

INFORMATION

Issued by the
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN
8, FAIRFAX MANSIONS, LONDON, N.W.3
Office and Consulting Hours: 10 a.m.—1 p.m., 3—6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.—1 p.m. Telephone: MAIda Vale 9096

PRIORITY

ON another page of this issue details of claims for priority for naturalisation are published. A number of refugees will benefit from the new regulations. For those who have served with H.M. Forces the procedure is very much simplified. Others will be disappointed when finding out that they have no claim for priority.

However, it should not be overlooked that great efforts were needed to have naturalisation resumed. We are sure that after the priority categories have been dealt with, others who want to stay in this country for good, will be naturalised in due course.

We must realise that even when this stage will have been reached, our task will by no means be ended. More than ever we call for solidarity of all Jewish refugees, naturalised and non-naturalised alike, to tackle effectively the problems still lying ahead of us.

A PROPHETIC VOICE

AGAIN, the 1st April has come round. Some may be inclined not to take too seriously any more that day in 1933 when SA men had prevented customers from entering Jewish shops, and a few houses and businesses were demolished—after the furioso that followed. It became the tragedy of Europe that the 1st of April was not taken seriously even in 1933.

Germany, at that time, was still a member of the League of Nations; Hindenburg was Reichspräsident who less than a year before had guaranteed the civic rights of German Jewry. World reaction to the boycott did not meet the fundamental issues. In Great Britain, public opinion was more impressed by the personal tragedies of scientists, doctors and writers than by the war against civilisation which, in fact, Germany had declared on that day. On the 30th March, Lord Reading drew the attention of the House of Lords to the developments in Germany and he was supported by the late Lord Lang, Archbishop of Canterbury. Mr. Attlee was among those who sent messages of encouragement to a mass meeting held in the East End on the 1st April.

Ten days later there was a stormy debate in the House of Commons—stormy because of a curtailment of freedom of expression in England. Sir John Gilmour, then Home Secretary, had banned the exhibition of anti-German posters in the East End. Winston Churchill was one of those who protested most outspokenly. Soon, however, public interest in German "domestic affairs" (as the unfortunate phrase goes) died down, and an abortive debate in the League of Nations in Geneva, in connection with the violation of minority rights in Upper Silesia, was the last attempt at discussing the Jewish position in Germany before an international forum.

One of the few who, at that time, found prophetic words, was the late Eleanor Rathbone. At a protest meeting in Liverpool on the 5th April, 1933, she said that even if the persecution of Jews would cease, it would have fulfilled a task—a task different from what the Nazis had visualised. It would have taught us to see in the "outbreak of temperament" of the German people a serious menace to the world. Maybe, she concluded, that the present sufferings of the Jews would save the world from future and even greater sufferings—because they warned us in time.

EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS

Most of the "Refugees from Nazi Oppression" belong to the middle classes. When they came to this country, they were unable to continue in their former occupations, and had to look for jobs that seemed to hold prospects for making a living at an early date. This short-term policy was emphasised by the fact that normally people spend 20% of their income on rent, whereas for refugees living in furnished rooms and small and comparatively expensive flats, the ratio is 40 to 50%.

The war had temporarily altered and partly reversed the position. Refugees, just as British people, were subject to direction of employment. This resulted in their finding work comparatively easily, but it was neither congenial, nor did it open any avenues into the future. They had not found out yet that it was far more important to have "secure" jobs than highly-paid ones, and a recent Gallup Poll has shown that the majority of British workers—some 75%—think that "secure" jobs are preferable to higher-paid ones, an idea which should certainly appeal to refugees.

To-day employment restrictions have practically been abolished. The so-called A.W.S. Permit, as far as it was a general permit, became null and void three months after the cessation of hostilities. Only special permits, relating to specified firms, have not been affected. On the whole, only men under 30 who are specialists in building, engineering, or agricultural jobs, are still liable to be directed under the Essential Works Order. As far as we are informed, all restrictions for the employment of women will cease on May 1st, with the one exception of qualified hospital nurses.

There should not be any difficulty now to get permits, and as long as minimum wages and salaries are paid to the alien employees, the Alien Officers are not likely to raise any objections. However, it is almost impossible to obtain a Home Office permit for work on one's own account. Home Work permits will only be granted in rare cases when a medical certificate states that the applicant is too ill to enter into any kind of regular employment.

All these regulations equally apply to ex-Servicemen. On being demobbed the ex-Serviceman resumes the position of an ordinary alien. Theoretically he shares with his British comrade the right of reinstatement to his former job. Unfortunately, this right is a rather theoretical one, as most of the

6,000 refugees in the Forces have no jobs to return to, as they were not employed before joining up. The placement of returning soldiers faces us with a particularly difficult problem.

On the whole there are probably less than 40,000 refugees from Germany and Austria now in this country. Considering the number of those who will emigrate to other countries as soon as possible and of those too old to enter the labour market, it may safely be said that there will not be more than 12-15,000 refugees who have to be considered in the labour market. The absorption of such an insignificant number within the general work of post-war reconstruction should not create any difficulties.

It would be still easier to absorb them if we had at our disposal official means of directing labour or considerable financial resources to assist refugees in training for suitable jobs. There are, however, certain things we can do to ease the position. All employers who can offer training places to young refugees should inform the AJR. The same, of course, applies to anyone able to offer employment to ex-Servicemen or former war workers. On the other hand, it would be helpful if people looking for jobs would inform us of positions they have been offered but did not accept.

Furthermore, we would appeal to employers who have in their factories possibilities of training young people and ex-Servicemen, to inform us. Needless to say that we deem it a special moral duty to employ ex-Servicemen.

Lastly, we think it advisable that as many as possible should look for jobs in the Provinces so that the congestion in London could be relieved. In this way and by mutual co-operation it should not be difficult to solve the problems facing refugee employers and employees during this transition period.

We do not doubt that everything will be far easier about 6-9 months hence, when the general post-war drive will have resulted in a scarcity of labour. Refugees will always be able to take their proper place within the economic structure of the post-war world and to prove that their work, their skill and their knowledge are an asset to the country.

M. P.

In the Rhineland Today

Dr. Philip Auerbach, Duesseldorf, who together with the Chairman of the Central Committee at Belsen, Josef Rozensaft, paid a short visit to this country to put the case of Jewish survivors before the British authorities, wrote this Article for AJR INFORMATION. In our last issue we had announced the setting up of the "Landesverband der juedischen Gemeinden der Nordrheinprovinz," of which Dr. Auerbach is the chairman.

After the liberation, the Jews of the Northern part of the Rhineland came back from various camps to their former places of residence, and many Jews from other parts joined them. There are now about

2,600 Jews left out of a total of 90,000 in the Northern part of the Rhineland before the war. They are to be found in 22 Jewish communities.

The Landesverband juedischer Gemeinden in der Nord-Rheinprovinz, at Koenigsallee 27, Duesseldorf, includes all Jewish communities in the Northern Rhineland. Its chairman is Dr. P. Auerbach, Duesseldorf, vice-chairman Julius Meyer, Cologne, and deputy vice-chairman Alfred Loewenthal, Aachen.

Everywhere we find a relatively active community life. The communities of M.-Gladbach, Rheydt, Krefeld, Oberhausen, Duisburg, Hamborn, Wuppertal, Essen, Dortmund, Bochum and Gelsenkirchen regularly exchange their views with the Duesseldorf centre and head office. The Landesverband is affiliated to the Jewish Central Committee at Belsen, and the chairman of the Landesverband is a member of the Central Committee. Thus a guarantee is given for an unbiased representation of Jewish demands and interests without regard to former nationality or political attitude.

