

# AJR Information

Volume L No. 12  
December 1995

£3 (to non-members)

Don't miss . . .

**Siren voices of separatism** by Richard Grunberger p3

**Austria's flickering mirror** p4

**Saying the unsayable** by Jill Bamber p5

**Auto-suggestion** by AW Freud p16

## Stop Press! Austrian payments

In our November issue we gave some details of how to apply for benefits from the Austrian *Nationalfonds für Opfer des Nationalsozialismus*.

In due course applicants will receive a form from Austria including a Life Certificate. It is essential that this certificate is signed by the appropriate authority.

If you have any queries about the form or the documents required to support your claim, please telephone AJR for clarification □

See page 2 for further details.

## Rabin – martyr for peace

When Lord Derby suggested to Lewis Namier, the Polish-born chronicler of the British aristocracy, that he should write a history of the Jews, the latter replied, "We Jews don't have a history – only a martyrology!"

Alas, even Namier's bleak comment did not evoke the full dimension of the Jews' millennia-old tragedy. Not only have we suffered persecution at the hands successively of Romans, Crusaders, Inquisitors, Cossacks and Nazis – we have all too often hovered on the brink of fratricide. A red thread of inter-Jewish dissension commences with the conflict between Pharisees and Sadducees during the Second Temple and with Flavius Josephus' desertion to the Romans.

It continues with the envenomed disputes between *Hassidim* and the disciples of the Gaon of Vilna, followed by conflict between Talmudists and proponents of the Enlightenment. The debates of the nineteenth century engendered such contraries as Reform Judaism on the one hand and the *Austrittsgemeinden* on the other.

In our own days the Zionists not only attracted the hostility both of Orthodox and assimilationist Jews, but were themselves irreconcilably split between the partisans of Weizmann and Jabotinsky.

If earlier battles had been fought by hurling anathemas and instituting boycotts, the intra-Zionist split soon claimed its first casualty: Chaim Arlosoroff. Just over a decade later a bloody showdown between the Haganah and the Irgun – the *Altalena* incident – became subsumed within the wider Israeli War of Independence.

The fourth of November 1995 brought the third, and most disastrous, instance of the Jews rending each other. How apt that the news should have reached us on bonfire night; apt because Guy Fawkes' plot was the last substantial attempt at political assassination in this country. If England has enjoyed over three centuries' respite from civil strife, it owes this less to its insular position and climate than to an irreducible consensus: from the age of the Whigs and Tories to that of Conservatives and Labour, what bound Englishmen together consist-

ently outweighed that which separated them.

This absence of intransigence is not genetic; if it were the English-descended Americans would not have had several of their presidents assassinated. Avoidance of intransigence can be learned, *vide* post-war Germany, where the shooting of Rudi Dutschke was an exception that proved the rule.

How infinitely tragic that Israel should, even in part, re-enact the history that had earlier led Germany into the abyss! The parallel is there for all to see. Had not Foreign Minister Rathenau's assassins in 1922 dubbed him a traitor for trying to conciliate Germany's wartime enemies and for advocating sacrifices towards that end?

There is also an infernal mirror image: while his *Vehme* murderers demonised Rathenau as a *Judensau*, Rabin's arch-enemies called him a Nazi. Where the parallel breaks down is that Rabin's lone killer did not execute the sentence of a *Vehme* tribunal, but claims to have carried out the will of God.

Clearly those – politicians and rabbis alike – who grounded their advocacy of intransigence on Biblical injunctions have a lot to answer for □



Yitzhak Rabin, 1922-1995

## Complex peace

Israel Ambassador Moshe Raviv told the Guild of Jewish Journalists that while Israel had experienced "a momentous and important year," terror would not prevent the movement to a comprehensive peace settlement.

Since the signing of the Declaration of Principles at the White House in September 1993, some 1.2 million Palestinians had been transferred to Palestinian administration. The recently signed Interim Agreement made provision for the redeployment of Israeli troops on the West Bank and for a further 2 million people to come under Palestinian administration by the end of the year, followed by elections for a Palestinian Council. Though the situation was complex and difficult, the Ambassador emphasised that Israel's security remained of paramount concern.

The peace agreement with Jordan was underpinned by many shared benefits such as tourism, water and roads, but there was a stalemate with Syria whose leader had reneged on undertakings given to the United States. Lebanon remained under Syrian hegemony.

Ambassador Raviv explained that there was no viable alternative to the peace process. Previous strategies (including the wars against the Jewish State) had been tried and had failed. In his view, "the status quo was the worst possible alternative," and could have led to another full-scale war with the use of ever-more sophisticated and destructive weaponry. The animosities of yesterday were not those of tomorrow and both sides were trying to change course.

□ Ronald Channing

This report was written prior to the tragic death of Israel's Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin.

### LOST SWISS BANK ACCOUNT?

#### Pannone Pritchard Englefield

would be glad to assist refugees from Central Europe or their descendants who have reason to believe that their family had deposited funds in Switzerland which up to now have not been traced.

The Swiss Banking authorities have now set up procedures whereby applications can be made to trace lost funds.

Please contact Mr. H.H. Marcus, Pannone Pritchard Englefield, Solicitors, 14 New Street, London EC2M 4TR,

Tel. 0171 972 9720

Fax. 0171 972 9723

If you are interested in further information and for our conditions for carrying out such work.

### Profile

## In the footsteps of Theodor Herzl

The recent death of Werner Rosenstock highlights the little-known fact that Herbert Freeden, Werner's early co-editor of *AJR Information*, still lives in our midst – albeit as an octogenarian in indifferent health.

Herbert Freeden was born in 1909 in Posen (now Poznan) where his father sold household goods. After the Great War the family opted for German citizenship and moved to Berlin. Herbert attended university and worked as a *werkstudent* at the Mosse publishing house, taking a degree in journalism in 1934.

Having already engaged in Zionist youth work in Weimar days he found employment in the Cultural Department of the Zionist organisation.

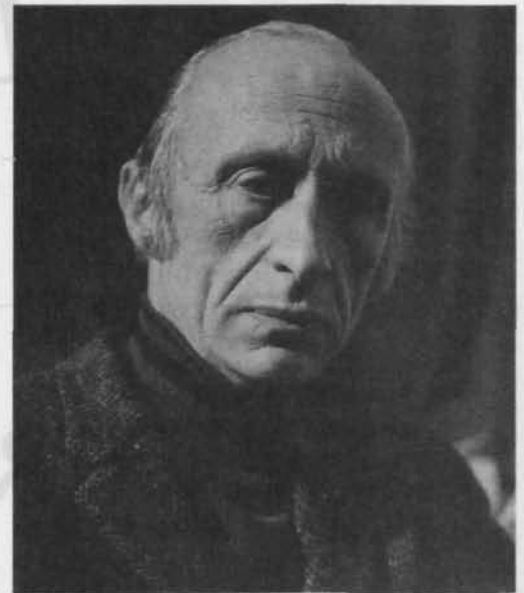
In the mid-thirties the Nazis pursued a two-track approach to the Jews, mingling persecution with the preservation of mock-normality. Herbert Freeden worked for the *Jüdische Kulturbund* (the Nazi-licensed segregated umbrella organisation responsible for all Jewish cultural activity) and published his first book, *Schiff unterwegs*, under the imprint of the Atid Verlag.

The Kristallnacht pogrom of November 1938 led to a mass flight from Germany. Herbert Freeden came to the Kitchener Camp, Richborough, where he joined the Pioneer Corps. After army service (during which he married a fellow refugee) he worked for the Jewish National Fund, editing its newsletter. Postwar he assisted in the establishment of *AJR Information* as a monthly journal (with a healthy circulation figure of 6,000).

Then, shortly after Israel's War of Independence the life-long Zionist made aliyah. As head of a polyglot staff of twelve journalists at JNF headquarters in Jerusalem he became, as it were, Chief PR man for the Jewish state, masterminding the output of material in English, French, Spanish, Yiddish and German. As a 'sideline' he acted as Israel correspondent for German and Swiss newspapers. He undertook annual lecture tours of Germany and he also produced radio scripts for Deutschlandfunk, Cologne.

Last but not least, he wrote books on the *Jüdische Kulturbund* and on the Jewish press in the Third Reich.

His most recent book, the biography



Herbert Freeden

*Leben zur falschen Zeit* (Transit Verlag '91, reviewed in our February '92 issue) had its launch at Berlin's Akademie der Künste with Professor Walter Jens as the main speaker.

Unfortunately, this climacteric of Herbert Freeden's life was followed by a stroke and he now leads a reclusive existence in Cambridge (where his son is a politics don). Nonetheless, as befits a life-long professional journalist, he is still capable of producing cynical quips, such as 'Israel will find it easier to come to terms with the PLO than with the ultra-Orthodox'. Alas, in the interim, his words have proved tragically prophetic.

□ RG

### Austrian Nationalfonds Claim

We would like to advise our members that when making a claim on the above fund they should consider the following:

Those receiving Income Support, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit need to consider the consequences of increasing their financial assets above a certain amount. We do not yet know if any award received from the fund will be counted as capital or income. In either case there may be a danger of losing some or all Welfare Benefits. We are making inquiries of the DSS to try and clarify this matter.

We are advised by the Austrian authorities that it should not be necessary to use the services of a lawyer to apply for payments from the Nationalfonds.

