

AJR *Information*

Volume XLIX No. 1
January 1994

£3 (to non-members)

Don't miss . . .

On the Waugh path p7

Our new director p8

Indian Summer holiday p9

Red comeback?

One of last year's paradoxes has been the electoral comeback of Communists in several European countries. Reform Communists in office do not necessarily spell the end of democracy. In Lithuania they moderate Russophobia. In Poland they counteract undue clerical influence. In Italy they are clean by local standards and marginalise the neo-Fascist 'protest' vote. Their revived fortunes in Eastern Germany may usefully curb *Wessie* triumphalism and persuade the powerholders in Bonn to show greater sensitivity in future than they did over the presidential candidacy of Steffen Heitmann. □

A call for 'responsible parenting'

Handing on the torch

The current issue is the first to appear in 1994. This statement of the blindingly obvious is not a bit of padding but has a serious purpose: nothing makes us more aware of the passage of time than the advent of a new year. It is, after all, the date on the calendar, and not the 'countdown' marked by individual birthdays, which signposts our journey through life.

On this journey, everyone had predecessors – and some have enjoyed the good fortune of having successors. Having children is an uncovenanted bonus at any time; how much does this hold good for members of the refugee community, many of whom lack the wider network of uncles, aunts and cousins which is normally taken for granted?

Ex-refugees have, of course, hardly known normality for fifty-five years, *i.e.* the best part of their lives. The more fortunate amongst them have, though, through marriage and parenthood (not to mention grand-parenthood) managed to restore a measure of normality into their lives.

Others have not. They have either remained alone or have, even if married, lacked children or been widowed for many years. Over a century and half ago Heinrich Heine wrote a poem about the Hospital for Poor Jews in Hamburg, in which he stated that he could conceive of no greater misery than to be poor, sick and Jewish.

With minimal changes Heine's formulation could be adapted to describe the present situation of all too many in our community. They are old, sometimes sick and Jewish in a sense of having been stigmatised that could not have been envisaged in Heine's day. They are also poor – even if their impoverishment stems more from loss of loved ones and loneliness than absolute loss of material necessities.

It is almost a cliché of social science research that once an individual's essential needs for food and shelter have been satisfied he or she feels emotional deprivation more acutely than the lack of creature comforts. After all, mental anguish is not confined to the worst-off in society; nor for that matter, is suicide. (Even crime, conventionally seen as a by-product of poverty, has diverse causes, many of them psychological rather than material.)

Even if state provision supplemented by the input of voluntary organisations procures minimum standards of comfort for the frail and elderly their emotional problems – of isolation and loneliness – still remain to be addressed.

AJR was founded by a number of far-sighted individuals to represent the manifold interests and concerns of refugees – and has, on the whole, discharged this task very well. Today, however, the founding generation of AJR activists is passing from the scene. What is required is for members of a new, British-born, generation to come forward and fill the incipient vacuum that threatens to grow wider with the passage of time. We appeal to members of the 'transplanted' generation – who surely must remember the hardships they originally endured – to make the successor generation aware of new and greater needs among their own less fortunate brethren. AJR urgently requires younger people to participate in all its activities – not least as 'befrienders' for lonely and sometimes handicapped or housebound members. Unless the children come forward the parents' work will remain unfinished – with all that that implies for the most unfortunate members of our community. □



Alblandschaft, 1933 in Ulm.
Paul Kleinschmidt.

Kinders' gift to sick children

The Reunion of Kindertransport (ROK) raised £12,500 at their 50th anniversary reunion for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Wishing Well Appeal.

On a visit to the hospital in November ROK organisers Bertha Leverton and Rita Rosenbaum saw a new bed dedicated to ROK in the building's new plastic surgery ward. Bertha said: 'The support given by those present at the Reunion was a manifestation of their deep gratitude for their lives being saved as children. How appropriate it is to choose a hospital whose sole purpose it is to save the lives of children! May all those who come here sick and depressed leave with their bodies healed and their spirits uplifted'. □

Visit – or visitation

A controversial educational visit last month by a group of German right-wing youths to Israel has resulted in a reprimand for the organiser, Marita Schieferdecker, head of the foreign relations office in Dresden. Wolfgang Nowak, Saxony's culture minister, called her politically naïve for thinking such a visit could help Dresden's image or the young people concerned.

Stories that some of the 21 skinheads had insulted Jews who accompanied them and caused a disturbance at Yad Vashem were widely reported in the German and Israeli press. However, Mrs Schieferdecker claimed the reports were exaggerated by journalists who wished to provoke outbursts in their search for copy.

Since 1991 Mrs Schieferdecker has been organising discussions among the city's neo-Nazis, and also taken groups to tour the site of Auschwitz. She said: 'They ought to learn about Israel and the fate that befell Jews during the Nazi period.' □

Profile

Music and mother love



Alice and Raphael Sommer. Photo: Newman.

Strange parallel between fiction and reality: last autumn when London cinemas showed a film for whose fictitious heroine only piano playing made life worthwhile, a TV channel features a real heroine who saved her life by playing the piano.

This heroine is Alice Sommer (née Herz). Alice was born 90 years ago in Prague, a city often dubbed 'golden'. It owed this epithet partly to architectural splendour, partly to the many 'goldmakers' employed by the alchemy obsessed Emperor Rudolf. For Alice Prague appears golden for other reasons. Her parents let her have an excellent musical education; one of her teachers had been Liszt's pupil. Social and family contacts reached into the circle of Jewish writers who either enriched German literature or the Zionist movement. As a child she was told fairy tales by Kafka, later Felix Weltsch became a relation by marriage; Max Brod reviewed her piano recitals for the *Prague Tagblatt*.

In 1933 she married a Vienna-born businessman: their son Raphael was born a year before Munich. Hereafter the horizons darkened inexorably with every few months bringing fresh disasters for Jews. The story is too gruesomely familiar to need repeating. Suffice it to say that by 1943 Alice found herself crammed into a Theresienstadt attic with Raphael, but separated from her husband (who died of typhoid fever in Dachau). Despite exposure to constant hunger pangs, dreadful over-crowding and unremitting fear for her son's health, she

was privileged. As a pianist she performed several times week, partly before fellow prisoners, partly for Nazi propaganda purposes. If when young she had rubbed shoulders with Jewish writers (Kafka, Brod, Baum, Winder) she now got to know Jewish composers like Ullmann, Krasna and Haas. In Theresienstadt, ante-chamber to hell, the aforementioned created operas like *The Emperor of Atlantis* and *Brundibar*. Raphael sang the part of a sparrow in *Brundibar*; he turned out eventually to be one of only 3 survivors in his age group of four thousand.

In 1944 the grim musical charade came to an end and Alice had to split mica for the Nazi war effort under military supervision. After liberation she returned to Prague where the pitiful Jewish remnant received generous succour from co-religionists abroad.

In 1949 she (with Raphael) emigrated to Israel where – middle-aged – she had to set to and learn Hebrew. There she re-encountered Max Brod, who again reviewed one of her concerts.

Unsurprisingly Raphael, whom she calls the inspiration behind her own survival, also chose a musical career. After studying in Paris under Tortelier, he became Professor of Cello at Manchester and now teaches at the Guildhall School of Music. In 1986 Alice, too, came to England. A Hampstead resident she enters her tenth decade with a daily schedule of swimming and piano.

If music be the food of longevity . . .

□ R.G.

JACKMAN ■ SILVERMAN
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

26 Conduit Street, London W1R 9TA
Telephone: 071 409 0771 Fax: 071 493 8017

FOR THOSE YOU CARE MOST ABOUT



Springdene

A modern nursing home with 26 yrs of excellence in health care to the community. Licensed by Barnet area health authority and recognised by BUPA & PPP.

HYDROTHERAPY & PHYSIOTHERAPY provided by full time chartered physiotherapists for inpatients and outpatients.

SPRINGDENE 55 Oakleigh Park North, Whetstone, London N.20

081-446 2117

SPRINGVIEW 6-10 Crescent Road, Enfield. Our completely new purpose built hotel style retirement home. All rooms with bathroom en-suite from £305 per week. 081-446 2117.

The Horthy phenomenon

In Hungary the Great War was followed by a Civil War between the Red followers of Bela Kun and the Whites led by Admiral Horthy. Fighting was accompanied by atrocities in which White officers specially targeted Jews.

In November 1919, in dark blue sailor's uniform, Horthy entered Budapest on a white horse. In 1920 he became Head of State. At the time Hungary was a kingdom without a king and its ruler an admiral of the fleet, even though the country had no sea port.

The mid-Twenties brought a relative consolidation. The people of Hungary lived in peace. Parliament included bourgeois and right-wing parties. The left-wing opposition was represented by the Social Democrats.

Soon after Hitler came to power some members of Parliament were drawn closer to his policies, which pleased many people. Some of the politicians, even members of the Jewish upper class, who had access to Horthy, tried to persuade him to protect the assimilated Hungarian Jews, but the country's political direction veered towards Germany.

From 1938 onwards anti-Jewish laws were introduced limiting the activity and

means of livelihood for Jewish citizens ever more tightly.

This led to an interesting phenomenon: as Jewish actors and musicians were prevented from performing in the state sector they produced very high quality performances of operas, concerts and plays in the Goldmark Hall next to the Central Synagogue. At my Jewish Teachers' Training College, dismissed university professors were teaching mathematics, art and literature; the gym teacher was a former Olympic athlete.

Vienna awards

Hitler rewarded Horthy in the so-called Vienna Awards with territory Hungary had lost to Czechoslovakia and Romania under the treaty of Trianon. Jews living in the returned territories overwhelmingly declared themselves to be Hungarians. When Hitler overran Yugoslavia in 1941, Horthy's army occupied Vojvodina. In Ujvidek (Novi Sad) the Hungarian army massacred hundreds of Jews and Serbs.

In 1941 Hungary formally entered the war on Hitler's side against the Soviet Union and the Allied Powers.

