

AJR INFORMATION

Volume XXXIX No. 9, September 1984

£1 (To non-members)

WATERSHED ANNUAL MEETING

Large Turnout to Hear Future Plans

The day had been sultry and humid, with intermittent rain. Would such an important Annual General Meeting have the audience it needed and deserved? There was concern, not least because the usual outside celebrity speaker, who helped draw the crowds, had not been laid on this time. But there was no need to worry. The Hannah Karminski Hall was full on the evening of 12 July. They came and they listened.

The Chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, welcomed the members and explained that he would himself be talking about the 'Future of the AJR' but would first ask the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Ludwig Spiro, to report on the year 1983. Mr Spiro had been closely involved with the administration of the Association, and the Chairman thanked him for his tireless efforts and great devotion.

Mr Spiro began by stressing that 1983 may come to be considered a year of particular significance because it was a year in which a very close look was taken at the operations of the AJR and much thought given to its future. Marked progress had been made in increasing the internal efficiency of the organisation and a considerable effort was being made to control overheads when costs were rising everywhere.

Income from membership had risen from £46,898 in 1982 to £49,456 in 1983. Expenditure had gone up from £57,977 in 1982 to £63,066 in 1983. Since the AJR is the operating body for the administration of Self-Aid, the AJR Charitable Trust and all charitable work, it is only right and proper that it should receive support from the Trust, and that support rose from £49,450 in 1982 to £57,450 in 1983. The Allocations (JTC Funds) Committee raised its contribution from £11,344 in 1982 to £14,000 in 1983, in recognition of our social work and the rise in demand.

The overall result was a small profit, up from £315 in 1982 to £436 in 1983.

We are also grateful, he said, to those who

remember the AJR in their wills and help the Association's work so directly with their legacies, among those the notable legacies of Dr. Louise Leven, Mrs Senta Lenny, Richard Schneider, Mrs Irene Klemperer and others. Mr. Spiro thanked the accountants and solicitors who helped deal with these legacies: Dr. Falk, Mr. Franklyn, Mr. Summerfield and others.

Meanwhile the offices at Fairfax Mansions are being modernised by the installation of new systems, so that they can be more effective. A business computer has been installed that also works as a

word processor. The lengthy process of putting all the members' names and addresses on the computer has just been completed, and appreciation is due to Mrs. Carol Rossen and Mrs. Nora Joad who have carried out this demanding task. The new Administrator, Mrs. Lydia Lassman, who started with the AJR in November, has brought a background of administrative experience with her and is energetically working to continue the good team work and meet the new challenges. On her initiative, a case worker has joined the staff to explore the needs of old and ageing people outside the Homes, and will report in due course.

We are having a survey made of the needs in our community. There are about 350 people on the waiting list for the Homes and some 100 on the cards of Self Aid. There are perhaps another 500 people who know about us but about whom we do not know much. The survey will help us decide what our priorities are, the means required to

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THE ANNUAL CONCERT
in aid of
SELF AID OF REFUGEES
(in conjunction with AJR)
will take place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on
Sunday, 21st October 1984 at 3 p.m.
performed by
DIVERTIMENTI
Directed by **Paul Barritt**
GYÖRGY PAUK - VIOLIN

Tickets at £3, £4, £5, £6 and £7 may now be reserved from Self Aid of Refugees, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, NW3 6LA. Tel: 01-328 3255.
and from 21st September from the Royal Festival Hall, London, SE1 8XX.
Tel: 01-928 3191.

WATERSHED ANNUAL MEETING

fulfill them, and how we can go about raising and organising the resources necessary for caring for these people.

By changing printers in June 1983, and with a gain in quality, the editor of *AJR Information* was able to reduce the cost of printing by £3,673 for the second half of the year alone. The editorial assistant, Mrs. Felicia Selton, who is also responsible for advertising, was able to raise advertising income by £1,000. He thanked the advertisers and urged members and friends to suggest to business associates that they use the journal as an advertising medium.

He also thanked members who were paying their subscriptions by covenant, since this was an excellent way for the Association to increase its income.

Another matter of great importance to the AJR, though it might seem minor to members, was the prompt payment of subscriptions. He praised the tenacity and persistence of Mrs. Trude Oettinger in pursuing this matter, but members should realise that a great deal of work and above all expense were involved in sending a second and third reminder. If members would pay when they received their first reminder, it would save a great deal of money for the AJR.

Mr. Spiro then surveyed AJR activities of the past year under ten headings. First, there was of course membership administration. The AJR office organises the provision of companions and home helps for elderly members and non-members, as and when required. On over 1,300 occasions such help was provided. In over 700 instances the office assisted with advice when approached by refugees requiring counsel of a personal nature.

With the help of Self-Aid funds, financial support is given to some 100 refugees and assistance in kind to a modest number of applicants. Total outgoings under this heading are about £17,000 per annum. The Self-Aid Concert in 1983 provided £6,208. Members were reminded that the next concert is on 21 October 1984 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Range of operations

We deal with recruitment of tenants for Eleanor Rathbone House, a block of flats with some 54 mainly single-room flatlets, rented to refugees who are still active but who prefer to live in sheltered accommodation. We administer Hannah Karminski, Marie Baneth and Otto Hirsch Houses, where we provide rented accommodation for 21 refugees.

We operate a meals-on-wheels service (60 meals per week from Hannah Karminski House) under the direction of Mrs. Anderman and provide a Luncheon Club at Hannah Karminski House once a week for about 40 people.

We administer the Trust's activities by interviewing applicants for scholarships, special grants, BFA loans, etc.

We handle the recruitment of residents for the old-age homes administered by the CBF.

We have now established an organised Recruiting Service for Volunteers to assist over a wide range of our operations.

We operate the AJR Club at Hannah Karminski, which is flourishing under its 102-year-old chairman, Mrs. Margaret Jacoby. Mrs. Dora Segall has retired after so many years of devoted work as vice-chairman, and the new vice-chairman, Mrs. Lotte Saenger, has taken over with skill and enthusiasm.

Mention must also be made of the devoted clerical and managerial service rendered voluntarily and unpaid by Mrs. Katia Gould.

Mrs. Margot Williams and Mrs. Ruth Finestone are responsible for admissions to the old age homes (Heinrich Stahl, Leo Baeck, Osmond and Otto Schiff Houses). These Homes have 192 residents. In the past year there were 82 urgent applications for places in these Homes, of which 51 were admitted. Clearly, the need is there and it is great, and there are plans to extend the homes—17 further rooms, with toilets and showers, are proposed for Heinrich Stahl, for example.

