

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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TRUCE

WHATEVER the eventual outcome of the peace settlement in Palestine will be, the State of Israel has emerged from the first stage of fighting as an undisputed reality. Its boundaries may still be open to discussion but its existence is hardly disputed any more, not even by its enemies. Indeed, in the military, organisational and economic fields, the new Jewish State has, in its first few weeks of existence, achieved something little short of a miracle. Not only that its entire area—apart from some uninhabited stretches of desert land in the Negev—are free from the invader, its troops in defensive action have occupied the Western Galilee, originally not included in the Jewish State frontiers, and important urban centres like Jaffa, Safad, Tiberius, Haifa and Acre.

The Jews of Jerusalem who had put their trust in the international status of that City, defended themselves successfully against an overwhelming onslaught of the Arab armies and ceded only after long battle the small Jewish area in the old city. The modern town with its 80,000 Jews, is held by the Jewish forces.

Corresponding with these achievements are the accomplishments in the sphere of industry where the production of war materials has made all these gains possible. The first introduction of Jewish postal services, testifies to the speedy organisation of all State-like functions of which legislation and a planned economy are other instances. Once the shadow of war is removed from Israel, its immense energies will be directed towards the constructive upbuilding and the absorption of a large immigration. Something like one million Jewish immigrants are visualised to reach Israel's shores in the course of the next ten years. Here is the great historic opportunity to end, once and for all, Jewish refugeeedom.

THE NEW CHIEF RABBI

RABBI BRODIE'S election to the post of Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, brings a forceful and courageous personality to this high and authoritative office. Rabbi Brodie's achievements in the field of scholarship are happily supplemented by a practical experience as Chaplain in both the first and second world wars; his duties led him far afield—he was in Belgium and Holland, took part in the Dunkirk evacuation and later as the first Jewish Chaplain in the Air Force, was posted to the Middle East. During his chaplaincy he conducted moral leadership courses among Jewish servicemen and women which were very popular.

As Senior Jewish Chaplain with the relative rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, he was transferred back to the Army in 1944 and in this capacity came into contact with the Continental Jewish communities in the days of their liberation through the Allied Forces. There again he did sterling service and gained a wealth of experience which make him most suited to the high post he is holding now.

Rabbi Brodie's first act as Chief Rabbi was the proclamation of the 1st day of Shavuoth as Israel Day as a day of solidarity with the heroic Yishuv—an act which was widely appreciated by the community. He has in no ambiguous way made clear to the world the position of Anglo-Jewry towards Israel and strengthened the link between Jews in this island with the Yishuv.

C. C. Aronsfeld:

GERMAN JEWS IN ENGLAND

The German Jews who came to England between 1933 and 1939 were the last of a sombre procession which had been moving across the North Sea, slowly and little noticed, for close on 100 years. For the force which sought to destroy them, was present throughout the century, albeit varying in appearance and unaided either by economic distress or the general degradation of civilized standards. Almost exactly 100 years before the Nazi Party, in 1834, Heine had heard the howls of the raving beast and foreseen that "the disciples of Fichte," the "Philosophers of Nature," would one day "riot with sword and axe and ravage without mercy." German reactionaries were making Jewish life bitter, in spite of trappings and the much advertised progress of science, and Jews left Germany and settled in that great free England which Schiller had told them was "der Unterdrückung letzter Felsendamm, Grossherzige Britannia, glückselige Insel," etc.

Political Refugees

Some were political refugees, Jews only by accident, and members of that famous company of Liberals and Socialists, gathered from all over Europe, who had battled, in body or in spirit, on the barricades of 1848. Of these the greatest of course was Karl Marx, from Trier, who in England found the inspiration of his social theories and here drew up, with Friedrich Engels, the Communist Manifesto. Among other emigrés at the time was Ludwig Bamberger, later a distinguished member of Bismarck's Reichstag, who for a short while was editor of the first German paper in London, the "Deutsche Zeitung," founded in 1845 by a printer of the name of Cahn.

But political refugees were comparatively few among the Jewish arrivals from Germany. Indeed, the majority who arrived both before the commotion in '48 and long after, were driven away not by an oppressive Government but rather by their own self-respect. The people who had presumed to "emancipate" the Jews, even as far back as 1812, remained themselves utterly unemancipated from the rusty fetters of prejudice and superstition. But the enterprise, talent and ambition which they thus foolishly rejected, was eagerly received in England where hardly one field of human endeavour but was amply enriched by the work of German Jews.

An outstanding example was the achievement of Ludwig Mond, remarkable alike as a scientist and industrialist, who came from Cassel in 1867. He had devised in Heidelberg a method for the recovery of sulphur from alkali waste. This important process, perfected through the years, became the foundation, first, of a brilliant partnership with an Englishman, John Tomlinson Brunner, and gradually—from a capital of £600,000 in 1881 to £15m in 1926—the driving force that was to create, through the initiative of his younger son, Sir Alfred Mond (first Lord Melchett), the greatest and most powerful industrial combine in England, the Imperial Chemical Industries. When Ludwig Mond died in 1909, bequeathing £50,000 to the Royal Society and £20,000 in trust for the benefit of disabled and aged work-people, it was pointed out in "The Times" that he had come to England "almost poor enough to be excluded under an Aliens Bill, if one had been in force," and the pertinent question was asked, "How many potential Mondos who in the genial atmosphere of England would become actual Mondos, are we excluding?"

Actually Mond was by no means poor when he settled in this country, and the same is true of most German Jewish immigrants during the 19th Century. They were almost without exception well-to-do middle class, in contrast to their brethren from Czarist Russia who barely managed to escape from the sword. The famous Edwardian "Court Jew" Sir Ernest Cassel, for example, came from a banker's family in Cologne when in 1870 he joined Messrs. Bischoffsheim & Goldschmidt in London. He was a conspicuously successful business man, reaping tremendous rewards from far-sighted investments in the fast developing railways of many countries; he also had very substantial stakes in the well-known armaments firm of Vickers, one of whose Directors then was Siegmund Loewe, of Berlin. But his mind was concerned not only with the art of making money. He began to take an interest in the ancient problem of Egypt's irrigation, and it is due to his vital co-operation that the Nile Valley was again made fertile through the construction of the dams at Assouan and Assiout. One of his biographers remarks on this "great triumph of financial diplomacy": "Egypt had become a part of the Empire whose commercial activities were functioning perfectly, and Sir Ernest Cassel is entitled to a place in the ranks of Empire builders."

Highest Honours

It was about this time that Cassel attracted the attention of Edward, then still Prince of Wales. After the death of Baron Hirsch (to whom by the way many London hospitals are indebted for magnificent charities), His Royal Highness required another skilled and steady mind to keep his finances in order, and it was no doubt due to Cassel that the Keeper of the Privy Purse was able to report that the new King had ascended the Throne "uncumbered by a single penny of debt." Nor did Cassel forget the country of his birth. His political ideal was a sincere understanding between England and Germany, and together with his friend Albert Ballin he laboured faithfully to devise terms, acceptable to both Governments, which would remove the danger of an armed conflict. When these (and other) efforts proved unavailing, he in 1915 served his country by joining Lord Reading to arrange the first great Allied Loan in U.S., some \$500 m., to which Cassel himself subscribed a very considerable sum.

