

## “I UNDERSTAND THE RISKS”

“I hereby certify that I understand the risks . . . to which I and my relatives may be exposed by my employment in the British Army outside the United Kingdom. Notwithstanding this, I certify that I am willing to be employed in any theatre of war.” Thus runs the declaration made by aliens in the Pioneer Corps who volunteered for overseas service in the early days of the war. Professor Norman Bentwich has taken these words as the title of a book (“I Understand the Risks,” Victor Gollancz, London, 10/6\*). Based on material which has been collected by the Ex-Service (N.B.) Association, the Association of Jewish Refugees and private sources, Professor Bentwich has added an interesting chapter to the history of Jews in Britain. For the majority of those 9,000 men and women from Germany and Austria who decided to fight Hitler in British uniform were Jews and administratively they constituted such a novelty that it took some time for the bureaucracy to understand their problems.

In November, 1939, “refugees from Nazi oppression” were enabled to volunteer for the Pioneer Corps in the famous transit camp of Richborough, which has played so important a part in bringing over people to England from the Continent in the fateful days between the November pogrom of 1938 and the beginning of the war. Thousands volunteered, but some time elapsed before the first company was formed, and even then the authorities were unsure what to do with

### REGRETTABLE DISCRIMINATION

VARIOUS letters to the editors of daily and weekly papers have drawn attention to the fact that, in spite of the tremendous shortage of dentists, a number of Jewish Refugee Dentists with German qualifications are still forced to be idle. They have the same university training as those of their colleagues who were admitted before 1937.

For a great number of years, the AJR, together with the Group of Unregistered Dentists, has fought for their admission to the Dentists' Register.

The position has become increasingly paradox, as D.P.s, who came to this country only recently, now stand a better chance than these pre-war refugees, most of whom have meanwhile been found worthy of becoming British subjects. Whilst the qualified dental surgeons from Germany are still rejected, at present even the use for the school dental service of so-called “Dental Hygienists” without university training is under consideration.

It is estimated that about 200,000 cases per year could be dealt with by the rejected dentists.

Time and again the AJR has taken up the matter with the appropriate quarters, and whilst at this juncture it is not possible to make any forecast about the outcome of these efforts, nothing will be left undone which might ultimately lead to a removal of the existing obstacles.

soldiers who wore British uniform, but who spoke only broken English, and who, according to their educational standard, ought to be eligible for Commissions but had to serve as privates and N.C.O.'s. The abnormality of these alien companies was, however, not limited to these facts, for the parents and wives of these soldiers of the British Army were, in many instances, either interned or subject to restrictions of “enemy aliens.” The main crux was that these soldiers, in spite of their British uniforms, were not British nationals but stateless, former German subjects, and no official statement ever told them what would be going to happen to them after the war. Each of them wanted to fight Hitler with a gun in his hand—alas, these guns were not forthcoming and until 1942, their companies were, but for a few rifles, unarmed, even those which in 1940 had to find their way back to the coast in France.

That the aliens' companies of the Pioneer Corps soon gained the respect of the War Ministry, in spite of these disabilities, is another proof of the resolve of those men who wanted to settle their account with the Nazis. They had to wait for this quite some time, until 1943, when the majority of them were transferred to fighting units, especially the Parachutists and Commandos, but also to the Infantry, Tanks, Royal Air Force, Navy and Intelligence Corps.

In the beginning of the war there was not seldom the paradox that those who not long ago were behind barbed wire in internment camps were now standing guard outside such camps. At the end of the war, many who, a few years ago, were maltreated in concentration camps and expelled from Germany, returned as British soldiers with the victorious armies, rendering important services to the Allied Control Commission.

Especially in the first chapters of his book, Professor Bentwich has gone beyond the theme of refugee soldiers and drawn a picture of the whole refugee community of then 60,000 people, he shows their trials and tribulations in those years, and gives a place of honour to their many British friends, led by the late Eleanor Rathbone, who helped them in their struggle. The documentary value of this book is important enough to merit it a prominent place in historical research on Jewish migrations. That it adds up to an interesting story is only one more proof of Professor Bentwich's stature as a writer.

HERBERT FREEDEN

\* Copies at a reduced price of 6/6 (postage free) should be ordered from the AJR, which rendered its financial assistance by a grant and by a guarantee towards the sale of copies.