What is needed

Mr. Spiro reminded his listeners that these are not AJR Homes. They are the property of the CBF's Allocations Committee and were established from funds secured by the Jewish Trust Corporation from heirless Jewish property in the British Zone of occupied Germany and West Berlin.

In 1954 the CBF in consultation with the AJR established an autonomous subcommittee responsible for the use of these funds. A major part of these funds was used for the establishment of residential accommodation for the victims of Nazi persecution. The administration of these Homes and of the Eleanor Rathbone House block of sheltered accommodation is the responsibility of the Management Committee chaired for many years by Mr. Dresel, our Hon. President, and he was succeeded by Mr. Spiro just over four years ago. It is a Freudian slip to call them 'our Homes'.

However, the Homes provide shelter for our people, and we select them. Through the Allocations and Management Committees, on which we are strongly represented, we take an active part in the operation of the Homes. Mr. Ross, the director, and his staff, are doing a splendid job, but is that enough to give us the satisfaction that we have really looked after our people?

The homes are clean and well run, and the food is good. Still, it is a very traumatic experience for an old person to go into a home, losing direct personal contact. The average age of the residents is 84. However, despite all the efforts made by the management to provide the best conditions they can, these efforts are wasted unless people of the middle and younger generation visit the residents and make them feel that they have links with the

world outside. Each resident should be adopted by a visitor, to bring regular interest and stimulation through his or her visits. If 100 such volunteer visitors could be recruited, the residents' lives would be transformed. Mrs. Sylvia Matus, who has the important job of co-ordinator, is busy recruiting volunteers and matches them up with the tasks in hand, introducing the volunteers to the Homes.

The membership of the AJR stood at around 4,000. There was a net loss of 43 members during the year and it was important to replace them, if possible many times over, through a membership drive which would also seek to win many more Friends for the AJR. Mr. Spiro ended by reminding his listeners of the less fortunate in the community, many of whom had never thought they would have to turn to the AJR for help and advice. Some moved south when they lost their jobs or their spouses, some live entirely on their own. These people need help which few other organisations can give. The challenge was there to be taken up.

The accounts were adopted by the meeting.

Mr. Marx, the Chairman, thanked the Hon. Treasurer for his full account of the preceding year. The Chairman then turned to his topic of the meeting. "The Future of the AJR".

When planning for the future, he began, it is first wise to look at the assets of the Association. These comprise the membership of 4,000, which is likely to fall from natural causes, unless we supplement it with new recruitment and draw in younger Friends, which must of course be done. The AJR has three houses of its own: Hannah Karminski, Marie Baneth and Otto Hirsch Houses and one-third of Eleanor Rathbone House. There is the AJR Club. We have our social services department at Fairfax Mansions, concerned with admissions for the four Homes formally owned and administered by the CBF/WJR, using the funds of the Allocations Committee, which must be applied for refugees from Nazi oppression. The office is headed by an experienced administrator and has a staff of some ten, mainly part-time people, to which we have recently added a qualified case worker. We have our monthly journal, *AJR Information*, which links all our members together and is read closely by them and much appreciated. It keeps alive what is most valuable in the German Jewish heritage, reports on our present activities, and is a vehicle for the plans and policies of the Executive.

Road to the Future

Finally, he said, we have the backing of the AJR Charitable Trust, with adequate funds to start us off on the road to the future.

This is a very substantial list of assets, of which many a comparable organisation could well be envious. We must then ask ourselves *what* we want to use our assets for, and *how* shall we set about doing what we intend to do. The *what* is fairly easily answered. Our funds have in large part been acquired in trust or otherwise for furthering the objectives of the AJR. Clearly, the beneficiaries of our activities must be the elderly in our community, those whose lives have at some stage been disrupted or have suffered some persecution as a result of Nazi oppression. In other words, we are likely to become increasingly a welfare and charitable organisation.

The Executive Committee and Staff of the

AJR

wish all members a
VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

and thank them for their continuing
support

(continued from p. 2)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As for *how* we go about it, the Executive Committee have discussed this at considerable length in recent months, but we have not yet come up with a final answer because of the complexity of the decisions involved. While we are already involved to some considerable degree in work for the elderly both in and out of the old age Homes, conditions today are vastly different from what they were 30 years ago when we started. People are living longer and enter homes or otherwise seek help at a much greater age—few people enter the homes before they are 80 and the average age in the homes is 84. Thus many of the residents and people needing help are frailer, both physically and mentally, than was the case in earlier years. This affects life in the homes, where residents are not as active as they were, so that more nursing care is required and more staff and equipment are needed, all of which calls for more money. The same applies to those outside the Homes who call on us—and are entitled to call on us—for help.

Among the various valuable suggestions that have been made have been proposals to build more Homes for the physically or mentally infirm. There has been a suggestion for building or setting up a Day Centre to occupy the mobile elderly, provide them with stimulating activities and interests and thus prolong both mental and physical alertness. There is also a scheme to provide more help for the elderly, especially when they are ill, possibly free when appropriate.

There are already numerous other societies and charities which carry out work similar to our own and they frequently specialise in particular services, by catering for specific groups or dealing with different kinds of people (e.g. the deaf or blind) or with particular diseases. We could go it alone or choose to work in co-operation with some other body. We must be sure to concentrate on activities suitable for those we wish to help, and that they are within our capacity financially and administratively.

Thus we must make sure where the real needs lie, the needs that we, with our experience and resources, can supply. For this, a great deal of preparatory work is required to ensure that the decisions we have to make are well founded, so that we waste neither time nor scarce resources. To find the facts we need will be one of the primary tasks of our new case worker referred to earlier. No organisation can do everything. We must limit ourselves to carefully defined objectives and then go full steam ahead to achieve those aims.

To be an effective organisation, the AJR must have a dedicated body of members willing and able to devote time and energy to its objectives. At the present time we have an executive committee of about a dozen members, including the chairman, vice-chairman, honorary treasurer and three trustees, some of whom have served for many

years. This body is responsible for overseeing the activities of our staff, who are responsible to that committee.

In addition there is the Board which used to meet at least twice a year. In its heyday its discussions were helpful and it made valuable contributions to the work of the Association. Elections to the Board took place at the AGM and candidates were either people who took some part in our affairs or in the Homes, or who had achieved some prominence as refugees, or were interested in our affairs though not active in them. Others were elected to replace a deceased parent.