By 1943 Horthy, using British connections, tried to pull Hungary out of the war. The secret negotiations under a new Prime Minister, Miklos Kallay, failed because they were discovered by the Gestapo.

On 19th March 1944 Hitler summoned Horthy to his headquarters for a conference. On the same day – a Sunday – the German army began the occupation of Hungary. Prominent Jews and left-wing politicians were arrested, interrogated and tortured by the Gestapo.

Horthy returned to Buda Castle and did not resist the Germans. He simply settled for his limited personal freedom.

Protected houses

In the summer of '44 Adolf Eichmann ordered the deportation of the Jews in the provinces. There the Gendarmerie rounded up Jews, herding them into the infamous 'brick factories'. During this time some Christians, clergymen and even army officers, saved Jews. The Swiss and the International Red Cross, and the Swedish Embassy, established 'protected houses' to shelter Jews. Meanwhile the police started to fence in the Ghetto.

On 15th October 1944, Horthy, in a radio address, declared a cease-fire and his intention to pull out of the war. Within hours his pull-out effort collapsed. The Gestapo arrested Horthy and forced him to hand over power to Ferenc Szalasi, leader of the Hungarian Nazi Party, the *Arrow Cross*.

Horthy was taken to Germany and interned there. Budapest was liberated by the Red Army in February 1945. Szalasi was executed as a war criminal in Hungary in 1946.

Horthy was captured and interrogated by the Americans. According to his memoirs one of the interrogating American officers was a Hungarian Jew. They did not charge Horthy with war crimes. He went into exile in Portugal, where he died in 1957 at the age of 89. In September 1993 his remains were brought to Hungary for re-interment in the former estate of his family of Kenderes. The burial was a private affair. However, about 50,000 people attended the funeral, among them eight government ministers 'in their private capacity'. Prime Minister Antall was represented by his wife. Horthy's grandson, Istvan Horthy, who was educated in the West, made a speech. He said that the people of Hungary should live in peace with each other, and asked forgiveness from the victims and opponents of his grandfather.

Among the wreaths one inscription read 'From the grateful Jewish people'. At the same time as the funeral of Horthy was taking place the Jewish Community held a memorial service at the Central Synagogue, Dohany Street, for the victims of the Horthy era. Elsewhere, a day earlier, at a demonstration called by the Democratic Charta, one of the speakers said 'We came here to bury the semi-Fascist Horthy regime'.

□ Pal Foti-Friedlander

COMPENSATION CLAIMS GERMANY

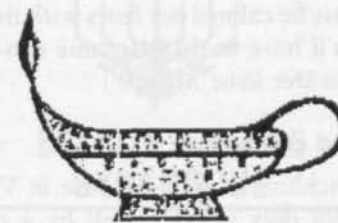
Under a new Agreement regular hardship payments will be made to victims of the Holocaust who were hitherto unable to apply for or received only inadequate compensation payments.

Claims may be filed by persecutees who were held in concentration camps for at least six months. Those who were confined in ghettos or lived in hiding for at least eighteen months are also entitled to claim.

On instructions our Office will assist you to prepare your Application and pursue the matter with the authorities.

For further information please contact:

ICS—Claims
146-154 Kilburn High Road
London NW6 4JD
Tel: 071-328 7251 (Ext. 107)
Fax: 071-624 5002



Israel's Finest Wines

from the

Golan Heights
Yarden, Golan & Gamla

Write, phone or fax
for full information

House of Hallgarten
Dallow Road, Luton LU1 1UR
Tel: 0582 22538
Fax: 0582 23240

Reviews

Acting speaks louder than words

Henriette Mandle, *CABARET UND COURAGE*, Stella Kadmon – *Eine Biographie*, Universitäts Verlag, Wien, 1993

Stella Kadmon grew up in the 1900s. Practically from the cradle the family saw her as predestined for the performing arts – but which one? Ballet was ruled out by her father's dictum that ballerinas were only glorified mistresses of Habsburg archdukes. She herself rejected film (after a supporting role in a silent directed by G. W. Pabst) and made the stage her lifelong home.

She acted throughout the German language area in the Twenties, apprentice years climaxed by a stint in Werner Finck's *Katakombe* at Munich. In 1930 she set up the – subsequently renowned – Viennese fringe cabaret *Der liebe Augustin*, enlisting talents like the sketch writer Peter Hammerschlag. As the political scene darkened, their programmes became more serious, with anti-Nazi material provided by emigrés from Germany. Alas, the Austrian right-wing Catholic government also curtailed political freedom: a censor attended every cabaret performance to check on what was said or sung. (In typically Austrian fashion, Stella's official watchdog was an illegal SS man; on the eve of the Anschluss he calmed her fears with the quip 'All you'll have to do is rename den lieben Augustin Der liebe Moses!')

Luck and contacts

The Anschluss let all hell loose in Vienna, and Stella only saved herself by a combination of family contacts and good luck. She fetched up in Palestine, where there was a potential audience of German speakers, but the Zionist ethos favoured Hebrew stage performances. She compromised by putting on bilingual sketches, while dreaming of an eventual return to Vienna.

Despite her eagerness, this only occurred in 1947. Fortunately for Stella Vienna's municipal administrator of cultural affairs was Viktor Matejka – the only official in postwar Austria who invited the Jews to come back. He helped Stella make a new start, which led to the founding of the *Theater der Courage*. The name was not fortuitous; it represented a programme. In the postwar years, when the Viennese theatre pandered to the public's penchant

for amnesia via performances of the Classics and *boulevard* comedies, the *Theater der Courage* staged Brecht's *Fear and Terror in the Third Reich*, with Stella appearing in 'The Jewish Wife' sketch.

Later she mingled forays into such fraught *Vergangenheitsbewältigung* with German premieres of plays by Sartre, Genet and Ödon von Horvath. In this way the little *Theater der Courage* played a part in Austrian cultural life out of all proportion to its size. If Bruno Kreisky – Austria's best-known Jewish returnee – helped perpetuate the collective amnesia that led to the Waldheim presidency, Stella did the exact opposite.

Stella Kadmon died as recently as 1989; this biography is her epitaph.

□ R.G.

Memoirs of a fairly fortunate Jew

Heinz K. Henisch, *FIRST DANCE IN KARLSBAD*, Carnation Press, State College, Pennsylvania

'All happy families' wrote Tolstoy 'resemble one another, but unhappy ones are all unhappy in different ways'. In the light of *First Dance in Karlsbad* I would adapt Tolstoy's observation to read 'all refugees are unhappy in different ways'.

One cause for the author's unhappiness was his uprooting, at 16, from Neudek, a small German-speaking town in interwar Czechoslovakia. Another is the fact that, despite occupying a university chair in his adopted country, he sees himself as a lifelong *zuagraster* (Johnny-come-lately or – less euphemistically – bloody foreigner). His father had likewise been a *zuagraster* – birth in Bukowina, legal studies in Vienna, Galician wife, residence in Bohemia – but of a different kidney.

In all the aforementioned parts of Austria-Hungary, German was spoken, and when Henisch senior opened his law practice he automatically joined the Neudek elite. He sat on the town council – as a Social Democrat – initiating changes of street names to honour Goethe and Matteotti. Leftish sentiments notwithstanding he was a thorough-going bourgeois – immaculately turned out, preoccupied with arcane points of law, and the owner of a chauffeur-driven car.

Heinz Henisch had a cosseted middle-class upbringing with a succession of nannies, and subsequent attendance at a *Gymnasium* in the glamorous spa town of Karlsbad. He scoffed pastries in smart *Konditoreis*, took dancing lessons and played tennis, but felt constrained by the paternal dictum '*Kinder haben den Eltern Freude zu machen*' (Children have to give their parents joy).

Abrupt end

It was, nonetheless, a near-idyllic existence which came to an abrupt end with Hitler's occupation of the Sudetenland – but even then the Henisches did not totally share the all-engulfing Jewish misery. As an endangered Social Democrat the father received a British visa through the good offices of Lord Runciman, and the family soon followed. En route to his safe haven young Heinz came into contact with a variety of Jews – Yiddish-speakers, synagogue attenders, Zionists – of whose existence he had hitherto barely been aware. It proved a rite of passage. *First Dance in Karlsbad* is in essence a *recherche pour temps perdus* recreating interwar Neudek in loving detail: horse-drawn traffic, the milkwoman with her churn in a dog cart, the daily promenade, baroque wayside shrines, Sunday outings to the Neudek tower (sketched by Goethe), and so forth. Had the author suffered more of a trauma from uprooting he could not have gone back to his birthplace and researched its topography and history so thoroughly. Maybe the fact that the place is now German – as well as *judenrein* helped.

□ R.G.

**CAMPS
INTERNMENT – P.O.W. –
FORCED LABOUR – KZ**

I wish to buy cards, envelopes and folded post-marked letters from all camps of both world wars. Please send, registered mail, stating price, to:

14 Rosslyn Hill, London NW3
PETER C. RICKENBACK

GERMAN BOOKS

We are always buying:
Books, Autographs, Judaica
Please contact

Antiquariat Metropolis
Leerbachstr. 85
W-6000 Frankfurt a/M
Tel: 0104969559451

REGULAR VISITS TO LONDON

Helter-skelter into the past

A. B. Yehoshua, MR. MANI (tr. Hillel Halkin)
Peter Halban, 1993, £15.99

Part family saga, part history, the fate of wandering Jews is in this story largely seen from the Sephardic point of view, though with the Ashkenazi Diaspora playing its part as well.

Those expecting a chronological narrative à la Galsworthy's *The Forsyte Saga* will be disappointed, for Yehoshua uses radically experimental method. All his characters express themselves in monologue; the effect is one of eavesdropping on conversations where only the words of one interlocutor are audible.

Should you doubt that this can be done, I promise you that Yehoshua succeeds from the first few lines of a stubborn, self-willed daughter ignoring a mother's good advice which could have prevented a suicide, to the end where a sinner confessing his grave transgression to a very sick rabbi finds that his agonised words have fallen on the insensate ears of a dead man.