If any of our members require our help at any stage with the application, please ring us for an appointment □

## Siren voices of separatism

The fact that the success of the 'million man march' has propelled Louis Farrakhan from the margins of American politics towards centre stage is bad news all round.

On our own home patch it will further incline Black militants towards antisemitism. Jews on the other side of the Atlantic have renewed cause for fearing the man who dubbed Hitler 'wickedly great'. But the greatest threat Farrakhan poses is to the cohesion of American society itself.

For all the shortcomings of the 'melting pot' idea, the United States has no way forward except the path of co-existence across ethnic and cultural boundaries. Farrakhan's Black separatism only erects further obstacles along that path (although it does perversely echo Hitler's notion of racial exclusivity). Short of genocide no force on earth could physically separate Blacks from other Americans; they can neither go back to Africa nor be allocated a homeland on US soil.

In fact, every tenet of the Nation of Islam is a *non-sequitur* – starting with its very name. The title 'Nation of Islam' belongs historically to Saudi Arabia which – unlike Farrakhan's scapegoated Jews – had a centuries long involvement with the African slave trade. As of now Iran is probably *the* Nation of Islam – and one can think of no greater contrast than between Khomeini-style puritanism and the free-wheeling life style of Afro-Americans.

Farrakhan calls Jewish and Korean shopkeepers 'bloodsuckers', but simultaneously affirms his belief in private enterprise. As regards Jews and blood, he conveniently forgets that several Jewish students got killed in the 1960s Freedom Marches for Black voter registration in the Deep South.

Where Farrakhan's ideology is not riddled with contradiction, it glories in mindboggling paranoia, *vide* the notion that White doctors had injected Aids into the Black population to keep it weak and subservient.

Readers may recall the *Stürmer* fable that Paul Ehrlich had invented Salvarsan to poison the bloodstream of Aryans.

So far so bad. However, let us not indulge in Jeremiads – and remember that

America is the proverbial land of unlimited possibilities, for *good* as well as ill.

It takes quite a leap of the imagination to switch from the American underclass to the English middle-classes – but the latter have also shown themselves receptive to the siren song of separatism. The Tories in Blackpool cheered Defence Secretary Portillo to the echo when he pilloried Brussels and the Council of Europe. 18 months ago Portillo claimed that continentals were in the habit of buying academic qualifications for filthy lucre. Is this, one wonders, how Nobel Peace Prize winner Josef Rotblatt got co-opted on to the Manhattan Project?

The UK already forms part of Europe – as shown by our instant acceptance of the 60-year-old-mens' entitlement to free prescriptions ruling – so what is the point of Mr Portillo's shadow boxing? It can only encourage latter-day King Canutes who substitute raucous flag waving for clear thought. Didn't Dr Johnson, himself a Tory, call patriotism the last refuge of a scoundrel?

Just as separatism is a blind alley for US Blacks, so separateness from Europe no longer constitutes a viable option for Britain.

□ Richard Grunberger



### 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 0171-794 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 Pafra Limited

### PARTNER

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

Henry Ebner

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


Telephone 0171 602 4631

ALL LEGAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

### 5 YEARS AND STILL NO PROGRESS ON YOUR PROPERTY CLAIM IN BERLIN & EAST GERMANY?

We are specialists in speeding up cases. We buy and/or process claims. References of satisfied claimants with completed claims are available.

### NAGEL & PARTNER IMMOBILIEN GmbH

Contact our Representative in GB	Contact in Germany
Attorney Hans H. Marcus	Phone 49 30 882 56 31
Phone 0171-972 9720	Fax 49 30 881 39 16
Fax 0171-972 9723	Uhlandstrasse 156
14 New Street,	10719 Berlin
London EC2M 4TR	

### JACKMAN SILVERMAN

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

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

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

Our communal hall is available for cultural and social functions.

Tel: 0171-794 3949

## Reviews

## Jewish belief – the middle way

Franz D. Lucas, Heike Frank, MICHAEL SACKS. *DER KONSERVATIVE MITTELWEG*. Mohr (Siebeck), Tübingen, 1992.

In German-speaking families, Rabbi Michael Sacks (1808-64) was a household word, owing to his prayer books: nine volumes of *Festgebete der Israeliten* as well as the year-round *Siddur*, both with beautiful translations and notes for understanding this precious heritage of Judaism. Other widespread books made readers familiar with the Hebrew press of Spain. And to the still printed Bible edition by Zunz, Sachs contributed renderings of the Psalms and 14 other books of Scriptures. One of the most eloquent preachers of the age, he influenced his congregations in Prague and, mainly, Berlin and formed a major influence on pupils and admirers. His sermons also drew Christians who wished to learn about modern Jewish viewpoints and their roots in tradition.

Sacks was one of the founders of the middle road in Jewish theology, neither radically liberal nor overly traditionalist. Thus he is of great interest for non-orthodox congregants even today. However, his contribution has been nearly forgotten. The authors, by researching old editions and the Sachs archives in Jerusalem and elsewhere, have succeeded in bringing to life the personal struggles and hopes of an entire generation. One hopes to see an English edition of this labour of love by Mr Lucas of London, scholar and sponsor of research.

As can be guessed, Sachs had to battle for his vision. Being a very emotional person he found his helpmate in the equally emotional Henriette. It was not easy to care for a growing family on a very modest salary, nor as honorary secretary for the international society for Hebrew research. Thus Sachs, sadly, belongs to a long list of rabbis and scholars whose lives were shortened by the necessary fight for their ideals of modernity. One wonders how such visionaries of a meaningful Jewish life managed to go ahead with their self-set goals.

All this and much more is brought near to us in this volume, written in a matter-of-fact style and replete with pictures,

bibliography and index. As the author mentions, he decided to bring Sachs back to memory while working on his previous book on the town of Glogau in Silesia, where Sachs was born and where the author's father, Dr. Leopold Lucas, had served as rabbi: *Lucas and Heitmann, Stadt des Glaubens. Geschichte und Kultur der Juden in Glogau*, Hildesheim 1991.

Thus, both books are a most meaningful way of transforming the past into a reminder of hope for today.

□ Pnina Navè Levinson

## Austria's flickering mirror

1938 - *Auch das war Wien* (Dir. Wolfgang Gluck)  
*Hasenjagd* (Dir. Andreas Gruber) National Film Theatre

A Habsburg court poet wrote at the end of the Middle Ages 'Austria Erit In Orbe Ultima', i.e. Austria will be the last (empire) on earth. It could be said that his prophecy has only partly come true. The Habsburg Empire collapsed before most others, but in one sphere – film making – Austria definitely ranks last, at least in Central Europe. While Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland threw up outstanding directors like Szabo, Forman, Passer and Polanski – most of whom went on to Hollywood – postwar Austria's only export to Tinseltown took the highly inartistic form of Arnold Schwarzenegger. It was not always thus: interwar Austria had greatly enriched Hollywood both with directors (von Stroheim, von Sternberg, Fritz Lang, Otto Preminger) and actors (Louise Rainer, Paul Muni, Joseph Schildkraut). In addition during the mid-Thirties Tobis-Sascha Studios produced two little gems, *Episode* and *Maskerade* which bade fair to make Austria an (admittedly minor) player in the world cinema stakes.

The Anschluss nipped all hopeful developments in the bud. Postwar, for well over three decades the *judenreine* film industry of the amnesia-stricken country churned out inane romances about assorted Habsburgs, or comedies featuring wine bibbers and fiacre drivers. This form of braindead cinema could not endure forever. When, by the early 1980s the

industry showed signs of expiring from inanition, the government stepped in with subsidies – but asked at the same time that directors turn out more worthwhile and self-critical work.

The September mini-season of Austrian films at the NFT afforded an opportunity for judging the success of this new policy. Half of the showcased films belonged to Axel Cortis' *Wohin und Zurück* trilogy already reviewed in these pages (see issue of December '91).

I therefore concentrated on two new films which likewise dealt with Austria in the grip of Hitler. The first was *1938 – Auch das war Wien*, a tale of star-crossed love between an Austrian actress and a Jewish playwright. Based on a Friedrich Torberg novel it aroused considerable audience interest, but proved disappointing. Torberg's treatment of his innately dramatic theme turned out to be both unconvincing and cliché-ridden. Unconvincing because it portrays the hero, allegedly a Spanish Civil War veteran, as so myopically apolitical that he fails to notice the Nazi tide about to engulf him. Cliché rears its ugly head in an immediate post-Anschluss scene, where an anti-Nazi theatre director dons evening dress, books into a luxury hotel and savours a glass of champagne before blowing his brains out in front of the assembled guests. Compounding these flaws a long take of the heroine tap-dancing in a film studio – obviously put in to spice up Torberg's sombre tale – was toothachingly stilted and inept.

I left the cinema doubly depressed – both by the film's re-enactment of the events of 1938, and by the well-intentioned director's failure to make the lethal interplay of theatre and Nazi politics even half as engrossing as Istvan Szabo managed to do in *Mefisto*.

The second new offering was *Hasenjagd* (Hare hunt) which focused on an event as traumatising as the Anschluss, if on a smaller scale. The film takes its title from the hunting down by local Nazi officials and villagers of 500 escaped Russian prisoners in February 1945. *Hasenjagd* was grimly depressing from the opening shot of the inferno of Mauthausen concentration camp to the final credits stating that only nine of the escapers had survived the manhunt. Yet, for all that, I left the cinema marginally more elated than depressed.