Latterly there has been only one Board meeting a year, and they have tended to become entirely formal. The average age of the Board has become such that it was not really fair to expect its members to take an active part. The Chairman explained that he had written to each member of the Board, telling him or her of the changed circumstances, and of the intention to set up a reconstituted body of a smaller number of active members from which executive committee members could be progressively recruited. He asked them to reconsider their positions and to let him know whether they would like to continue in the work of the Association, or would like to take advantage of the opportunity to retire.

New Advisory Council

There was a large response, with the majority indicating that they would be happy to retire, while others offered their active support in our further endeavours. In these circumstances, it was the intention to discontinue the Board, originally set up in accordance with paragraph 11 (8) of the AJR Rules, or constitution, which permits but does not require the setting up of a Board, and therefore facilitates its dissolution.

The Chairman expressed his renewed appreciation and gratitude for the Board's past support and contribution to the affairs of the AJR. It was his impression from the letters he had received that the Board members understood the need for adjustment to changes that were the result of the natural course of time. The work was in no way completed, and he urged the next generation in their families to come forward and help run the affairs of the Association.

It was planned to set up a new body called the Advisory Council, which would eventually have up to 24 members. It would initially be nominated by the executive committee for a term of three years, renewable for a further term of three years. One third would retire each year, so the first members would be appointed variously for one, two and three-year terms. The upper age limit would be 75. Their terms of reference would be to review the Association's policies and to offer constructive criticism and advice concerning its activities and the welfare and interests of its members. They would meet three or four times a year, and there could be additional meetings if necessary. Members would be expected to attend regularly and to take an active part in its deliberations and decisions. It was hoped that some of them would eventually join the Executive Committee.

The Chairman explained that it was his purpose to secure the future of the AJR for at least the next ten years as a force for good and for the service of the community. He wanted to see the AJR as an organisation people were proud to belong to and eager to associate and work with. The AJR should be so well founded and established that it could continue to exist in its charitable and welfare activities as a permanent reminder of German Jewry of the past, the culture whence we came, and a memorial to how we were able, with the help of the British people, to integrate fully in this country and to turn adversity into success and to become one of the most valuable and creative groups of immigrants in this country's thousand-year history.

After the Chairman's discourse and the ensuing discussion, Dr. Falk, the Vice-Chairman, proposed Mr Marx for re-election as Chairman, and Mr. Marx, upon being re-elected, proposed the existing Executive for re-election, which duly took place.

SELF-AID PRESIDENT



Mrs. Lola Hahn-Warburg

We announce with pleasure that Mrs. Lola Hahn-Warburg has agreed to become President of Self-Aid of Refugees. Mrs. Hahn-Warburg's long and distinguished role in the work of the German-Jewish community began in the late twenties, when she was one of the select group including Ludwig Tietz, Wilfrid Israel and Robert Weltsch who understood the perils of German Jewry very early on and worked incessantly for the rescue of children above all. In 1939 she worked closely with Mrs. Neville Blond in bringing children to this country and placing them in homes; she had settled here in 1938. She is particularly well known for her work with Youth Aliyah, and the children's home Beit Lola in Moshav Beit Uziel, near Ramla in Israel, is named for her. She has also worked closely with the CBF and Wizo. Her brother-in-law Kurt Hahn, (who had run the school in Salem at which Prince Philip was educated) founded Gordonstoun School, where several Royal children have been educated, and was involved in the establishment of the international Atlantic College, with which Mrs. Hahn-Warburg is also associated.

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ERWIN ROSENTHAL TRACKED DOWN BY THE AJR:

VANISHED WRITER-IN-EXILE FOUND IN SCOTLAND

It is generally regarded as bad journalistic manners for a periodical to blow its own trumpet. Sometimes, however, one comes across stories that are too good, and too relevant for one's readers, to remain unpublished. Such a story is that of Anna Gmeyner, an exiled German-language writer.

Earlier this year, *AJR Information* published a "search ad" at the request of a new publisher in Mannheim, asking readers to help track down an authoress who had been quite successful in pre-Nazi Germany. The young publisher, Lisette Buchholz, is devoting herself to German exile literature, i.e. reprints, works about that branch of literature, and to forgotten antifascist writers. She had by chance seen a copy of a novel, "Manja", the story of five children and their families in Germany between 1922 and 1934.

The book had been first published by Querido in Amsterdam in 1938 under the pen-name of Anna Reiner, which turned out to be a pseudonym of the Austrian writer Anna Gmeyner, adopted in exile in order not to endanger her relatives still living under Nazi rule. "Manja" was the first title Ms Buchholz wanted to reprint; but the authoress had "disappeared", and so the publisher asked *AJR* readers for help.

Within a short while it came. Anna Gmeyner was living in an old-age home in York; a friend of her daughter had read the search ad, and the old lady—now 82—had been tracked down. Contact was established, Ms Buchholz even visited her in her hideout, and "Manja" has just been republished in that newly-founded *persona verlag* in Mannheim. Now the details about that "forgotten" writer's life, typical of so many other literary exiles, have come to light.

Anna Gmeyner, a Jewess born in Vienna in 1902, had her first great success in 1932 with a popular play, *Automatenbüfett*, at the Berlin Theater am Schiffbauerdamm (with Agnes Straub) and in Hamburg under Erich Ziegel. When the Nazis stopped her career, she emigrated, and for most of the exiles that meant a new struggle to keep body and soul together; there were all kinds of projects that never materialised, and attempts at teaming up with people who were already internationally famous.

Anna went to Paris with G. W. Pabst, discussed film plans with Berthold Viertel and the Boulting brothers in London. What did materialise was the publication of the major novel, "Manja", by the valiant publishing house in Holland, Querido, which saved many exiled German writers from despair and oblivion—at least for a while.



Anna Gmeyner

With Hitler's occupation of Western Europe, these German exiles lost one of their last chances of getting published in their own language. Anna Gmeyner, who had settled in Britain, was lucky in having two of her novels translated and published by renowned London firms. But eventually she must have felt that she could not face the disappointment and frustrations which a continued struggle would bring, and she withdrew from it all after the death of her husband. The few works she wrote in recent years were about religious themes. Now, the revival of her most important book, which may reach a new generation of German readers, comes just in time to show Anna Gmeyner that she has not been forgotten—and *AJR Information* must be credited with having played a vital part in this rescue operation.

Story of actress

We began our story with an apology for doing a bit of publicity for this journal; may we end it with another one for that young German publisher? Lisette Buchholz's *persona verlag* can be contacted at Germaniast. 53, D-6800 Mannheim, W. Germany, and from there copies of Anna Gmeyner's "Manja" can be ordered (at DM 38.). An enterprise like that deserves all the support we can give it. Its next publication will be a reprint of Lili Körber's novel *Die Ehe der Ruth Gompertz* (1934), about the experiences of a Jewish actress in Germany when the Nazis subjugated the country's cultural life.