The Jews of the British Zone represented on the Central Committee look upon themselves as Jews in the first place and they fight for the rights of Jews and for the full restoration of human rights and liberties to the Jews of Germany. Times are trying, and food is scarce. So far it has been possible—relying on the assistance given by the "Joint" and the "Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad" in co-operation with the Central Committee—to master the most urgent problems and to provide clothing and food.

It is not quite right to assume that there is no longer any anti-Semitism in Germany. Unfortunately it has to be recognised that the magnanimous policy of Military Government during the past ten months has been misinterpreted by many Germans who now believe they can again openly show their anti-Semitic feelings. We are still far from seeing past wrongs put right. It remains our fervent hope that the unceasing work of the Central Committee and the Anglo-American organisations will result in a change for the better in this connection.

THE JEWS IN ESSEN

Mr. Siegfried Levy, present Chairman of the Essen Jewish Community, has sent us the following report.

It is not yet possible to make a complete survey of the Essen Jews killed by the Nazis, as all records were destroyed during the air-raids on Essen. The following are therefore approximate figures:—

There are at present 150 Jews at Essen out of a pre-war total of 5,500. Five hundred and seventy Polish Jews were sent to Poland on 28th October, 1938, six of them have now returned. Three hundred Jews were deported to Lietzmannstadt on 26th October, 1941—one of them has now returned. Nobody has so far returned of the following three transports: 11th November, 1941, to Minsk, 260 persons; 20th April, 1942, Izbica, 340 persons; 15th June, 1942, Lublin direction, 80 persons. Twenty people returned from Theresienstadt out of a total of 350 sent there on 22nd July, 1942; five persons from Auschwitz out of 60 deported on 28th February, 1943; four out of ten sent to Theresienstadt on 10th June, 1943; and none of the ten persons sent there on 3rd September, 1943. On the other hand 36 persons sent to labour camps near Berlin on 17th September, 1944, returned—four died there. This adds up to a total of 69 persons returned and 1,951 persons killed. In addition a number of persons were individually arrested and killed, others emigrated to Holland, Belgium and France and lost their lives when they were deported from there. This adds up to a total of 2,500 Essen Jews who perished, whilst 3,000 emigrated. Seventy-one Jews survived having lived in hiding under very trying conditions throughout the war, and ten returned from France and Holland.

We survivors know that we owe our liberation to the soldiers of the Allied Nations. It is not for us to criticise, but we should like to state the following facts:

The surviving Jews do not receive any fuel allocation—just as the Nazis. During the war bombed-out people could claim for war damage, but this did not apply to Jews. After the cessation of hostilities no more payments of this kind were made, and Jews have still not received any compensation for bomb-damage. Jews who were housed in the flats of Nazis had to restore the furniture to the Nazis. There is a constant struggling for urgently needed shoes, clothes, underwear, etc. The newly reduced food rations provide for the following weekly rations: 1,250 grammes of bread, 100 grammes of meat, 250 grammes of additional food, 62 grammes of fats, 125 grammes of jam. Jews obtain the same rations unless they can get additional rations on a doctor's certificate—a privilege similarly enjoyed by Nazis. There are plans to provide special allocations for former camp inmates, but they are still under consideration. Light and fuel restrictions apply to Jews and Nazis alike. Banking accounts of returned Jews are still blocked. The allocation of soap-powder is half a package every two months. Medical supplies are very difficult to obtain.

In spite of the extremely difficult housing position at Essen, where only five per cent. of the houses are undamaged, we have succeeded in finding accommodation for almost all the Jews, but furniture, stoves and above all beds and bedding are badly needed. There are about 12 old people who very much want looking after, seven of them over 70 years of age. (The AJR is in a position to send parcels to the community. Special donations will be gladly accepted.—Ed.)

THOSE WHO SURVIVED

Jewish Communities in the Rhineland.—There are about 2,600 Jews now living in the Northern Rhineland (British Zone). 638 of these survivors now live in Cologne, 13 at Aachen, 323 at Duesseldorf, 138 at Duisburg, 148 at Essen, 65 at Krefeld, 45 at Muelheim (Ruhr), 44 at M.-Gladbach, 22 at Oberhausen, 26 at Rheydt, 24 at Remscheid and Solingen, 33 at Grevenbroich, 154 at Wuppertal and 18 at Cleve.

Krefeld together with St. Toenis and Huels has 73 Jews. 67 of them are of German nationality.

Cologne. There is a "Juedische Betreuungsstelle" at Ottostrasse 85, Cologne-Ehrenfeld, whose warden is Mr. Bramson. A visiting D.P., resident at Deggenorf Camp, reported lately that he knew where some of the old ritual things saved from the destruction of November, 1938, were buried. A D.P. Home was opened at the former Kinderheim, Blankenheimerstrasse 55, under the direction of Mr. Jacob Marx, himself a D.P. There are about 80 old people there, and the place is rather overcrowded. The Director has lost his family—altogether 45 persons—and has made it his life's work to make these old people happy. They have some coal and apparently a fair amount of food.

Bielefeld. A "Betraum" has just been set up in the Grosse Kurfuerstenstrasse and was solemnly inaugurated in the presence of the Military Governor and other high officials, the former Prussian Minister of the Interior Severing, and the Oberbuergermeister. Mr. Max Hirschfeld, head of the Community, informed the guests of honour that Bielefeld had one of the oldest Jewish communities in Westphalia, already mentioned in the town history of 1370. In 1932 there were 1,100 Jews living in the town. Four hundred of them ended their lives in the camp of Auschwitz, in Warsaw, and Theresienstadt. The Jewish cemetery Johannisstal was hit 16 times by bombs during the war, but is being restored now. There are only 18 Jews at Bielefeld at present.

BROADCASTS FOR MISSING PEOPLE

The Central Tracing Bureau in Germany have drawn our attention to the UNRRA Broadcasts which give news of missing persons of United Nations nationalities and of persons persecuted for political or religious reasons. The hours of these broadcasts are as follows:

Radio Frankfurt: 11.30-12 p.m., 1,195 kilocycles (251 metres).

Radio Munich: 11.30-12 p.m., 740 kilocycles (405 metres).

Radio Stuttgart: 1.30-2 p.m., 547 kilocycles (523 metres). (Radio Stuttgart is a recorded broadcast of the previous evening's programme announced by Radio Frankfurt.)

FRANKFURT-ON-MAIN

Rabbi Dr. Neuhaus who returned to Frankfurt from Theresienstadt and who is now the head of the "Juedische Betreuungsstelle der Stadt Frankfurt," Friedrichstrasse, has written to one of our readers. We give a short extract from his extremely interesting letter.

Of the old Lodge only the walls stand, the interior is completely destroyed. The same applies to the Synagogue Freiherr v. Steinstrasse which, however, was partly restored and was used for the High Holiday Services. At present we hold our Services at Baumweg 5-7, in the former Oppenheimer Kindergarten. All other synagogues have been destroyed. There are at present 700 Jews from Germany and between 250 and 300 Polish Jews in Frankfurt. The Jewish hospital no longer exists, only the former Urological Department stands and is used as an old age home for about 45 people. All other old age homes have been destroyed with the exception of that in Reuterweg. At present the former Mikwah at the Boerneplatz is being repaired.