What elated me was the artistic integrity with which the director had tackled his

*continued on page 5*

*continued*

awesome theme, never allowing himself, or his audience, the palliative of false heroics. In addition – and this is no small consideration in judging a film – his camera work was flawless. Two scenes in particular remain etched on the retina. One consisted of a panning shot across an idyllic winter landscape, luminous with a myriad snow crystals glistening on fir-trees, before the camera homes in on foot prints in the snow edged with tell-tale flecks of red. The second, shot in spring sunshine, showed a villager white-washing a wall with practised broad brush-strokes to erase the faded crimson traces of a massacre.

*Hare hunt* is not merely a work of cinematic art, but constitutes genuine heart-wrenching *Vergangenheitsbewältigung*. Of course, it comes fully fifty years after the event – by which time most native-born hare hunters (aka torturers and pillagers) had removed themselves from all earthly jurisdiction and censure. But then the Austrians have traditionally boasted that they will be the last in something or other.

□ RG

## Saying the unsayable

Hilda Schiff 'HOLOCAUST POETRY', an anthology published by Harper Collins, £7.99.

This is a wonderful anthology, unique, the only work of its kind so far. Hilda Schiff was sent to England as a child and lost her mother in a death camp. She writes movingly in the poem *When it happened*: 'I was not listening... now I hear nothing else'. Certainly she has caught whispers and cries in this book, for instance this poem is all the more moving because unfinished:

*Written in Pencil in the Sealed Freight Car.*

'Here in this carload  
I am Eve  
With my son Abel  
If you see my older boy  
Tell him that I...' by Dan Pagis,  
(Trans. Stephen Mitchell).  
In *'Shipment to Maidanek'* Ephraim Fogel lists with tragic irony the arrivals in terms of their usable shoes, gold teeth.  
'Item: Three poets, hopelessly insane...  
Seventeen dozen Danes, nine gross of Dutch'.  
More than half the poems are translated. I found myself longing to

understand them in their native tongue. Poetry inevitably loses in translation and some work better than others. I cannot believe that Abba Kovner's poem *Far, Far a City Lies* was so formless in the original. In contrast, Paul Celan's *Death Fugue* is one of the finest. Translated by Michael Hamburger, the repeated lines, and rhythms are so powerful:

'Black milk of daybreak we drink  
you at dusk  
we drink you at noon death is a  
master from Germany'

And the absence of punctuation somewhat conveys the feeling of garbled terror.

However, I ask again, who is the book for? The preponderance of translations does add a burden to the read. The editor's dilemma is acute. Should she open the door to new poets, most of whom, by definition, are not writing in English, or should she, above all, have aimed to attract new readers and concentrated on fewer and more established writers? With great courage she has chosen to widen the scope of the book, opening doors to the relatively unknown writers and seeking out the amazing diversity of victims of the Holocaust.

Hilda Schiff's way of structuring the material gradually allowed me to find a way to use my critical faculties. She has made a safe pathway through the horror, so that I could continue to read and to go on a voyage of self-exploration. I was continually moved to tears, humbled, but never confused. Who would have dreamt that a love poem could be written in a death camp?

In *The Sun of Auschwitz* Tadeusz Borowski writes:

'I remember your smile  
as elusive as a shade  
of the colour of the wind,  
a leaf trembling on the edge  
of sun and shadow, fleeting  
yet always there.'

This is a long book. There are 130 poems and 230 pages; the cover design by Shmuel Dresner, 'The Ghost Town', shows a townscape of smouldering newspaper. If you only read one poem from each section your path will be long and in the end your journey would teach you that what you most fear once came true. Yet in her poem 'Discovery' the editor writes:

'The total absence of love is God  
Whose presence  
No clearer moments of rapture  
could stamp  
in the grain of my heart'.

I think that this sense of order in chaos is a major achievement. There is a good index and each poet has a biographical paragraph at the end. Many who survived took their own lives.

Let me finish with one of them, Primo Levi:

'I commend these words to you.  
Engrave them on your hearts  
When you are in your house, when  
you walk on your way,  
When you go to bed, when you  
rise.  
Repeat them to your children.  
Or may your house crumble,  
Disease render you powerless,  
Your offspring avert their faces  
from you.

□ Jill Bamber



## 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: 01582 22538

Fax: 01582 23240

## CORRECTIONS

The obituary to Gabrielle Cairncross (November issue) stated incorrectly that the deceased had been Secretary of the Anglo-Jewish Association during the Presidency of Maurice Edelman MP. In fact, Lionel Simmonds – to whom we apologise – had been Secretary at the time; Gabrielle Cairncross succeeded him under President Harold Sebag-Montefiore.

The review of Norman Cantor's *The Sacred Chain* (November issue) should have read: the efforts of Reform rabbis in the 19th and 20th centuries to promote acculturation without assimilation □



## WERNER ROSENSTOCK

Sir - I knew Werner Rosenstock longer than anyone else has. We first met as schoolboys attending the Judaism class of Dr. Julius Lewkowitz, Rabbi of the Levetzowstrasse Synagogue (and later a Holocaust victim). We both lived in Berlin Northwest, although we did not go to the same school. But we grew up in the *Hansa* quarter, for which Werner always retained feelings of nostalgia. Before emigrating we both worked for the Centralverein, he full-time, I as music critic of its paper. Our acquaintance grew into close friendship in London through the AJR: I canvassed members early on and attended the Board Meetings, where his reports as General Secretary were always highly interesting and spiced with humour.

For me Werner Rosenstock represented the noblest type of German Jew: deeply devoted to Judaism and the community, while at the same time partaking of all that was best in German civilisation in a harmonious synthesis which is now a thing of the past.

We last survivors of German Jewry will always feel indebted to him and cherish his memory - and I myself his friendship.

Polhill Avenue  
Bedford

Hans Freyhan

## SHIPWRECKED

Sir - I was very pleased to read AW Freud's extremely well written article about our odyssey on the SS Quanza (October issue).

As a postscript, I would like to add that I only learned about Mr. Morewitz's brilliant intervention on our behalf last year. Had it not been for that, we would have been shipped back to a very uncertain fate.

The negative effect of our rescue on the immigration regulations was most unfortunate. FDR's emergency visa programme for political refugees was virtually ended, sending a signal to Adolf Hitler that he could not drive out the Jews because there was no place for them to go.

I look forward to reading further articles by AW Freud.

Beatrice B. Sellmer

## MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

Sir - AJR members who are still, or again, Austrian citizens, may wish to note that they can vote in the forthcoming Austrian general election, and that this time it is important that they do so. Elections are likely to be held on December 17th. The importance of not wasting one's vote lies in the need to vote for whatever party preferred, so long as a vote is cast *against* Joerg Haider's party.

For some years, Austrian nationals resident abroad have been able to vote in federal elections, either by post or in person at Austrian consulates. The principal polling station (Wahllokal) is usually at the consular section of the Austrian Embassy, (18 Belgrave Mews West, behind the Western side of Belgrave Square, tel. 0171-235 3731), and votes can be cast there, or by post, for several days before the actual election day. Any Austrian citizen resident in the UK who is not on the electoral register, should contact the Embassy as soon as possible to register.

Many of your readers not familiar with the system may well worry that they do not know the candidates. That is no problem since the names of the individual candidates do not appear on the ballot paper; what appears is the name of the party for whose list you vote and 'new' electors will have no problem in identifying at least the Greens, the OeVP, and the SPOe - the latter two forming the present governing coalition. Any party other than the FPOe or the 'Liberales Forum' is acceptable! Since there is no system of single member constituencies with its first-past-the-post victories, the list system allows every individual vote to count in the final outcome.

Deddington  
Oxfordshire

F M M Steiner

## CLIMATE OF (IN)TOLERANCE

Sir - I was very interested to read the editorial 'Southern Discomfort' (August issue) having myself carried out a study which led to the conclusion that intolerance often arises in places where the climate, in terms of the difference between summer and winter, is extreme. Liberalism

tends to flourish where the climate is more equable.

The people of Britain, which has on average about 12 deg C. temperature difference (TD) between the hottest and coldest months of the year, are often regarded as generally tolerant, having for example provided little support for fascism in the 1930s when it was strong in many parts of continental Europe, and having recently made the transition to a multi-racial society.

Laws of Jewish emancipation were passed in north-west European countries (Ireland, Great Britain, France and The Netherlands) where TD is generally in the range 10-15 deg C., long before the Jews living further east, where TD is larger, were emancipated. Some 200 years ago France, with TD values as low as about 10 deg C. in Brittany and averaging about 14 deg C. for the country as a whole, proclaimed "liberty, equality and fraternity". A remarkably enlightened society grew up in The Netherlands, where TD is approximately 14 deg C., in the seventeenth century after it broke away from Spanish domination. Iceland has a very equable climate, with a TD of 11 deg C., and it is remarkable in terms of its democratic credentials in that its assembly, the Althing, has been called the first parliament in history.

Conversely, intolerant acts have often been committed by people from areas in mid-latitudes where seasonal temperature extremes are large, as in areas with continental climate. In the late 1930s fascism took over in Spain, Germany, Italy and Austria: all are continental countries with TD values generally averaging about 20 deg C.