EGON LARSEN

DACHAU JEWS' STORY

'Dachauer Neuesten', a supplement of the 'Süddeutsche Zeitung', recently published a series of ten articles about the fate of the few Jews who had lived in Dachau, near Munich, and who had to flee in the night of 8/9 November 1938. Many tragic and heartrending stories are told in this series, which has now been issued as a booklet for SDM and is available from the Süddeutscher Verlag, Sendlingerstrasse 80, 8000 Munich 2, West Germany.

Among the stories told is that of the *AJR* member Johanna Jaffé, who lives in Shurdington, near Cheltenham. She came from a well-to-do family, and evokes the cultured atmosphere of the inter-war years (Thomas Mann's daughter Monika gave Miss Jaffé English lessons). Then everything changed. Her married sister committed suicide, leaving a son. Miss Jaffé came to Britain in 1939, and after the war was able to bring her sister's son to Britain, where he was educated, eventually becoming a Professor of Electronic Engineering in America.

Following the appearance of the articles, the Mayor of Dachau invited Miss Jaffé to visit the town again. At 84, Miss Jaffé will see whether her health will permit her to take up the offer. In August she took a brief holiday in the Leo Baeck House.

NEW CHAGALL EXHIBITION

On the occasion of his 97th birthday, the artist Marc Chagall has opened an exhibition of his work in St. Paul de Vence. Eighty-five of his pictures, created between 1905 and 1983, are on show.

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ERWIN ROSENTHAL AT 80

Erwin Rosenthal will be 80 on September 18. The great Cambridge Semitist was born in Heilbronn, started work in a bank, studied at the universities of Heidelberg, Munich and Berlin, where he was drawn to an academic career. He was working on his Habilitationsschrift as Privatdozent at the University of Berlin and on Hebrew and Jewish studies at the Berlin Hochschule (with Leo Baeck, Julius Guttmann and Ismar Elbogen) when the Nazis seized power. In April 1933 he came to Britain where he was joined soon after by his fiancée Elizabeth. They married in July, and recall the welcome they received at a Westcliff boarding house when looking for an inexpensive place to spend their honeymoon, which provided a striking contrast to the country they had left behind them. At the boarding-house they were told: 'Sorry, we only take Jews'—and they proudly claimed admission.

With the help of C. G. Montefiore and Herbert Loewe, he obtained his first position at University College London as Head of the Hebrew Department and Lecturer in North Semitic Epigraphy. In 1936 he moved on to Manchester University, served during the war in the RASC and then in the Middle East section of the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office and was posted to Cairo. Elizabeth, with two small children, supplemented the £3 a week received from the Army by undertaking crocheting, and even organised a group of thirteen refugee ladies to do work beyond what she could cope with.



Dr Erwin Rosenthal

In 1948 Dr. Rosenthal was invited to Cambridge to take up a newly-created lectureship in Hebrew, and he never looked back. In 1959 he became Reader in Oriental Studies, and later a Fellow of Pembroke College. His work has covered a very wide field in Hebrew and Jewish studies, and as an Arabist and Islamicist he has been particularly interested in Islam as a political philosophy, and his *Averroes' Commentary on Plato's 'Republic'* and *Political Thought in Medieval Islam* have become classics, reprinted and translated several times over. A Festschrift in his honour, *Interpreting the Hebrew Bible* (edited by J. A. Emerton and Stefan C. Reif, Cambridge University Press, £22.50), was originally intended for his three-quarter-century, but since it was published in 1982, it can serve neatly for his 80th birthday as well; it is an excellent book with many valuable contributions by leading scholars.

Erwin Rosenthal is a member of the Board of the Leo Baeck Institute, and a long-time member of the AJR and a contributor to this journal. He is one of the finest exemplars of the German Jewish scholarly tradition, and as such has enhanced the best that Cambridge has to offer. We wish him and his wife many further years of contentment.



LOTHAR NELKEN 75

Lothar Nelken, AJR Board member and chairman of the KC Jewish student fraternity, will celebrate his 75th birthday on 9 September. Born in Silesia, he read law in Germany and acquired his doctorate just before leaving for Britain, where over the years he was successfully engaged in the distribution of pharmaceutical products. He has led a very full and active life, having been chairman of the KC for a good many years as well as chairing the Theodor Herzl society. He is very involved in welfare work for the old and sick and cares very much for the land of Israel.

We wish him and his wife Grete many more full and happy years.

R.S.

PAINTINGS BY LILLIAN HEYMAN

An exhibition of paintings by Lillian Heyman will be held at the Hendon Library, The Burroughs, N.W.4, from 8th September to 13th October (Mon-Fri 9.00-7.00, Sat 9.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m.).

Mrs. Heyman, who is the wife of the House Committee member of Leo Baeck House, Mr. E. K. Heyman, was born and brought up in Berlin. From childhood her ambition was always to make art her career. However, the advent of the Nazis intervened and she had to study practical subjects which would prepare her for emigration. After arrival in this country she became a window dresser and display manager with a large fashion multiple. While bringing up her two children painting was little more than a holiday recreation. However, once the children became independent, she joined adult education classes in Art. Now, after 10 years, oil paints and easel are her constant companions. Exhibitions of her works were previously held in several London boroughs.

PARALYSED PAINTER'S EXHIBITION

When 73-year-old Samuel Pelten was paralysed down his right side, his retirement hobby of painting seemed at an end. That was nine years ago and in the intervening time Mr. Pelten has learnt to use his left hand to such good effect that he has not only compiled a hand-written English-Yiddish dictionary and his own autobiography, but he has also held an exhibition of watercolours at Hendon Library. Polish-born Samuel Pelten emigrated to Belgium in his youth. He and his wife escaped the Occupation by walking to Dunkirk where they were put on one of the last ships to leave for England. In wartime London, they were caretakers of the Netherhall Gardens Refugee Centre.