He had already received some of the highest honours of the realm; the Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, also the Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order and the Order of St. Michael and St. George (of both of which he was also a Knight Commander), and immediately after the accession of Edward VII he was sworn of the Privy Council. Yet during the war so much ill-feeling was whipped up against him—because of his German origin—that an action was brought questioning his right to be a Privy Councillor as he was not a natural-born British subject. Though the agitation came to nothing, Cassel, grievously offended, retired from public life. "In spite of the sufferings that our contemptible spy-hunters caused him during the war," wrote Lady Oxford, the wife of the Prime Minister, "no one was ever more loyal or generous to the country of his adoption."

To be continued.

NEWS FROM GERMANY

DIRECTORY OF BERLIN JEWS

AJR Headquarters received a copy of a Directory containing the names of all members of the Jewish Community Berlin. The list reveals that at the date of its compilation, 31st July, 1947, the Community had 7,642 members (against 172,676 in 1925). It gives full particulars about date and place of birth and address of each member, and the circumstances under which he managed to survive. Though there are no statistics about the previous local distribution of the Berlin Jewish population, it seems that the proportion between those living in the Western and North Western districts and those in the Eastern, South Eastern and South Western parts of the town has been altered in favour of the second group.

The following interesting information about the structure of the present Community is given: (a) 1,979 members returned from Deportation Camps; (b) 1,314 members had been in hiding; (c) 1,959 members were so-called "Sterntraeger," i.e. Jews who were exempted from deportation, mainly because they lived in mixed marriages; (d) 2,183 members were so-called "Nicht-Sterntraeger," i.e. Jews in mixed marriages who were exempted from deportation as well as from wearing the Yellow Badge, because their children were not brought up as Jews; furthermore, 62 members are repatriees and 141 were born after liberation; 4 persons could not be classified.

Out of the 7,642 members of the Jewish Community, 4,142 (categories a and d), i.e. more than 50%, are partners of mixed marriages.

Renamed. The "Treptow Sternwarte" has been renamed into "Archenhold Sternwarte" in honour of the Jewish astronomer, Dr. F. S. Archenhold, who founded this institute in 1896 and was its head until 1933.

The Thielsch Ufer (originally Kottbuser Ufer) has been renamed to Fraenkel Ufer in honour of the deceased director of the Urban Krankenhaus, Professor Dr. Albert Fraenkel, whose 100th birthday was commemorated recently.

JEWISH CEMETERIES

In a circular to the Presidents of the five Bavarian Police Districts, the Bavarian Minister of Interior, Dr. Willy Ankermueller, urged the immediate supervision of Jewish Cemeteries by special teams of the police. He stated that the desecrations of cemeteries were being carried out systematically by criminal elements and had to be prevented by all means.

NAZI CRIMINALS

In the course of the "Wilhelm Strasse" trial against the Nazi diplomats, Dr. Martha Mosse, formerly head of the Housing Department of the Jewish Community Berlin, gave evidence on the treatment of Jews in Theresienstadt. She stated that of the 140,000 Ghetto inmates, 35,000 had died and 90,000 were brought to Auschwitz. When the visit of foreign personalities was to be expected, flowers were planted in front of the houses.

The former "Judenreferent" of the Gestapo in Luebeck, Wilhelm Duemel, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment for his criminal treatment of Jews.

MUFTI AND HIMMLER

An account of the first meeting between Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler and the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem was given by a prosecution witness in the trial of 21 former top German diplomats and Government officials.

The witness, General Wilhelm Bach-Zelewski, said he was present at the meeting. He testified that Himmler first looked askance on an alliance with the forces of a man whom he thought had "clearly Semitic features." After suspiciously scrutinising the Mufti, Himmler suddenly cried out: "Look, he has blue eyes!"

From then on, the witness said, all was harmony between the two. Himmler later boasted that "our connections are stretching as far as Palestine in the fight against our common enemy—Judah," the former Gestapo general told the court.

LETTER FROM THURINGIA

Altogether there are 350 Jews living in Thuringia. Communities exist in Erfurt, Eisenach, Jena and Gera. The "Landesverband Juedischer Gemeinden in Erfurt" is the successor organisation of the dissolved former Communities in the district. Most of the employable Jews have found work, by which, under prevailing circumstances, they just earn their living. There are, however, many old, sick and widowed persons, and the Communities are overaged.

Religious service and tuition is only provided for in Erfurt (160 Jews). It is especially depressing that the Jews there are treated like the defeated majority and not as liberated victims. Former Nazis, unless they were particularly prominent, have the same chances as the Jews whom they wanted to exterminate. The members of the Jewish congregations feel themselves united by their common fate, though there are, of course, also some amongst them who, in the past, were less keen to be considered as Jews.

The internal organisation of the Erfurt Community (Religious Service, Youth and Social Work) is satisfactory. In normal times, Erfurt had 600 members; of these, only six have been left. All the others came, nearly without exception, from Breslau, from where they were evacuated. It is due to the experience of the former large Breslau Community that the Erfurt congregation could be reorganised. The old tradition and culture is being kept alive in the modest religious services without Rabbi or Chason.

Detmold.—The Jewish Community now comprises 47 members, i.e. 20 men, 20 women, and 7 children of school age. The majority of them originate from Breslau and Silesia. The Chairman is Mr. Wilhelm Ehrmann, Heidenoldendorf, nr. Detmold. A Betsaal was recently established at 6 Gartenstrasse, where services are held at the High Jewish Festivals; a few Sefer Torah and synagogue ornaments were put at the disposal of the Gemeinde by the Lippische Landesmuseum which at the time had taken them over from small Westphalian and Lippian Jewish Communities.

Schleswig-Holstein.—There are now less than 200 Jews in the following towns: Eckernforde: 14; Eutin: 13; Flensburg: 19; Friedrichstadt: 12; Itzehoe: 6; Kiel: 62; Luebeck: appr. 100; Neumunster: 7; Rendsburg: 7; Wittund (in the island of Amrum): 43. Those at Flensburg and Wittund largely originate from Danzig. In addition, there are several hundred Jews in the D.P. camp at Neustadt (near Eutin).

CONFERENCES

The "Arbeitsgemeinschaft der juedischen Gemeinden in Deutschland" held an Executive Committee Meeting in Munich when problems of the steadily increasing anti-Semitism and questions of restitution and compensation were discussed by representatives of all four Zones of Occupation and of Berlin. A cable, expressing the co-operation of the Jews in Germany with the fighting Yishuv, was addressed to Professor Weizmann, Mr. David Ben Gurion, the Haganah and the Yishuv. Amongst those present were representatives of Jewish relief organisations and Mr. A. Schoyer, London. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Ph. Auerbach.

The "Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British Zone" held a two-day Council Meeting at Bad Harzburg under the chairmanship of Mr. Carl Katz, Bremen. The principal reports on the activities of the Committee were given by Messrs. Josef Rosensaft, Belsen, and Norbert Wollheim, Luebeck, and Dr. H. G. van Dam (Jewish Relief Unit), the latter stressing the lack of legal protection of the Jews. Before the actual meeting, an impressive gathering took place in honour of the establishment of the State of Israel; the religious service was conducted by Rabbi Dr. H. Helfgott and Oberkantor Max Kraus. Main speakers were Messrs. Rosensaft and Wollheim. Consular representatives of the Governments of Poland, the U.S.S.R., and Czechoslovakia attended.

MAIL TO GERMANY

Registered Mail Service to Germany which, so far, was restricted to letters, letter packets and postcards, has been extended to commercial papers, samples and small packets.