49 Curzon Avenue  
Stanmore  
Middlesex HA7 2AL

Richard A. Beck

## BLOODSTAINED PROFITS

Sir - The excellent TV programme *The Spin*, 18th October BBC 2, carried an item on the use which the German Government is making of feature films produced during the Nazi period. The Bundesarchiv in Berlin transfers such films to a private company which makes millions of pounds per annum by passing such films to other film makers and to exhibitors. As an example *The Spin* showed an extract including part of a football game from *Der Fuehrer gibt den Juden eine Stadt* which featured in the prize-winning film *Yellow Star*. The 'Stadt' in question was Theresienstadt!

I was horrified to see this truly ghastly piece of propaganda at a time when revisionists are at work. The fact that my grandfather perished in that camp made it still worse for me.

I wonder what other readers felt on seeing the piece in *The Spin*? I also wonder if by some remote chance there are still any survivors of the film's cast who may have survived Auschwitz, where they were sent after the film was finished. If there are any I wonder what they think about such a film being shown for private profit?

Those of us who received no *Wiedergutmachung* pension will not be pleased to see how the Bundesrepublik wastes funds by giving them to a private company, namely Transit of Dachaustrasse in Munich.

Wellmeadow Road  
London SE13

Peter Mayer

### REFUGEE SOLDIERS' REGISTER

Sir - Thank you for publishing my letter concerning a register of former Pioneers. I received a stack of letters in response which will take me quite some time to go through. Naturally I should like to answer each one, but it will take me some time to do so.

Would it be too much to ask you to assure your readers that they should not despair of getting a reply, even if it takes me a few months? And could you also ask those of your readers who have not yet responded although able to do so - and there are still many I am sure - to respond after all?

Neumarkt 3  
64625 Bensheim  
Germany

Peter Leighton-Langer

### MURDERERS IN FIELD GREY

Sir - A recent issue of *Die Zeit* magazine (No.3/1995) examined the truth of the widely held belief that during the last war the SS and associated units were a criminal organisation whilst the army was a legitimate fighting force, innocent of any participation in the Holocaust or other war crimes.

In fact from the very beginning the then Reichswehr was one of the pillars of the NS state, having formed an alliance with the Nazi party. The requirement for all soldiers to swear an oath of allegiance to the Fuehrer came not from Hitler, but from von Blomberg of the Reichswehr, then Minister for War. As

early as 1934 the Reichswehr dismissed all Jews, with just a single officer dissenting publicly.

During the Second World War altogether 19 million men were members of the Wehrmacht. It would be absurd to suggest that all 19 million were guilty of war crimes, but equally absurd is the assertion of 19 million 'knightly' warriors. *Die Zeit* provides incontrovertible evidence, including orders from the high command, of the participation of army units in the Holocaust in Eastern Europe and Russia, quite independent of the SS.

In Serbia, when in 1941 no SS or SD could be spared from their murderous activities in Russia, it was the army, having worked itself into a veritable blood lust, which systematically murdered the Jewish population and eventually proudly reported Serbia to be *judenrein*. Not only was there no opposition from soldiers to these crimes, but on the contrary an almost universal agreement among them that *die Juden muessen weg* (the Jews must disappear). Historians provide detailed evidence of a trail of blood across Europe of atrocities committed by army units against so-called partisans, including women and children.

JB

### VILLA MERLÄNDER

Sir - An article on the Villa Merländer in one of your recent issues prompted me to send a few items (on Dr. K. Alexander, pre-war President of the Jewish congregation, Dr. A. Bluhm and his wife, Rabbi until November 1938, and Dr. L. Leven, music teacher) to this collection, presuming that this was a suitable place where to keep memorabilia in honour of Krefeldian Jews.

Perhaps your readers will be interested to learn that, according to *Die Zeit* of 6th October 1995, the CDU-Party, recently elected to the City Council, now wants to close this institution.

Freiburg  
Germany

G. Haas (Mrs)

### BOUQUET

Sir - I wonder where you manage to find all those many valuable and interesting items in every issue of *AJR Information*.

I always pass my copy on to my English friend, who looks forward to receiving it.  
North End Way  
London NW3

Ernst Mitchell

### SCHOLARLY & ACADEMIC BOOKS BOUGHT

Collections of literary & historical studies

#### Plurabelle Books

Dr Michael Cahn  
77 Garden Walk, Cambridge CB4 3EW  
Tel: 01223 366 680

### GERMAN BOOKS BOUGHT

A.W. MYTZE

1 The Riding, London NW11  
Tel: 0181-458 0419

### GERMAN BOOKS

We are always buying:  
Books, Autographs, Judaica  
and German works of art

#### Antiquariat Metropolis

Leerbachstr. 85  
D-60322 Frankfurt a/M  
Tel: 0049 69 559451

REGULAR VISITS TO LONDON

### GERMAN and ENGLISH BOOKS BOUGHT

Antiquarian, secondhand and modern books of quality always wanted  
Most subjects, but especially

ARCHITECTURE, ART, PHOTOGRAPHY

MUSIC

EROTICA

MOUNTAINS, LANDSCAPES, GARDENS  
EASTERN EUROPE, ASIA, POLAR REGIONS

FEMINISM, ANARCHISM, ANTI-FASCISM

ECONOMICS & PHILOSOPHY

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE

BIBLIOGRAPHY & FINE PRINTING

MANUSCRIPTS & ORIGINAL DRAWINGS

Immediate response to your letter  
or phone call.

We pay good prices and come to collect

Please contact:

Robert Hornung, MA (Oxon)

2 Mount View, Ealing,

London W5 1PR

Telephone 0181-998 0546

(5pm to 9pm is best)



## The AJR at Work



Erica Plaut, left, helps her four passengers to the car before driving them home from the Day Centre.

### Valuing your time

The very day that the Paul Balint AJR Day Centre opened its doors in Belsize Square in 1986, Judy Field volunteered to help and she is still as enthusiastic and energetic in taking care of today's members. Though Judy was always busy with family responsibilities, she found the time to help others. As well as providing a welcoming cup of tea or coffee and biscuits to the arriving members, she always lends a sympathetic ear and offers friendly advice. Judy also checks if any of the 'regulars' are missing and finds out the reason why.

There is a special bond between the Centre's 80-or-so volunteers and the staff, for whom Judy organises outings out of hours. "It is a commitment," said Judy, who is at the Centre on Wednesdays

and Thursdays, "but in return for our work we receive great rewards – the personal friendship and companionship of the members and other volunteers."

Erica Plaut is also a married lady whose college-departing daughter challenged her to "go and do your voluntary work now!" Despite a career as a hospital pharmacist, Erica took up the challenge

and began visiting members of the AJR in their homes, something she continues to do. Every Wednesday afternoon, at the conclusion of the entertainment programme, Erica sips a quick cup of tea before driving four members back to their homes in Edgware, Preston Road and Belmont. "I do enjoy driving," admits Erica. "If you also like the people

and say hello to everyone, it's great fun. I'm just an old gossip!"

As many of our long-serving volunteers



Judy Field, right, with her fellow volunteer workers Sofie Landau and Sadie Zetland at the Paul Balint AJR Day Centre in West Hampstead.

retire after long and meretricious service, the need for kind-hearted individuals to take their places is as important as ever. Both men and women who, having led energetic and active lives, may have taken early retirement and, together with others are seeking to make a contribution to their community, would be very welcome to have an informal chat with us. Just one day a week's help would be wonderful.

"All AJR volunteers gain pleasure and satisfaction from their work at the Centre", says Judy Field, "and get as much out of it as they give."

Why don't you consider joining us? The AJR values your time □

**10th ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS  
PAUL BALINT  
AJR DAY CENTRE  
January 22 – 29  
Special Programme**

### Leeds AJR

Ernest David, Director of the AJR, recently visited Leeds to have discussions on establishing a group to cover Leeds and the surrounding areas. It was agreed to publicise this locally. With the large number of Jewish refugees and survivors in the area, it is anticipated that there will be a good response.

### CALLING ALL MANCUNIANs

The first meeting of the  
**Manchester AJR Group**

will take place on  
**Sunday 10 December 1995**  
at 2.30pm

Morris Feinman House  
178 Palatine Road, Didsbury, Manchester

Further details from co-ordinator  
Werner Lachs on 0161 773 4091

Guest speaker: Ernest David  
Director of the AJR

Come & tell us what you want



## Message from the Director

For my wife and myself, Winston Churchill was a hero and I would think this is so for most, if not all, readers of this journal.

With the benefit of hindsight, I thought in my naïveté, that it was clear he not only saved the world from a terrible fate, but that he was the only politician to have recognised the danger, at a time when it could have been nipped in the bud.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered that there are people who call themselves historians, who maintain that Churchill did not act in Britain's best interests and should have made peace with Hitler.

It would not be difficult to follow this line of reasoning down further paths of speculation. After all, if the war was continued not to save democracy from an evil tyrant, perhaps it was simply a war to save Jews and Bolsheviks from total extinction.

As I have grown older I have learned that history is not merely the string of battles and dates one was taught at school, and that an assessment of events depends on who is making the assessment. Was it not a Frenchman who, arriving at Waterloo Station and then visiting Trafalgar Square, asked why the British named public places after great defeats?