ISRAELI ARTIST'S MUNICH SHOW

The Jewish community in Munich and Israel's International Institute for Exchange of General Information have for the first time organised an exhibition by an Israeli artist in Germany. The painter in question is internationally known Yosl Bergner, born in Vienna in 1920. After a childhood in Poland, in 1937 he emigrated to Australia and his first exhibition was in Melbourne in 1939. After a spell in France, Yosl Bergner went to live in Israel. His work has passed through various periods of expressionism, symbolism and surrealism and remains highly stylised, marked by human figures with pale oval faces and large almond-shaped eyes.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Author's Reply

Sir,—The reviewer of my book [*German-Jewish Refugees in England* in the August issue of *AJR Information*] violates a fundamental principle of good reviewing, which is to provide a fair and balanced summary. He says that he wished I had mentioned questions of identity, the relationship between 'past and present Germany', 'the British people', etc. I have written several chapters on these questions, and one of them is actually called 'Problems of Identity'. As for his complaint that I left out the internment period, I made it very clear why I thought that there were good reasons not to repeat yet again what can be read in many other books, but rather to concentrate on what was essential in the context of my study, namely the impact internment had on the refugees.

Most disturbing to me is Mr. Stent's failure to tackle the basic issues involved. The book is *not* a general account of German Jews in Britain, as I have explained very clearly in the book, but a study of specific aspects of German-Jewish life. The book is a specialist monograph, needing expert knowledge about the principal questions to which I address myself. The fact that Mr. Stent is bothered by the idea of 'ethnicity', when that is the very subject of the book, speaks for itself. If he were more familiar with the scholarly context in which this study has to be judged, he would certainly not have regarded questions about everyday life and attitudes towards Britain, Germany and Jewishness as 'trivia'. Certainly none of my respondents seemed to think so, even without being social scientists.

And I would like to assure Mr. Stent—and your readers—that not only did I 'claim', but actually did interview 180 refugees, many of them members of the AJR. In fact, I interviewed more, but for

various reasons could not incorporate all of them. This is a much larger number than one would find in most studies of this kind and therefore reflects a sizable proportion of 'the community'.

What is more, the lively and positive response I had when I was invited to talk about my findings in public (mainly Jewish), seemed to indicate that I was heading in the right direction. Even so, I would not dare to claim—and I also made it very clear in my book—"to know it all". This is the very first monograph which takes a long-term view of German-Jewish refugees in this country; others are invited to carry on and offer their perspective. But the 'definitive study' will never be written: every book is only one person's view. If Mr. Stent is hoping for the 'real' book he will have to wait forever.

Dr. MARION BERGHAHN

24 Binswood Avenue,
Leamington Spa, Warwicks.
CV32 5SQ

Portrait Painter

Sir,—Nathan Casler (or Cassler) was a German Jewish painter, active about 1820 at Hamburg, who specialised in portraits of Jewish personalities. One of these, of the preacher G. Salomon, reached a wider public as a lithograph by S. Bendixen. Apart from an entry in the Thieme Becker Kuenstler Lexikon, based on the Hamburger Kuenstlerlexikon, nothing is known about Nathan Casler.

I have in my possession a portrait of an ancestor of mine signed "Nathan Casler pinxit" and would like to hear from other owners in an attempt to establish the oeuvre of a forgotten artist.

13 Hillside Gardens Dr. K. E. HINRICHSEN
Highgate
London N6 5SU.

Art Reviewing

Sir,—I would like you to know how much I appreciate *AJR Information*, which it is a great joy to read every month.

Being myself in the art line, I especially enjoy reading the reviews by Alice Schwab, and the fact that not only Jewish artists and exhibitions are reviewed gives me particular pleasure since otherwise I would miss one or another great event.

Studio 'B'
3 Greville Place,
London, N.W.6

F. I. KORMIS

Mr. Kormis is the distinguished sculptor, still working busily in his eighth decade. -Ed.



William Roberts: Artist and his Wife

KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY

The William Roberts exhibition "An Artist and his Family" at the National Portrait Gallery (until 7 October) is apposite in its timing since it complements the major exhibition of the work of his brother-in-law, Jacob Cramer, which was recently held at the Ben Uri. William Roberts (1895-1980) was a key member of the Vorticist group and maintained a prolific output until his death. The forty pictures in this exhibition are all of Roberts himself, his wife Sarah (Cramer's sister) and his son John. They are not only tender in their composition, but reflect the artist's superb draughtsmanship and subtle use of colours. Many of the pictures have not previously been on public display.

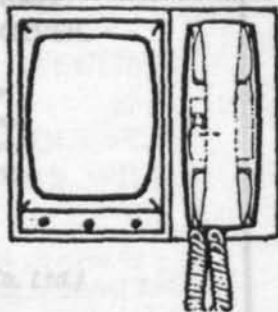
At the John Denham Gallery, 50 Mill Lane, NW6, there has recently been an exhibition of paintings, drawings, collages and reliefs by Walter Nessler. Nessler was born in Leipzig in 1912, but spent his formative years in Dresden where he studied at the Italian Art School. He left Germany in 1937 to settle in England and served in the British Army during the last war. Later he worked and studied in Paris and developed his sculptural capabilities at the St Martin's School of Art under Elizabeth Frink. Much of his work is experimental, but for the last twenty years he has been concerned with aspects of man and space. Some of his pictures can still be seen at the gallery.

Alice Schwab

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FLORA SOLOMON

In one of our last intimate talks—it coincided with the recent publication of her fascinating biography "From Baku to Baker Street" (Collins, £11.95)—Flora Solomon said: "Well, now I have fully accounted for my life." I only sensed the premonition in her remark, expressed in that factual way which was so typical of her personality.

In a strange way, today her words seem to soften the blow which the loss of this extraordinary woman and friend has dealt me and all who loved and admired her. How few of us are fortunate enough to account for a lifetime full of worthwhile activity and lasting relationships? Moreover, Flora Solomon was of that precious breed who create with their talent and intellect the opportunities to use their natural gifts for the benefit of others.

Born as the first of three daughters, Flora Solomon grew up in Russia, surrounded by luxury but totally starved of parental love and affection. There was not even any response to the adoration of her beloved father, a millionaire in control of the Baku oil resources. It was here in an early encounter with the living conditions of his employees that Flora's social conscience was aroused, an experience never to be forgotten. It fired her determination to relieve poverty and suffering wherever she saw it. Her fearless willpower and resourcefulness in pursuit of her aims were immense, particularly as these qualities were supported by the skills of the born organiser. It was this rare combination which produced her remarkable achievements as the pioneer Welfare Officer at Marks and Spencer. Above all, it made her known as "The Lady with the Ladle"—Flora Solomon was the prime-mover of that unique institution



Flora Solomon

known during the war as the British Restaurant.