The novel moves backwards, from a first conversation at a kibbutz in Israel in 1982 to, ultimately, a house in Athens in 1848, and at each stage in this 134-year span a member of the Mani clan plays a crucial part. Two world wars are encompassed; the Turkish Empire falls, the British follows, the German attempt is aborted – all of this mirrored in the deceptively mundane monologues which are, however, at the same time often descriptive and reveal deeper undercurrents.

No sooner have we learned about Hagar Shiloh's courageous struggle to save the life of Judge Mani in Jerusalem after a worried phone call from his son, serving with the Israeli Forces in Lebanon, than the story switches to Crete under German occupation in the Second World War, to the British conquest of Palestine in the First World War, to Poland in the days of nascent Zionism, and finally to mainland Greece and a revelation how the Manis continued the family line by the moral as well as civil offence of one of them. Alas, I must keep this denouement secret for it truly has the force of a Greek tragedy. □ *John Rossall*

Annely Juda Fine Art

23 Dering Street (off New Bond Street)
Tel: 071-629 7578, Fax: 071-491 2139

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING
AND SCULPTURE

ACJR AGM



Getting down to serious business at the AGM

Photo: Newman.

On a brisk evening late last year members of the ACJR gathered in the Mapam premises in Broadhurst Gardens for the Association's 8th Annual General Meeting. The meetings have a now well-established format. That is: official business is dealt with speedily and efficiently so that everyone can get down to important matters such as eating, drinking and generally having a jolly time.

Yes, it's true, much to everyone who attend's relief, here the nuts and nibbles are more important than apologies for absence. And nothing supersedes the magnificent post-meeting spread in importance on this agenda. This emphasis on enjoyment does not mean that the ACJR are unaware or uninterested in outside affairs or events. It simply means that they keep things in perspective. In addition to, and mostly at the same time as, taking pleasure in each other's company and meeting new people on a regular basis (the Association has grown from 8 to 80 members in 8 years), the ACJR produce a monthly newsletter and organise visits to elderly people in residential care. They also make regular donations to charities, even though they are not a 'Fund Raising Organisation'.

Casting off

Those who are fond of intellectual debate find willing and worthy sparring partners amongst the membership of this group. A brief circuit of the dining area can reveal snippets from conversations ranging in subject matter from the laziness of the untrained mind to a new restaurant in Finchley, via an instructive lesson on how to cast off when knitting. There is no such

thing as a 'typical' ACJR member. All they have in common is a sense of belonging.

If you would like to find out more about an organisation which takes itself seriously enough to hold an AGM but has enough sense of humour to use its Official Agenda as a pre-supper ice-breaker – and even manages to make the annual accounts a humorous affair – please contact Anne or Ian via the AJR offices, using Box No. 1250.

□ M.N.



BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

51 BELSIZE SQUARE, NW3

We offer a traditional style of religious service with Cantor, Choir and organ

Further details can be obtained from our synagogue secretary

Telephone 071-794-3949

Minister: Rabbi Rodney J. Mariner
Cantor: Rev Lawrence H. Fine

Regular services: Friday evenings at 6.30 pm,
Saturday mornings at 10 am
Religion school: Sundays at 10 am to 1 pm

Space donated by Patra Limited

Letters to the Editor



GERMAN(E) ISSUES

Sir – Herr Steffen Heitmann, Chancellor Kohl's candidate for the Presidency, denies that a special role for Germany can be derived from the Holocaust, adding 'The time has come to put this event in its proper place'.

Does that place the Shoah on a par with the many massacres throughout history? These were mostly perpetrated by people whose culture was inferior to that claimed by the Germans. Do they really wish to be found in their company?

We, too, need to find our own perspective towards the Germans past and present – if only for our own peace of mind.

All the old colonial powers have been responsible for actions they would rather forget, but the Germans often went that much further than the others.

It was because of the way the Kaiser's soldiers behaved during the Boxer Rebellion in China that the Germans acquired the name of Huns for ever after.

Some decades later the Herero nation in what was then German South West Africa had the temerity to revolt and were ordered to be exterminated by being driven into the Kalahari desert. Not Jews at that time, just Blacks.

Democracy came to the Germans as a result of military defeat, both in 1918 and in 1945. At the end of the Second World War it was imposed on West Germany (just as Communism was on the East) whereas

elsewhere it had been established by the people's own efforts. The Cromwellian and French Revolutions, and others, demonstrate that political forms achieved by a nation's own efforts usually stand the test of time.

France has always been a hotbed of the most virulent antisemitism as shown by the persecution of Dreyfus. Even so the French people eventually put this injustice right by their own efforts.

The Germans have no such record.

Injustices exist in democratic countries as much as anywhere else, but the test is surely how society deals with those injustices and puts them right.

We are currently seeing an example concerning the elimination of racism in Britain. This struggle still has a long way to go. While one must always condemn what is wrong, one should not denigrate what is being done to put it right.

There are probably more decent Germans alive today than ever before and they are still fighting to secure their democracy.

We must support their efforts, but we must also criticise, warn and condemn, when this is necessary. There can surely be few people better qualified than we to make such judgements!

Mallwyd, Powys

Manfred Landau

GERMANOPHOBIA

Sir – 'Anti-German bias' as R. Graupner puts it in the November issue, is, indeed, hard to justify if it means the wholesale condemnation of an entire nation which consists of millions of individuals and, more to the point, of families and groups which influence each other. However, this is hardly the case in this journal. What does come through very clearly though is *anti-Nazi bias*, *Naziphobia*, and I hope that Mr Graupner will understand its motives very clearly.

Connaught Avenue
Grimsby

E. H. Kenneth

Sir – I am getting more and more irritated by the periodic complaints of your contributors regarding your anti-German bias.

My family owned some properties in the former DDR and now, fifty years after the cessation of hostilities and four years after reunification, we are still without a penny of all the rents collected over the past years and no compensation for the properties.

The present position can be summed up in one sentence in a letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office dated 25th October, 1993 '... the long awaited draft compensation law has yet to be passed by the German Parliament.'

Golders Green Road
London NW11

Edmund Stekel

EINSTEIN THE MAN

Sir – The thought of Einstein as a Don Juan would not have occurred to anybody prior to the publication of the 'Love Letters'. It seems to suggest that, when in ladies' company, the Professor could talk of more convivial subjects than his theories.

It seemed much more feasible to imagine him as an enthusiastic fiddler, and he may have taken his cue from Shakespeare's 'If Music be the Food of Love...' However, the claim to his having been a 'considerable' amateur violinist must be put in doubt. It was a well known fact that, when playing chamber music with his friends, he would frequently disrupt the proceedings by losing his place in the score. In consequence he was often admonished with the words: 'Albert, you can't count!'

Holland Park Avenue
London W11

J. Rotter

Sir – I read your review of recent books about Einstein (November 1993) in deep anguish. He will be seen as symbol of an age and culture of unprecedented *Denkfaulheit*. As Jews have been held guilty of causing antisemitism, so Einstein's insufficiency and Jewishness will be blamed for the stupidity of those who worshipped him. Recognition that he had not been quite the saint many believed him to be may, hopefully, mitigate the disaster.

St. Swithun Street
Winchester

Gertrud Walton

MISCONCEIVED

Sir – The controversy about the immaculate conception rests, it appears, on the Isaiah prophecy (in 7.14 Soncino, Books of the Bible). The Hebrew term used is *Ha'alimah* – 'a young women shall conceive'. The Greek translators of the Septuagint translated this term quite properly as 'virgin', *parthenos*. There is however a quite unambiguous Hebrew term for virgin: *B'tula*. Isaiah did not use it. The Greek term *parthenos* became virgin in other languages. The Hebrew said no such thing and the New English Bible calls her again 'a young woman'; so does Soncino. The doctrine of the immaculate conception did not become dogma until the latter half of the 19th

PARTNER

in long established English Solicitors (bi-lingual German) would be happy to assist clients with English, German and Austrian problems. Contact

Henry Ebner

at

Myers Ebner & Deane
103 Shepherds Bush Road
London W6 7LP

Telephone 071 602 4631

ALL LEGAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

century, when divinity and sex were held to be incompatible. Zeus knew better, or differently!

So much for the vagaries of language and how it influences our attitudes.

Aberdare Gardens
London

Ezra Jurmann

AUSTRIA'S BAYREUTH

Sir – As always, I found much to enjoy in your informative and occasionally sardonic notes on Salzburg. However, referring to the Salzburg Festival as 'Austria's Bayreuth' seems to me about as meaningful as dubbing Richard Strauss Germany's Tchaikovsky. What Hugo von Hofmannsthal said on this subject was 'Let Bayreuth stay as it is; it serves one great master; Salzburg will served universal greatness'.

Don Giovanni under Bruno Walter's baton, Toscanini's *Zauberflöte* and *Meistersinger*, *Falstaff* with Stabile, *Fidelio* with Lotte Lehmann, Reinhardt's *Faust* and *Jedermann* provide just some random examples of this universalism.

Some Austrian Bayreuth indeed!

Lambourne Road
Chigwell

Fred Rosner

I was writing about the Festival's entire 'lifespan', not just its first twenty years. Moreover, I tried to contrast the mentality of the Salzburgers with the intention of the Festival founders. Ed

FINK'S QUIP

Sir – The reference in Bar sinister (November issue) to Arnold Bronnen's mother's affidavit calls to mind a parallel incident concerning Göring's protégé, Werner Milch. I vividly remember that most courageous compère Werner Fink's quip which went something like this:

I asked my mother whether I was Jewish. She replied 'Werner, hole mal das Gästebuch' (Werner, fetch the guest book).