IN PARLIAMENT

DISTRESSED RELATIVES

Asked by Mr. H. Hynd, whether the Distressed Relatives Scheme could be extended, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, said that in his experience persons not coming under one of the categories of the scheme, who had the strongest claim to sympathy, did not fall into definable groups and that, therefore, no addition of fresh categories would be satisfactory. "The policy," he went on, "which I have been developing has been to grant applications in respect of relatives outside the existing categories where there are special circumstances and considerations which differentiate their position from that of the thousands of people who would find life less difficult if they were admitted to the United Kingdom. In particular sympathetic consideration is given to isolated individuals in distressed circumstances whose only relatives are in this country." Referring to cases which have been invariably rejected by the Home Office, Mr. Hynd asked, whether the Home Secretary would give consideration to cases where there was an adequate guarantee by relatives in this country. Mr. Ede's reply was: "It all depends whether they are the only relatives of the person. If I were to adopt the formula suggested by my hon. Friend, I would have to admit a far larger number of people than could be justified."

Mr. Silverman, also referring to rejections, asked how long it had been the practice of the Home Office to grant admission in exceptional cases. "I have sent to him many cases, in which everybody agreed, including the Home Office, that the circumstances were exceptional, but in which permission was refused only on the ground that the cases did not fall into this category."

Mr. Ede: "I could not say how long it is, but, for some time, I have been endeavouring to improve the circumstances of these people who have no other relatives than persons resident in this country."

ENTRY PERMIT

Asked by Sir William Darling about the application for the admission of a Polish citizen residing in Switzerland who desires to join his father in this country with the view to finding employment and maintaining him, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, replied that it was not the policy to admit foreigners to the United Kingdom to look for work, but that a specific offer of employment can be submitted by the prospective employer to the Ministry of Labour.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN U.S. ZONE

Regulations providing for the export of certain household and personal effects from the American Zone of Germany (not including the American sector of Berlin) to certain residents of countries outside Germany have been issued recently. The permission has to be applied for on special forms. It is hoped that a supply of forms will be obtainable at AJR Headquarters in the course of the next weeks. Interested readers may, therefore, ask for forms, but should realise that it might take some time until the forms can be passed on to them.

"ENEMY PROPERTY"

The Custodian for Enemy Property is still holding a number of assets of those Jews who do not live in this country but who escaped from Germany only after the outbreak of war, or who are still living within Germany or other formerly enemy countries, or who perished under the Nazis. The AJR and the Council of Jews from Germany have frequently negotiated with the Trading with the Enemy Department about the release of these assets. Now, in agreement with the Inter-Allied Reparations Assembly, directions have been issued, which, however, provide for the release to the owners or their heirs outside this country only under certain specified conditions. Particulars may be obtained from AJR Headquarters.

In the United States the office of Alien Property is prepared to release similar assets on a larger scale, though here, too, certain limitations are laid down.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Employed married women have to decide by October 4, whether or not they join the National Insurance Scheme. A special article on the questions connected with this decision will be published in the next issue of "AJR Information."

ECONOMIC LIFE IN ISRAEL

Haifa, 1st June, 1948.

It is astonishing that in spite of the war the economic life of the Yishuv has, on the whole, been maintained on a more or less normal base. One must except those districts where continual fighting has been going on, as in the Old City of Jerusalem, and border quarters of Tel-Aviv and Haifa, where shops, offices, and restaurants had to be closed down and removed to safer streets; but as soon as quiet is restored, people return to their former premises. This has, e.g., been the case in Haifa-town, after its brilliant conquest by the Hagana, when from one

day to the other economic life has been restored, even in damaged houses and rooms without window panes.

Factories are mostly busy for inland consumption, and on war orders. Textile mills are, however, still suffering from the crisis which had set in prior to the disturbances. Some raw material, such as cotton, is scarce—for a long time import licences had been granted very reluctantly. For the Jewish sector, Jewish authorities have taken the place of the former Governmental departments as far as possible, and on the whole, one must admire how efficient arrangements have been made, and how smoothly the switching over has taken place. This refers to trade, industry, and agricultural departments. Control of import, export, exchange, raw materials, and food is being exercised. There is a lack in some commodities, such as meat, but generally spoken, the food situation is quite satisfactory. The distribution of agricultural products has been greatly facilitated since practically the whole of the Jewish State area has been cleared of enemy forces. There was no lack of mazzoth anywhere, and eggs are even plentiful.

Very few are out of work, which is not surprising with most young people having joined up or been transferred to essential jobs. The Haifa Port is at present entirely managed by Jewish officials and workers, all Arabs having left. A very annoying feature is the suspense of foreign airmail service, and the curtailment of inland postal service, but arrangements have been made by the Jewish authorities to operate postal services, although this is especially difficult with regard to airmail. Philatelists have already started collecting Jewish postal stamps.

It may be stated that the economic situation as a whole is, until now, not less satisfactory than the military. There are of course many deficiencies, but it must not be forgotten that, perhaps for the first time in history, a government has left its post, without any official successor taking its place. Notice had certainly been given to UNO, but it is quaint all the same that governmental departments have closed down without any regard to the situation thus created. Only in the Jewish sector, Israel's government has taken their place, whilst in the Arab districts, as far as is known, no arrangements have been made at all, with the consequence of an administrative and economic chaos.

HANS MOSBACHER.

RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN INDIA

A thought-provoking mandate was given to the new Committee of the "Jewish Relief Association," Bombay, at its recent Annual General Meeting. They are to investigate if and how the scope of the Association can in future be extended to afford relief and support to Jews of every origin, in other words not only to "overseas" Jews resident in, or passing through, India as heretofore. War internment cases have been disposed of; there is no pending problem of citizenship requiring the Association's intervention; figures of subscribers as well as of proteges have shrunk due to migration to new destinations. A limited number of old, sick and infirm persons only will continue to require support. It has therefore been suggested that the Association should enlarge its objects so as to make full use of the experience and facilities available.

In the debate some Indian Jewish members stressed how desirable it would be to apply Western methods of charity administration to local needs. Local Jewish trusts are generally administered in such a narrow spirit that beggary is rather fostered than fought. It was admitted, on the other hand, that the "Jewish Relief Association" would probably soon be flooded with requests for support beyond its capacity, unless its objects were most carefully re-drafted. The ideal goal might be a single community organisation after the late Continental pattern; but this cannot be attained without Government intervention which it would be premature to solicit. There was, however, not a single voice of dissent on the principle involved, and it is to be hoped that a suitable formula will be submitted to another Extraordinary General Meeting for consideration and adoption at a future date.

H. G. REISSNER (Bombay)

EVENTS IN ANGLO JEWRY

On the First Day of Shavuoth, which was proclaimed by the newly elected Chief Rabbi as Israel Day, appropriate sermons were delivered in numerous Synagogues in London and the provinces and material support was given to the £5,000,000 Campaign of the Joint Palestine Appeal which has now passed the £2,000,000 mark.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Deputies was marked by an extraordinary incident when immediately after the President (Prof. Brodetsky) had moved a series of resolutions on Palestine, the Deputies spontaneously rose and sang the Hatikvah. The resolutions, welcoming the proclamation of the Jewish State, looked forward to Israel soon becoming a home for hundreds of thousands of persecuted Jews; thanks were expressed to the British people for the part they had taken in the establishment of the Jewish National Home through the Balfour Declaration, and severe criticism was voiced at the policy of H.M. present Government in aiding Arab aggression.