If the emotional deprivation of the young Flora had left no ostensible scar, it certainly did not help her to become a warm, motherly woman. During the many years of our friendship we had grown very close, in spite of a very different mentality. She felt at home in my house and with my family and we were always very open with each other in our mutual criticism. "You are too compassionate", she used to tell me. "I don't burden myself if I cannot help. I can only act." And act she did. Selflessly, regardless of her own needs or comfort. The days of luxury were left behind. She did not care about money or possessions; she was, in fact, extremely modest, almost without personal demands.

But what mattered to Flora Solomon were people and relationships. She was the most generous hostess, stimulating and responsive at the same time, with a keen eye for budding personalities, particularly if they were in need of a helping hand. Once she recognised their potential, she would do everything she could to further them. It was a real joy to observe her in conversation with people from all walks of life and to see her kindling their hidden qualities.

May I finally use the courtesy of your pages to thank Barnet Litvinoff who, by his inspired cooperation with Flora Solomon on the book, has preserved the image of this great woman of our time.

LOLA HAHN-WARBURG

WAR MUSEUM THINKS AGAIN

Jewish visitors to the exhibition "European Resistance to Nazi Germany" at the Imperial War Museum were surprised to find little apparent reference to Jewish resistance to the Third Reich. It turned out that, although relevant documents were on show, they had not been translated from the original languages and would convey little to any visitor who knew neither French nor German. The Imperial War Museum has now put translations of the documents on show and plans to include a section on the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

COMPUTERS FOR CARMEL

From September, every pupil at Carmel College from the first to fifth years is to study computing in the school's own computer laboratory. The Independent Schools Micro-Electronic Education Project hopes to present Carmel as an example to other independent schools in the attempt to persuade them to install computer equipment.



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IN MEMORY OF HERBERT BAUM

Students at Berlin's Technical University have been pressing for the University's main building to be named after Herbert Baum, the Jewish communist who fought against National Socialism. But more conservative elements in the University Senate rejected the suggestion, partly because members of the Baum Group had set fire to a Nazi exhibition in their struggle against the Third Reich. The dispute, however, has been resolved by an agreement to hold an annual symposium to be called the "Herbert Baum Colloquium: Resistance and Persecution under National Socialism". Topics chosen will relate to the role of scholarship during the Third Reich and each colloquium will be centred on a person or group who suffered under the Nazis.

US BERLINERS VISIT CITY

A party of 255 former Berliners now living in the USA visited the city recently at the invitation of the Senate of Berlin. Most of them were from New York and for many guests it was the first visit to Berlin since their enforced emigration. The Senate has been issuing similar invitations for over a decade.

FRANKFURTERS IN HOME TOWN

The City of Frankfurt a.M. has once again invited former citizens to visit their home town. 115 guests recently came to Frankfurt, mostly from Israel, but also from the New World and Italy. In his speech of thanks, Curt Meyer of Jerusalem made the point: "After 50 years, there can be no homecoming, only a visit, a remembrance of oneself".

STORM OVER FASSBINDER PLAY

The Director of Frankfurt's Old Opera House, Ulrich Schwab, was dismissed on the spot after he had refused to consider protests against his plan to present "Der Müll, die Stadt und der Tod" [Rubbish, the city and death] by the late Rainer Werner Fassbinder. The play deals with a rich and lecherous Jewish speculator and exploiter of the poor. It was published in 1976, to the accompaniment of protests against its apparent antisemitism, but has never yet been performed: the author wished it to have its premiere in Frankfurt. When Herr Schwab announced his intention to stage "Der Müll . . .", the Jewish community of Frankfurt voiced sharp protests, while the Lord Mayor and the head of the city's cultural affairs asked him to reconsider the matter. In his turn, the Opera Director accused the city authorities of censorship, and after several hours of discussion the board of the Old Opera House decided to dismiss him. A statement by the city council declared that it no longer had confidence in Herr Schwab.

DORTMUND SHOW FINDS HOME

Now three years old, an exhibition on "Persecution and Resistance in Dortmund" has found a permanent home in Rittershausstrasse. In the meantime, it has been seen in Netania, Copenhagen, Odense and several places in Germany besides Dortmund itself. A similar exhibition is to be seen in connection with "Dortmund Week" at Rostov in the Soviet Union. Over 100,000 spectators have seen the documents, photographs, illegal pamphlets, banners and badges of forbidden political groups, making up the exhibition.

NO TRIAL FOR THÄLMANN KILLING

Despite the efforts of Irma Gabler-Thälmann, it appears certain that no proceedings will be brought against Wolfgang Otto for the murder of her father, Ernst Thälmann, leader of the Communist Party in the Weimar Republic. Otto, a former SS-man now aged 72, has been consistently accused of having killed Thälmann in 1944 by shooting him in the back of the head in Buchenwald crematorium. Under the American occupation of Germany, Otto was in fact imprisoned for a short time for this crime, but was released in 1952. Now a Kleve court has rejected the attempt to bring him to trial on the grounds that evidence given by Marian Zgoda (who died some time ago) was questionable on several points. Zgoda, a corpse-carrier at Buchenwald, described the scene of the murder in detail on a number of occasions. Following this court decision, coupled with the death of Ernst Thälmann's widow and that of Professor F. K. Kaul, a lawyer who backed the family's efforts, it seems most improbable that the question will be raised again in court.

EMIGRATION RESEARCH OFFICE

The Museum of Hamburg History has opened a new department entitled (in English) the Historic Emigration Office. The basis of its information consists of lists of German emigrés between 1850 and 1914, which carry the names of nearly five million persons who left for the New World via the port of Hamburg. The HEO has put this information on to microfilm, but stresses that no researches can be made without the name of the person concerned and the exact year of their emigration.

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OBITUARIES

JOSEPH AMUSIN

Professor Joseph Amusin, a world authority on the Dead Sea Scrolls, died recently in Leningrad. Born in 1910 in Byelorussia, he was arrested on suspicion of Zionism in 1927, while still a school-boy. Again, he spent some years in prison in the 1930s and on his release he studied history, fought in the Second World War and then returned to his studies. Professor Amusin specialised in the ancient world, particularly the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Qumran texts and Biblical Palestine, although he was never allowed to visit Israel.

EMMY BUCHLER

Emmy Buchler, who died recently, was a great help to young German refugees in the 30s. Daughter of the principal of Jews' College, she was deeply involved in the London Jewish Club, arranging reading circles, English and Hebrew classes and other social functions. She also taught English in conjunction with the refugees' committee in Woburn House.

URSULA LEO-LEVY

The distinguished artist Ursula Leo-Levy has died at the age of 69. A Berliner by birth, she came to Britain in 1939 and in this country married her fellow-artist Emmanuel Levy. Part of her efforts were devoted to teaching art, but the originality of her own work was appreciated by art collectors in Britain, Germany and Portugal.