However, many historical facts and issues are incontrovertible, and Churchill's role in the 1940s is one of these. I would not expect you to take this unsupported statement from me, nor do I have the detailed knowledge to present the case. For this reason, the AJR and the Yad Vashem Committee of the Board of Deputies are jointly sponsoring a lecture to be given by Professor Richard Overy of King's College, London, on Sunday 25th February 1996, in which he will address these issues in some depth.

Make a diary date in advance of the details to be published in our January and February issues.

Happy Chanukah.

□ Ernest David

### SEARCH NOTICE

**Erich Kahn** (b. Stuttgart 1904, d. London 1980). If you knew the painter and graphic artist Erich Kahn or have any works by him, please contact K.E. Hinrichsen, 13 Hillside Gardens, Highgate, London N6 5SU. Tel: 0181 348 0969, for a planned publication.

## PAUL BALINT AJR DAY CENTRE

Tel. 071 328 0208

Open Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 a.m. – 6.30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday 9.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

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

*Afternoon entertainment* –

### DECEMBER

- |           |    |   |
|-----------|----|---|
| Sunday    | 3  | DAY CENTRE OPEN – NO ENTERTAINMENT  |
| Monday    | 4  | THE BUSHEY SHOW GROUP   |
| Tuesday   | 5  | THE GEOFFREY STRUM & JOHNNY WALTON DUO  |
| Wednesday | 6  | SONGS THAT LEAVE THEIR MARK – Mark Rosen (Tenor) accompanied by Daphne Lewis (Piano)                                |
| Thursday  | 7  | OPERA POPS – Accompanied by Margaret Gibbs (Piano)  |
| Sunday    | 10 | DAY CENTRE OPEN – NO ENTERTAINMENT  |
| Monday    | 11 | MUSICAL GREETINGS FOR CHANUKAH – Rona Israel (Soprano) accompanied by Ian Pace (Piano)                              |
| Tuesday   | 12 | SONGS FOR EVERYONE AS CHANUKAH IS APPROACHING – Shirley Gurevitz accompanied by Sylvia Cohen (Piano)                |
| Wednesday | 13 | YEAR-END CONCERT – Fred Rosner accompanied by Geoffrey Whitworth (Piano)  |
| Thursday  | 14 | GEMS OF JEWISH MUSIC INCLUDING A CHANUKAH SING-A-LONG – The Two Marshalls: Cantor Marshall Stone & Bridget Marshall |

## CHANUKAH

- |                |    |   |
|----------------|----|---|
| Sunday         | 17 | LIGHTING THE CANDLES & AN "ENTERTAINMENT OFF THE RECORD" – Mr Arnold Horwell  |
| Monday         | 18 | LET'S CELEBRATE CHANUKAH WITH SONGS FROM MY ALBUM – Cantor Michael Rothstein accompanied by Sheila Games (Piano)                          |
| Tuesday        | 19 | LUCY WHITE (Violin) & JULIET DAVEY (Piano) AT CHANUKAH  |
| Wednesday      | 20 | CHANUKAH CONCERT – AROUND THE WORLD IN 60 MINUTES – Françoise Geller – Kara Wilson – Gordon Griffin accompanied by Margaret Eaves (Piano) |
| Thursday       | 21 | CHANUKAH WITH HANS FREUND   |
| Sunday         | 24 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Monday         | 25 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Tuesday        | 26 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Wednesday      | 27 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Thursday       | 28 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Sunday         | 31 | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| <b>JANUARY</b> |    |   |
| Monday         | 1  | DAY CENTRE CLOSED   |
| Tuesday        | 2  | NEW YEAR CONCERT – TWO VOICES & A PIANO – Eddy Simmons and Helen Blake  |
| Wednesday      | 3  | WINTER SONG & MUSIC – Sue Kennett (Soprano) accompanied by Gordon Weaver (Piano)  |
| Thursday       | 4  | THE GEOFFREY STRUM & JOHNNY WALTON DUO  |

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Birthday**

Knopf. Happy 80th Birthday to Ilse Knopf from all her friends and colleagues at the AJR.

**Birth**

Morland. Claire (née Platt) and Paul Morland have great pleasure in welcoming Juliette, a sister for Sonia and another granddaughter for Janet and Michael Platt and Ingrid and Henry Morland.

**Deaths**

Rosenstock. Werner Rosenstock, former Director of the AJR and founding editor of *AJR Information*, died peacefully in his sleep on 19th October 1995 in London at the age of 87. Deeply mourned by his son Michael, granddaughters Eva and Ruth, his extensive family and many friends.

Samet. Vilma Samet, on 19 October, in her sleep, aged 96, widow of Benno and mother of Paul. Born in Győr, Hungary, in 1899, she studied medicine in Vienna, qualifying in 1925, then worked at Rothschildspital. After coming to England in November 1938, the family lived in London and then in Ruthin, North Wales, when she worked at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham until 1963. After that she lived in Southampton and since 1983 at a retirement home in Pinner. If desired, donations to the RNIB Talking Book Fund may be sent to Bradley & Jones, Love Lane, Pinner Middlesex HA5 3EE.

Schauer. Rosel Schauer died peacefully on 25 October, aged 97 years, and will be sadly missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Spearman. Ernest Spearman, of 1 Totnes Walk N2, died on 2nd October aged 88 years.

Wittenberg. Gunter Wittenberg died 12th October 1995 after a brief illness. Greatly loved and

sadly missed by family and friends.

**CLASSIFIED**

**Services**

Electrician. City & Guilds qualified. All domestic work undertaken. Y. Steinreich. Tel: 0181 455 5262.

Manicure and Pedicure in the comfort of your own home. Telephone 0181 455 7582.

**Miscellaneous**

World Wars. I collect cards and envelopes from the camps. Please send with price asked to Peter C. Rickenbach, 14 Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 1PF.

**Befrienders**

Befrienders, where are you? AJR needs visitors in various districts of London. Ex-volunteer in West Hampstead and blind member in Fitzjohns Avenue NW3 need befrienders urgently. Please ring Laura Howe, AJR office, 0171 431 6161, Tues., Weds. & Thurs. 9.30-5.00.

**Companion/Carers**

Companion-Carer. Highly experienced, good-natured and responsible lady offers her services. Please ring 0181 203 5736.

**Gordon G. Spencer & Associates**

**A RELIABLE CAR SERVICE**

*Short or long distances  
Airports & theatres a speciality*  
46 Ravensdale Avenue  
N12 9HT  
Tel: 0181-445 1839  
Mobile: 0374-177-807

**ANTHONY J. NEWTON & CO**

**SOLICITORS**

22 Fitzjohns Avenue, Hampstead, NW3 5NB

**ALL LEGAL WORK UNDERTAKEN**

Telephone: 0171-435 5351/0171-794 9696

**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  
65 mm (3 column page) £10.00  
48mm (4 column page) £9.00

**HELGA WOLFF'S**  
fascinating & moving  
autobiography  
**'NO LONGER STRANGERS'**

is available at local bookshops  
Further information & outlets  
telephone 0181 908 4958

**SWITCH ON ELECTRICS**

Rewires and all household electrical work.

**PHONE PAUL: 0181-200 3518**

**C. H. WILSON**

Carpenter  
Painter and Decorator  
French Polisher  
Antique Furniture Repaired  
Tel: 0181-452 8324  
Car: 0831 103707

**ALTERATIONS OF ANY KIND TO LADIES' FASHIONS**

I also design and make children's clothes  
West Hampstead area  
**0171-328 6571**

**R. & G.**

(ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

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

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

**SHELTERED FLATS TO LET**

A choice of studio flats available at

**Eleanor Rathbone House Highgate N6**

One FULLY FURNISHED studio flat also on offer for 3-9 month let. Would suit elderly visitor from overseas. Permanency a possibility.

Details from: Mrs K. Gould, AJR, on 0171-431 6161  
Tuesday and Thursday mornings.  
Viewing by appointment only.

**Residential Home Clara Nehab House**

(Leo Baeck Housing Association Ltd.)  
13-19 Leaside Crescent NW11

All rooms with Shower W.C. and H/C Basins en-suite  
Spacious Garden - Lounge & Dining Room - Lift  
Near Shops and Public Transport  
24 Hour Care - Physiotherapy  
Long & short Term - Respite Care - Trial Periods

Enquiries: Josephine Woolf  
Otto Schiff Housing Association  
The Bishops Avenue N2 0BG  
Phone: 0181-209 0022

**BELSIZE SQUARE APARTMENTS**

24 BELSIZE SQUARE, N.W.3  
Tel: 0171-794 4307 or  
0171-435 2557

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

**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  
0181-445 1244 Office hours  
0181-455 1335 other times  
39 Torrington Park, N.12

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

Alice Schwab

## Art Notes

Last year some 25,000 photographs of life in pre-war Germany were discovered in a shed in Amsterdam. They mirror the course of German history at the time, from the tolerant world of the Weimar Republic to the order and sobriety under National Socialism. An exhibition of 150 of these photographs, by such 'greats' as Alfred Eisenstaedt, Eric Borchert, John Gutmann and Walter Sussmann, is in the Main Foyer of the Royal Festival Hall (until 14 January).