### INDEMNIFICATION IN THE FRENCH ZONE

A few weeks ago, Indemnification Laws were enacted in the three “Laender” of the French Zone, i.e. Baden (on 31.5.50), Rheinland-Pfalz (30.5.50) and Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern (27.5.50). These laws replace the French Indemnification Ordinance No. 164 which has been cancelled. They provide for the indemnification of damages to life and limb, health, liberty, property or economic advancement, inflicted upon persons who were persecuted between January 30, 1933, and May 8, 1945, for political, racial, religious or ideological reasons.

Broadly speaking, three categories of Nazi persecutees are eligible for claiming indemnification from one of the “Laender”: residents, certain classes of post-war refugees, and former residents or heirs of deceased residents. The definitions of each of these categories are not in all points identical with the corresponding clauses of the Indemnification Laws for the “Laender” of the U.S. Zone. Neither are they identical in the three new laws, as may be seen from the following particulars:

The first category (residents) refers to persons who had their legitimate domicile or usual residence within the Land Baden or Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern on January 1, 1947, or within the Land Rheinland-Pfalz on January 1, 1948; the Law for Baden also includes persons who returned to their domicile or residence from abroad until October 1, 1947.

The second category (post-war refugees) covers persons who were recognised or will be recognised as refugees in Baden or Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern after January 1, 1947, or in Rheinland-Pfalz after January 1, 1948, if they are not already entitled to compensation in another Land.

The third category (former residents, etc.) refers to persons who resided outside Germany on January 1, 1947 (in the case of Baden or Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern) or, in the case of Rheinland-Pfalz, on January 1, 1948, or died before that date, and who suffered damage in one of the three countries. According to the laws for Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern and for Rheinland-Pfalz (not for Baden) claimants must have had their domicile or usual residence within one of these Laender at the time of deprivation. Persons who suffered damage after their emigration are, therefore, not entitled to indemnification in Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern and Rheinland-Pfalz. It is incomprehensible why these limitations have been introduced, and representations with the competent authorities are being

Continued on Page 2

### AJR Meeting

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 7.45 p.m.

1, Broadhurst Gardens, N.W.6  
(near Finchley Road Underground Station)

**Dr. BRUNO WEIL**  
(New York)

“Nord-und Suedamerika  
und seine Einwanderung  
seit 1933”

Dr. Bruno Weil, well-known by his manifold activities and his topical publications, will be in London for a short visit. He has spent several years in U.S.A. and in South American countries, and his observations will be of special interest to members and friends of the AJR.

Admission free.

# NEWS FROM GERMANY

## PROTESTANTS CONFESS GUILT

At the National Meeting of the Protestant Church, where a resolution against anti-Semitism was passed, one of the speakers, Heinrich Vogel, said: "The root of the misfortune which has befallen us and the whole world is our guilt towards the Jews. There is nobody amongst us who is free from this guilt." Pastor Niemoeller welcomed the Protestants' confession of guilt and regretted that it had not been made earlier. Another speaker, quoting Landesbischof Wurm, declared: "If I cannot find sleep in these days, it is because we have been silent when the Jews were persecuted."

## NAZISM "CLIMAX OF CULTURE"

At a Press Conference in Bonn, the member of the Federal Parliament and Chairman of the Socialist Reichspartei (SRP), Dr. Fritz Dorls, described the time between 1933 and 1945 as "the climax of a revolutionary epoch of the Occident." The concentration camps and gas chambers were in his view revolutionary methods to overcome the past.

The Prime Minister of North-Rhine-Westphalia, Karl Arnold, declared that he was considering the necessary steps to be taken against Dr. Dorls.

## DESECRATION OF CEMETERIES

The Cemetery of Berlin-Weissensee (Soviet Sector) was desecrated recently. The culprits, 11 young workmen, were found out 5 days later. Desecrations are also reported from Wuerzburg, Frankfurt a.M. and Hemsbach, near Mannheim.

*Continued from Front Page*

made by URO. On the other hand, the law for Baden does not require that claimants had their last German residence before emigration in the Land Baden.

The time limit for claims expires within a year after the enactment of the laws, i.e. in Baden on May 30, 1951, in Rheinland-Pfalz on May 29, 1951, in Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern on May 26, 1951.