Near Frankfurt there is a large camp for Polish Jews, Zeilshheim, with about 5,000 inmates. A further camp for 2,000 persons is at Lampertsheim. A Jewish transit camp was opened at the former Roederbergweg School. The Philanthropin School has not been damaged, but is at present used for military purposes. We hope, however, to get it back soon. There is one Jewish doctor here, Dr. Goldschmidt. There are three Jewish lawyers, Max L. Cahn, Dr. Kurt Rathe and Dr. Goldberg. "Joint" and "Hias" have their representatives here. The Unrra Office is now at Arolsen, near Kassel. Life is very difficult. The com-

munity is very small.

The property of the Jewish communities at Hofheim, Dietz, Limburg, Bad Nauheim, Baden-Baden, Oberstedten, Hanau and Nordrach has not been damaged and the whole Jewish community of Frankfurt might safely be housed there. There is a communal kitchen at the Theobald Christstrasse where leftovers from the American army kitchens are distributed, unfortunately not kosher. We hope, however, that there will be kosher meat provided from Zeilshheim soon.

In our own office we try to help all those who ask for help. We receive money and some food from the "Joint," but on the whole Unrra only distributes food to D.P.s and not to German Jews and the "Joint" is dependent on Unrra in this respect. We are very grateful for the clothing you sent us and hope for more. We can always do with shoes, underwear, etc., but they must be in a good state of repair as our people have not even got sewing cotton to mend things.

Next time I shall tell you more about the work, particularly about our endeavours to rehabilitate people and find them jobs which is most important, though most of them want to emigrate to Palestine or the U.S. as soon as emigration facilities are given. Then, everything will change, and in a few weeks my report may look entirely different.

Jewish Refugees in Belgium

As announced in the March issue of AJR INFORMATION, Mr. K. Alexander, the General Secretary of the AJR, paid a visit to Belgium in order to establish closer personal contact with Jewish refugees and to prepare a continuous exchange of views on matters of mutual interest. He conferred with a number of individuals as well as with the appropriate organisations and he left Brussels with the impression that their confidence in co-operating with the AJR and the "Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany" had been strengthened. Here is what he reported on his return to this country.—Ed.

The visitor from London feels deeply moved when for the first time he meets Jews on the Continent who for years have hovered between life and death. Each of the few survivors of Nazi occupation has to tell a story of what he experienced in order to escape arrest—which would have meant certain death. Those four years have left their marks on the Jews in Bel-

PASSOVER

Since the early beginnings of our religion, the Spring Festival has been celebrated as the Festival of our Freedom. To celebrate it, we put on our tables the Bread of Misery. At times this Bread of Woe has not been much more than a symbol, whilst, alas, at others it was very real. But at all times the Festival and its token have spoken a plain language. They have reminded us that there cannot be freedom without sacrifice. To be free means above all to be true and faithful to one's own self. And to be true to one's own self means to be prepared to forgo and to deny oneself many a thing if the duty commands.

There is a civic freedom, every individual's right to his own personal and private sphere of life into which the community, the State, may not intrude without compelling reasons. There is a political freedom, the right of the individual to share in the administration and the government of the community to which he belongs. For continuity and strength this twofold freedom relies on a third freedom—moral freedom. Moral freedom is the determination of the individual to create from within a set of moral values and to apply it. Moral freedom is the privilege—and also the obligation—to harbour and to show this spirit the outcome and blessing of which is faithfulness. Wherever men live in this moral freedom, civic and political freedom will truly keep alive.

It is to this moral, this spiritual freedom that we devote the Spring Festival. We remember and we confess to the roots of this freedom which has gained strength from the sacrifices of the faithful. We realise there is a reward for our keeping faith with Judaism and in making sacrifices for its sake, that there is a blessing bestowed on those who yearn for the true freedom and who are willing to undergo hardship to-day for the sake of the morrow. This, then, is our Passover.

Leo Baeck

gium. They are different from us: they have become fearless, they are proud, and they expect us, who have been spared the ordeals they have gone through, to appreciate their specific position.

On the whole, Belgium has recovered miraculously. In some respects, she has regained her pre-war prosperity. And the Jews, too, have recovered, in

any case much quicker than those in any other of the liberated countries.

However, one great disappointment overshadows the life of Jewish refugees in Belgium. At the hour of liberation, when they hoped to be free and allowed to move about unmolested and unrestricted—they were treated as Germans, as enemies. There were detentions, and the threat of expulsion hung over their heads.

At that time, surviving Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria met round a table in order to discuss how they could handle their own affairs. In this way, the "Comité Israélite des Réfugiés" (COREF) was founded and, by rendering effective help and giving useful advice in a great number of individual cases, has been able within a short time to gain the confidence both of refugees and authorities. In co-operation with the Belgian representative of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees, the situation has now been somehow stabilised.

Only those refugees are recognised as stateless who lost their nationality prior to the outbreak of the war. Jewish refugees are considered as "Allemands non-ennemis" and permitted to stay in Belgium for a limited period which, as a rule, is extended automatically. However, to be considered a "German" entails a great many disadvantages, in particular when it comes to finding employment. Besides, all the property belonging to "Allemands non-ennemis" has been "sequestered" (to use the Belgian term), and great efforts will be needed to abolish these restrictions.

As many Jews have not returned, the surviving families are rather isolated, and hardly any younger people are left. Moreover, anti-Semitism is by no means dead. Yet, the Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria who have seen the end of the Nazi régime, have not lost hope for a brighter future.

THE STORY OF A GALLANT LEICESTER

"As Sergeant John Taylor, D.C.M., of the 1st Leicesters, a 23-year-old German, who fled from Berlin as a schoolboy, came to this country, was interned, then worked for a while in Leicester, is studying hard for a new life with our troops in Germany.

Faced with an uncertain future, he is sure of only one thing—he will not live in Germany, which holds such bitter memories.

His story starts in Berlin, where he was born of Jewish parents.

As a boy, Johann Ulrich Schneider went to a Berlin school. His life ran smoothly, then, in 1933, the Nazis swept to power.

In 1937, new Nazi-trained teachers appeared on the school staff. New school-books were introduced, rubbish, posing as history, science and biology, was fed to the pupils.

Johann, with the spirit that was later to earn him the Distinguished Conduct Medal with the British Army, shocked the Nazi teachers with questions of pertinent truth.

At last he decided to leave school, believing that more contact with pseudo-knowledge was a waste of time. He was then 15.

But the racial poison was seeping in. Persecution erupted in all its violence in 1938,

What the Press says . . .

REFUGEES TO GO "HOME"

"Fifteen thousand German refugees in Britain, some of whom have been living in Britain from seven to thirteen years, are to be sent back to the British zone of Germany.

When they will be able to return is another matter. They cannot start to come back, it is believed, until the "head for head" exchange with other zones of Germany is completed.

Allied authorities have to solve the problems of where the refugees will live and from where they will get their food—almost impossible problems at the moment.

Measures will also have to be taken to prevent victimisation of the refugees.

Another 10,000 are to return from the British Empire. Plans are also being made for the following estimated numbers:

From Spain, 16,000; Norway, 4,000; Denmark, 4,000; France, 2,000; Belgium, 1,200; United States, 1,000; Holland, 800.—B.U.P."

(Evening Standard)

(The AJR contacted at once the "Evening Standard" and questioned the veracity of the statement. In the "Final Night" edition, the statement was withdrawn.—Ed.)