Emil Nolde was one of the great visionary artists of the century. He joined the Nazis in 1934 but, as a result of the campaign against "degenerate art", was ordered to stop painting in 1941. Thereafter, until the end of the war, he worked in secret on a series of water-colours called the "unpainted pictures". The exhibition of Nolde's work at the Whitechapel Art Gallery (until 25 February), is the first comprehensive exhibition of his work in this country.

It is a great pleasure to be able to congratulate our old friend Walter Nessler on the recent exhibition of his work held in Dresden. Nessler was born in Leipzig in 1912 and studied in Dresden before he emigrated to London where he now lives. In 1989 he was awarded the honour of *Ehrensator* by the Hochschule für Bildende Kunst, Dresden.

Another old friend, Berlin-born Klaus Meyer has just published a suite of eight groups of relief prints in colour, entitled "Superim-Positions", with a preface by Professor Gombrich. The 28 prints in the portfolio were cut in wood and lino and printed by the artist himself. Details can be obtained from the artist at 66 South Hill Park, London NW3 2SJ.

Now aged 96, Hans Feibusch is the only known survivor of the artists whose works were exhibited in the infamous "Degenerate Art" exhibition in 1937. Feibusch himself has lived in England since 1933 and a major retrospective exhibition of his work is at the Ben Uri Art Gallery (until 10 December). Feibusch was born in Frankfurt in 1898, served in the German army, and in 1919 started to study art. After coming to England, he became a muralist and, having changed his

religion, received a number of commissions to decorate churches.

**Carrington:** The Exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery (until 10 December) shows the unique talent and extraordinary life of the artist Dora Carrington (1893-1932), who had both professional and personal links with Mark Gertler □



Dora Carrington (1912) painted by Mark Gertler

## SB's Column

A strange revival took place at Karlsruhe, where a silent film version of *Rosenkavalier* (originally performed at the Dresden Opernhaus in 1926) became more of a curiosity than an evening at the opera. Even 70 years ago the actors failed to achieve realistic results for all that an orchestra provided accompaniment with the genuine Strauss music; among the performers Michael Bohnen, the celebrated baritone, acted a brilliant Ochs and saved the evening.

During this autumn's Frankfurt Book Fair the Jewish Museum arranged a number of events dealing with Austrian culture, literature and entertainment, among them an evening devoted to the poet-dramatist Richard Beer-Hoffman. It also screened the 1924 silent film *Die Stadt ohne Juden*, based on the novel by Hugo Bettauer and featuring Armin Berg and Hans Moser.

*Ich, Marlene* is a German musical which just completed a run in Munich. Starring Petra Constanza, it included Dietrich's best known songs *Fesche Lola*, *Sag' mir*

*wo die Blumen sind* and, naturally, *Von Kopf bis Fuss auf Liebe eingestellt*. Vienna's Raimundtheater has its sensation: the new musical *Beauty and the Beast* plays to capacity audiences. The 'Beast' is Ethan Freeman, an American singing star with long black curls, son of a Russian emigré. The lyrics, begun by Howard Ashman who died at the age of 31, were completed by Sir Tim Rice.

**Birthday.** Max Schmeling is 90. The German boxer, famous since his victory over Joe Louis in the Thirties which earned him the world heavyweight crown, is still fully active. After a spell as poultry farmer, he joined an international drink firm in an administrative capacity. Despite all his triumphs in the ring he lists marriage to blonde film star Anny Ondra as his greatest achievement. After more than 50 years' marriage Anny Ondra died in 1987 □

### AUSTRIAN and GERMAN PENSIONS

#### PROPERTY RESTITUTION CLAIMS EAST GERMANY- BERLIN

On instructions our office will assist to deal with your applications and pursue the matter with the authorities.

For further information and appointment please contact:

ICS CLAIMS

146-154 Kilburn High Road  
London NW6 4JD

Tel: 0171-328 7251 (Ext. 107)  
Fax: 0171-624 5002

#### Annely Juda Fine Art

23 Dering Street (off New Bond Street)  
Tel: 0171-629 7578 Fax: 0171-491 2139

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

#### AJR

1 HAMPSTEAD GATE  
1A FROGNAL, LONDON NW3  
Tel: 0171-431 6161

## One man's war

### Part 4

#### German Offensive

Eventually the company entrained for Larissa, a few hundred miles north, near to a mountain plateau where the RAF had already established an airfield with 24 Blenheim bombers. Our job was erecting sandbag shelters and guarding these planes. Germany had by then started the offensive against Greece and we were constantly warned about the danger of enemy parachutists landing in our midst. I credit British Intelligence for knowing something about these paras, but they were only deployed weeks later in the capture of the island of Crete. Our Blenheim bombers took off daily on bombing missions to halt the German advance, but did not all return to base every time. Occasionally we also observed German planes in the morning.

One day we were awakened by a tremendous continuous noise and saw endless rows of German planes – maybe a hundred or more – up in the sky. They were quite a distance from us and appeared to be moving rather slowly. There must have been a considerable number of British anti-aircraft guns in the surrounding hills as the planes were soon greeted with hundreds of shells which exploded with a plume of smoke in the sky. Our 2nd Lt Lee (né Liftschitz) got terribly agitated, pulled his revolver from its holster and ran about, shouting, "PARAS, PARAS?"; he became very embarrassed on realising that the slowly dispersing smoke was from ack-ack shells and not parachutes. The planes went on to decimate a New Zealand light-armoured division trying to hold a number of strategic mountain passes against the German advance; on our retreat we saw the damage these bombers did.

A few days later we noticed that the RAF were packing up; the few remaining planes were not expected to return. Waiting for a train to take us south, we learned that the Greek railways personnel had all fled and that Royal Engineers were occasionally moving a few trains at night because German planes attacked all moving rolling stock in daylight. So, all that was left to us was to pack up and march, part of a beaten army in retreat.

We walked endless days in orderly fashion under order of our commanding officer. It was springtime with beautiful

sunshine but very cold nights. We had no transport so what we could not carry, we did not keep. The Germans were not on our heels, they were probably held up by their long lines of communication. On our minds was the thought that the Royal Navy which had brought us to Greece would be able to pick us up again and take us back to Blighty.

After many days of marching, we arrived at the port of Patras and heard a rumour that the 'Ulster Prince' was there to pick us up. The rumour proved true, but as we approached closer there was a hell of a fight going on between our anti-aircraft artillery and German dive-bombers trying to sink the ship. They lost a few planes but in the end the ship took some direct hits and became engulfed in smoke and flames. We still witnessed the crew arriving on shore bedraggled and wet, unfortunately most of them were drunk.

Our hopes dashed, we carried on marching hundreds of miles across the Peloponnese to the most southerly tip of Greece. We were lucky and hitched a few hours ride by train on this route and were assured that all bridges would be blown up in good time.

Eventually, we arrived at the coast near the small fishing village named Kalamata. Here the countryside and beaches were crowded with hundreds of abandoned army vehicles. In the midst of all this was a column of about 100 brand new lorries which were not of WD (War Department)

make. They were dark green, made in Czechoslovakia by Skoda and all had the same mileage on the clock. They must have arrived in Yugoslavia by train from CSR and their only trip was from Belgrade to Kalamata. These lorries were full of wooden crates containing millions of unused Dinar notes. We heard that the entire Yugoslav Government had been evacuated from this beach some days before. They must have cleared out the stores of their national bank, but had to leave it all behind. To get away from that beach you had to be picked up by rowing boat or had to walk up to your neck in the sea.

□ H P Weiner

(to be continued)

#### AJR 'Drop in' Advice Centre Paul Balint AJR Day Centre

15 Cleve Road, London NW6  
between 10am and 12 noon on the  
following dates:

**Wednesday 6th December**  
**Thursday 14th December**  
**Monday 18th December**  
**Wednesday 3rd January**

and every Thursday from  
10am to 12 noon at:

**AJR, 1 Hampstead Gate,  
1a Froggnal, London NW3**

*No appointment is necessary, but please bring  
along all relevant documents, such as Benefit  
Books, letters, bills, etc.*

## CONCERNED ABOUT EXPROPRIATED PROPERTY IN SAXONY?

### ■ DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS

obtaining restitution of your property, or with the administration, utilization or sale of property after it is returned?

### ■ WE OFFER

competent representation of your interests  
prompt action  
comprehensive care  
collaboration with real estate agents and real estate custodians.

### ■ WRITE OR FAX US: ATTORNEYS BRUEMMENDORF & PARTNER

Lampestrasse 8  
D-04017 Leipzig, Germany  
Fax 011 49 341 964 6096

## Manx chat

In the course of a Sternberg Centre seminar on the *British Jewish Wartime Experience* Ludwig Spiro, former Treasurer of the AJR, recalled his experiences as a World War II internee on the Isle of Man. "In 1938 and 1939 nobody in Britain doubted that a war would be won if it came", he told participants. But by May 1940 *Daily Mail* headlines screamed 'Intern the Lot' (the lot being the 55,000 Jewish refugees who had come to Britain).

The Spiro family appeared before a magistrate in Harrow prior to joining fellow refugees at Wembley Police Station. After an overnight stay at Wellington Barracks, they were taken on by train to encamp on Kempton Park race course. With his background as an engineer, and an all-too-apparent need for the camp to have an efficient sewage system, Ludwig volunteered to take on the task of looking after 74 loos!