Claims have to be submitted to the "Amt fuer Wiedergutmachung" of the district where the claimant has or had his last domicile or residence, or where he suffered damage, if he had neither domicile nor residence in the Land. Implementary orders to the laws are not yet available. Forms have to be obtained from the local "Amt fuer Wiedergutmachung," i.e. in Baden the Regional "Finanzamt," in Rheinland-Pfalz the local "Amt fuer Wiedergutmachung und kontrollierte Vermoegen."

The "Amt fuer Wiedergutmachung" has to examine the claims and to try to reach an amicable settlement. Indemnification Courts are the "Wiedergutmachungsausschuesse," the "Wiedergutmachungskammern bei den Landgerichten" (Courts of Appeal) and the "Zivilsenate des Oberlandesgerichte" (Revision, Board of Review).

In Rheinland-Pfalz and Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern special laws have been enacted providing indemnification for Civil Servants and employees of the Laender ("Gesetze ueber die Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts im oeffentlichen Dienst"). Unlike the Indemnification Laws in the U.S. Zone, these laws do not contain regulations with regard to officials living abroad whose return to Germany cannot be expected because of their personal circumstances.

## COMPENSATION IN U.S. ZONE

As readers will have seen from previous issues, compensation claims in the U.S. Zone had to be filed until June 30, 1950. As far as claimants so far only submitted emergency registrations in order to keep the time limit, they are reminded that these emergency registrations themselves are not sufficient for safeguarding the claims. They have to be followed by formal registrations on the appropriate forms, which have to be submitted until September 30, 1950.

## BLOCKED ACCOUNTS FOR TRAVELLING

It is understood that the travelling allowance, which may be drawn from blocked accounts in Germany, has been increased to 75 DM. per day; it must not exceed 200 DM. per day and family.

The U.S. Regional Commissioner for Bavaria, Clarence M. Bolds, strongly appealed to the German Authorities to take energetic measures against the desecration of cemeteries.

The Land-Government of Hesse expressed its horror at the happenings. Parents, teachers and churchmen should make young people realise that the last resting place of human beings is sacred.

The editor of the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung," Paul Sethe, writes that the German attitude should not be determined in the first line by the impression which might be created abroad, but that counter-actions are primarily necessary for the sake of the Germans themselves. "It is our duty," he says, "to speak to our youth about the terrible happenings in Auschwitz. Whatever happens to Jewish cemeteries is a shame for ourselves."

## OPPOSITION TO RESTITUTION

A newly published monthly periodical "Die Restitution" (Jus-Verlag, Baden-Baden) takes up the interests of those liable for restitution. One of the contributors, Landtagsabgeordneter Alfred Steger, describes the methods of the legislators as "rabiati" and expresses the view that the Jews, who were once oppressed and hunted, are now oppressors and hunters.

The organisations of Germans affected by the restitution laws in the British and American Zone will, according to the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung," be amalgamated under the protectorate of the former Reichskanzler Dr. Wirth. A loyal execution of the restitution law is described as the object of the new Federation.

## SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AGAINST NATIONALISM

At the Party Conference in Hamburg, Dr. Schumacher stated that in Germany Nationalism was not thinkable without anti-Semitism, and anti-Semitism not without Nationalism. He also expressed regret at the colourless statements of the Federal Government in questions of restitution.

The member of the Federal Parliament, Blachstein, asked for legislation against antisemitic and neo-Nazi provocations.

## EX-NAZI AS PRESS OFFICER

Gustav Adolf Sonnenhol has been appointed Press Officer of the Federal Vice-Chancellor Franz Bluecher. Sonnenhol joined the Nazi Party in 1931 and was also a member of the S.A. before 1933. From November 1933 onwards he was S.S. Untersturmfuehrer. He was the Liaison Officer between Ribbentrop and the Gestapo on July 20, 1944.

## EX-NAZI APPOINTED MAYOR

The former Nazi, Dr. Karl Schuebel, was appointed Mayor of Aalen (Wuerttemberg-Baden) with an overwhelming majority (11,395 against 1,779). His opponent was a half-Jew, Dr. Peter Lahnstein, whose posters were smudged by anti-semitic slogans.

## NEW BOOK BY HANS GRIMM

In a new book, published simultaneously in Goettingen and in Buenos Aires, Hans Grimm, the author of "Volk ohne Raum," describes the two world wars as British wars of aggression against Germany. National Socialism was in his view a religious Protestant movement for the salvation of the world. The Jews in Germany were elements of decomposition, they poisoned the spirit of the German people.