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REFUGEES AND INDUSTRY

"... That it would assist the industrial development of Bridgwater if an invitation was issued to 1,000 refugee workers to settle in the town was the novel suggestion put forward at the second meeting of the discussion group formed to study the work of the United Nations Organisation at the Friends Meeting House. The subject was "International Co-operation in the Past—Refugees and Rehabilitation"... In the discussion it was agreed that nothing effective could be done to stop a country expelling large numbers of people. Turning to the receiving countries it was felt that while refugees were a "mixed blessing," history showed that they benefited the countries in which they settled...."

(Somerset County Herald.)

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HAMPSTEAD LEGION BANS ALIENS

"Hampstead branch of the British Legion, by two to one vote, have decided not to admit to membership of the Legion aliens living in the district, even though they have served in the British armed forces—unless they became naturalised. Councillor Cleaver, who moved that no action should be taken, in opening membership to aliens, remarked that it was a British society and none but Britons should be in it. They had a duty to their children to conserve for Britain something truly British. They must prevent the infiltration of non-Britons into the truly British preserves."

(Kilburn Times, London.)

and the Schneider family were caught.

In July, 1938, Johann landed in Britain, where friends had given him a guarantee.

After the fall of France in 1940, fear of invasion led to a general internment of aliens of enemy origin, and a few months later Johann was on a ship crowded with internees bound for Australia.

After two years' internment in Australia, he was brought back to Britain for more internment life in the Isle of Man.

In 1944, Johann was released for essential work at Leicester, and in September he joined the 1st Leicesters.

Within four weeks he was a corporal section commander. He won the D.C.M. while holding this rank.

VE-Day found him as sniper-sergeant, and he is now leader of the intelligence section.

Schneider in German means "tailor," and after joining up Johann assumed the name of John Taylor, for, if captured on the field, he would have been given short shrift by the Nazis if his German origin had been revealed.

Soon Sergeant Taylor hopes to receive British naturalisation papers and start his life afresh." (Leicester Mercury.)

E. G. Lowenthal:

Does History Repeat Itself?

In the dark of the night they were carefully taken aboard ship, stowed away behind the cargo and safely landed at the English coast.

Whether they numbered 80,000 or more, no one knows exactly. They all—men, women, whole families, people of many trades and professions, expelled from their homeland on account of their religious beliefs—found a refuge in Britain. Here they hoped to live in freedom and make a useful contribution to the country's development and wealth. Many were poor, having lost all their belongings and property; the English

authorities, it is estimated that 3-400,000 Huguenots managed to escape into Protestant countries such as Switzerland, Holland, parts of Germany, and not least, into the U.S.A., Ireland and England.

The English south coast with its hinterland was the natural reception area. Places such as Plymouth, Southampton, Exeter, Bristol, Dover, Sandwich, Yarmouth, gave first asylum to many of the fugitives. Some got used to their new surroundings fairly quickly and settled down there. Others soon moved further inland or high up to the North. Huguenots concentrated in greater numbers at Norwich, Ipswich and Canterbury but also in London, in particular in the districts of Spitalfields, Bethnal Green, Soho, Temple Bar and Long Acre. Colonies were also founded in Scotland and Ireland.

Those in need were looked after by a Relief Committee. Suitable work was found for skilled and trained people, others were drafted into the Army or sent to America. The first relief fund was raised through collections from private individuals and, right from the beginning, had the wholehearted moral support of the Crown. As soon as one year after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, King James II drew the attention of his people to the necessity of aiding the "French Protestants, among them persons of high standing who have never experienced any distress and who now cannot follow their occupations because they are lacking the most necessary means to cover their bare living expenses." The King's appeal was not in vain: the general public responded so generously that a sum of nearly £250,000 was quickly collected. Only 10 years afterwards, in 1699, the State fixed an annual grant of £12,000 for "French Protestants in distress," and an additional £3,000 per annum was granted in favour of the refugee clergy. Besides, those Huguenots who had means of their own, did their fair share by setting up self-help organisations for the welfare of their poorer fellow-refugees.

Wherever Huguenots, in particular trade experts, settled in Britain, they were welcomed. They were found to be hard-working, adaptable people of a good cultural standard and with experience in foreign trade. This all was, of course, highly appreciated. French foreign trade, centralised in towns like Bordeaux, Rouen and Caen, had been primarily conducted by Huguenots whilst, at that time, Britain was dependent on foreign markets at least as far as certain textiles were concerned. Now that so many skilled refugees had come over, it was possible to build up or enlarge the home industry. Workers from Lyons and Tours started manufacturing silk in London, at Norwich and Canterbury, and in Ireland. The production of canvas, of so great an importance to a seafaring nation, was developed by Huguenots, and the manufacture of linen expanded with the help of French refugees who, in addition, were able to train British weavers. Industrial plants in Edinburgh, Leith and Glasgow still bear witness to that influence exercised by Huguenots in the 18th century. These skilled new-

comers indeed proved to be an asset to the country's economic strength. They knew how to make glass and paper which formerly was very largely imported from France. They knew how to produce fine textiles which they had manufactured at Nantes and Rennes, at Amiens and Abbeville and at Lille and Valenciennes—all towns of an international reputation.

It is almost two and a half centuries ago that the first Huguenots came to England. Their descendants have, of course, fully integrated into British thought and life and in many instances have held prominent positions in the service of this country. Huguenots can still be recognised by their French names which they faithfully preserve, being proud of the origin and the fate of their ancestors. Huguenot immigration at the time was considered as a "friendly invasion." It has, in fact, been a most successful experiment.

PERSONALIA

Dr. Bernhard Kahn, New York, now, the Honorary Chairman of the European Executive Council of the American Joint Distribution Committee, will be 70 on April 7th. General Secretary of the "Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden," Berlin, from 1904 to 1921, he was later on appointed European Director of the Joint, in which capacity his help and advice proved most valuable when the tragedy of German Jewry began.

The death occurred in Oxford of Dr. David Herzog, former Rabbi of Graz, at the age of 76.

Born in Slovakia, Dr. Herzog was appointed Rabbi in Graz before the first World War. He was also Professor of Oriental Languages at Graz University. He was the author of many learned works on Jewish and Semitic subjects and received the freedom of Graz in recognition of his long services. After the Anschluss, his home was raided and he was thrown into the River Mur by the Nazis, but was rescued. He then came to England with his wife, settling in Oxford, in 1940, and continuing his researches in the Bodleian.

BOOKS

Rufus Isaacs, First Marquess of Reading.

By his son, the Marquess of Reading. Hutchinson & Co., London. Two vols.

Benjamin Disraeli, the first Jewish statesman in British history, had been a Jew by origin but was no longer a member of the Jewish community. Rufus Isaacs, who was successively Attorney General, Lord Chief Justice, Ambassador to Washington, Viceroy of India, and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, never tried to conceal his Jewish origin. In the first volume of his biography, written with a remarkable filial piety, his son describes Rufus Isaacs' almost fantastic rise to fame and office. The second volume covers the period from 1914 to his death in 1935. During the first World War Lord Reading was given leave from the Bench to go as High Commissioner for financial affairs to Washington, which post led to his appointment as Ambassador. Viceroy of India from 1921 to 1926, he returned to Great Britain, was elevated to the Marquessate and became Liberal leader in the House of Lords and, later on, for a few months Foreign Secretary. The author who, at the beginning of the second World War, created the first Alien Companies of the Pioneer Corps, being their first Commander, has always wholeheartedly supported the cause of the Jewish refugees in Great Britain and taken a deep interest in their fate and achievements.

"The Jews and Palestine." This study in Labour Zionism by S. Levenberg (Poale Zion, London) is an extremely useful and interesting compendium. The author deals with the Jewish problem, then surveys the Zionist Socialist movement which he illustrates by a Labour Zionist Anthology and documents on British Labour in their relation to the Jews.