Maida Vale
London

(Rabbi) C. E. Cassell

DENTAL SURGEON

WE CARE FOR YOUR SMILE

Dr H. Alan Shields, MB ChB, BDS, LDS RCS(Eng)
46 Brampton Grove, HENDON, London NW4 4AQ

ALL TYPES OF DENTAL CARE

Home visits for the disabled
Dentures and cosmetic dentistry
Emergencies

TOP QUALITY DENTAL TREATMENT AT PRICES YOU CAN AFFORD

Phone: 081-203-0405 for appointment
man spricht deutsch

CARING AND PERSONAL SERVICE

On the Waugh path

Mass immigration has been a feature of the modern world since the 1850s. Irishmen hewed out the London Docks, Poles manned the slaughterhouses of Chicago and Italians built the New York subway. Of late the pace of migratory movements has – if anything – quickened: early in the next century Spanish is expected to replace English as the first language in the United States.

In Europe, meanwhile, increased migratory pressure is boosting the Far Right. 'Three million immigrants equals three million unemployed', trumpets Le Pen: Germany has barred asylum-seekers; anti-Bangladeshi feeling gave the BNP a council seat in East London.

Now, with Auberon Waugh's onslaught on the Booker Prize awards to 'foreigners', xenophobia has spread into the rarified sphere of literature. It possibly irks Waugh that the targets of his attack are not even straight-forward foreigners – but hyphenated ones. The 1992 winner, Michael Ondaatje, is Sri Lankan-Canadian, and the current one, Roddy Doyle, Anglo-Irish, in the sense that he is a Dublin-born English speaker. (Ireland, unlike Israel, has failed to revive its ancient language).

The 1993 shortlist likewise featured the Russo-Canadian Michael Ignatieff, the Lebanese-Australian David Malouf and the Anglo-Hungarian Tibor Fischer.

Fischer, namesake of the founder of Germany's largest publishing house, raises the question: where would the world be without its hyphenated Hungarians? Would Britain have had a film industry – or America the atom bomb?

In fact, given the outflow of talented people from Hungary, one wonders how those left behind managed at all. The question is not as facetious as it sounds if one looks at mid-19th century Germany. There the outflow of Liberals (mainly to America) after the unsuccessful 1848 revolution undoubtedly helped pave the way for Bismarck and the Hohenzollern Reich.

Paradoxically, immigrants are not always the most forward-looking or enterprising section of the population. A case in point are the Poles in the USA, the butt of as many American jokes as the allegedly thick Irish in English humour. (This negative image is explained by the fact that most Polish immigrants to America came from the poverty-stricken backward Carpathian region).

In South African humorous folklore the Boers are similarly cast as 'thickies' – and

for the similar reason that they hail from the *platte land*, rather than the more advanced towns.

An interesting phenomenon is the splitting of a migratory wave between a more educated group seeking one destination and the rest another. This happened when the North African Jews emigrated en masse in the 1950s. Those from Algeria – incorporated into the French empire decades before Morocco and Tunisia – largely went to France, while the others made for Israel.

The advent of Algerian Jews in France has had a stimulating effect on business, entertainment and public life, with some Sephardim becoming veritable household names. Jacques Derrida is a philosopher who raises hackles wherever he goes; Jacques Attali was, until recently, director of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, and his brother Bernard headed Air France.

Britain has, in a way, replicated the phenomenon of a Sephardi 'split'. When the whole of Iraqi Jewry had to leave in the 1940s, the bulk went to Israel, but a wealthy élite came here; their offspring include the Saatchi brothers of media and art gallery fame, and television executive Alan Yentob.

In the economic sphere it has long been accepted that outsider status acts as a spur to achievement, *pace* the Huguenots Barclays and Courtauld, the Jews Melchett and Marks, the Germans Bessemer and Tiny Rowland and the Egyptian El-Fayed brothers.

In others words: migrants are a good thing. Would Auberon Waugh really prefer an English literary landscape bereft of such figures as the Pole Joseph Conrad, the Trinidadian Naipaul brothers, the Afro-Caribbean Nobel Prize winner Derek Walcott and the Indian 'Moslem' Salman Rushdie?

□ R.G.

F. GOLDMAN

Curtains made to measure. Select material in your own home. Tracks, blinds supplied and fitted.

Telephone: 081-205 9232

GERMAN BOOKS BOUGHT

A. W. MYTZE

1 The Riding, London NW11.

The AJR at Work

Our new Director



Ernest David

Making a will? Remember the AJR

Something that none of us should avoid is making a will and keeping it up to date.

We know we cannot take our worldly possessions with us but we can – at least – see that whatever is left behind goes:

- (a) where it will be appreciated,
- (b) where it will do some good,
- (c) where it is needed.

Many of our former refugees have found their association with the AJR a rewarding one. This is an opportunity to support the AJR Charitable Trust. Your solicitor will be able to help you; alternatively you can consult with our welfare rights advisor, Agi Alexander, on 071-483 2536 (Tues, Weds, Thurs) or the social workers at the Day Centre 071-328 0208.

If you have already made a will, it is quite easy to add a codicil.

Whatever amount you are able to leave to the AJR, it will be well received, carefully applied and remembered with gratitude.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new director of AJR. He is Mr. Ernest David, who, as a small child, came to England with his mother in March 1939. He will take up his duties as the chief executive officer of the Association early in January.

After studying law and obtaining an LL.D. (Hons.) degree from University College London, Ernest David qualified as a barrister at Gray's Inn.

Mr David also served three years as an Education Officer in the Royal Air Force. There followed a long and successful career in the aircraft industry, where he was involved in management and consulting

work of increasing variety and importance.

He always identified with his refugee background and, indeed, has been a member of the AJR for many years. His wife, Nicole, is Belgian and survived the war in hiding in Belgium. She has always taken an active interest in helping others and for many years worked at the Citizens Advice Bureau.

We are confident that Ernest David will bring to his new responsibilities a dedicated and caring leadership which, combined with his managerial experience and abilities, will develop the AJR's services for the benefit alike of its members, its staff and all those it seeks to serve. □

AJR Social Service Department update LEBENSBSCHHEINIGUNG

Signing of Life Certificates for those in receipt of *German* Pensions.

Your German Life Certificate may be signed and stamped by your Bank Manager, by your Doctor or by an official at your local Police Station. It must then be sent to The Legalisation Department, German Embassy, 22 Belgrave Square, London

SW1, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. They will authenticate and return it for you to forward it to Germany.

Alternatively, if you wish the Embassy to forward the certificate to Germany on your behalf please enclose a stamped envelope addressed to the relevant authority in Germany.

LEBENSBESTÄTIGUNG

Signing of Life Certificates for those in receipt of *Austrian* Pensions.

Your Austrian Life Certificate may be signed by an official at your local Police Station or by a Notary Public and then sent on to Vienna (do not send it to the Austrian Embassy in London). However if you are housebound you may ask your Doctor to stamp and sign the certificate but it is also necessary for him to write a short letter stating that you are alive and giving your name, address and date of birth. The Life Certificate and letter should then be forwarded to Vienna.

You are probably aware that if you use a Notary Public you could incur some considerable expense. It would be wise to inquire the total cost before using such a service.

Reminder: If you take your Life Certificate to a Police Station to be signed please take along your October 93 issue of *AJR Information* and, if you have any problem, show them the article on page 11 which is headed '2. Lebensbescheinigung/Bestätigung (Life Certificate)'.

AJR MEALS ON WHEELS

A wide variety of high quality kosher frozen food is available, ready made and delivered to your door, via the AJR meals on wheels service. The food is cooked in our own kitchens in Cleve Road, NW6, by our experienced staff.

This service is available to those members with mobility problems or other difficulties.

The cost for a kosher 3 course meal is £3.00. Delivery charge 50p. Payment for meals to be made to the Driver.

If you live in North or North West London and wish to take advantage of this service phone Mrs Ruth Finestone on 071-328 0208 for details and an assessment interview.

Meals can still be collected from 15 Cleve Road on weekdays (Mondays–Thursdays) for £3.00 per meal.

Indian Summer holiday



Tripping the Light Fantastic in Bournemouth

Photo: Steiner

The Paul Balint AJR Day Centre week away in Bournemouth was a great success. Dancing, bingo and quizzes galore ensured that the whole company was in marvellous spirits with laughter and jokes aplenty. Our stay at the Cumberland Hotel included many well-planned coachtrips and the staff ensured we were provided

with all the comforts of home and a good few more for good measure!

The fine weather and warm sunshine provided an additional treat, giving extra pleasure to those of our little band who could not resist browsing in the local markets or simply window shopping around the town. Some of the more 'cul-

tured' types took the opportunity to visit the famous Russel-Cotes Museum.

In contrast to a summer's day, the tranquility of this November 'heatwave' was soothing and added an unexpected element of beauty to the scenery of the area. Glorious red sunsets over the Purbeck Hills seemed to whisper of health, happiness and long restful nights.

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole group, to express our profound gratitude to Sylvia Matus and Renee Lee for having organised this holiday so efficiently and expertly. □

With thanks to Mr H. Cyvia.

AJR

Our address is:
**1 HAMPSTEAD GATE,
 1A FROGNAL, LONDON NW3 6AL.**

Our phone number is:
071-431 6161

Our Fax number is:
071-431 8454

**PAUL BALINT AJR
 DAY CENTRE**

15 Cleve Road, London NW6 3RL
 Tel. 071 328 0208

Open Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday and Wednesday 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m.-7 p.m.

Morning Activities - Bridge, kalookie, scrabble, chess, etc., keep fit, discussion group, choir (*Mondays*), art class (*Tuesdays and Thursdays*).