## "JEW" IN OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

The Minister of Interior in Hesse deemed it necessary to remind his subordinates that there was no legal justification for describing Jewish citizens as "Jews" in official documents.

This instruction was the outcome of a complaint lodged by the Societies for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, according to which the term "Der Jude" is sometimes still used in front of the name of the person concerned.

# IN PARLIAMENT

## DISPLACED PERSONS

At an Adjournment Debate, introduced by Major Tufton Beamish, concern was expressed about the care for Refugees and Displaced Persons after the termination of IRO on 31st March, 1951. So far, it was stated, 69,000 D.Ps were repatriated and 723,000 resettled under the care of IRO. According to Major Beamish, it is estimated that at the end of the current year there will be between 50 to 100,000 D.Ps left in Germany and Austria. In addition to these, there are now in Germany about 9 million German refugees from Eastern territories. They will partly have to be absorbed into the German Economy, but for some of them emigration may also be a solution.

The monthly infiltration of political refugees from Eastern countries amounts to 800 in Germany and 120 in Austria.

About 900,000 Arab refugees are receiving relief under the United Relief for Palestine Scheme.

The spokesman of the Foreign Office, Mr. Davies, stressed that Great Britain had resettled more D.Ps than any other country. Furthermore, H.M. Government has given large sums to IRO and has contributed largely to the Palestine refugees. It has also, through contributions to Germany since the end of the war, helped towards the solution of the big problem in that area.

After IRO has wound up, the responsibility for the legal and political protection of the remaining refugees will rest on the High Commissioner, who has not yet been appointed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, but who will take up his appointment on 1st January, 1951. The responsibility for their material welfare will rest with the governments, where these refugees continue to live.

## NATURALISATION

"Since the end of the war 50,062 certificates of naturalisation have been granted," said the Home Secretary, Mr. Chuter Ede, on June 15. The annual number of certificates is as follows: 1945 (May to December): 407; 1946: 3,630; 1947: 17,742; 1948: 15,108; 1949: 9,593; 1950: January 861, February 731, March 899, April 571, May 520.

## WITHDRAWAL OF CITIZENSHIP

The Home Secretary stated that so far no persons have been deprived of citizenship under the provisions of the British Nationality Act, 1948, which came into force on 1st January, 1949.

## VISITS TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

In a written reply the Foreign Secretary stated that he would strongly advise British subjects, who visit Communist dominated countries and are not travelling on official Government business, to get in touch with the nearest British Consulate immediately upon arrival, to keep them informed of their movements and to give them prior notice of their departure.

## TRANSFER OF D.P. CAMPS

In preparation for the closing down of the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) next March, the IRO has begun to hand over its refugee camps in Germany to the German Government for administration. Mr. J. Donald Kingsley, Director-General of the IRO, said that the German Administration of the D.P. camps would be under the supervision of the Occupation Authorities.

According to a further statement by Mr. Kingsley, this arrangement will not apply to the Jewish D.Ps. Placing the Jews under German control would be "much too explosive" he said.

## MAINTENANCE OF GRAVES IN GERMANY

The AJR has been informed that the Bank of England will consider individual applications to remit reasonable sums for the maintenance of relatives' graves in Germany. Such applications should be submitted through the medium of any United Kingdom banker accompanied by evidence of the amounts due.

## PHOTOTELEGRAMS TO GERMANY

The public phototelegraph service by wire has been extended to Hamburg and Frankfurt. Phototelegrams for other places in Germany will be posted from one of these towns.

## AIRPARCEL SERVICES

Airparcel services, so far restricted to European destinations, have now been extended to countries in Africa and North America, e.g. Canada, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, South Africa, U.S.A.

Kenneth Ambrose:

## JOHN CITIZEN AND HIS GOVERNMENT

Why do people write letters to the editor? Haven't they anything else to do? What good do they think it does? This was one of the questions about which some of us were puzzled when we first arrived in this country. There were many other

### FROM ALL CORNERS

#### CANADIAN IMPRESSIONS

There are not many Jews from Germany in Canada. Immigration was considerably restricted at the time when mass emigration from Europe started, and only few persecutees found their way into this country. Even they did not always come on their own accord, but partly consist of former internees from Great Britain who settled here for good.

Most Jews from Germany are living in Montreal or in Toronto, the two largest towns of the country. Their influence on Jewish life is negligible and cannot be compared with that in other countries of immigration such as South Africa.