NEW BOOKS.—Walter Clay Lowdermilk: "Palestine, Land of Promise" (Gollancz, London) now in a 2/6 edition; "Palestine and Transjordan Who's Who, 1945-6" (Near and Middle East Who's Who Publishing Co., Jerusalem); Maurice Meier: "Briefe an meinen Sohn" (Steinberg-Verlag, Zurich), reports from deportation camps; Benjamin G. Sack: "History of the Jews in Canada" (Canadian Jewish Congress, Montreal); Egon Erwin Kisch "Jüdische Reportagen" (Aurora-Verlag).

YOUR QUESTION ANSWERED

HOW DO I OBTAIN A "TRAVEL PAPER?"

I'll have to go abroad very shortly on a business trip. My passport, which enabled me to enter this country as a refugee from Nazi oppression is no longer valid. What document is to replace my passport, and how do I get it?

If you want to travel abroad—whether on business, or as a visitor or an emigrant—and your original passport cannot be extended (and this applies to nearly all refugees from Central Europe), you must be in the possession of a "Certificate of Identity" which may be known to you under the unofficial name "Travel Paper." The prescribed form, called "Application for Certificate of Identity," duly filled in and signed by you, must be submitted to the H.M. Chief Inspector, Immigration Branch, Home Office, 10, Old Bailey, London, E.C.4, together with: (1) your old passport, (2) your "Certificate of Registration" (the grey book), (3) two passport photos, (4) Postal Order for 7/6. Under present conditions it takes a few weeks until your "Certificate of Identity" is ready. If you go abroad on business or a visit, you must also apply for a re-entry permit—obtainable from the Passport Office, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Dartmouth Street, S.W.1. The visa(s) you need for your trip abroad will be stamped on the "Certificate of Identity."

public came to their help. Whilst some of the newcomers subsequently went to the United States a considerable number settled in this country for good.

All this conveys the impression as if it had happened in our time. And yet, the story dates centuries back.

Those exiles were the Huguenots. Almost 300 years have gone by since the struggle of these French Protestants had reached its climax. In 1685, when the Edict of Nantes (1598), granting the Huguenots their religious freedom, was revoked, their life was at stake. But in spite of the vigilance of the French

LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Wednesday 5—6.30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN

In February, 1946, a Member of Parliament drew the attention of the Government to the fact that under the "Adoption of Children's Act, 1926," no adoption order could be made, unless the child to be adopted was a British subject. He inquired whether this should not be altered.

The Attorney-General answered that the adoption of foreign children had been excluded so as to avoid any encroachment upon the rights of foreign States. He added that the matter might very well be reconsidered when the laws of adoption were to be revised.

It is clear, therefore, that for a considerable time to come the adoption of a refugee child born abroad will not be possible, unless he had become a British subject by naturalisation. Naturalisation may very well prove a way out in suitable cases: under Sec. 5 (2) of the "British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1914," the Home

Secretary may "in his absolute discretion, in any special case which he thinks fit, grant a certificate of naturalisation to any minor whether or not the conditions required by the Act have been complied with."

The persons who wish to adopt a child, the "adopters," need not be British subjects. It is sufficient if they are resident and domiciled in this country. In principle, therefore, a refugee living here may adopt a child even if he be British. The Court may, however, not make an adoption order, unless it is satisfied "that the order, if made, will be for the welfare of the infant, due consideration being given to the wishes of the infant, having regard to the age and understanding of the infant."

Detailed provisions on the conditions of every adoption (as to the age of the adopter and the child, to the consent of parents or guardians, etc.) and on the procedure to be followed are contained in the "Adoption of Children's Act, 1926."

Maximilian Hurwitz: Jewish D.P. Papers in Germany

According to a Jewish tradition, when the Second Jewish Commonwealth was overthrown by the Romans in 70 C.E., and many Jews were carried into captivity or fled their homeland for fear of being taken captive and sold into slavery, a Priest (cohen) and a Levite were miraculously present in every group that went into exile. One is reminded of this old tradition on reading the papers published by the displaced Jews in the various camps of Germany, and even by the handful of Jewish refugees stranded in Italy on their way to Palestine (who fittingly call their publication "B'derech," "On the Way"). How, short of a miracle, does it come that every group of displaced Jews contains so many gifted writers?

Almost as amazing as the presence of so many journalists and literati among the Jewish D.P.'s is the resourcefulness and perseverance displayed in the publication of these papers under almost insuperable difficulties. Some are printed, others are type-written, and still others are handwritten. All but one of the printed papers are in Yiddish; but most of the Yiddish periodicals, owing no doubt to the scarcity of Hebrew type in present-day Germany, are set in Latin characters, the method of transcription employed being that of the Polish language (e.g., *cajtung* for *zeitung*, *szule* for *schule*, *fraje* for *freie*, etc.). The same shortage of Hebrew type accounts for certain peculiarities in the spelling, such as the occurrence of the initial and medial form of a letter at the end of a word. This is particularly the case with the aforementioned Yiddish periodical published in Italy.

The difficulty is further enhanced by the lack of Hebrew linotype machines, so that everything has to be set by hand; worse yet, because of the inadequate supply of Hebrew type, each page has to be run off the press separately, whereupon the type is broken

up and used for the next page. But notwithstanding these and other technical and mechanical handicaps, the papers—often illustrated with photographs and occasionally also with cartoons—manage to appear regularly, and one of them—the weekly "Unzer Weg"—had a circulation of 20,000 as of December 7th, 1945, the date of its tenth issue.

Here is a partial list of the Jewish D.P. papers published in Germany: weeklies—"Unzer Weg" (Munich), "Landsberger Lager-Cajtung" (Landsberg), "Dos Fraje Wort" (Feldafing), and "Bamidbar" (Fernwald); fortnightly—"Unzer Sztyme" (Bergen-Belsen) and "Nezoz" (Munich). The last-named is published in the Hebrew language. With the exception of "Unzer Sztyme," all these periodicals appear in the American zone of occupation, where they are under the supervision of the military authorities, exercised either directly or through UNRRA.

These papers are ably edited and extremely readable. While most of them are local (i.e., camp) publications, "Unzer Weg" ("Our Way"), published every Friday in Munich by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews of Bavaria, might be called the national weekly of the displaced Jews in Germany. Printed in Hebrew type, this periodical can stand comparison with the best Yiddish newspapers in the United States.

The contents of these papers are marked by a comprehensive coverage of current events in the camps, in Jewry, and in the world generally. In addition, there are spirited editorials and articles on the topics and issues of the times, both Jewish and general. Nor are fiction, poetry, humour, literary criticism, and play and music reviews absent from their columns.

In some ways the local, or camp papers are even more interesting than the national weekly appearing in the Bavarian capital. For in them is reflected every phase of the life led by the camp inmates. Here we find

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,
With reference to your article "Those who Survived," I am glad to be able to inform you that Mr. and Mrs. Rosenstrauch of Stuttgart are not, as they believe, the only Jewish couple now left in the whole of Wuerttemberg, Bavaria and Baden. While stationed at Wuerzburg recently, I visited Mr. and Mrs. Fechenbach, both of whom are "Volljuden," and who were lucky enough to return from Theresienstadt together with their daughter (13) and Mrs. Fechenbach's mother (75). A few weeks later their son (about 17), who had been sent on to Auschwitz, also returned.

Yours etc.,
K. AMBROSE.