Afternoon entertainment -

JANUARY

Sunday 2 CLOSED
Monday 3 CLOSED
Tuesday 4 Songs Old - Songs New - Songs You Will Remember - Eddy Simmons with Piano Accompaniment

Wednesday 5 A New Year Has Begun with Music by Jack Davidoff (Violin) & Sylvia Cohen (Piano)

Thursday 6 Around The World In Song - Margaret Pearman (Soprano) accompanied by Phillip Mountford (Piano)

Sunday 9 A Little Bit Of Everything - Susan Baraban (Soprano) accompanied by Rosa Butwick (Piano)

Monday 10 The Deancroft Ensemble - Kathy Evans (Soprano) Laura Howe (Mezzo) Grace Pullinger (Mezzo) accompanied by Monica Wykes (Piano)

Tuesday 11 For Your Entertainment - Sylvia Cohen (Piano) with Sheree Oxenham (Soprano)

Wednesday 12 Songs From My Album - Cantor Michael Rothstein (Baritone) accompanied by Sheila Games (Piano)

Thursday 13 Wintertime Serenade - Jack Harris accompanied by Happy Branston

Sunday 16 Winter Song & Music - Sue Kennett (Soprano) accompanied by Richard Hoyle (Piano)

Monday 17 Lieder, Operetta & Folk Songs - Helene Wold (Soprano) accompanied by Vegard Lund (Guitar)

Tuesday 18 WIZO Ladies Choir
Wednesday 19 The Roussel String Trio
Thursday 20 A Musical Afternoon In January - Piano Duo & Solos with Sheila Games & Daphne Lewis

Sunday 23 The Hampstead Garden Opera Singers

Monday 24 Showtime - Helena Guest (Soprano) accompanied by Barry Wynford-Dawes (Piano)

Tuesday 25 New Year Serenade - Hans Freund & Guest Artists

Wednesday 26 Musical Gems - Jack Davidoff (Violin) accompanied by Jules Rubin (Piano)

Thursday 27 The Richard Tauber Memories - George Kazanzi (Baritone) accompanied by Happy Branston (Piano)

Sunday 30 Kim Whyte Entertains with a Medley of Songs & Arias from Musicals, Operetta & Opera

Monday 31 The Dulcet Tones

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 1 Take A Quick-Step Back In Time - Geoffrey Strum (Tenor) accompanied by Johnny Walton (Piano)

Wednesday 2 Musical Harmony - Jack Harris accompanied by Happy Branston

Thursday 3 TRINITY QUARTET - Vasiliki Fikaris (Soprano) Domenico Colonna (Tenor) Devon Harrison (Bass) accompanied by Tony Papano (Piano)

FAMILY EVENTS

Deaths

Goldstein Walter Goldstein (widower of Bertl) suddenly on 1 November, aged 81. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by his devoted daughters, family and friends.

Granby Hans Granby (formerly of Breslau) passed away after a lengthy illness on 8 November, 1993, aged 89 years. Sadly missed by his wife Steffi, daughter and son-in-law Marianne and Peter Summerfield, grandchildren Janette and Susan and their families.

Kohsen Elisabeth Johanna Kohsen, née Unger, died peacefully in London recently at the age of 90. She will be missed by her surviving daughter Monice Schubert, and by her six grandchildren and her many friends.

Lee-Lichtenstern Dr Edith Lee-Lichtenstern, born 1906 in Vienna, died in London on 23 October. Mourned by sister Kate Fielding and nieces Evelyn Page and Marian Fielding and friends.

Lippmann Hildegard Lippmann. My brave, darling wife left us on 23 November. My love for her will last until the end of my days, her Freddyman.

Renton Eva Renton née Spiegel, formerly Berlin, resident of Clara

Nehab House, passed away on 26 November 1993, aged 90. Sadly missed by cousins Resi Liebmann, Lore Bodek and Erika Katzenstein.

CLASSIFIED

Companion/Carers

Holborn WC1 Volunteer visitors are needed for AJR members living in this area, near Woburn House, one of whom is blind. Offers please to Laura Howe on: 071-431 6161, Tuesday to Friday.

Experienced carer available, also during unsociable hours, to look after elderly and disabled relatives. References available. Modest rates. Tel.: 081-209 1224.

Carer available day or night duty. Telephone: 081-452 8651.

Miscellaneous

Electrician City and Guilds qualified. All domestic work undertaken. Y. Steinreich. Tel: 081-455 5262.

Manicure and pedicure in the comfort of your own home. Telephone 081-455 7582.

Lady recently retired seeks part time employment. Box No. 1251.

For quality curtains and blinds at realistic prices. Ring for free home estimate. B. Gould 071 289 0246 or 081-958 7436.

Volunteer drivers required to take people home from Paul Balint AJR Day Centre, Sundays at 7 p.m. Please help. Expenses can be paid. Phone Laura Howe, AJR office: 071-431 6161 Tuesday-Friday or

Marion Sipser, Paul Balint AJR Day Centre: 071-328 0208 Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

The AJR does not accept responsibility for the standard of service rendered by advertisers.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

FAMILY EVENTS

First 15 words free of charge, £2.00 per 5 words thereafter.

CLASSIFIED

£2.00 per five words.

BOX NUMBERS

£3.00 extra.

DISPLAY, SEARCH NOTICES

per single column inch
16 ems (3 columns per page) £8.00
12 ems (4 columns per page) £7.00

SHELTERED FLATS TO LET

A few flats still available at

Eleanor Rathbone House Highgate N6

Details from: Mrs K. Gould, AJR, on 071-431 6161 Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Viewing by appointment only.

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

**199b Belsize Road, NW6
624 2646/328 2646**

Members: E.C.A.
N.I.C.E.I.C.

ALTERATIONS

OF ANY KIND TO LADIES' FASHIONS
I also design and make children's clothes
West Hampstead area
071-328 6571

SWITCH ON ELECTRICS

Rewires and all household electrical work.

PHONE PAUL: 081-200 3518

C. H. WILSON

Carpenter
Painter and Decorator
French Polisher
Antique Furniture Repaired
Tel: 081-452 8324
Car: 0831 103707

IRENE FASHIONS

formerly of Swiss Cottage.

Sizes 10 to 50 hips

A DELIGHTFUL COLLECTION OF ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL DESIGNS

Don't miss this opportunity to buy something different at affordable prices

For an early appointment kindly ring before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. **081-346 9057.**

ANTHONY J. NEWTON & CO

SOLICITORS

22 Fitzjohns Avenue, Hampstead, NW3 5NB

ALL LEGAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

Telephone: 071 435 5351/071 794 9696

BELSIZE SQUARE APARTMENTS

24 BELSIZE SQUARE, N.W.3
Tel: 071-794 4307 or 071-435 2557

MODERN SELF-CATERING HOLIDAY ROOMS. RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER MODERATE TERMS. NEAR SWISS COTTAGE STATION

SHELTERED FLAT

Leo Baeck Housing Association

at 11 Fitzjohns Avenue NW3, near Swiss Cottage.

Bed-sitting room, kitchenette, bathroom, entrance hall, resident warden.

Contact Mr A. Flynn: 081-958 5678
(Hon. Administrator/Treasurer)

TORRINGTON HOMES

MRS. PRINGSHEIM, S.R.N., MATRON

For Elderly, Retired and Convalescent

(Licensed by Borough of Barnet)

- * Single and Double Rooms.
- * H/C Basins and CH in all rooms.
- * Gardens, TV and reading rooms.
- * Nurse on duty 24 hours.
- * Long and short term, including trial period if required.

From £250 per week
081-445 1244 Office hours
081-455 1335 other times
39 Torrington Park, N.12

AUDLEY REST HOME (Hendon)

for Elderly Retired Gentlefolk

Single and Double Rooms with wash basins and central heating. TV lounge and dining-room overlooking lovely garden.

24-hour care—long and short term.

Licensed by the Borough of Barnet
Enquiries 081-202 2773/8967

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

Are you looking for congenial company in your area, or a new penfriend with shared interests? Why not advertise in AJR Information?

Phone: 071-431 6161 and ask for the advertising department.

FOR FAST EFFICIENT FRIDGE & FREEZER REPAIRS

7-day service
All parts guaranteed



J. B. Services
Tel. 081-202 4248
until 9 pm

DAWSON HOUSE HOTEL

- Free Street Parking in front of the Hotel
- Full Central Heating • Free Laundry
- Free Dutch-Style Continental Breakfast

72 CANFIELD GARDENS

Near Underground Sta. Finchley Rd,

LONDON, N.W.6
Tel: 071-624 0079

Alice Schwab

Art Notes

A *Different Perspective* at the Commonwealth Institute (until 13 March) comprises 40 paintings by Lisa O'Connor depicting architectural and beach scenes in Trinidad. Lisa was born in Jamaica; this is her first exhibition in the United Kingdom.

The wonderful exhibition of drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum can still be seen at the Royal Academy until 23 January. From 14 January until 4 April the Royal Academy will be showing *The Unknown Modigliani: Drawings from the Collection of Paul Alexandre*. Dr Paul Alexandre was Modigliani's doctor, friend and patron during the artist's early years in Paris and collected over 400 drawings. This is an important collection, because otherwise Modigliani drawings are rare on the ground. The Royal Academy is also showing *The Pursuit of the Absolute: Art of the Ancient World* (20 January to 6 April). This exhibition comprises some 300 masterpieces from the great George Ortiz Collection: carvings from Sumeria, Egyptian sculptures, works in bronze, marble and ceramic from Greece, the Near and Middle East.

The Barbican Art Gallery is showing *All Human Life: Great Photographs from the Hulton Deutsch Collection* (until 24 April). This collection was originally derived from the picture library established as an archive for Picture Post, but other archives and picture collections have been added over the last fifty years, and now comprises over 15 million images.

Roger Hilton's father came from a family of German-Jewish bankers. The exhibition of his work at the Hayward Gallery continues until 6 February. A very well-

produced and informative catalogue about his work is available at the exhibition (Price £14.95).

Claude Lorrain (known as Claude) was one of the great landscape painters of the 17th century. An exhibition of his work *The Poetic Landscape* is at the National Gallery (until 10 April). The exhibition concentrates on Claude as a teller of stories, bringing together some 28 paintings and over 50 drawings, and examines the subjects of his pictures and how far they determined the form of his compositions.