KLAUS WACHSMANN

A pioneer in studying the nature of music, particularly African music, Professor Klaus Wachsmann died a few weeks ago. He was 77. Born in Berlin, Klaus Wachsmann studied under the musicologist Erich von Hornbostel, but left Germany in 1933. He moved to Uganda and was curator of Kampala Museum from 1949 to 1957. There he studied and wrote about Ugandan musical instruments. Eventually he went to America and held chairs in several universities. Professor Wachsmann was often invited to lecture in Britain, where he held the Bronze Medal of the Royal African Society.

BERNARD HANAUER

While on his way to the memorial gathering in Berlin on July 20th, 67-year-old Bernard Hanauer died at London Airport. As a Dutch student in Germany before the war, he was a determined opponent of the Nazi regime and spent some time in Dachau. During the war, he joined the Special Operations Executive and carried out much undercover work in the Far East. After 1945, Captain Hanauer taught at Bedales and Charterhouse, but in the wider world he was chairman of One Free Democratic Europe, vice president of the Union des Résistants pour une Europe Unie and of the Union Internationale de la Résistance et de la Déportation. He also sat on the executive of the Comité International de Dachau. Among his many decorations was the Netherlands Resistance Memorial Cross.

FRANK LYNDER

Frank Lynder (The Sergeant) died recently in Berlin at the age of 68. Arriving in Britain shortly before the outbreak of war, he joined the Pioneer Corps and was later attached to the late Sefton Delmer's Black Propaganda group. Their secret operation specialised in broadcasting subversive propaganda to the German forces, apparently emanating from dissident German servicemen and officers. Some years after the war, Mr. Lynder returned to Germany and held an important position in the Axel Springer Verlag.

BERNARD KING

The death of Bernard King at the age of 92 was announced recently. He was well known in Fleet Street, since he was art editor of the "News Chronicle" for nearly 30 years. In 1960 he joined the "Jewish Chronicle" in a similar post and continued with the paper until 1970. Thereafter he continued to act as art consultant to the "JC". As a young man, Bernard King was employed by an American advertising agency and worked in the United States for a number of years. In the 1920s the agency appointed him manager in its Berlin office, but after Hitler came to power he was beaten up by the SS, the offices were wrecked and he was forced to leave everything and arrived in Britain virtually destitute. It was from that point that he had to make a new career as an editor.

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SEMINARY COLLECTION SALE

Protests were made when the auction firm of Sotheby's announced earlier this year that it was proposing to include a number of Hebrew books and manuscripts in a New York sale. The items, which included a 15th-century manuscript of Maimonides and mediaeval books of religion, originally belonged to the Berlin rabbinical seminary closed by the Nazis in 1942. The New York State Attorney, at the instance of Jewish groups, tried unsuccessfully to block the sale pending evidence of the true ownership. The president of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, said the College would not be bidding for the manuscripts, since he considered them "tainted": the original owners were dead and the books would be sold for personal profit. Another point of view was expressed by the director of Jerusalem's Museum of Jewish Art, who said that people who had rescued the books from destruction by the Nazis had performed a good deed and deserved to reap a profit.

The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York by private treaty bought the two most valuable items in the collection, a 15th-century Bible from Prague and a 14th-century Spanish prayerbook. These were valued respectively at \$500,000 and \$200,000, whilst several other manuscripts were sold at over one million dollars each.

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CHOIRMASTER FROM ESSEN

Willi Scharf's father had a good voice and hoped to become an operatic singer in pre-war Germany. But the Nazis came to power and the Scharf family, having seen Essen Synagogue burnt before their eyes, fled to England. Willi continued his father's interest in music: he became a professional violinist (he still enjoys playing the violin and viola) and studied singing. Twenty-one years ago, he was appointed choirmaster at Hampstead Synagogue, where for the past 90 years there has been a mixed choir.

YOUNG GERMANS AND THE JEWS

Over three years ago, an elderly man living in Israel wrote to the editor of the "Jerusalem Post": "Yes, I still hate the Germans and everything relating to them. Not only did they massacre 6 million Jews, they have over and above that destroyed many more lives". This letter brought a reply from pupils of an Erkrath (near Düsseldorf) school, saying that they were not even born during the Nazi period and asking what could be done to overcome such lasting hatred. There ensued a lively correspondence, in the course of which the

original letter-writer invited the 25 young people to visit him in Israel. Other writers, mostly older people, also invited the German pupils. A continuing relationship was set up and the Erkrath school last year held an exhibition entitled "Letters to Young Germans". Now a book based on this episode (edited by Wolfgang Wende, Düsseldorf, "der kleine Verlag") has been issued; it contains not only the original 34 letters, but also many documents and bibliography, a revealing testimony to the contacts between young Germans and Jews of their grandparents' generation.

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.

Deaths

Altschul:—H. Altschul, of 10 Fettes House, Wellington Road, NW8 died on 27 July. Born in Hannover, he was a passenger in May 1939 on the "St. Louis" (The Voyage of the Damned). Deeply mourned by his family.

Grunfeld:—Mrs. Marianne Grunfeld, of 70 Cholmley Gardens, London NW6, widow of the late Karl Grunfeld and mother of the late Frank Grunfeld, passed away on 1 August. She will be sadly missed by her remaining nephews and nieces, to whom she devoted her life after losing her nearest and dearest.

Keyzer:—Adele Keyzer, of 19 Devonshire Court, New Hall Road, Salford 7, passed away suddenly

while on holiday in Germany. Sadly missed by all her relatives and friends. **MHDSRIP.**

Lowe:—Mrs. Martha Lowe, of 9 Clarendon Gardens, Wembley, passed away peacefully at Northwick Park Hospital on 3 August in her 84th year. Deeply mourned by her son, grandson, daughter-in-law, family and friends.

Waldstein:—Gerhard Waldstein died on 26 July after a grave illness. I lost my wonderful friend. May he rest in peace. Always sadly missed by Steffi Feher.

Walters:—Edith Walters passed away in her sleep suddenly on Friday, 27 July. A loving woman filled with gentle nobility. A caring mother and devoted wife now resting at peace. Sadly missed and forever in the hearts of husband Eric and son Ian.

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The charge in these columns is 50p for five words plus £1.00 for advertisements under a Box No. To save administrative costs, please enclose payment with the text of your advertisement.

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INFORMATION REQUIRED

BECHAJA. Irene Bechaja, who emigrated to England with her parents when she was a child. Box 1039.