Some years ago, a Club of Immigrants was established in Toronto, and recently a similar organisation, called "The New World Club" was founded in Montreal. It includes newcomers from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland; the members' common language is, at least for the time being, German. The "New World Club" does not aim at any segregation from the Community at large; on the contrary, it is anxious to co-operate with existing institutions and to assist members in adapting themselves to Canadian life.

The cosmopolitan atmosphere of Montreal makes that adaptation easier than in the more anglicised rest of the country. The big influx of American visitors, the immediate neighbourhood of the big North American centres and the close co-operation in trade and commerce links these two great countries closely—and one cannot help thinking how much happier the world would be if other countries could also live together in this neighbourly friendly way, the borders being "protected" by only a few immigration and customs officials.

L. Hermann (Montreal)

#### RUMANIA

Ten thousand Jews have been cleared by the Rumanian Government for emigration to Israel and are waiting to sail. It is understood that 60 per cent of the Jews of Bucharest have registered for emigration.

#### HUNGARY

Hungarian Jews, who emigrate to Israel, will be permitted to transfer their assets in accordance with the Trade Pact between Israel and Hungary.

The Hungarian Minister of Education, Mr. Jozef Revai, criticised those members of the Jewish Community who support "reactionary Zionism."

#### SHANGHAI

Since March 1, 1946, the Joint has aided in the evacuation of more than 14,600 Jews from Shanghai. About 300 of the refugees still there represent the "hard core" cases, whom the Government of Israel have agreed to accept.

#### SOUTH AFRICA

The tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Old Age Home for Jewish Immigrants from Central Europe, "Our Parents' Home," was recently celebrated in Johannesburg.

#### BRAZIL

The first Hagada with a translation in the Portuguese language was published recently. It was prepared by Rabbi Pinkuss and contains drawings by Otto Geismar, formerly Berlin.

#### MEXICO

A prominent Mexican Arab, Miguel Abed, who is known as an opponent of Zionism, was one of the Speakers at the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Hebrew University.

features which also appeared "funny" to us in those days. Fancy having hospitals dependent on private charity, for instance; and a vital institution like the B.B.C. not controlled by the government! And then there was that "farce" (as we thought) of Question Time in Parliament—as if anything was gained by the evasive or even facetious answers often obtained in reply.

By now most of us have been here long enough to understand a little about the origins and present nature of these and similar apparent anomalies. In the past century there was ample scope for individual initiative in fields which can now be better organised on a national basis. The action of individuals or of local communities, and not of the state, was at the bottom of many health, sanitary, transport and educational services. Many national institutions have retained strong local sources: The Conservative Party is still a voluntary association of local parties, just as the Trades Union Council is only an advisory body which cannot coerce its constituent unions. General elections are still fought on a strictly local basis, even though the results obtained grieve those who advocate the more impersonal method of proportional representation with national party lists.

To keep up the complicated organisation of a modern industrial state, government needs more power and control than was necessary for its earlier counterpart. It must be able to act in more fields and without being swayed this way and that by every small shift in public opinion. This creates the danger of the individual and the small locality being neglected over the larger issues at stake, and of local talent being wasted and unnecessary hardship caused in the supposed interest of "a consistent policy" or "just" of the community.

It is here that our "anomalies" come in. They represent the concession which the British people make to untidiness in their institutions in order to preserve some of the benefits of the *laissez-faire* structure which proved their worth under the different conditions of an earlier period. It is not practicable for every individual to be consulted about each major departure in policy; but it is not necessary either that he be ignored or treated as a child with no mind of his own. Therefore, let him write to the editor, or to his Member of Parliament, and his argument, if sound, will be considered by many. Your question in Parliament becomes an attempt to prevent a necessarily huge machine from crushing accidentally one of the individuals for whose benefit it was constructed. That is why, alongside trivial questions about the price of bananas and the shortage of nappies in Nottingham, we have others about the pension of an ex-serviceman, or the water supply of a village, or the internment or admission of aliens. Similarly, letters to the editor serve to air small grievances and injustices, or to plead causes which might otherwise go by default. Lastly, in any national scheme, whether it be of hospitals, schools, transport or political organisations, it usually pays to leave the greatest possible scope for local and individual initiative.