A most beautiful exhibition was held last October in the Stained Glass Gallery of the Central St Martin's School of Art and Design. It was the Fellows' Exhibition of Stained Glass and comprised the work of Ruth Taylor Jacobson and Ruth Kersley Greisman. Two panels by Ruth Jacobson are on permanent display at the Spiro Institute.

Six young theatre designers, Nicholas Barnes, Giuseppe Belli, Alison Darke, Lorna Marshall, David Polser and Konika Shankar, are exhibiting their stage models and costume designs inspired by John Casken's opera, *The Golem*, at the Manor House Society (until 13 January).

The National Portrait Gallery's new galleries are now open to the public. A new exhibition *The Portrait Now* continues until 6 February. This is the first ever

international survey of contemporary portraiture and includes works by Freud, Auerbach, Hockney and others. The first special display in the new photographic gallery is *The NPG Collects*, sponsored by British Gas (until 6 March). The exhibition concentrates on some of the fine photographs acquired by the Gallery between 1970 and 1993.

One of the most comprehensive Fabergé exhibitions ever to be mounted is at the Victoria and Albert Museum (until 10 April). The exhibition originally opened at the Hermitage in Saint Petersburg, then went to the Musée des Arts Decoratifs in Paris and is now in London.

Anneli Juda is showing works by Gwen Hardie (27 January–5 March). Gwen is one of the most significant and original young women Scottish painters whose tough and uncompromising style was encouraged by Georg Baselitz whom she met whilst on a scholarship in Berlin.

The Ben Uri Art Society is preparing a revised catalogue of its collection which will be published early next year. A considerable number of good pictures have been acquired by the Society over the last few years and all these are included in the new and comprehensive catalogue. An exhibition of new works in the collection will be held in the Spring to mark the publication of the catalogue. □

SB's Column

Salzburg's *Jedermann in the melting pot*. *Jedermann* performances, regular feature of the Festival since its inception in 1920, gave the most prominent actors of the day the opportunity of appearing in the lead. Starting with Alexander Moissi and Paul Hartmann, *Everyman* was also played by Attila Hörbiger, Curd Jürgens and, more recently, by Maximilian Schell and Klaus Maria Brandauer. The original Reinhardt production, adapted by Helene Thimig after the war and, later, by Ernst Haeussermann is now considered out of date. In 1994 the play will either be dropped or revamped.

Vienna. The Volkstheater presented a dramatic work by Ilan Hator, a hitherto unknown Israeli author; it is probably the first play about the Israeli-Arab conflict and, in view of present-day negotiations for a Middle Eastern peace, doubly topical. Called *Die Vermummten*, it has the 88-year old veteran actor Karl Paryla, as director, with a lead part taken by his son Stefan

Paryla-Raky (whose mother Hortense Raky was a very young *Josefstadt* member in the Thirties). The new Vienna Jewish Museum has an exhibition entitled *Hier hat Teitelbaum gewohnt*, a documentary of Vienna's Jewish history from the 14th century to the present day. It will remain open until May 1994.

Cabaretist, composer and pianist Gerhard Bronner has returned to Vienna after several years' absence. Bronner, together with Peter Wehle and Helmut Qualtinger were central figures of the post-war cabaret scene, mainly during the years of Four Power occupation. His return was marked by several Konzerthaus appearances in which diseuse Lore Krainer and the ever-youthful Elfriede Ott took part.

Grafenegg. Metternich's castle, Grafenegg, exhibited film scenery, costumes, photographs and posters of Austrian films of the Thirties, Forties and Fifties in historic surroundings. Stars of those days – Christiane Hörbiger, Hilde Krahl, Jane Tilden and Günther Philip – attended. The most admired costumes were Paula Wessely's Maria Theresia dress and the Fiaker outfit as worn by Leo Slezak. □

HILARY'S AGENCY

Specialists in Long and Short-Term
Live-in Care

RESPIRE AND EMERGENCY CARE
CARE FOR THE ELDERLY
HOUSEKEEPERS
RECUPERATION CARE
MATERNITY NURSES
NANNIES AND MOTHER'S HELPS
EMERGENCY MOTHERS

Caring and Experienced Staff Available

We will be happy to discuss your
requirements

PLEASE PHONE 081-559-1110

A HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN THE GERMAN-SPEAKING LANDS

Part 16: The Weimar period (2)

The Jews and German Culture

There is the idea, assiduously propagated by the Nazis, that the *avant garde* culture which flourished in Berlin, Vienna, Zürich, and a few other German-speaking cities between about 1880 and 1933 was specifically Jewish. This is of course not so: Grosz, Dix, Ernst, Kirchner, Schwitters, Beckmann, Gropius, Brecht, and innumerable writers are some among the key-figures of the *avant garde*, and none of these was Jewish. The *Sezession* or *art nouveau* style, especially of Vienna, has been described as expressing *le gout juif*; but Viennese Jews were more active as patrons than as creators of this art. Nevertheless, the roll-call of Jewish cultural figures during this period is impressive. There is not space here to do more than list some of the most famous names. They are drawn from the German-speaking world – some were Austrian by birth, some German, some Czech. Included in the list are some whose identification with Judaism, either in its religious or in its secular form, was not active; and, indeed, there are a few who were nominal converts to Christianity for the sake of their own careers or that of their children.

Famous names

Jews were strongly represented in all the liberal press. Karl Kraus in Vienna and Kurt Tucholsky in Berlin are famous names.

In the theatre there was the producer Max Reinhardt, the actress Elisabeth Bergner and the film director Fritz Lang.

In Literature the most prominent names are Franz Werfel, Arthur Schnitzler, Joseph Roth, Franz Kafka, Alfred Döblin, Stefan Zweig, Lion Feuchtwanger.

In Music we have the composers Gustav Mahler, Arnold Schönberg and Kurt Weill; the conductors Otto Klemperer and Bruno Walter; the pianist Artur Schnabel and the violinist Fritz Kreisler; the singers Richard Tauber, Friederich Schorr, and Alexander Kipnis.

In Painting there are Max Liebermann and Ludwig Meidner; and in Art History Max Friedländer and Erwin Panofsky.

In Science: Albert Einstein and five out of 15 German Nobel-Prize winners.

In Philosophy: Ernst Cassirer, Edmund Husserl, Ludwig Wittgenstein, Martin Buber.

In Psychology: Sigmund Freud and the whole of his inner circle except C. G. Jung.

In Sociology: Karl Mannheim, Max Horkheimer, Theodore Adorno, Herbert Marcuse.

The Jews in the Economy

The 500,000 Jews of Germany represented only about 1% of the population (and the 200,000 of Austria about 3%). But during the Weimar Republic 11% of doctors in Germany (and 47% in Austria) were Jewish; so were 16% of the lawyers (62% in Austria); 40% of the wholesale textile businesses were under Jewish management, as were 50% of private banks, and 80% of department stores. The average Jewish income was three times higher than the all-German average.

The Ostjuden

Of course not all Jews were prosperous. About 20% (100,000) of them were in fact very poor. These were predominantly Jews who had come from the East, the *Ostjuden*. Added to the large influx into both Germany and Austria after the Russian pogroms from 1881 onwards, there was a further huge wave during and after the First World War: during the war more than

50,000 Jews had fled to Austria from Galicia during the advance of the Russian army into that province in 1915 and again during the Russo-Polish War of 1920: the Jewish population of Vienna had increased by 25%. In the Eastern part of Germany, there were some cities in which the *Ostjuden* outnumbered the German Jews: Leipzig, as an extreme example, had 4,000 German Jews and 18,000 *Ostjuden* in 1922. Even those who had been there since the Russian pogroms in the 1880s for the most part did not have German citizenship: naturalization, then as now, was extremely difficult: ten years' residency was required as a minimum, and even then the German *Länder* could decide on further technicalities which were so restrictive that many *Ostjuden* did not even apply. Bavaria, the stronghold of antisemitism after 1920, simply expelled Jews without German nationality in 1923.

The German-Jewish organizations did much to help their poorer brethren; but the *Ostjuden* were also widely resented by them. The acculturated Jews of Germany and Austria were affronted by the *Ostjuden*'s foreign ways, by their religious orthodoxy, and by their Zionist sympathies; and they were well aware that this immigration fuelled the rhetoric of the antisemites. So the *Ostjuden* were kept at arm's length: in 1930 there were at least 29 Jewish communities (including of course that of Leipzig) which denied them voting rights inside the communal organizations. There was even a small but vociferous *Verband National-deutscher Juden*, led by Dr Max Naumann, which was as right wing and as German-chauvinist as the DNVP and which bitterly attacked the main organization of German Jews, the *Centralverein deutscher Staatsbürger jüdischen Glaubens*, for being unpatriotic in helping *Ostjuden* instead of supporting their exclusion.

Zionism

The charge that it was lacking in patriotism was particularly offensive to the *Centralverein*. As its full name suggests, it strongly asserted the identification of its members with the German nation. It therefore became increasingly nervous of the Zionist position that, though Jews should fulfil their citizen obligations to the German *state* while they lived there, they were not part of the German *nation* since they had their own *national* identity.

The German Zionist Federation had been founded in 1897 by a handful of German Jews who at that time saw it as their *primary* task, not that *German* Jews should

East-Germany and Berlin

We give immediate attention.
We process and buy properties/claims.

We pay cash.

We have proven track records and furnish documentation.

Write to:
Nagel & Partner
Uhlandstrasse 156 · 10719 Berlin
Phone: 030-882 56 31
Fax: 030-881 39 16



colonize Palestine, but that Eastern Jews, inside and outside of Germany, should be helped to do this. This was known as 'Practical Zionism'. 'Political Zionism', which asserted the national identity of the Jews, initially played a very small part in the movement, and was very unpopular with the great majority of German Jews: indeed there was such strong opposition to it by leading individuals in the German Jewish community that Herzl had been forced to abandon the idea of convoking the first Zionist Congress to Munich and had had to move it to Basel instead (1897).