Marching through the streets of Liverpool en route to the Isle of Man they were spat upon by local people. Finally they ended up in one of five camps for men (or one for women and children) guarded by 400 heavily armed troops. The women found themselves uncomfortably interned with German domestic servants whose sympathies were directed to a German victory.

Internees' three prime concerns were mail, food and the date of their release! Ludwig took over the running of the post office which served the camp's 2,100 Jews who were desperate for news of their families. Then only 28 years old, he was elected camp supervisor and set to work to build an administration. He produced a camp newspaper and organised the raising of chickens and rabbits to feed a population that included four Nobel prizewinners and Amadeus players. The camp also knew tragedy and suffering: husbands were separated from wives - did not know what had happened to their children - there were poor medical facilities and many deaths.

Responsibility for the camps was transferred from the War Department to the Home Office. Lord Beaverbrook, who as Minister of Supply worried about the shortage of engineers, took up the suggestion of his doctor to call on the services of the Isle of Man internees. Lists of engineers were prepared and this led to the release of 2,000 people, including Ludwig Spiro who was sent to work in Scotland.

Eventually, 5,000 'enemy aliens' joined the Pioneer Corps (known as 'the highly educated navvies'). Later able to join fighting units, they served with distinction. "Internment was a blemish on our record," concluded Ludwig Spiro, "still, the ordinary Britisher is an amazingly decent chap."

□ Ronald Channing

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS - DECEMBER 1995

- Sun-Thurs Jewish Weddings in Focus, Exhibition: Jewish Museum, Camden Town. Photographer Boris Bennett. 10am-4pm £3
- Sun-Thurs Leon Greenman, Auschwitz Survivor 98288, Exhibition: Jewish Museum, Finchley. Details phone 0181 349 1143
- Sun 3 Jerusalem, Discord or Harmony: RSGB Israel Action. Rabbi Levi Weimann-Kelman of Jerusalem - Chairman Paul Usiskin. 8pm Sternberg Centre. £3.50
- Tues 5 Enemy Aliens, Refugees Interned by Britain 1940-45: William Kaczynski. Jewish Museum, Finchley. 8pm £2
- 'On Being Jewish': University of Sussex, Meeting House, Rabbi Julia Neuberger. Open lecture. 6pm
- Mon 4 Ancient Egyptian Mining in the Sinai: Club 1943, Dan Levene BA. 8pm
- Mon 11 Second Anthology of Jewish Composers: Club 1943, Hans Seelig MA. 8pm
- Tues 12 JACS First Birthday Party celebrated with food and entertainment. 2-4pm
- Thurs 14 Lunchtime Recital: Manor House Society. 1.15-2pm. Haruko Seki (violin) & Nathaniel Vallois (piano)
- Jewish Music & Chanukah Sing-a-long: Paul Balint AJR Day Centre. Cantor Marshall Stone. 2pm
- Sun 17 Lighting the First Candle of Chanukah: Paul Balint AJR Day Centre Arnold Horwell. 2-6.30pm

- Mon 18 Receiving Foreign Visitors: Club 1943 Rodney Mantle MA takes a light-hearted view. 8pm
- Tues 19 History of MAPAM and 'Peace Now': JACS Peter Prager & JADE representative. 2pm
- Thurs 21 Chanukah Party: ROK. 6.30-9.30 Canons Park. £8 per person. (Applications before 15th)
- Sat 23 Chanukah Social: ACJR. Phone for details.

#### ORGANISATION CONTACTS:

Club 1943, Anglo-German Cultural Forum, meets at Belsize Square Synagogue. Call Hans Seelig on 01442 254 360 for information.

JACS at Belsize Square Synagogue, NW3 4HX. Tel: 0171 794 3949

RSGB/Jewish Museum/Manor House Society, Sternberg Centre for Judaism, 80 East End Road, Finchley, NW3 2SY. Tel: 0181 346 2288

Jewish Museum, either Sternberg Centre (as above) or at: 129/131 Albert Street, NW1 7NB. Tel: 0171 284 1997

ACJR, Association of Children of Jewish Refugees. For information call Juliet Buckner 0171 254 7886

ROK (Reunion of Kindertransport) 148 Curtain Road, EC2A 3AR. Tel: 0171 613 4209

University of Sussex Centre for German-Jewish Studies. For further information phone Diana Franklin 0181 455 4785 or 01273 678 495

## 50 YEARS AGO

### PEACE CAME

Peace came - but it was very different from what we had expected it to be. News became available - a great deal of bad news and some good news, too. And whilst the dark curtain that had screened the evil deeds in Hitler's Europe was raised, more information was obtained than might at one time have been expected. It turned out, for instance, that even the dreaded news, 'deported to the East' was not always final, that even from the death camps of Auschwitz and Stutthof and Riga a small number of survivors were finally rescued. We still fervently hope that in the Russian zone there may still be many more of them who so far have been unable to contact their relatives over here. It is significant that whereas about 10,000 Jews on the Continent had been registered with us as missing, we have so far been able to ascertain what happened to about 1,500 of them. Considering the still existing difficulties of communication this is a substantial percentage.

AJR Information, June 1945

## Cooking with Gretel Beer



## Mohr im Hemd

Half-way across the Atlantic seems a funny place to argue about a recipe, but that's exactly what happened on the QE2 recently. There was a Viennese food festival on board with several Austrian guest chefs – quite a lot of the “resident” Cunard chefs are Austrian as well – and we all claimed to have the best recipe for Mohr im Hemd, that wonderful chocolate pudding topped with chocolate sauce and whipped cream. On comparing the various versions I found that my own recipe was almost identical with that of Rudi Sodamin, Cunard's Corporate executive chef – and another Austrian, so here is the combined version.

### For the pudding

4 eggs  
2oz (70g) butter  
2oz (70g) icing sugar  
2oz (70g) grated plain chocolate  
2oz (70g) ground unblanched almonds  
butter and icing sugar for the pudding basin  
whipped cream lightly sweetened with vanilla sugar

### For the sauce

8oz (225g) plain chocolate  
8oz (225g) icing sugar  
pint (280ml) water

For the pudding, separate eggs. Cream butter with two-thirds of the sugar until very light and fluffy, beat in egg yolks one by one. Whisk whites until stiff with remaining sugar. Fold white into the yolk mixture, alternatively with the grated chocolate and almonds. Steam in buttered and sugared pudding basin covered with a lid or foil, folded with a pleat to allow room for expansions, for about three-quarters of an hour.

For the sauce grate the chocolate or break into small pieces. Put sugar and chocolate into a thick saucepan, add wa-

ter and cook gently over low heat, stirring constantly until chocolate and sugar are dissolved, then cook more briskly, still stirring, until thick. Turn out the pudding onto a warmed serving dish. Top with chilled whipped cream, lightly flavoured with vanilla sugar and pour the hot chocolate sauce over it □

## Lady be good

**B**elgian-born comedienne, actress and glamorous granny Bettine Le Beau combined homespun philosophy with haimische-style humour to edify and amuse the members of JACS Belsize Square.

JACS chairman Stuart Willner introduced her as a multi-lingual, ex-James Bond lovely, film and TV comedy actress, stand-up comedienne and radio panellist, who was also a talented sculptress and tireless worker for good causes. Bettine puts much time and effort into giving



*Bettine Le Beau talks to the members of JACS Belsize square on how positive attitudes help to make for a happy life.*

talks to schools and colleges on her experiences as a Jew under Nazi occupation, as well as giving regular Yiddish classes at the Holocaust Centre in Hendon. “You have to like yourself and enjoy being what you are,” said Bettine. No one was perfect, every person had faults, but it was sensible to acknowledge the bad ones and develop the good points. As a very busy person, she was convinced that to be happy you had to be occupied. She warned about the middle-age crisis when suppressed desires came to the surface and men and women could suffer from a degree of role reversal.

Positive, optimistic and full of *joie de vivre*, Bettine Le Beau's talk was proof enough of a tough life not embittering an effervescent ambassador for traditional values and happy living.

□ Ronald Channing

**WE CAN MAKE YOUR LIFE MUCH EASIER . . . .**

**IF . . . .**

- you need help in reclaiming property in Germany or Austria?
- you want to make or change a Will, appoint an executor or require help in managing your affairs?
- you desire to establish a permanent memorial in Israel?

**KKL, a subsidiary of the JNF Charitable Trust, can do it all.**

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

KKL Executor & Trustee Company Limited is a trust corporation with nearly 50 years experience in handling thousands of Wills and estates. Correspondents in Israel and throughout the world.

**All consultations are free of charge and in strictest confidence.**

Write or phone for information:

**Herman Rothman**  
KKL Executor & Trustee  
Company Limited  
Harold Poster House  
Kingsbury Circle  
London NW9 9SP

**Telephone: 0181-204 9911**

**Facsimile: 0181-204 8099**

**Freephone: 0800 901333**



**KKL – TAKING CARE OF TOMORROW TODAY IN A PROFESSIONAL AND CARING WAY**

## Obituary

## Dr Werner Rosenstock 1908 - 1995

When Dr Werner Rosenstock retired in 1982 as Director of the Association of Jewish Refugees and editor of this journal, our front page carried the headline "End of a Momentous Era". This era comprised our first arrival and settlement in the UK, the 'enemy aliens' episode and our subsequent successful integration into the cultural and economic life of Great Britain.