Dear Sir,
I note that you publish information about different towns. I may be able to contribute something about my home town, Wiesbaden. Last December we motored down the Autobahn, entering Wiesbaden from the North. The bombing is evident as in most other German towns but has not been as severe. The Kurhaus and Staatstheater still serve the entertainment of the American troops. It was Friday and in the evening I attended an impressive Service held in a small Betstube next to the old orthodox Synagogue in the Friedrichstrasse. The room was packed with well over 100 people and quite a number of G.I.'s. The Service was held by an American Army Chaplain. Only about half a dozen of these Jews originate from Wiesbaden. Most of them are Polish Jews, who are comfortably accommodated in the old Taunusheim, a few miles out of town. Others come from Eastern Germany. Social life is more pronounced amongst this small Jewish community than it was amongst the large one before the war, and there is a meeting or theatre performance almost nightly, usually in conjunction with the very active community in Frankfurt... Frau Gutman, one of the old Wiesbaden people, can be consulted at the Schwesternheim, Geisbergstrasse. By the end of 1943 Wiesbaden had been cleared of Jews, many of them had been sent to Theresienstadt.

Yours etc.,
Cpl. F. P. G., B.A.O.R.

A.J.R. LOCAL GOLDERS GREEN GROUP

MEETING

Saturday, April 6th, at 8 p.m.

HODFORD HALL (Methodist Ch.), HODFORD RD.
(off Golders Green Road, nr. Golders Green Station).

MR. LOUIS W. BONDY

who recently visited Nuremberg and several other German towns on behalf of the Jewish Central Information Office will report on his journey, especially on

THE TRIALS IN NUREMBERG

and the Jewish situation in

BERLIN—FRANKFURT—NUREMBERG—MUNICH

The report will be given in German.

Free Admission without ticket.

news of local elections, for each camp enjoys a certain measure of self-rule and is largely administered by a democratically elected committee. Here, too, we find orders from the Jewish camp administration assigning certain of the inmates to what in U.S. army parlance is known as "detail" work, such as wood-chopping, cleaning, etc. Here, again, we read about trials by Jewish camp courts of Jews accused of having collaborated with the Nazis, and about the prison terms meted out to those found guilty. (The displaced Jews are obviously not afraid of washing their dirty linen in public.) Here we learn about the religious, cultural, social, artistic, and athletic activities in the camp, as well as about vocational and agricultural courses which are preparing the inmates for a life of useful labour in Palestine or in some other country of final settlement. And, of course, there are the usual birth, engagement, marriage, and death notices.

But the leitmotif which runs through all these papers like a red thread is the ardent, unquenchable longing to settle in Palestine and help build the Jewish Homeland, the firm conviction that only a reunion of Israel and Zion can solve the main Jewish problem, namely, the national homelessness of the Jew. Scores of articles and editorials in every one of these papers echo variations on this central theme.

(From "Congress Weekly," New York.)

C. C. Aronsfeld:

"Der Judenstaat"—Fifty Years

Rarely is it given to a Jewish generation to live and see the writing of a Jewish book that stands out from among the centuries—a faithful image of all the yearnings of the past; a mighty vision of the future, and ever more and more realised to be a new and greater Guide of the Perplexed. To be in the presence of such an achievement, has been the portion of that generation which was overtaken by the German fury. Jews from Central Europe, in particular, cannot but remember that the man who brought about that remarkable event was one of their own, Theodor Herzl, and they will not be unmoved to realise that his book is now fifty years old: "Der Judenstaat." The ideological controversy that was aroused in February, 1896, has since much abated, and it is possible now, as it was not possible then, to hold the theories against established facts of history.

How did this man Herzl come to make what he called "an attempt at a modern solution of the Jewish Question"? He was not afraid to challenge the appearances of a situation seemingly secure yet unmistakably abnormal. He for one defined, as few had done before him, the "question" of the Jews: "Must we already 'get out,' and Wohin? Or, may we stay, and how long?" That truly "Jewish question," he wrote in 1896, "may not be as burning in Germany as it is in Austria, Russia, Rumania, etc.," but, he said, "this very pause cannot possibly last long and, therefore, would seem to be making it desirable to attempt the solution"—which was, he firmly insisted, that the Jewish question, being the question of a nation, must be turned into "a political world issue to be settled in the assembly of the civilised nations." Herzl refused to believe (in 1895) that "Jew-baiting was a passing mood," he made bold to foretell that it was "certain to grow worse—until the inevitable revolution."

It cannot be surprising that the prophet was little honoured in his day. Certainly Herzl was free from illusions: "He who is

to be proved right in thirty years," he wrote, "is bound to be considered insane during the first fortnight." He relates how a friend, while reading "Der Judenstaat," suddenly began bitterly to weep—he thought Herzl had gone stark mad. It is interesting also to look up the German Jewish press of the time which had difficulty in taking Herzl seriously and dismissed him as "a dreaming philanthropist who fails to appreciate the conditions and feelings of men." They offered the charitable explanation that though writing in German, Herzl was after all not a citizen of Germany but of Austria which was not one national unit (like Germany) but a compound of several nationalities.

Herzl was better understood in England, where, in fact, his ideas were printed even before they appeared as "Der Judenstaat." It was the JEWISH CHRONICLE which, in January, 1896, published what may be described as Herzl's own digest of the book, under the title "The Solution of the Jewish Question." At that time England received the first strong wave of Jewish immigration from the East, and the Anglo-Jewish journal had cause to appreciate Herzl's remark: "The poor Jews are now carrying antisemitism into England," and by way of an aside: "They have already introduced it into America."

But approval and disapproval alike were immaterial to the man who had written his message while, as he confesses, he heard the wings of an eagle beating over his head. He had risen in the full tide of history, literally as well as figuratively, in the twilight of an old age, facing the dawn of a new, and men were of the future all according to whether they were for him or against him. But German Jews, oft maligned for their shortcomings which are many, may well claim, with terror and with gratitude, that it was they who brought forth, even at the peak of their fortunes, the man whose genius was to hold out to the Remnant in our day, the abiding hope of Israel.

REFUGEE QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT

NATURALISATION: THE NEW PROCEDURE

According to a statement made by the Home Secretary on February 28th, 1946, the procedure for priority claims is as follows:

(1) Work is already in progress on applications submitted before November 20th, 1940.

(2) Men and women still serving with H.M. Forces will be able to obtain forms and instructions through Service channels and will submit their applications through their Commanding Officers.

(3) Men and women discharged from H.M. Forces have to fill in Naturalisation Form R (5d.) and to submit it to the Chairman, Inter-Services Naturalisation Board, War Office (Demob. 4), 34, Chesham Place, London, S.W.1. This Board, which comprises representatives of the Service Departments will examine the Service record of the applicant and forward the application to the Home Office. No references are required on the form. The applicants may be asked to appear before the Board.

Service in one of the Allied Forces, in the Home Guard or in the Civil Defence does not entitle the applicant to have his application considered under these arrangements.

(4) Aliens who are, or have been serving in British Merchant ships during the war have to submit Naturalisation Form K (6d.) to the Home Office. The application has to be supported by references of four natural born British subjects.

(5) Special forms have been issued for aliens who consider that they have made during the war, or are now in a position to make a substantial contribution to the interests of the country. No such claims can be considered unless the claimant has previously submitted, or is now submitting, the formal "Application for a Certificate of Naturalisation." In particular it should be noted:

(a) If the claimants are directors of businesses, members of the professions (e.g., doctors, nurses, teachers), persons in business on their own account or other self-employed persons they have to fill in (in triplicate) Naturalisation Form Q. (4d. for three copies) and to forward it to the Home Office (Nationality Division), Whitehall, London, S.W.1. The form contains inter alia the following questions: details of any industrial, commercial or professional experience and qualifications, name of Government Department mainly interested in the applicants' work and particulars about type of war work or export trade if application is based on one of these reasons.