In a statement before the Council of the Anglo-Association, Mr. Leonard Stein, its President, reiterated his views of the Anglo-Jewish position with regard to Palestine. "The Jewish State," he said, "will not possess—and will not claim to possess—any jurisdiction of any kind over Jews other than those who have lawfully become its citizens. The allegiance and loyalty of British Jews are and will remain an undivided allegiance and loyalty to Britain."

At the Council of the United Synagogue, a heated controversy ensued when a message of encouragement which the President, Sir Robert Waley Cohen, suggested should be sent to the Yishuv, was found to contain no welcome to the proclamation of the Jewish State. Questioning the wisdom of such a reference at the present juncture, the President prevailed with the argument that the amendment would go beyond the concern of the United Synagogue which was predominantly religious. No such scruples were felt by the Federation of Synagogues whose newly elected President, Mr. Jack Goldberg, announced that they would subscribe £2,000 towards the upbuilding of Israel.

The annual budget of the United Synagogue shows an income of £149,818—an increase of £15,060—and an expenditure of £143,808—an increase of £18,040.

Among the King's Birthday Honours were a K.B.E. for Major Sir Brunel Cohen, Chairman of the National Advisory Council on Employment of the Disabled, also Chairman of the "Jewish Fellowship." A C.B.E. was conferred on Mr. Basil L. Q. Henriques, the well-known Jewish social worker, and an O.B.E. on Mr. Nathan Sutton, Chief Compensation Surveyor, Ministry of Works. Lord Nathan who resigned his post in the Government, was thanked by Mr. Attlee for "the good and loyal service" he had rendered both as Under-Secretary of State for War and as Minister of Civil Aviation "during a period when there were many difficult problems to face."

The scheme to set up an institute for the training of urgently needed Jewish teachers is to be postponed owing to disagreements between the Central Council of Jewish Religious Education and Jews' College. Hillel House, the Jewish boarding house run in connection with the Perse School, Cambridge, for the last 44 years, is being closed down as it has proved impossible to find a Jew to succeed the present retiring Jewish housemaster. An All-Hebrew Conference has decided to set up a permanent Council for Hebrew Education and Culture, consisting of leading personalities within the Hebrew Movement and of representatives of all Hebrew educational and cultural institutions in this country.

A delegation of British Jews, led by Sir Simon Marks and Professor S. Brodetsky, went to Paris to greet Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of Israel, on behalf of thousands of Zionists in Britain. At a reception given in Dr. Weizmann's honour, £130,000 were raised for the Joint Palestine Appeal.

ORIENTAL JEWRIES

V. Iraq

Of the 120,000 to 130,000 Jews of Iraq, about 100,000 live in Baghdad, where they represent one-quarter of the population. The remainder are in Basra, Mosul, Kirkuk and other small towns. A few thousand Jews are scattered in the villages of Kurdistan where they engage in agriculture.

Under the British Mandate many Jews were appointed to Government posts, for which it was difficult at the time to find suitable Moslems, and some even held ministerial positions. In the revival of commercial life in Iraq following on the liquidation of the Ottoman rule Jews played a prominent part. This liberal regime served a double purpose. It proved the availability of local talent for full self-government and testified to the tolerant attitude towards the minorities. No sooner was independence attained, however, than the trend was reversed. Aggressive nationalism waxed stronger and found its first expression in the Assyrian massacre (1933). After King Feisal's death in the same year the position of the minorities in Iraq began to deteriorate. In later years, and particularly during the war, the activities of Syrian and Palestinian teachers, and the agitation conducted by the Mufti of Jerusalem and his clique, who had escaped to Iraq, caused the people to turn against the Jews. This agitation culminated in violent anti-Jewish riots in June, 1941. After the flight of Rashid Ali and his followers from Baghdad, and before the British troops entered the city, the populace rose against the Jews. Over 120 were killed, many hundreds wounded, and there was widespread looting of Jewish houses and shops.

It is true that the Iraqi constitution assures full equality of rights to the Jews, as to other minorities. They are accorded representation in the Parliament, and the status of the local Jewish communities is officially recognised. In practice, however, the authorities have consistently removed Jews from important posts. At the beginning of the reign of Feisal I, Hazkiel Sassoon served as Minister of Finance, but after him no Jew has been appointed a member of the Government. Apart from the left-wing movement, Jews play no part in political life. Only a few Jewish students are admitted to the University. There are almost no Jews in the police force, while in the army there are no active Jewish officers, apart from a number of physicians. In commercial life, too, the Government discriminates against the non-Moslems, allocating only a very limited number of orders and licences to non-Moslem firms.

While the Iraqi authorities plainly show that they are not prepared to treat their Jewish subjects as citizens of equal rank, they are equally averse to granting the Jews any cultural autonomy. Jewish schools, though under strict Government control, receive practically no State subvention. Only a very limited number of lessons is allocated to the study of the Bible and the prayers. In 1935 the teaching of the Hebrew language in those schools was prohibited.

Zionist activities of any kind are, of course, strictly forbidden and considered as high treason. The Iraqi Jews even avoid correspondence with their relatives in Palestine for fear of coming under suspicion. The complete paralysis of Jewish public life is shown by the fact that this large community does not publish a single newspaper of its own.

Under constant pressure, the heads of the Jewish community of Iraq submit to all calls made on them by the Government for anti-Zionist declarations or demonstrations. A "League for the Struggle against Zionism" set up in 1945 by a group of young Jews, most of them Communists, was welcomed and encouraged by Iraqi leaders.

Lutz Weltmann:

LOUIS GOLDING

"Author of Magnolia Street" is the epithet by which Louis Golding is best known to the literary world. And it is an "epitheton ornans" like the Shield David's on the bust of Meier Aaron Goldschmidt in Copenhagen whom the Danish people respect as a writer belonging to their literature yet appreciate his special note.

Thus it was Louis Golding who was asked to write a penguin special about the Jewish Problem when antisemitism became acute in this country. He was very outspoken and tackled the question courageously.

If we look for Golding's opposite numbers amongst German Jewish writers we should think either of Georg Hermann with whom he shares a certain geniality and fireside snugness (à la "Jettchen Gebert") or of Jakob Wassermann with whom he has in common, the inquisitive mind and the joy in dealing with topical questions though he is less sullen when he has locked his teeth in a problem. He never ruminated upon whether he was an Englishman or a Jew and which name came first. Despair in his failure to be or, at least, to be recognised as a Jewish prophet born on Franconia's soil rent Wassermann's heart. Golding is always conscious of his Judaism, but he is, at the same time, sure of the British outlook he has imbibed. Wassermann wrote "Das Gansemännchen" as if he were under an obligation to prove how "German" he was; Golding wrote a pageant on occasion of a local beauty contest, facing no other problem but to perform a civic duty.

His "Magnolia Street" residents are no "Dreamers of the Ghetto"—the author who is 53 years of age now is almost exactly one generation Israel Zangwill's younger. One side of the street is inhabited by Jews, the other by Gentiles. With the gift of a genuine story-teller Golding tells the story of a Jewish community, of their various backgrounds and of their common beliefs, of their relations to the other side of the street and of their development in a changing world.

Golding does not set out to solve a problem, but if anything is dearer to Golding than his "good Jewish heart," it is "humanity," which means to be, above all, a human being; Rose Bermann, the amiable Jewish girl, and Jonny Cooper, the jolly good fellow and Gentile sailor, are more than exponents of their creed and their milieu. There is a divine love which prevails. But it is a rare thing in the world. The "Diesseitswunder" (as Max Brod put it) does not repeat itself in "The Dance Goes On"—the dancer Miranowa and the surgeon

Ivan cannot overcome their professional obsession—he became a Communist commissar because of his disappointed love and she could not give up the luxuries of Zarist High Society. (By the way: Miranova depends on her ballet master like the female Golem, the dancer Eva Spel, on Lucas Rappart in Wassermann's "Christian Wahn-schaffe").

