick', Melville solved his problem by leaving out the female half of the human race; another classic writer, Henry James, solved it by settling in Europe and bringing his characters over as well. The high tension so skilfully maintained in the play seems to be striving to say something more, but the revelation (to Martin, May's casual boy friend) of The Old Man as common father, long known to Eddie and May, has little effect on us because it has never affected them.

The electric vitality of Julie Walters (of 'Educating Rita') dominates the stage as May in this tale of desolation. Ian Charleson is a perfect foil of brute force and animal cunning, Tom Watson excellent as the self-deceiving Old Man and David Troughton admirably stolid as the slow-witted Martin. They all had convincing American accents. M.S.

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