(b) If the claimants are salaried officials or employees of industrial or commercial concerns (excluding directors) they and their employers have to complete (in triplicate) Naturalisation Form P (8d. for three copies) and to forward it to the Secretary of the Regional Board for Industry of their district.

Applicants who had already submitted applications before November 20, 1940, but who, at the same time, claim priority under one of the other categories, should now also submit a priority form according to their case.

The forms are obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, or through any bookseller.

The A.J.R. is gladly prepared to give any further advice on special request.

ADMISSION OF DISTRESSED PERSONS

On March 7th, the Home Secretary announced the regulations on the admission of distressed persons from Germany and Austria. The main points of the statement are as follows:

Letters of invitation to distressed persons in the British, French and United States Zones of Germany should be placed in an envelope addressed to the distressed person, and then be placed in a second stamped envelope (3d. per ounce) addressed to "H.Q. 700 Central Unit, B.A.O.R." The recipients of this invitation, if they fall within one of the categories eligible for admission, should apply for visas and exit permits, not direct to the Passport Control Office at Lubbecke, but through the nearest Military Government Detachment in the British Zone.

Invitations to people in Austria may be sent direct to the postal address of the distressed person. The recipients should apply direct to the Passport Control Officer at Vienna.

The Home Secretary stresses that the granting of a visa will not mean that transport facilities are available.

Where the host in this country is himself here as a refugee it would facilitate the work of the Passport Control Officers in judging whether the conditions prescribed in the Distressed Persons Scheme are fulfilled, if the host communicated with the Refugee Committee in Bloomsbury House, to which he is known, for the purpose of obtaining their advice about the particulars to be included in the letter of invitation.

In a circular letter issued at Bloomsbury House attention is drawn to the necessity that the letters of invitation should give full details as to the accommodation available and documentary evidence of ability to support in the form of an employer's letter stating salary, bank reference, accountant's statement, etc.

JEWISH ADVISER APPOINTED

Lieut.-Colonel R. B. Solomon, M.C., has been appointed adviser on Jewish affairs to the British Element of the Control Commission for Germany. Lieut.-Colonel Solomon is a former President of the Jewish National Fund for Great Britain and Ireland; his wife is the well-known Chairman of the Federation of Women Zionists. Lieut.-Colonel Solomon will be proceeding to Germany early in April.

It is not, at present, proposed to make a similar appointment in the case of Austria, stated Mr. Hynd, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

JEWISH PALESTINE BUDGET:

£20,000,000

The third United Palestine Appeal for Britain and Ireland has been launched in London. It is again under the Presidency of Sir Simon Marks, with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Lord Melchett and Professor Selig Brodetsky as Honorary Presidents. Mrs. Archibald Silverman has arrived from the

LIMITED IMMIGRATION TO SOUTH AMERICA

URUGUAY

According to the existing regulations it is not possible to make an application in the country itself. The person who wants to immigrate must approach the appropriate Uruguayan Consulate-General, with the request to apply on his or her behalf for a visa to the Uruguayan Government. The applicant has to submit to the consul all the necessary documents which will then be sent to the Uruguayan Foreign Office. Nothing further can be done from this end before the papers, together with the approval of the consul, have arrived here. The regulation that a sum of 5,000 Uruguay pesos per person has to be deposited with the Banca Republica is still in existence. That amount will be refunded two years after the visa was granted.

COLOMBIA

It is reported that the Government may allow immigration of 1,000 Jewish families from Central Europe to Colombia for agricultural settlement. The plan includes Government land purchases of large land holdings previously owned by German Nazis.

There is already a Jewish agricultural colony in Colombia, situated on the Bogotá Plateau in the Andes, which was established in 1925 when a large wave of immigrants arrived from Central Europe. This region, as late of 1918, was largely a snake-infested jungle. After 20 years of agricultural development the Jewish colony has established this plateau as one of the finest cattle-raising and potato-growing regions in the country.

As before, A.J.R. Headquarters are prepared to give any further information and advice.

According to a statement of the Home Secretary on 28th February, 1946, so far 250 distressed persons have been admitted. No widening of the scheme can be contemplated at the moment.

HOUSE OF LORDS

In a House of Lords discussion on Aliens Questions, the Earl of Munster stated that "one, if not two 'enemy aliens' who were employed at the Admiralty throughout the war were vital to one scheme the Admiralty had in mind. None of the foreigners of enemy nationality who came to this country to avoid the persecution and the terrorism of which they were subject in their own country have been guilty of espionage or of efforts to undermine the security of the state."

In the same debate the Lord Chancellor pointed out that the refugees "had far better reasons for disliking Hitler than any of us in this country."

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S.A. to lend her support to the Campaign. Other guest speakers are expected, among them Dr. Joachim Prinz whose arrival is scheduled for June. His presence in this country will certainly be a memorable event for Jews from Germany.

The target of the Campaign is one million pounds, only a tiny fraction of the Jewish national budget of over £20,000,000 which is required to bring the survivors from the Continent to Palestine and build and expand the National Home on secure foundations.

"VICIOUS CIRCLE" IN VIENNA

The problem of restoration of "aryanised" Jewish property grows more complicated every day, and there appears to be little prospect at the moment of anybody in Austria getting back his property in the near future.

The entire question seems to have run in a vicious circle. The Allied Control Council has ordered that administrators of "aryanised" property be placed under their supervision. This was done in a move to ensure justice to the Jews, but as a result the Government is claiming that it is impossible to restore property to anyone until the country has regained its full sovereignty.

Government spokesmen also say that any decision on property cannot be made until the Allies decide what is Austrian property and what is German property, since enterprises falling into the latter category are subject to seizure as reparations.

EMIGRATION OF D.P.'s TO THE U.S.A.

The opening of U.S. consulates in Germany (Berlin, Bremen, Munich, Stuttgart and Hamburg), recently announced in Washington, in connection with President Truman's recent order (see A.J.R. INFORMATION, February, 1946), had to be postponed because the consuls have not secured adequate office space, personnel, etc.

December 22nd, 1945, which is the day of Truman's statement, has been fixed at the date before which displaced persons must have been resident in the American zone in order to be eligible to apply for U.S. visas. Those who arrived after December 22nd will now have to wait until all of the 160,000 D.P.'s now in the American zone have had an opportunity to apply.

It is assumed that the first party of D.P.'s, probably 600-800 persons, to be admitted to the U.S.A. under the Truman scheme, will leave about the beginning of May 1946.

Assembly centres will be established in Munich, Stuttgart, Frankfurt-on-Main and Berlin, and an embarkation centre will be set up in Bremen.

SHANGHAI

The "Central Committee of Jewish refugees from Europe" in Shanghai, in view of the Government's order to provide for forced repatriation of refugees from Germany and Austria, has asked the Chinese Foreign Minister to draw a distinction between Jews and Germans and to treat Jewish refugees not as "enemy aliens."