Golding's creatures live, and he cannot exhaust the characters he creates in one book. "Magnolia Street" is, amongst others, a chronicle of the 1914-1918 War. The story of the "Five Silver Daughters" leads us to the after-War period, and in the "Glory of Elsie Silver," the heroine is to become a stage celebrity in post-war Berlin, who marries an English Lord and who, in the sequel "Mr. Emanuel," plays an important part as the mistress of a—Nazi Leader.

Time marches on. Jews from Nazi-Germany have come to England as refugees. Among the refugee children is a "Non-Aryan" boy, whose Jewish father was murdered as a communist and who had not heard from his Christian mother for a long time. "Mr. Emanuel," the most touching figure in "Magnolia Street," a widower now, on the verge of travelling to his son in Palestine, goes into the lion's den to make enquiries on behalf of the boy.

This Mr. Emanuel, humble, human, humorous, a Jewish Don Quixote, moves us to tears and makes us smile under tears. He is the outstanding figure in the author's three dozen works and might well be one of the contemporary characters that will survive the writings of our time.

Golding's skill of sketching a historical background as shown in "Mr. Emanuel" and "The Dance Goes On" enables him to give a sort of a variant to "Mr. Emanuel" in his latest novel "Three Jolly Gentlemen" (Hutchinson). It is Mussolini who is one of the three gentlemen, the two others being a Scotsman and an American who have some strange adventures on Emperor Tiberius island. Golding tells the story with the light touch of a Neapolitan farce.

He is an expert in narrative art, both in his novels and his essay on James Joyce. Among his short-stories "Paris Calling" (1939/45 War) and "Bare Knuckle Lover" (18th Century English Society setting) show him perhaps at his best. The art of the writer Louis Golding is deeply rooted in the English tradition: The "Song of Songs" was rendered by him in the typical English art-form of a Masque.

Two books of his are particularly dear to us in these days: "In the Steps of Moses the Lawgiver" and "In the Steps of Moses the Conqueror" (just published anew with "Mr. Emanuel" and "The Dance Goes On" by Rich and Cowan). As Schliemann believed in the reality of Homer's world, so does Golding in the authority of the bible. Travelling through the Holy Land, he gives us an unique story of adventures, meditations about the bible, and archaeological scholarship; pragmatic in his approach, sceptical in his conclusions, always guided by his firm belief in Jewish spiritual values, by the memories of his father's tales, by legend and folklore and Arab oral traditions, he left no stone unturned.

Louis Golding's two books about Moses are a modern "Haggadah."

PERSONALIA

The Jewish Community in this country and the Jews in Germany have to mourn the death of Colonel R. B. Solomon. As the Jewish advisor with the Control Office for Germany and Austria, he played a very active part in the Jewish relief and rehabilitation work. When he took up his office, he had to face a very difficult task, because the life of the Jews in Germany, in the Camps and in the communities alike, was completely unsettled. The improvement of the position was always near to his heart.

The AJR and the Council of Jews from Germany, who often benefited from his advice and assistance, will always gratefully remember him.

Professor Samuel Kraus, a Talmud authority who formerly taught at the "Jüdisch-Theologische Lehranstalt" in Vienna, died in Cambridge at the age of 82. Professor Kraus, author of several Jewish standard works, such as: "Talmudic Archaeology," always took an active interest in the activities of the local Cambridge group of the AJR.

On July 23, Dr. Arthur Hausdorff, formerly Rechtsanwalt in Breslau, will be 70 years old. In Germany as well as in this country he has always been active in various Jewish organisations. Executive and Headquarters of the AJR, with which he is now closely collaborating, wish to extend their best wishes to their devoted friend and colleague.

In last issue's birthday congratulation to Moritz Rosenthal it had been erroneously omitted that the good wishes referred to his 70th birthday.

DR. BAECK'S BIRTHDAY

After the June issue of "AJR Information" had gone to print, congratulations were received from the Landesverband der Jüdischen Gemeinden Nordrhein-Westfalen and from the Synagogengemeinde Duesseldorf which, in its message, recalls with pride Dr. Baeck's activities as their Rabbi 40 years ago.

"Berg Scopus" is the title of the bulletin of the Jewish students in the British Zone which comes out as a regular supplement of the "Jüdische Gemeindeblatt für die Britische Zone." The contents and the level of this new enterprise prove the determination of the "Union of Jewish Students" to play a part in Jewish cultural activities.

NUREMBERG TRIALS

According to a statement by the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, two volumes of the documents used in evidence at the Nuremberg trial are now on sale at His Majesty's Stationery Office. Other volumes will become available during the year.

NEW BOOKS: B. H. Liddell Hart: "The Other Side of the Hill" (Cassell); Douglas M. Kelley, M.D.: "22 Cells in Nuremberg" (W. H. Allen); Dr. Philipp Frank: "Einstein, His Life and Work" (Jonathan Cape); B. Boesch: "Deutsche Literaturgeschichte in Grundzügen" (A. Francke, Berne); James Parkes: "Judaism and Christianity" (Victor Gollancz); Samuel A. Goudsmit: "Alsos. The Failure of German Science" (Sigma Books); Alfred Bonne: "State and Economics in the Middle East" (Routledge); Harold U. Ribalow: "The Jew in American Sports" (Bloch Publishing Co., New York); Karl Wolfskehl: "An die Deutschen" (Origo-Verlag, Zurich); Alfred Einstein: "Music in the Romantic Era" (W. W. Norton & Co., New York); Boris Sapir: "The Jewish Community of Cuba. Settlement and Growth" (Jewish Teachers Seminary Press, New York).

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.

CHANGE OF NAME

The question has been discussed in this paper whether and when a change of name may be justifiable. As a consequence people have asked which was the proper procedure for this. It is emphasised that in answering these questions we do not mean to recommend such change of name.

According to the common law of this country a surname may be changed without permission of any authority and without compliance with any formality, provided the use of the assumed name is not calculated to deceive or inflict a pecuniary loss on somebody else.

It is, however, the general practice to make the intention of changing one's name clear by signing a deed, a formal document which requires to be stamped, the stamp duty being 10s.; forms for such a deed can be obtained for a few pence at most law stationers. Recently the National Registration authorities have even printed a more informal document, which does not require stamping and which is issued to applicants without charge. All these forms, however, may prove insufficient if the case is in the least "complicated." In such cases, therefore, it is to be recommended to have the deed drawn up by a lawyer.

A Change of Name Deed may, but need not, be enrolled at the Central Office of the

Supreme Court. This requires various additional formalities including advertising in a newspaper, is much more expensive than the simple signing of a deed and can certainly not be carried through without legal assistance. Some people are not averse to the additional trouble and expense for the following reason:

If Schmidt alters his name to Smith by deed and applies for a passport, the passport office notes in that document that the holder is Smith formerly known as Schmidt. If, however, the deed has been enrolled in the Central Office, only the new name of Smith appears in the passport.