Individuals will need more organising than they have ever known if they are to live peacefully together without starvation for anyone. The problem will be to ensure that on the one hand people retain enough initiative within their groups to prevent them from becoming apathetic machines, without on the other hand enabling them to jeopardise the whole business of government whenever they feel so inclined. In other words, we want effective government without dictatorship. The British consciously or unconsciously help to maintain the balance by remaining sufficiently interested in local and public affairs to get a question asked in the House or to write a letter to the editor. Strange habits and not very effectual? Perhaps, but they will probably be recorded on the credit side of the ledger of history.

#### U.S.A.

A revised Displaced Persons Immigration Bill provides for the admission of 341,000 displaced persons up to June 30, 1951. The groups allowed to enter include 54,000 "Volksdeutsche" and 18,000 former members of General Anders' Polish Army.

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### Relief of the Poor

In these days of the advancing Welfare State, few can be wholly unaware of what is being done for those who, under the capitalist order, were cruelly called "poor." Few really can afford to be so ignorant. In fact, most of us now belong to that unblest category, and as Sir A. P. Herbert says,

"half of the world is not funny,  
and the rest is not worth being mentioned."

Jews have always been anxious to provide for their poor, and creditable evidence of constructive charity is contained in the Annual Report of the London Trustees for the Relief of the Jewish Poor, otherwise known as the Board of Guardians, whose Vice-President, Miss Hilda Schlesinger, last month received the M.B.E.

This venerable institution, now in its 91st year, is generally considered the supreme achievement of Anglo-Jewish social work, philanthropy and efficient administration. There is probably no problem of a London Jew which the Board is not able to deal with. Its clients are not only those who have "committed the crime of being very poor," as Mr. Basil Henriques says in a highly interesting introduction: "Relief at the Board has come to mean relief from physical pain or mental anxiety rather than the receipt of alms." "Schnorrers" have ceased to be conspicuous, and the few loans that are given (free of interest)—95 out of 213 applications in 1949—are strictly limited to business propositions which offer a reasonable hope of repayment.

### The Young and the Old

The Board's foremost concern is the peoples' health. The three Convalescence Homes for men, women and children, take up roughly one third of the total expenditure which in 1949 ran into £87,000. The second most important concern is housing of, and general assistance for, boys, girls and small children. The Board maintains one hostel for boys, one for working girls and one for orphan boys. A Boys' Industrial Department arranges apprenticeships to skilled trades, and during the past year some 300 boys—both inmates of the homes and others—were placed in many different jobs. It is no doubt in a large measure due to this type of work by the Board that in contrast to the increase in juvenile delinquency generally, there has been a continual decrease in the number of Jewish boys at Approved Schools. Employment has also been found for 350 women and girls, and much valuable work is done in housing and assisting unmarried mothers.

Next to the young the old. "The most marked feature of the Board's work during 1949 (the Report says) was the enormous expansion in the department dealing with the welfare of old people, whose problems seem to become more and more pressing both as regards their number and their urgency." The Board now houses, in its several homes, 197 old people; altogether 2,000 were helped last year.

### Refugees

A special category among the Board's clients are those refugees who were recently transferred from the Jewish Refugees Committee. The Report states that they are being found "not as difficult as last year owing to increasing knowledge and also because the applicants are beaming more English in their outlook."

Another gratifying development is the substantial decline of applications for advice and assistance from the General Welfare Committee which helps in unemployment and sickness and supplies such essentials as clothing and furniture. Much of that decline of course is due to the coming of the Welfare State, although private voluntary agencies can never be entirely superseded. As Mr. Henriques says, "Unless a person really fits into the category for which the State provides, he is denied the help he requires." There will always be ample scope for the Board of Guardians.

Plans for the settlement of at least 35,000 Jewish D.P.s., who will come to the U.S. during the fifteen-month period beginning July 1, 1950, under the newly-liberalised Displaced Persons Act were discussed at the National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare Workers in Atlantic City.

H. W. Freyhan:

## NEW LIGHT ON FELIX MENDELSSOHN

A recently published little book ("Introduction to the Music of Mendelssohn," by Percy M. Young, Dobson, 1949, 3/6) offers far more than its modest title would suggest: without aiming at any completeness, the author succeeds in presenting an entirely new approach, with thought-inspiring observations on every page. His strong—though critically balanced—enthusiasm for Mendelssohn's art is the more noteworthy as it does not spring from any "reactionary" or merely traditional attitude but is based on a rediscovery of certain values which had been somewhat neglected in the recent past yet have achieved new prominence in contemporary art and criticism.