THE ASSOCIATION AT WORK

THE FIRST QUARTER

Right from its inception, AJR INFORMATION has had a remarkable response from readers both in this country and abroad. Appreciation of the approach to the many complicated problems, of the news items and other material provided, and of the publication as such has frequently been expressed in letters reaching the AJR Head Office in London. The good response has also resulted in an increase of membership. Besides, certain AJR INFORMATION articles were reprinted in other periodicals; a German translation lately, of the notes on "Declaration of Death" and "Limitation of Action" (published under "Law and Life" in our February issue) appeared in the "Informations—Dienst für Rück- und Weiterwanderung," a fortnightly, edited by the "Schweizerische Zentralstelle für Flüchtlingshilfe" in Zurich.

The "Association of New Citizens," Sydney, Australia, a member of the "Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany," in their "ANC" Bulletin extended their "thanks and admiration to the Transmire Department of the AJR, London, for their splendid co-operation and good work." In 10-15 per cent. of the 2,000 enquiries lodged by the Sydney Association it has been possible to ascertain useful information.

AJR CLOTHING COLLECTION

More than 100,000 garments have been despatched to the Continent by the Clothing Collection Department of the AJR. At the moment relief for Jews in Germany stands in the foreground. Special appeals for baby outfits and bed linen reached us recently.

Readers in London will be glad to learn that a van for collecting clothing will be available every other Thursday commencing on April 4th. Only those who are definitely unable to bring or send their contributions should inform the Clothing Collection Department which will give them further particulars.

A new scheme for forming collection centres in blocks of flats and districts is under consideration.

In view of the tremendous need everyone should consider it his duty to make a real sacrifice in order to help our surviving brethren.

The address of the Clothing Collection Department of the AJR is 1, Broadhurst Gardens, London, N.W.6. (Finchley Road Tube Station.) Tel.: MAIDA VALE 3913.

GENERAL MEETING IN MANCHESTER

The General Meeting held on March 10th was attended by nearly 200 people. The Chairman announced that at last a house had been found which may serve as a home of the group. It will be opened in April. Special invitations will be sent out.

The most important part of the meeting

was an address by Mr. S. Adler-Rudel, who gave a comprehensive and vivid picture of the present life of Jews in Germany.

AJR MEETINGS

Saturday, April 6, Golders Green. Hodford Hall, Hodford Road, 8 p.m. Mr. LOUIS W. BONDY: "Report on the Nuremberg Trials and on a visit to Berlin, Frankfurt, Nuremberg and Munich." See advertisement.

Thursday, April 25, Stern Hall, 33, Seymour Place, W.1, 7.45 p.m. GENERAL MEETING. Admission for members only. Special invitation enclosed.

Sunday, May 5, Richmond. Terrace House, 128, Richmond Hill, 7.15 p.m. JOSEF PLAUT EVENING. Admission free. Make a note of this date. No special invitations will be forwarded.

AJR MANCHESTER

Every Tuesday, 8.30 p.m. Gymnastics for Ladies only, at the Club rooms of the Wilbraham Road Synagogue.

MISSING PERSONS

Inquiries from AJR

BERGER, ROSEL, supposed to have come to England via Denmark, possibly now married; for relatives in France.

BROMBERG, CLAUD, born 5.5.22, last address 1940, c/o Mr. Garry, Glasgow.

SACHS, ANNELIESE, nee Bromberg, born 8.6.16, in 1939 at 60b, Fellows Road, London, N.W.3.

BROMBERG, Dr. CURT, born 14.6.86, last known address 2, Starkie Street, Preston, Lancs.

CYGE, GRETE, nee Bromberg, born 19.6.93, London, all for Hans P. Bromberg, Berlin-Charlottenburg.

Frau, Dr. EWINGER and Mrs. LYDIA HEYMANN.

KAUFMANN, children of Otto Kaufmann from Frankfurt, for friends in Holland.

Mrs. EMMA KLINKHOFF from Vienna, for cousin Leopold Hassa.

LESSER, HANS, London, for Fritz Ullmann, Beausoleil, France.

LEWITT, Mr. and Mrs. ERICH, from Berlin, for friends at Deggendorf Camp.

LITTNER, Dr. and Mrs. FRITZ, from Prague, came to London 1939.

LUFTSCHUETZ, Miss HELENE, from Vienna, for Mrs. Tushak, Shanghai.

EINAEUGLER, Miss GRETE, from Vienna, for Mrs. Tushak, Shanghai.

ROSENCHER, BELLA, nee Comaroff, and children, probably London, for husband Enrico Rosenschner, Milan.

STERN, Dr. BRUNO (Justizrat), from Wuerzburg, for Dr. Schnabel.

MISCELLANEOUS

ACCOMMODATION urgently wanted.—The Social Service Department of the AJR, 8, Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3. Tel., MAIDA VALE 9096, would be very grateful for any information on vacant rooms and flats, furnished and unfurnished.

ROOMS, FLATS and HOUSES furnished or unfurnished with or without board, urgently required by Jewish Blind Society, Bloomsbury House, London, W.C.1.

TO LET.—Modern House, Edgware, fully furnished, 2½ bed, 2 rec., gar., etc., 6 gns. until end of year, possibly longer.—Write, H. Lobbenberg, Burnell House, Berwick Road, Shrewsbury.

I AM LOOKING FOR 2 self-contained rooms with kitchen and bathrm. for young couple, furn. or unfurn.—Max Wetzler, 14, Chessington Court, London, N.3.

TO LET by lady, part of centr.-heated furn. flat (double bedr., large comb. din. and living rm.) use bath, kitchen, from June or July. Linen, household utens. prov.; 3 mins. Hendon Central Station; £5, perm. tenants. Ref. essent.—Box 311.

RE-UPHOLSTERING, also Carpet Repairs, work done on customer's premises.—A. Fahn, 6, Lithos Road, N.W.3.

MANUFACT. LTD. wants to contact expert for making good selling article with some capital.—Box 318.

TRIEGER, MINA, for cousin Friedrich Trieger, France (both from Vienna).

TUCH, GEORGE, for Martin Kinkenstein, Santiago de Chile.

REINER, JULIUS, and Dora, nee Grosser, from Vienna, for Mrs. Joseph Reiner, Manila.

BENDER, brother of Friedrich Bender, Elpersheim (Wurttemberg); letter with AJR.

Inquiries from United Kingdom Search Bureau, Bloomsbury House, W.C.1.

BEER ALMA, last known c/o R.A.F., Abingdon, for Hensel Berta, Goldmuehl, Bavaria.

FELIX ARTUR, bacteriologist, last known at 8, Oakhill Road, E. Putney, for Maria Owsienne.

FLINDT H., bombed out at Streatham, for daughter in Baden-Baden and brother in Chile.

FRANKEL, ROBERT, Oxford, for I. Fleischer, Uruguay.

HILDRICH, MARIA, nee Steffling, last known at Redbourne Avenue, N.3, for relatives in Austria.

ISAAK, HANS, HERBERT, born 27.6.30 (31?), son of Max and Grete Isaak nee Goldschmidt, for grandparents in Cologne.

LIBLICH FREDI and KLARA, children of Feiwei and Berta Liblich, for cousin Wilhelm Hausner, Tel Aviv.

LICHTENSTADT S., London, for nephew L. Lichtenstadt, Landsberg, Yugoslavia, Bl.

OKUN, MARY, London, formerly Hamburg and Berlin, for Muskatblat, Zofia Henryka.

RATHS, reicher Gina, for Kurt Hirsch, Vienna.

SAECKEL (Seckel), ALFRED, born 1908 at Walsrode, enquiry from Italy.

THIESS, THEOD. MARTIN, born 5.7.06 at Wilhelmshaven, came to Gt. Britain from France, enquiry from America.

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