The rules on the change of First Names are the same as those on the change of Surnames with the exception that according to ecclesiastical law recognised as binding by the High Court a Christian name conferred by baptism can not be changed. No such rule applies in the case of Jews. The Enrolment Department of the High Court accepts for enrolment deeds purporting to change a first name whether conferred baptismally or not. It is the practice that a husband may change the family name for himself and his minor children and a guardian the name of his ward; on the other hand children over 16 years of age may execute the deed themselves. For the purpose of enrolment the Court requires the consent of a husband to the declaration of a wife.

Prof. Ernst J. Cohn, Ph.D.:

REVIVAL OF JEWISH STUDIES

In a recent survey of the achievements of refugees in this country, Norman Bentwich, whose knowledge of contemporary Jewish affairs is encyclopedic, stated that the most important contribution to Jewish education made by refugees from Central Europe consisted in their attempt to transplant to the shores of this country the spirit and the organisation of the Science of Judaism.

"Science of Judaism" (Wissenschaft des Judentums) is a term coined by Leopold Zunz. It signifies the totality of the endeavours made since the middle of the last century to apply to Jewish history, Jewish literature and Jewish culture the methods of modern historical, sociological and philological research. Jewish learning is as old as Judaism. But in the course of the development it has adopted various forms in order to maintain the position of Judaism in the world of thought. If in the time of Philo the contents of Judaism had to be presented in the shape of Hellenist philosophy and in the time of Maimonides in that of Arab systems of Aristotelianism, modern methods of research, which had been developed during the 19th and 20th century, could not be by-passed in the contemporary presentation of Judaism and Jewish life.

Scientific Methods

The demand for the application of scientific methods to the traditional material was not a one-sided postulate coming from Jewish circles. It was reciprocated by non-Jewish scientists who had rightly come to the conclusion that Jewish life and Jewish achievements presented a subject for scientific research worthy of the most painstaking work and yielding rich fruits in many fields of knowledge. The science of Judaism which developed in Central Europe under the leadership of men like Zunz, Rapoport, Luzzatto and later under Graetz, Hermann Cohen, Zacharias Frankel, Abraham Geiger and many others, has enriched Jewish life like few other movements during the last 150 years. Its centre was undoubtedly Germany. But its influence spread far beyond the boundaries of Germany.

In the U.S.A. the Science of Judaism has found new homes. Institutions such as Dropsie College, the Hebrew Union College, the Jewish Theological Seminar, founded by Solomon Schechter, are witnesses of its tremendous influence on contemporary Jewry. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem could not be what it is, but for the Science of Judaism which originated in Central Europe.

It is in the nature of the Science of Judaism that it does not, and cannot, serve any one particular group or tendency within Judaism. It can only be

a science—like any other science—politically and religiously neutral, though of the very greatest interest and of vital importance to all shades and manners of life and thought. No wonder that it has found its opponents. Some have reproached it for teaching something that their own party did not want to see taught. Others have simply attacked it because they themselves were living in a world as yet unaffected by the spirit of objective criticism which is of the essence of contemporary scientific research.

During the last war a group, largely consisting of Central European refugees and inspired by the late Professor Eugen Mittwoch, attempted to form in this country an organisation which would maintain the tradition of the Science of Judaism and, at the same time, acquaint larger circles of the Jewish public with its objectives and achievements. These endeavours received a powerful stimulus by the arrival in this country of Leo Baeck. Under the Chairmanship of Rabbi Reinhart an informal preparatory Committee was founded, presided over by Leo Baeck. This Committee is now in the course of developing into a Society for Jewish Studies which will invite the support of all Jews to whom learning and knowledge are values worthy of endeavour and support. A series of lectures on various topics of Jewish interest has been held at which the audience varied between 40 and 75. A few courses—both for beginners and advanced students—are given, including Leo Baeck's famous Monday morning seminary. A Jewish library, open to research workers, students, and simply to all who have that feeling of curiosity from which all scientific endeavour springs, is in course of formation. Thanks to the hospitality given to the Society by the West London Synagogue it has been able to start in worthy surroundings. The munificence of a few benefactors, in the main English Jews, has enabled the Society to make a beginning and will enable it to extend its work and activities in the near future.

Special Obligation

The Central European Jews living in this country are under a special obligation to the Committee and to the Society which is evolving from it. For it is the avowed purpose of both to safeguard the traditions of the Central European Science of Judaism. German Jews particularly are well represented on the Committee, which includes, among others, Dr. R. Fuchs, the last chairman of the Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums of Berlin, and several former pupils of the Hochschule who are now Ministers of Congregations in this country. A considerable part of the valuable library of the Hochschule has been saved from destruction. The hope that these books might be made accessible to the Society is not without foundation. Among those invited to lecture before the Society during the course of last winter were Professor Martin Buber of Jerusalem, Rabbi A. Altmann of Manchester and Dr. D. Daube of Cambridge, who are all Jews from Germany. The Society's permanent secretary is Rabbi Dr. Loewenstamm. Is it too much to hope that the community at large will not fail to lend its support to the Society when at a later date during the course of this year it should be called upon to do so? Is it too much to wish that its public lectures, its instructions, courses, and its other endeavours will be used to the full by the Jews from the Continent?

No community can live without great leaders from whom it can receive guidance and inspiration. But the leader cannot lead if the community fails to provide him with the organisation through which he can find colleagues and assistants, pupils and adherents. The community has honoured Leo Baeck fittingly on the occasion of his 75th birthday. It now has the opportunity of following up its many fine words with deeds—deeds which are mitzvot and more than that. The preservation of Jewish knowledge is to the Jewish community more than a moral obligation: it is today, as always, a matter of self-preservation. Byron's words, "The tree of knowledge is not that of life" have never been true of Jewish knowledge and of the Jewish community. Wherever Jews have lived—in Eretz Israel or without—the knowledge of Judaism has, to them, been an Etz hajim. In preserving this "tree," we preserve nothing less than our life.

Rabbi O. H. Lehmann, M.A.

Union Society, Oxford.

Old Acquaintances

Season in Argentine.—It must be winter in South America now; while on the Continent of Europe the theatres are closing down, in Buenos Aires the season is in full swing. Dr. Erich Frey, the well-known lawyer from Berlin came especially from Chile where he lives to act in his own new play "Das dritte Ohr." P. Walter Jacob, who, for many years, has been running a theatre in German there, produced Frey's play. The "Freie Deutsche Bühne" has another surprise for its public: Hans Moser from Vienna came on a visit to his daughter, and will be the first post-war guest from Europe in Jacob's ensemble. Later on, Argentine's German speaking community expects to see Theo Lingens as a visiting actor, too. When they play operettas in Buenos Aires they have Sigfried Arno's little brother Bruno and blonde Heidi Eisler as stars.—Dr. Frey's colleague from Berlin, Dr. Bruno Weil just published a new book in German there; it is a report of a post-war journey through the United States, England, Scandinavia, and Switzerland.

Kortner in—Pommer out.—After five months as a visitor in Berlin, Fritz Kortner still didn't appear on any stage, but now he is going to do his first picture in Germany again. He wrote the script himself and will play the lead under the direction of Josef von Baky, a new man who produced Hans Albers' first post-war venture. Kortner's picture will be called "Der Ruf" and tell the story of a professor of philosophy who returns to Germany from exile and is confronted with the dangers and hopes of the future. The famous actor who is quite unknown in today's Germany, speaks his part in German and English to make the export easier. And while Kortner starts, Eric Pommer who supervised the new German film industry for the Americans in their Zone, is leaving his job in autumn.