JENSEN. Can anyone recollect Karl & Margarete Jenson who emigrated with their son Torsten in 1939 from (Sued) Mahlsdorf (Sued-Ost Berlin)? Box 1038.

POSENER. Siegbert Felix Posener, born 7.12.1916 in Bitterfeld, parents Heinrich and Margarete. Lived in Dresden, went to Berlin 1939, then to

London. Information to Dr Gary Leon, AJR, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3

AJR Enquiry

KOSTA. Would Mrs. A. Kosta, last known address 36 Burnham Court, Brent Street, London NW4 2RE, please contact the Membership Department.

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INSURANCE DISPUTE FOR ORT

A year ago British ORT had organised a charity dinner at which the former US Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, was to have appeared. ORT was hoping to make £100,000 for its funds through this occasion, but at the last moment Dr. Kissinger had to withdraw to head a Presidential Commission of Inquiry on Central America. The charity had, with foresight, insured against the guest of honour failing to appear, but alas, the insurers have refused the claim, apparently because of a different reading of the policy. British ORT is currently suing the underwriters.

GREETINGS CARDS WANTED

The Council of Christians and Jews is asking artists to submit a new design for a greetings card. For the past three years, a card designed by John Harris with the word "Shalom" in Hebrew and "Peace" in English has been in use. The successful designer will receive an honorarium of £50, and will have the satisfaction of helping a good cause.

BELSIZE SQUARE ON COMPUTER

Far-reaching changes were suggested at the annual meeting of the Belsize Square Synagogue. The chairman, Ernest Nathan, wondered whether the Synagogue should not move to some other district in North London. Martin Lawrence also thought that consideration should be given to leaving the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues and affiliating to the Conservative Movement. Alternatively the Synagogue might remain independent. After long discussion, it was decided that a computer study of the 1,285 members should be carried out and a steering committee report on the results.

KOKOTEK FUND APPLIED

For the first time, the Jakob J. Kokotek Jewish Educational Fund has granted two bursaries, covering one-half of the travel fees involved in a tour of Israel. The recipients, Jonathan Lachmann and Daniel Zeff, were runners-up in a project on Israel and the Diaspora.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

Poland. It is not often that theatre reports emanate from that country. A great success however which recently filled the Teatr Polski in Warsaw to capacity was "The Maestro" by Jaroslaw Abramow-Nevery, having as its subject a Jewish pianist of world repute who visits his country of birth shortly before his 100th birthday in memory of his music idols Paderewski and Zamoyski and who is given a royal reception and overwhelmed with honours in an effort to wipe out the affronts he suffered many years before. There is hardly any doubt that the play recalls Artur Rubinstein; the "maestro's" character is that of the famous pianist. It is noteworthy perhaps that the figure of a Polish Jew with his ideas and obsessions is described in detail by an author whose generation knows little of Jewish history and society. It is also noteworthy that jokes about Polish antisemitism are freely permitted and discussed.

From London Opera Houses. An exciting season begins at Covent Garden where an entirely new "Tannhäuser" (in German) opens on 25th September, and where in December Sir Georg Solti will conduct "Rosenkavalier" with Kiri te Kanawa and Agnes Baltsa. English National Opera announce a new Managing Director who will succeed Lord Harewood next year. He is Mr. Peter Jonas, London-born administrator of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; his wife is the Czech soprano Lucia Popp.

Birthdays. *Gerald Moore*, the English pianist (now retired) who accompanied star singers for many decades, Fischer-Dieskau, Victoria de los Angeles and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf among them, and celebrated his 85th birthday. Also 85 is *Rudolf*

Carl, the Austrian comedian who played the "Fledermaus"-Frosch at the Vienna Volksoper for many years; he has 356 film roles to his credit. *Willy Boskovsky*, formerly leader of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, violinist and conductor who in typical Johann Strauss fashion entertained a world audience with his New Year's Day concerts for 25 years, was honoured by the Austrian state on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

The Austrian Bookshelf presents "Ringstrassenwelt", a study of Vienna's development between 1867 and 1887 by best-seller author Hellmut Andics. (Verlag Jugend und Volk, Vienna.) Some items make remarkable reading: "Black Day at the stock exchange in 1873", the first Social Democrats under Viktor Adler in the political background, and the proverbial words of Vienna's Mayor Karl Lueger who arrogantly claimed to determine "who is a Jew and who is not."

S.B.

GUSTAV LANDAUER

Manuscripts and letters to and from Gustav Landauer (1870-1919) as well as illustrative material are being sought by the Lambert Schneider publishing house for a Complete Works and Letters of the socialist writer. Owners of such material, or persons who can provide information about it, are requested to contact either Prof. Dr. Norbert Altenhofer, Institut für Deutsche Sprache und Literatur II, J. W. Goethe Universität, Gräfsstrasse 76, D-6000 Frankfurt a.M., West Germany or Herr Gerhard Loos, Verlag Lambert Schneider, P.O.B. 105802, D-6900 Heidelberg, West Germany.

FRIEDRICH BRODNITZ 85

Age has not left its mark on Dr. Friedrich Brodnitz (New York), who will celebrate his 85th birthday on September 25. A leading laryngologist and an authority on voice treatment, he continues his professional work with undiminished intensity. In our midst, he is remembered for his Jewish activities in Germany before and after 1933. When the Nazis came to power and he had to give up his medical practice, he became a leading functionary of the Reichsvertretung and its associated organisations. After the death of Ludwig Tietz he was also elected chairman of the Reichsausschuss der juedischen Jugendverbaende. In all these activities he excelled by professional expertise and courage. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1937. There he became the first president of "Habonim", the congregation founded by German-Jewish immigrants. His loyalty to his fellow workers and friends from Germany is reflected in several publications, the latest of which was his sincere and comprehensive contribution to the book in memory of Ludwig Tietz (published by the Council of Jews from Germany, 1980). We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Fritz Brodnitz.

CORRECTION

Jacob Sachs's birthday, reported in our August issue, should have given his age as 80. We renew our congratulations, and remind our readers that he was among the very first of the founder members of the AJR to suggest the establishment of old age Homes.

LEGACIES

The Trustees of the AJR Charitable Trust have received with gratitude the following legacies and donations: F. S. Bein Trust; Miss Gertrude Ehrenwerth; Mrs. E. C. Indig; Mrs. Frieda Jenak; Mrs. Irene Klemperer; Dr. Elisabeth Rose Maier; Mrs. Rosa Rosenstrauch; Mrs. Pauline Silberman.

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