Mendelssohn can easily be regarded as the greatest composer of Jewish origin and, at the same time, he represents the most outstanding case of a Jewish artist's complete assimilation into German culture. It is true that, in Germany, much of Mendelssohn's work had fallen "out of fashion" even before stupid racialism put a ban on all his music. To the unbiased view, however, Mendelssohn's place in German music was hardly open to doubt—not even to the anti-Semitic Treitschke. Mendelssohn was the representative of true German musical tradition. The ultimate proof lies in the fact that the Germans have absorbed several of his songs ("Wer hat dich, du schoener Wald," "O Taeler weit, o Hoehen," "Es ist bestimmt in Gottes Rat") as "national songs" (to use the English term). It is indefinitely more difficult—though, perhaps, not altogether impossible—to trace or define Mendelssohn's Jewish heritage in his music. Percy Young, in discussing "Elijah," speaks of "German religious mysticism, . . . touched with something of the pride in Jewish ancestry displayed by Moses Mendelssohn." But he continues: "'Elijah' is a Protestant work." Racialism does not enter into the picture. ("The Nazis obligingly removed Mendels-

sohn's statue from before the Gewandhaus in Leipzig: he who was responsible for the perpetuation of the greatest German traditions.") Perhaps there is a little more than just "pride in Jewish ancestry" in "Elijah," for instance, in the first chorus where "a people is impassioned in prayer" and where "Mendelssohn touches the Universal." But, on the whole, Mendelssohn's Jewish origin was outweighed by his German-Protestant upbringing and surroundings, with obvious results.

### Associations with England

The second interesting aspect lies in Mendelssohn's associations with this country and his influence on English music. Even to-day, "Elijah" in England—for which it was written—ranks second only to "Messiah" as the most popular of oratorios, and the decline in the appreciation of Mendelssohn's music has been less outspoken here than in Germany. Would it be wrong to suggest that the very same features which account for Mendelssohn's temporary eclipse in Germany—the unchaotic, well-balanced character of his art, his smoothness of form—have never ceased to appeal to this Western European people? It seems significant that an English writer like Percy Young becomes never tired of praising Mendelssohn's perfect craftsmanship, taste and balance of emotion and form, acknowledging even the "courtesy" of his music to his performers (an argument unlikely to be found in a German book!).

One need not agree on every point (incidentally, Moses Mendelssohn is, not quite correctly, referred to as "a disciple of Lessing" and "an early Romantic philosopher and writer"), but there is no doubt that Percy Young has been able to show Mendelssohn's art in a new light and even to establish its influence on later composers. The

essence of the book might be summed up by quoting from the foreword:

"Mendelssohn was regarded by contemporaries of distinction as a great musician. His reputation has been nibbled away by lesser men. I believe that knowledge will reveal the qualities which gained esteem during the last century. Moreover they are valuable qualities to-day. Mendelssohn, in more ways than one, upholds the humane tradition in European civilisation."

### A GERMAN JEW LOOKS BACK

Avner Nechushtan, or Alfred Kupferberg, as he was formerly known, a member of the editorial staff of the Tel Aviv daily, *Yedi'ot Chadashot*, and until 1935 editor of the *Hamburger Israelitisches Familienblatt*, has published a trilogy, *Ben Hametzarim*, dealing with the history of a well-to-do assimilated Jewish family in Berlin between the years 1918 and 1934. (Blumenthal, Tel Aviv.) The novel, which is of the "family saga" type, is a typical *Zeitroman* about German Jewry; but its implications remain valid to-day.

Wilhelm Goldthal is the owner of a leading German publishing house; a decent, upright man, retaining something of the rusticity of his native Silesia, he is an out-and-out German. In 1934, he is thrown by the Nazis into Oranienburg concentration camp, a dying man.

Wilhelm has two children, Ruth and Ernst who, though devoted to each other and very alike in many respects, meet a different fate. Ruth, following with unerring instinct what she feels to be her destiny, and giving herself wholly to the person and the cause which she has come to see as her own, marries a young Zionist leader from Eastern Europe, and follows him to Palestine. As a farewell present she gives her brother Thomas Mann's *Der Zauberberg*, whose hero, Hans Kastrup, tender, self-centred, and undecided, has much in common with Ernst himself.

Ernst, always hesitating and vacillating, and preferring an easy life to hardship, cannot bring himself to see things as they are. His end, too, a few days after the death of his father, is death at the hands of the Nazis.