Home News.—Probably you have forgotten that Carl Ebert, who now mainly produces operas in London and other towns, once started as an actor; but you can listen to his voice when he will speak Marlowe's "Dr. Faustus" in the German section of the B.B.C. under Dr. F. Wendhausen's direction in July.—Dancer Tilly Losch visited England after an absence of eight years; she went together with Sir Charles, otherwise C. B. Cochran, the king of London's shows, to the opening night of "Caribbean Rhapsody" at the Prince of Wales.—Walter Rilla returned from a visit to Berlin where, after ten years, he saw his brother Paul again, and he is rather shocked by what he saw. He is leaving soon for the Rhine to do a feature for the B.B.C.'s Third Programme.—Otto Preminger, who was the youngest man in Max Reinhardt's office when he was director of Vienna's "Theater in der Josephstadt" between 33 and 35, returned for the first time from Hollywood to Europe to do some location for his new picture "Lady Windermere's Fan." Preminger once became a director because he couldn't play juveniles with an early bald head, and made himself a name in the States with "Laura," "Forever Amber," and by finishing Ernst Lubitsch's last picture "The Lady in Ermine."—Max Hansen, too, came from Sweden as a visitor to London to see some plays. The famous comedian who is still a star in all three Scandinavian countries, just now produced "Weisses Roessli," and bought Noel Coward's "Present Laughter": he has not changed very much, only become a little more grey and a little bit more fat.—Magnus Davidsohn returned from a successful lecture tour through Switzerland.

German PEN again.—At the PEN Congress in Copenhagen, a German section of this famous international writers' organisation was again established after fifteen years. Peter de Mendelssohn vouched personally for the twenty founder members; they are Erich Kaestner, Johannes R. Becher, Anna Seghers, Herbert Eulenberg, Johannes Tralow, G. Birkenfeld, E. Penzoldt, Schneider-Schelde, Reinhold Schneider, G. Weisenborn, Ludwig Renn, Th. Plivier, H. Kasack, E. Langgesser, H. H. Jahn, Axel Eggebrecht, Delf Sternberger, Paul Wiegler, and F. Wolf. Professor Friedmann, who is chairman of the Group in Exile became honorary member. Ernst Wiechert was not accepted because he left Germany for Switzerland in the meantime, nor was Rudolf Alexander Schroeder against whom the Dutch group protested. The next Congress will be held in Venice where the new German PEN will be represented again: it's just fifteen years ago that the German section left the international organisation in Ragusa.

PEM

Letter to the Editor

"WHAT IS A JEW?"

Dear Sir,

In his article "What is a Jew?" Mr. Benn Levy concluded with the view that the Jews were bound together for no purpose they could explain.

In reply I should ask: Have you ever seen a man in his tallith pouring out his heart before his Maker in heaven? Have you seen a man sacrificing home, comfort and good prospects in life in order to go and redeem the Holy Land, Israel, with his own hands? Have you listened to the voice of the prophet who called out to the people around: Israel, if righteous, is destined to be a light to the nations; God's salvation will go out to all men?—They all were Jews.

Not race, not minority-status or any other label held them together, but the spirit of Judaism, which can only be understood by reviewing the total of Jewish history, thought and practice.

The spiritual unity, which has found its expression in the history of Judaism, confronts us in various forms; but lastly it is based on the unity of the Jewish religion. Let us not forget the words which Troeltsch wrote thirty years ago: "Our modern world . . . has a charm of its own in the tension of the historic contrasts which it unites . . . In life they all come together and the greatest modern creations have always sprung up at the crossroads of those opposing tendencies. . . ." The future of Judaism is closely bound up with the task of finding, at each subsequent period, a synthesis between Jewish-historic ideals, their practical realisation and Western thought.

FROM MY DIARY

The American Jewish Year Book, 1948 (compiled and edited by the American Jewish Committee), contains, amongst others, the following interesting figures:

Between May 20, 1946, and April 30, 1947, about 20,000 Jewish survivors of Nazism came to U.S.A. About 8,000 of them originated from the American occupied zones in Europe, about 2,000 from Shanghai and about 10,000 from other countries, especially Sweden, Great Britain and France.

Between 1939 and 1947, the Jewish population in Europe was reduced from 9,739,200 to 3,920,100, thus reducing the World Jewish population to 11,266,600 against 16,643,120 before the outbreak of the second World War.

5,000,000 Jews are living in the United States (3.66% of the entire population), 350,000 in Argentina (2.56%), 110,750 in Brazil (0.25%), 37,000 in Uruguay (1.71%), 25,000 in Chile (0.48%).

The number of Jewish Congregations in U.S.A. is estimated at 3,728; 1,560 of which are in New York.

Between 1901 and 1946, 208,273 Jews immigrated to Argentina, 51,393 to Brazil and 20,535 to Uruguay.

When, in pre-Hitler Berlin, you came from Alexander Platz and turned right off Muenz Strasse, you were suddenly in a different world: confined to few streets, strangely enough bearing the military names Grenadier and Dragoner Strasse, the newcomers from the East continued to live their Ghetto-lives. There were not many links between them and the majority of Berlin's Jews whose cradle was not in the East End of Berlin, though very often in the Eastern towns of Germany.

In London, on the other hand, the East End is the origin of many Jewish families now scattered all over the town, and it is still the centre and source of Jewish life. In "East End my cradle" (Art and Educational Publishers Ltd., London, price 9/6), William Goldman gives a realistic, partly rather outspoken and drastic description of everyday life in the East End, as he saw it. Utmost poverty, the effects of unemployment, especially on young people, between the two wars, are vividly recalled. When describing the shortcomings of Jewish religious tuition in the Kheder, the author comes to the conclusion that it "no doubt explains the large-scale reduction in piety amongst the new generation of

adult Jews to-day. Religion for us is bound up with memory of stuffy cellars, perpetual beatings and a brutal curbing of our childish instincts. When you left the Kheder after your Barmitzva at the age of thirteen it took you exactly one week to forget all you had learned. The Kheder, constituted as it was, proved itself to be a first-class training ground for future atheists."

The author does not deal with the spiritual forces of modern Jewish and social movements which generally attract and shape the life of the more open-minded members of the Community. When describing the activities of Jewish East End Clubs, he does so mainly under a social aspect.

For a Jew from Germany the book is especially enlightening. In Germany, the Jew was assimilated and belonged to the middle-class; even when losing his fortune, he did not become a proletarian but a petty bourgeois. In the London East-End, if we follow Goldman's description, he belonged to a Jiddish speaking proletarian strata, though, at a later stage either he or his children managed to improve their position. Many misunderstandings between the refugees from Germany, who owe their lives to a high extent to the solidarity of British Jewry, and other sections of the Anglo-Jewish community, may be explained by this different background. The depossessed refugee did not start at the lowest rung of the ladder in Whitechapel, but, penniless as he was, took his furnished room in Hampstead or other North-Western parts of the town. Meanwhile, in the course of the past 10 years, mutual understanding and appreciation has progressed. This is a necessary and desirable process, but, to be organic, it has to take some time.

With the death of Mrs. Edgar Dugdale the Jewish people loses a good and trusted friend. She was the niece of Lord Balfour whose faith in Zion she inherited. The close emotional and intellectual bond between her and her famous uncle led her to write the life story of Arthur James Balfour which is one of the most fundamental works in the field of recent biography. She was a writer of high standing, and many articles from her pen fostered the Zionist cause, "in season and out" as "The Times" rightly observed.

Her small bent figure was a familiar sight on many Zionist platforms. She passed away two days after the proclamation of the Jewish State for whose existence and freedom she had striven all her life.