But Jewish nationalism among the German Jews became steadily stronger and adopted some of the *völkisch* concepts about race and blood that were so prevalent among German nationalists. At the German Zionist Convention of 1912, the Political Zionists outvoted the Practical Zionists and adopted as part of their programme that all German Zionists should at least prepare themselves to going to Palestine (though by 1933 only about 2,000 German Jews had actually gone there). In 1912 the German Zionist Federation had only 8,400 members; but by 1923 – the year of the Munich Putsch – the membership had risen to 33,000. Zionism found eloquent expression in Martin Buber's *Der Jude*, a magazine founded in 1916, and in the *Jüdische Rundschau* after Robert Weltsch became its editor in 1920. After the failure of the Putsch, when it appeared that the Nazis and other *völkisch* groups had shot their bolt, Zionist membership fell again: by 1927 there were only 20,000. Then, as the Nazi threat grew during the Depression, so did the number of Zionists: in mid-1933 the membership was 35,000.

□ Ralph Blumenau

Search Notices

Chaim Bloch, born 1881 in Nagy-Bockzo, CSR, profession: journalist and writer, later rabbi. Married Golda Bloch, née Landemann, born 1884. Last known address in Vienna: Rafaelgasse 1/16, Vienna 20. Came to Britain 4 August, 1938. They had two children: Regina Bloch, born 1905 and Maria Bloch born 1909 (approx). I am looking for the heirs of the two daughters Regina and Maria, who probably did marry and have children. Please contact: Dr Paul Nunheim, Brandenburgische Strasse 25, 10707 Berlin, Germany.

Rosa Petruchowicz, born in Lodz, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen, had a son, Natan, on June 17, 1946 in a clinic in Bevensen. Natan was taken to Palestine from Germany in 1947 and adopted. His name is now Uriel Rot and he wishes to contact his mother. Box No. 1255.

The Work or the Man?

The question whether knowing about the life of a creative artist enhances one's appreciation of his work continues to excite debate. One side argues that biographers simply cash in on the public's appetite for warts on the face of greatness – such as Benjamin Britten's penchant for the company of young boys or Daphne du Maurier's infatuation with another woman. The opposition contend that, since the wellsprings of creation lie in the artist's personality, his or her personal life is a topic of legitimate public interest.

The 'man versus the work' controversy has been re-ignited by the publication of Jeremy Treglow's biography of Roald Dahl. Dahl, who did for postwar children what Beatrix Potter, Enid Blyton, A. A. Milne and Kenneth Graham had done for earlier generations, emerges as a thoroughly unpleasant man from Treglow's study.

Not the least unpleasant aspect of Dahl, which Jewishly conscious readers may already have known about, was his deep-seated antisemitism. Some ten years ago he published a blatantly anti-Israel diatribe in the form of a review of a book on the Middle East conflict. Then, when challenged on his Judeophobia, he made allegations about Jews shirking frontline duty in the Second World War. (Interestingly, Dahl's own account of his wartime bravery was rather exaggerated – as Treglow discovered while researching his life.)

I, who once had the privilege in the 1960s of meeting Erich Kästner 'in the flesh', found the notion of a children's author as a hate-filled bigot almost beyond comprehension. That was before my first glimpse of Dahl on television. There his facial expression bespoke such ill-tempered disdain that I could credit him with every vice under the sun.

I was therefore a little surprised to see Joanna Coles in *The Guardian* – that repository of political correctness – censuring Treglow for his 'demolition job' and proclaiming *Charlie and the Chocolate*

Factory a far better read than the Dahl biography. Now, to move on from the slightly ridiculous to the sublime, i.e. Richard Wagner. There seems to be no end to learned Wagnerites ready to attempt an *Ehrenrettung* of their idol. In Covent Garden's de luxe programme for the current production of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* Bryan Magee seeks to refute the charge that the opera conveys a xenophobic message. He argues that, when Hans Sachs lauds *deutsche Meister* and condemns *welschen Tand* (foreign dross) he is merely counter-acting the German tendency to feel inferior to the French. France had, after all, long been the arbiter of culture and taste with the Paris Opera dominating Europe's musical life.

Magee goes on to claim that Wagner's feelings about Germany were on a par with Verdi's about Italy. Worse: he dubs Verdi the more intense nationalist of the two.

He is arguing from an unhistorical premiss. At the time Italy was part-occupied by a foreign power, i.e. Austria, while the whole of Germany, though divided, enjoyed independence. Furthermore Verdi deplored Italian expansionism in Ethiopia. As for Wagner, in 1870 he urged Bismarck to end the long-drawn-out siege of Paris by bombarding its inhabitants with artillery. Characteristically the egomaniac Wagner urged this bloody course of action because some years earlier *Tannhäuser* had flopped at l'Opera.

Is it to be wondered at, therefore, that some people who can't stand too much reality want to know about the work – but not the man behind it? □ R.G.

COMPANIONS OF LONDON

A specialist home care service to assist the elderly, people with disabilities, help during and after illness, childcare and household needs.

For a service tailored to your individual needs by Companions who care – Please call

071-483 0212
071-483 0213

110 Gloucester Avenue,
Primrose Hill,
London NW1 8JA
(Emp Agy)

BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE 51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

Our communal hall is available for cultural and social functions.

For details apply to:
Secretary, Synagogue Office.

Tel: 071-794 3949

Cooking with Gretel Beer



Curd Cheese Pudding

This is a marvellous pudding for chilly winter evenings. The quantities should feed 4-6, but I have known far fewer people polish it off with the greatest ease as it is very light. Use curd rather than cottage cheese, with a fat content of approximately 20%.

Ingredients

- 100g (3½ oz) curd cheese
- 6 eggs
- 100g (3½ oz) butter

- 100g (3½ oz) caster sugar
- 100g (3½ oz) ground walnuts
- 100g (3½ oz) raisins
- a little grated lemonrind
- 1 teaspoon vanilla sugar
- icing sugar sifted with vanilla sugar for sprinkling over top, butter and ground walnuts for the dish.

Method

Butter a deep gratin dish and dust with ground walnuts. Pre-heat the oven at Gas Mark 5, 375°F, 190°C.

Separate egg yolks and whites. Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, then beat in the cheese and egg yolks, adding them one by one and beating well after each addition. Whisk the whites until stiff and fold into the mixture, alternately with the ground walnuts. Finally fold in the raisins, grated lemon rind and the vanilla sugar. Spoon into the prepared gratin dish and bake until nicely browned on top – about 35-40 minutes. Dust thickly with icing sugar sifted with vanilla sugar.

The pudding tastes best served at room temperature. Serve with raspberry syrup or stewed fruit. □

**40 Years Ago
this Month**

“VOLUME IX”

“AJR Information” now enters the ninth year of its existence. Its foundation in 1946 coincided with the announcement of the Home Office that pre-war refugees were now eligible for naturalisation. Though, meanwhile, almost all our readers have become citizens of this country, the need of a paper which informs them on their specific problems has never been as widely recognised as in these days. Especially during the past year, the number of subscribers has grown steadily. To some extent, this is due to the topicality of the restitution and compensation problem. Yet beyond this practical object, “AJR Information” tries to preserve the spiritual heritage of Central European Jewry and to deal with the manifold problems of our time under this specific aspect.

In 1953, “AJR Information” has been able to extend its services. This involved an additional burden on our budget. Whether and to what extent we may widen its scope further in 1954 will, in the first place, depend on the co-operation of all AJR members. We thank them for their loyalty in the past and we hope that, in their own interest, they will continue to sponsor the development of this paper.

AJR Information, January 1954

VERSE AND WORSE

TEDDY KOLLEK

Jerusalem the three-faiths city
Voted you out – more’s the pity –
You made it the world’s cynosure
But in judgement it stayed poor

THURROCK SYNDROME

Napoleon’s ‘shopkeeper nation’
Has undergone a slight mutation
From Bottomley to teeny-boppers
To OAPs the Brits are shoppers

WEST END ESTATES

Commercial & Residential sales, lettings, management and investments.

Ralph Kossman

322 West End Lane, Hampstead, London NW6 1LN
Telephone: 071-794 1000
Fax: 071-794 7444

Are you recovering from an illness or about to have an operation?



Why not recuperate at

Ellern Mede
NURSING HOME

31 Totteridge Common, London N20
LONDON’S PREMIER CONVALESCENT HOME
☎ 081-959 4221 – FAX: 081-959 4223



**Retirement by the sea
Come to sunny Hove**

Are you finding it hard to cope alone...? For a happy and secure retirement start a new life at Marigold House, a small, friendly kosher home close to the sea, synagogue and shops.

Happy atmosphere in homely surroundings, 24 hour personal care, good kosher food, special diets, level ground, bus stop outside, one hour from central London.

Long-term, convalescence, holiday stays from £200 per week.

Marigold House Residential Care Home, 72 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex. Tel: Mrs Jacqui Clewes 0273 778759 – 771957

Obituaries

Wilhelm Feldberg FRS

Wilhelm Feldberg, physiologist and pharmacologist, has died, aged 93. Hamburg-born, he saw service in the Great War, and subsequently studied at several German universities, including Berlin. There he took his doctorate and worked in its Institute of Physiology. One day in 1933 he was called into the director's office and as a Jew dismissed on the spot. In spite of his perilous situation he asked for a few hours' extension to finish an experiment in progress.

In England he worked at Cambridge University, rising from lecturer to reader in physiology. He then went on the National Institute for Medical Research, where he made groundbreaking discoveries in the sphere of neurotransmission and of histamines. His long career came to a distressing end three years ago when he attracted the attention of animal rights activists.

A member of Self-Aid of German Refugees the deceased, whom *The Times* called a near-legendary figure, had the distinction of being appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society as early as 1947. Apart from his many discoveries he leaves behind the Feldberg Foundation which provides exchange lectureships in medical research between the UK and Germany. He is survived by a daughter from his first marriage. □

Dr Hans Granby

The life of AJR member Hans Granby, who died on 8 November, 1993, aged 89, personified the fate of so many who took refuge in this country from Nazi persecution. After qualifying and practising as a *Rechtsanwalt* in Germany, he found himself unable to pursue his legal career in England and became a businessman before returning to his original vocation by practising as a restitution lawyer.