Werner's active involvement in Jewish affairs started early on. The scion of a highly respected middle class Berlin family, he joined the German Jewish youth movement at 15, and three years later became attached to the Youth Section of the *Centralverein*. Intent on a legal career he read Law at the universities of Berlin and Freiburg. When Nazi legislation in 1933 debarred Jews from the legal profession he was nonetheless able to obtain a doctorate with a thesis on the duties of jurors in jury trials.

During the short period as a junior official (*Referendar*) at a Court of Justice before 1933 he met fellow-Referendar, Susanne Philips, whom he was subsequently to marry.

Werner now joined the *Centralverein* as a full-time worker until its demise in November 1938. He next worked for the *Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland*, his particular concern being the organisation of existing emigration departments. Late in 1938 the British authorities became more sympathetic to immigration needs and Kitchener Camp at Richborough near Sandwich, Kent, was established as a transit camp for young men whose lives were specially endangered. Before the outbreak of war terminated this scheme, between three and four thousand men, whom Werner had selected and for whom he had procured British visas, found shelter at Richborough. He himself left for England in August 1939, almost at the last minute, having been preceded by Susanne and their 4-year-old son Michael.

After the outbreak of war and a brief internment, Werner joined the AJR which had been founded in 1941, becoming General Secretary in 1943. He enlarged its original aims - to obtain permission

for refugees to remain in this country, to provide aid for Jews marooned on the continent, and to prepare postwar care for UK-resident refugees - so that the AJR became the refugees' mouthpiece vis-à-vis the authorities, dealing with every legal and practical aspect of eventual naturalisation and German restitution.

The AJR's activities culminated in the postwar era in the establishment of homes for elderly refugees under the guiding principle established by Werner: to provide a civilised and comfortable



Dr Werner Rosenstock

environment for our people in their declining years, quite different from the atmosphere that existed in most old-age homes at that time.

Werner retired from the AJR in 1982, after 41 years' service, on the eve of his 75th birthday.

His years of retirement were overshadowed by serious health problems which forced him and Susanne to leave their very modest home. They found comfortable refuge and warmest care in Heinrich Stahl House. Werner bore his illness and the loss of Susanne, his companion for over sixty years, with stoic fortitude, drawing strength from the close connection with his son Michael, resident in Canada.

With Werner Rosenstock we have lost one of the last workers for German Jewry during the Nazi regime who transplanted their dedication to our people in this country.

We shall keep his memory green.

□ Arnold Horwell

## 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

0171-483 0212

0171-483 0213

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

### HILARY'S AGENCY

Specialists in Long and Short-Term  
Live-in and Daily Care

RESPITE AND EMERGENCY CARE  
CARE FOR THE ELDERLY  
HOUSEKEEPERS  
RECUPERATION CARE  
MATERNITY NURSES  
NANNIES AND MOTHERS' HELPS  
EMERGENCY MOTHERS

Caring and Experienced Personnel Available  
We will be happy to discuss your requirements  
PLEASE PHONE 0181-559 1110

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  
0181-446 2117

SPRINGVIEW 6-10 Crescent Road, Enfield. Our completely new purpose built hotel style retirement home. All rooms with bathroom en-suite. Tel: 0181-446 2117.

Simon P. Rhodes M.Ch.S.  
STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST

Surgery hours:

8.30am-6pm Tuesday-Friday

8.30am-3pm Saturday

Visiting chiropody service available  
67 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (opp. M&S)  
Telephone 071-624 1576

## Auto-suggestion

It was Hitler's greatest wish to leave behind huge edifices more imposing than the pyramids in perpetual memory of himself and his triumphs. The grandeur of his new Berlin, Munich and Linz was to be limited only by human imagination.

Though his megalomaniac plans crumbled, other epitaphs remain, the best known of which was the autobahn; close behind came the Volkswagen. *Volkswagen* always translates as people's car, but this does less than justice to the original German. Like the frequency of musical notes, words have a main and a number of resonant meanings, which can be a few octaves higher or lower. Basically, *Volk* means people, but under Hitler this word acquired many under and over-tones. The most fitting translation, making allowance for all nuances, is bloodbrotherhood – which conjures up the appropriate mixture of blood, loyalty, and single-mindedness under a supreme leader.

Hitler conceived the "bloodbrother's car" a few years before the war. It was not a completely original idea, but contained sufficient new technical and commercial features to make it a completely new venture. The Führer participated actively in its development. For instance, he insisted that the new car be equipped with an air-cooled rather than water-cooled engine (perhaps he anticipated the Russian climate!). The car had to be fully paid for by weekly instalments before delivery, a type of hire-purchase greatly to the manufacturer's advantage. During the war, the car was modified and used by the German army.

At the end of the war, the Volkswagen factory at Wolfsburg in the British zone of occupation, was earmarked for sequestration as war reparation. The British specialists, forgetting the old adage of 'don't look a gift horse in the mouth', had a look and rejected it. "A car with the engine at the back will never sell" was their oracular pronouncement. Unwanted, the factory was left with the Germans.

The Germans used a better crystal ball for their sales forecast. Possibly still persuaded by Hitler's genius, they were not slow in re-starting the factory. In 1951, only 6 years after the war, annual output had already reached 100,000 cars. Of that number, only an insignificant 400 were exported to the United States of America.

Ten years later, the picture had changed

completely. The Volkswagen had taken off, and one million cars a year were made at Wolfsburg. 200,000 of these, 20%, were sold to America, spearheading the German economic miracle.

From a purely technical point of view, it is difficult to find the reason for this export success. The cars were reliable and cheap on petrol, but they had many drawbacks for American conditions. The inside was cramped and uncomfortable, particularly for the long American distances. They were noisy. If they hit anything, there was little to protect the passengers, the engine being at the back. Luggage space was limited. Neither their performance nor their equipment was outstanding, to say the least. After all, they had been designed for the bottom end of the market. Yet, why, in spite of all this, were the Americans so keen to buy Hitler's car? It could not just have been fuel economy, with petrol available at only cents a gallon.

Who of the polymorph American nation bought Volkswagen? The poor black blue-collar workforce? The mid-west farmers? Californian beach bums? No, the main customers were middle-class New-York Jews. (The rich ones bought Mercedes cars instead). On the face of it, they were the most unlikely customers. Many were first generation refugees from Nazi persecution. Others, American born, had their European relations killed by Hitler's henchmen. Why buy a car, or any other product, which had the name of their arch enemy stamped on it?

I asked some American-Jewish friends why they had bought this car. In their replies they often quoted economy and indeed a Volkswagen would have saved them \$100 a year on petrol. Is this the price of one's convictions? Durability was given as another reason, mainly by those who made a point of buying a new car every year.

I think the reason for their choice lay deeper – in a subconscious wish to re-establish contact with the German *Heimat*. In spite of Nazi persecution, many cherished memories of the Germany of their youth. They were still proud of the *Vaterland* and liked to identify with it to some degree. I knew a Viennese-born New-Yorker, who, needing a new dress, flew to Vienna in order to buy one from the shop that had supplied her garments 25 years previously. Similarly, buying a Volkswagen was a way of expressing forgiveness, a nostalgic hankering back to "the good old days", the days when all

your family and friends lived near you, and you could speak without a foreign accent.

There is more to buying a car than counting the mileage per gallon.

□ AW Freud

## No-holds Bard

Theatre buffs – and habitués of curry houses – are currently flocking to the National Theatre to see the Anglo-Indian version of *Cyrano*, in a text replete with culinary metaphors. At one point the heroine Rukshaana (Roxane) exclaims 'This is plain *roti* – what I'm asking for is *shirmal*.'

This multicultural extravaganza raises a question: If we can have a French classic 'Englished' with an admixture of curry-flavoured Hindi, why not render Shakespeare into 'Yinglish' (Anglo-Yiddish) in a version that has Falstaff wolfing down *kreplach* and the Duke of Clarence drowned in a butt of Palwin Nr 5?

By sheer coincidence I have already prepared a Yinglish catalogue of the Bard's works. It features *Hershel Finef* (Henry V), *Ez bluzt a vind* (The Tempest), *Tzarevitch Nisht-ahen Nisht-aher* (Hamlet), *Die Malke fun Mizrajim* (Antony and Cleopatra), *Der Melech vajs fun bobkes* (King Lear), *Mejn harts is nisht shvartz* (Othello), *Dos shlechte vajb* (Macbeth), *Treif* (Titus Andronicus), *Der groisse broiges inmitten di machatonim Montague and Capulet* (Romeo and Juliet), and *Mark Antony macht choisig* (Julius Caesar).

Of course titles are relatively easy. Faithful translation of the text into Yinglish, however, presents pitfalls. While *tsu zajn ober nisht tsu zajn, dos is die schajle* comes trippingly off the tongue, I am nowhere near as sanguine about the quote from the Crispin's Day speech *Ervus hot nisht kejn kishkes for die melchume zol gejn aveg*. Further on in the same play – *Hershel Finef* – I came across a passage that really stumped me. How, I ask you, dear reader, does one render 'Ma fois, je ne vois point que vous abaissiez votre grandeur en baisant la main d'une indigne serviteur' into acceptable Yinglish?

Helpful suggestions should be sent, under the codeword *Tsimmes*, to Bayit Anne Hathaway, rayon Stratford, gubernje Warwickshire.

□ Richard Grunberger