NARRATOR

RESTITUTION LEGISLATION

On behalf of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, Dr. Herman Muller edited a booklet "Restitution in Germany" (Laws and regulations in the American, French and British Zone. Commentary to American Law No. 59 with examples for the registration.) The American Restitution Law No. 59 raises quite a number of complicated juridical questions, which have to be considered by lawyers and laymen before proper registration can be submitted to the authorities. The publication of the Commentary by Dr. Herman Muller, the Executive Vice-President of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe is, therefore, highly gratifying. He deals with most of the difficult problems arising from the law.

Examples for the submission of three types of claims are particularly instructive. The first case deals with confiscation, the second one with compulsory auction of identifiable movable property, the third one with an agreement under duress. The booklet also contains the text of the American By-Laws, of the French Restitution Law No. 120 and of the British General Order No. 10.

AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATION

According to the "Board of Trade Journal," a delegation of Austrian officials, led by Dr. Max Loewenthal, Minister Plenipotentiary in the Austrian Foreign Office, has recently visited London and has discussed the possibilities of increasing the flow of trade between the two countries. Information has been exchanged about the essential goods which each country could make available to the other.

TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL

At the Annual General Meeting of the Trades Advisory Council, at which the AJR was represented by a fraternal delegate, Mr. Maurice Orbach, M.P., General Secretary, reported on the increase in membership, which was now over 8,000. In his presidential address, Mr. Alec Nathan said that during the eight years of the Council's existence they had created for the Jewish business man a rallying point from which he might draw moral and spiritual support. The Meeting was welcomed by the Mayor of St. Pancras, Councillor Mrs. L. Bryant, J.P.

Rabbi Israel Brodie, Chief Rabbi-elect, expressed his regret about the biased way in which a section of the denominational Press reported on the events in Palestine.

CLASSIFIED

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MISSING PERSONS Inquiries from AJR

Loewenthal, Moses, Doctor from Berlin N.W.87, Jagowstr. 36, for Kurt Sychalski, Berlin.

Kurz, Max, from Freiburg/Br., Bismarckstr. 27, for Oberrat der Israeliten Badens.

Weinbaum, Hans and Irene, nee Isaaksohn, from Breslau, for Grete Dobrick, Bamberg.

Schrenzel, Ernst, lived 1939 in London with his wife, for H. Dotch (formerly Deutsch), Australia.

Inquiries from Hias,

37 Museum Street, London, W.C.1. Covo, Elise, born Vienna, and daughter Eva, born Berlin, for Amelie Tabah, Bulgaria.

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INDUSTRIALISTS' MEETING

At the Annual Meeting of the Committee for Industrial Development (see May issue of "AJR Information"), the General Secretary, Mr. Gendall Hawkins, recalled the valuable services to the economic life of Great Britain rendered at all times by immigrants, and gave a survey of his Committee's activities in the fields of finance, naturalisation, trade permits, etc. He paid a warm tribute to the AJR and its General Secretary, Dr. K. Alexander, thanks to whose co-operative spirit and generous action, the United Restitution Office had been formed.

Mr. Hawkins also mentioned his Broadcast talks, in which, amongst others, he referred to Refugee Industries (see May issue of "AJR Information") as well as the Committee's endeavours to fight against anti-Alienism and anti-Semitism. Further addresses were given by the Rt. Hon. Hugh Dalton and representatives from various Government Departments. A Reception under the Chairmanship of the Marquess of Reading included amongst the guests Mr. Jacob Epstein, Mr. Hungerford (U.S.A. Embassy), Mr. H. Wilson Harris, M.P., Mr. F. T. Willey, M.P., Mr. David Renton, M.P., Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu, M.P., and Mr. John Lewis, M.P.

AJR GLASGOW

Two active workers of the Group were recently honoured by the Members. A birthday celebration was given to the Hon. President, Mr. Ernst Levy, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. A Kiddush Cup, as a farewell presentation, was handed over to Rabbi C. E. Cassell, the past Chairman of the Group, on his leaving Glasgow for London.

THEODOR HERZL SOCIETY
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July 6th, Mr. RAPHAEL BLUMENFELD (Jerusalem): "Israel's Military Struggle."

July 13th, Living Newspaper. Dr. H. CAPELL: General Situation; Mr. G. SCHLACHTER (South Africa): "Prospects in S. Africa"; Mr. I. FINESTEIN, M.A.: "Some Influences of Immigration on the Anglo-Jewish Community"; Mr. H. FELD: "Jews in Theatre and Film"; Miss A. NUNBERG: "A Visit to the Little Gallery."

July 20th, Dr. J. WEDDECK: "Psychology of Jewish Politics."

July 27th, "Israel Re-Born," The T.H.S. commemorates Theodor Herzl's Yahrzeit. Principal Speaker: Rev. A. S. SUPER, M.A.

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CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES

On June 3, the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, stated that the number of refugees from Czechoslovakia in the British zone of Germany was estimated between 200 and 300. Numerous applications for visas to come to this country were being received by Passport Control Officers in the various territories to which refugees had made their way and these applications were being dealt with in accordance with the policy already stated (see June issue of "AJR Information"—the Ed.). The number of visas already granted to these refugees in the last three months is 115.

POLITICAL MEETINGS

According to a statement by the Home Secretary, Mr. Ede, the number of police detailed for duty at the meetings at the Whitestone Pond, Hampstead Heath, were as follows: "At each meeting on April 11 and 18, 59; at each meeting on April 25 and May 2, 48 and at each meeting on May 9, 16 and 30, 37. There was no meeting on May 23."

Asked by Mr. Hector Hughes, whether evidence had not shown that the organisers of such meetings hold them for the deliberate purpose of committing breaches of peace and that the time has come when such meetings should be prohibited, Mr. Ede replied: "No, Sir. I have no evidence on the statement made in the first part of the supplementary question, and I do not intend to ask permission to prohibit meetings in this country."

DISPLACED PERSONS

On June 7, Mr. Mayhew gave on behalf of the Foreign Office the following figures: "198,382 displaced persons remain in camps in the British Zone of Germany, 6,734 having been repatriated and 33,812 resettled since September 1, 1947."

FROM ALL CORNERS

WAR DAMAGE IN ITALY

British owners of war damaged property in Italy may receive registration forms from the Administration of Enemy Property (Trading with the Enemy) Department, 7 Crosby Square, London, E.C.3.

SHANGHAI

According to recent instructions of the Chinese Ministry, foreigners who have been resident in China for more than five years, may apply for their naturalisation.

CHILE

The Sociedad Cultural Israelita "B'ne Jisroel," the Jewish Congregation of Immigrants in Santiago, elected the following Hon. Officers at its General Meeting: Directorium—Jose Hirschberg (President), Siegfried Laudan (Vice-President), Fernando Friedmann (General Secretary), Alfredo Pereles (Deputy Secretary), Arturo Roesler (Treasurer), Leon Rosenthal (Deputy Treasurer), Heimann Abramczyk. At the Head of the Board of Representatives (Repraesentanten-Kollegium) are: German Lehman (President), Nuta Nebenschoss (Secretary), Enrique Hirsch (Deputy Secretary).

AUSTRALIA

According to "The New Citizen," issued by the Association of New Citizens in Sydney, the Australian Minister of Immigration, Mr. Calwell, stated that at present, naturalisation has been considerably speeded up so that every application is being dealt with in an average of three months.

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