Hans Grabowski was born in Breslau in 1904, the elder of two brothers. After his father died, when he was only 10 years old, his two uncles played an important role in his education. Like his mother, they were members of the Neustadt family which took a leading part in Breslau Jewish affairs and owned the well-known company Kantorovitch, which manufactured starch and adhesives.

At school, Hans specialised in Greek and Latin before attending Breslau University, where he studied Law and History and took a doctorate in Roman and German law. After a short period in private practice, Hans was forced to change course because

of Nazi prohibitions and joined the family firm taking over management responsibilities from his uncles. In 1935 he married Steffi, a childhood sweetheart who had also studied law.

Throughout his early adult life, Hans was an active member of the Central Association of German Jews (*Zentralverein deutscher Juden*). He acquired a reputation for public speaking and was known as an advocate of democratic principles.

In 1938 he was arrested by the Nazis and sent to Buchenwald Concentration Camp. Fortunately he had, by then, with the help of his sister-in-law, obtained a work permit for England. This enabled Steffi to secure his release by bravely pleading his case before the Gestapo.

In England, Hans was initially interned and was sent from one race course to another. On being released, he again manufactured starch and became generally active in import/export. After the war, he helped many former refugees to pursue their restitution claims.

Hans joined the B'nai B'rith Leo Baeck lodge and was on its Old Age Committee for many years.

At the time of his death, he and his inseparable Steffi had been married for 59 years. They had one daughter, Marianne, married to Peter Summerfield, himself an AJR member of long standing.

Hans Granby was very much a family man and proud to have two granddaughters and a great-grandson. He commanded universal respect for his integrity and was particularly popular for his sense of humour and witty story telling. □

Henriette Hardenberg

Berlin-born Henriette Hardenberg, who died aged 99, was the last surviving poet of the German Expressionist movement. Born into a cultured middle class family, she found her vocation early, having some poems published in Plempfert's *Die Aktion* before the Great War. In 1916 she married the fellow-Expressionist Alfred Wolfenstein, and two years later her volume *Neigungen* appeared. She and her husband belonged to the Café des Westens literary coterie, alongside Else Lasker-Schuler, Claire Goll and Ernst Toller; Rainer Maria Rilke was a special friend.

In the mid-Twenties her marriage broke up. In 1937 she came to England where she married her childhood friend Kurt Frankschwerth, an inventor, architect and writer. Hereafter, though still writing poetry, she lapsed into obscurity. Over half a century later Die Arche Verlag published *Dichtungen*, a distillation of a lifetime's output. This triggered a belated renewal of interest in her work. □

Adelheide Heimann

Berlin-born Heidi Heimann has died aged 90.

After studies at Freiburg, Berlin and Bonn she gained her doctorate in art history in 1930. Much of her work focussed on Christian iconography, about which she produced many papers and gave lectures, notably at the *Sorbonne* in Paris. Occasionally moving outside her field, Heidi published articles and papers on Thomas Mann, Rilke and, in contrast, Picasso.

After emigration in 1936 she took up a post in the photographic studio of the Warburg Institute. Her photographic skills and journalistic flair earned her a position on *Picture Post* where she worked from 1941-52.

She returned to research in the mid-50s and was once again highly productive. Throughout the 60s her home in Barnes became a centre for young medievalists from abroad.

Heidi Heimann remained better known outside England than within. She gave lectures as far afield as Germany, America and Israel for years after her retirement. Her academic work achieved a formidable and lasting reputation. □

Peter Wallfisch

The Breslau-born pianist Peter Wallfisch has died aged 69. Having first found refuge in Palestine, he then went to Paris before settling in the UK in 1952 and marrying Anita Lasker. His concert career encompassed the Americas, the Middle and Far East and, predominantly, Europe.

Wallfisch's concerto performances were characterised by an impulsive and vital imagination, but it was in his recital programmes and broadcasts that his individuality shone through. In the field of English music he pioneered the Frank Bridge revival. He was also a renowned teacher and Professor of Piano at the Royal College of Music from 1971.

In later years collaboration with his son Raphael gave Peter Wallfisch great pleasure. Raphael is one of Britain's foremost cellists and their rapport sprang as much from their mutual respect for each other's artistic ability as from family ties.

Readers may remember that in 1990 father and son performed the AJR and Self Aid Annual Charity Concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank. Soon afterwards Peter Wallfisch suffered a stroke which ended his public playing career; even so he continued to practise at home and made considerable progress. He will be remembered by many people as a dedicated musician and devoted teacher. □

Israel revisited – 1993

Friday morning we make an early start on a walking tour of Jerusalem. The Old City is just as I remember it but there seem to be fewer people about. We are given detailed information as to the various disputes between the different churches on the site of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We are taken up on to the roof of part of this church to be shown the Coptic monastery. Back inside the church, behind the ornately decorated 'sepulchre' we are shown the huge pillars that support this building and our attention is drawn to the fact that they are not identical; half of the pillars are 'stepped' at the base, the others are 'stepped' at the top which would appear to indicate that they are halves of pillars and, it is thought, that these marble pillars were once the support of the great Temple. If this is the case, that edifice must have been huge.

At noon we held a short service overlooking the Kotel before going down to visit it.

Herodian houses

Next, we explored the excavations under the present-day Old City. It is interesting to note that Christian pilgrims have always been told that the Via Dolorosa is the road walked by Jesus. In actual fact, it is much more likely that the stones of the Cado – the main street – are the ones he trod. This thoroughfare through the Roman City is now partly under the Arab Quarter and partly under the Jewish Quarter, where one can also visit the Herodian city houses; the building style is almost identical to the present, flat roofed style. The walls are very thick and made of Jerusalem stone. The floors are decorated with mosaic 'carpet'; the furniture, all made of stone, closely resembles Louis XIV in part and, in part, more modern furniture. Each house had several Mikvaot as well as water cisterns. Such cooking utensils as were found – mostly broken – were pottery.

Erev Shabbat in Jerusalem is quite an experience at any time – the hush that

descends on the city is a tangible thing. We walked to a small park overlooking the Old City for our Erev Shabbat service, which was held facing towards where the Temple had once stood, on Mount Moriah. Another unforgettable memory.

A large table outside the dining room provides candles for guests to *bensch licht*. And the freedom, in the hotel dining room among many other guests, for our group to chant the blessings over wine and food and, after the meal, to say our Grace after Meals without it being thought at all 'odd'!

Shabbat morning saw some of us attending the American Reform Synagogue, which has the services of a female chazan with an excellent voice. We were made most welcome and were offered aliyot. We attended the Kiddush after the service.

In the evening we attended part of the Israel International Festival; on this occasion held at the YMCA theatre in King David Street, which took the form of Israeli dancing display and folk songs by the Tzabarim Folklore Ensemble. A very pleasant interlude, enjoyed by all the audience.

Sunday morning we drove across the valley (in the Bible called ephes-dammim) and the bus stopped half way to enable us to get a good view of the lie of the land, with hills ranged on either side. Our guide told us that this was the place where David fought Goliath. One could well imagine the Philistine forces ranged on one side and Saul's army on the other, neither venturing into the flat valley below them. It also became clear that both armies would have a grandstand view of the proceedings in the valley between Goliath and David. This valley now is verdant; ploughed and producing generous crops. One doubts it was thus in the days of David. A tractor was beetling across the landscape in the far distance, otherwise the scene was entirely peaceful. We read the appropriate passage from the Bible – 1 Samuel, Ch. 17, verses 1–54. It was an eerie feeling to be in the, possibly, exact spot where it all took place. As the bus restarted to continue our journey, there was only muted noise from its passengers.

Our next stop was at nearby chalk caves. The chalk was excavated from the surface by the Turks to be used as building material for their houses. As the 'mine' got deeper, so it was widened. This produced the bell shaped caves one can see today. During the mining, some of the caves were joined up and, eventually, there being nothing to support it, the 'roof' fell in, opening the caves to the sky. In these open spaces, one finds fig trees, Sabras and the bush that produces the caper, in bloom and bearing fruit. We are told that, strangely, only one caper per day ever ripens!

Yad Vashem

In the afternoon I decided to revisit Yad Vashem. Much had been added since my last visit; more is still being added and work is in progress. The Hall of the Children is a unique conception, being entirely in the dark and constructed of any number of mirrors; a small number of candles are alight; the flames of these are reflected, re-reflected and re-re-reflected innumerable times so that the impression is of thousands of candles burning in the blackness while a roll-call of the names of all the children who perished is read out in alphabetical order. I, and the small group of people I was with, found this excruciatingly sad and very moving; however, a group of Israeli children, under the leadership of a girl-soldier, immediately behind us appeared to find it a source of hilarity, giggles followed us round the entire experience. I found this totally unacceptable behaviour and made my feelings quite clear when, at last, we emerged into the open. □ Edith Holden

To be continued

LANDAU, BAKER & CO

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Albany House, 324/326 Regent Street,
London W1R 5AA

Company Audits, Individuals and Partnership Accounts and Taxation

Wages; Acquisitions Systems and other specialist work

Initial free consultation. Competitive Fees.

Telephone: 071 636 2727 Fax: 071 436 0727

AJR

Our address is:

1 HAMPSTEAD GATE,
1A FROGNAL, LONDON NW3 6AL

Our phone number is:

071-431 6161

Our Fax number is:

071-431 8454

Simon P. Rhodes M.Ch.S.

STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST

Surgery hours:

8.30 a.m.–6 p.m. Tuesday–Friday

8.30 a.m.–3 p.m. Saturday

Visiting chiropody service available

67 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (opp. M&S)

Telephone 071-624 1576