This long—and sometimes long-winded—novel includes among its numerous characters several historical personalities, such as Leo Motzkin, one of the founders of Zionism in Germany. Kupferberg-Nechushtan takes us to Berlin during the revolution of 1918, to the charming university town of Freiburg in the south, to Leipzig, back to Berlin in 1933-34, and also to Tel Aviv in 1934 (the author actually visited Palestine in that year). The book fails to give a comprehensive view of the story of German Jewry in the period between 1918 and 1934. The Goldthal-Ernstheim family, well-to-do, and with relatively few Jewish interests (and superficial ones at that) is representative only of a section of German Jewry. The real novel on the decline of German Jewry has still to be written. Yet on closing this novel one recalls the words which the veteran Zionist leader Nathan Birnbaum wrote as early as 1914: "*Kaddish* for German Jewry."

HENRIETTE BOAS.

### BEN URI GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

When photography was in its infant stages, painters were afraid that it might take the place of their creations, and in more recent times it has been frequently stated that painting should not compete with photography, but concentrate on abstract and emotionally suggestive themes. It is from this point of view that Archibald Ziegler's exhibition in the Ben Uri Art Gallery is particularly welcome; it brings out the essential qualities of the Israel landscape, the cubic character of its buildings, and the contrasts of the mat colours of the olive trees with the varied contours of the barren hills and straight roofed dwellings. These paintings express vision, integrity and detachment.

In the same Gallery, the work of Rudolf Fraenkel, whose peregrinations have taken him from Germany via Rumania to this country, is also exhibited. The specific significance of his work may be seen in the imaginative combination of the curve with the straight line and rigid outline. One can only wish that this gifted architect will not be lost to this country by leaving us for the United States.

HELEN ROSENAU, Ph.D.

## LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Sunday 11 a.m.—12 noon by appointment.

### CHANGE OF NAME

This paper has published a few comments on the merits of changing one's name and some readers may wonder how to set about it. Can I do it? will be their first question. The reply will be, as so often, another question: Are you a citizen of the United Kingdom? If the answer is in the affirmative you can start the necessary formalities.

One way is to go to the National Registration Office, fill in the relevant form which is short, simple and free of charge, hand this over with your Identity Card—and in approximately ten days you will receive a new card in your new name, which finishes this process of change of name. If you wish to retain a document as proof of your change of name, you may sign a Deed of Change of Name (obtainable at most law stationers), which has to be stamped with an Inland Revenue stamp for 10/-.

If you take this line you have the disadvantage that you have not disposed of your old name completely; it still looms in the background. Your passport will contain on page 5 the remark "Holder changed his name from — to —," although it will be made out in your new name. You may still in legal documents, Court actions, etc., be described as "formerly known as —" although your bank account, insurance policies, etc., can be changed to the new name.

If you wish the old name to disappear once and for all you must choose the more expensive way of Change of Name by Deed Poll enrolled in the Central Office of the Supreme Court. This procedure contains quite a few legal intricacies; the Court is very strict in seeing that all its regulations are followed to the letter before accepting the Deed for enrolment, and the inexperienced is bound to have the Deed returned to him for corrections and alterations. It is therefore advisable to seek legal advice for this kind of change. The application can include the applicant's wife and children and future issue. It has to be signed in the old and in the new name and to be sealed in the presence of two witnesses. This completed Deed has to be

annexed to a Statutory Declaration (Erklaerung an Eidesstatt) by a British householder (not necessarily British born) who has known the applicant for 15 years and is not a near relative. The birth certificate, if British by birth, or naturalisation certificate of the applicant, has to be attached to this Declaration.

These documents have to be handed in to the Central Office of the Supreme Court. Thereafter, the applicant has to advertise his change of name in the *London Gazette*. At present it takes about four to six weeks until the Central Office returns the stamped and enrolled Deed, provided that the advertisement has been approved.

A married woman who is not included in her husband's application must produce his consent if she applies on her own. Only in exceptional circumstances will the Court dispense with the husband's consent. These circumstances would have to be set out in detail in an application attached to the Deed. A decision will be made in every case on its merits.

Change of name of a minor without the father's consent can only be granted if the mother or person who has custody or care and control of the child can prove that the change of name is solely in the interest of the child.

After enrolment the old name disappears completely and the new name starts its reign. The applicant has still to change his Identity Card, name on Ration Book, Banking Account, Passport, etc., by presenting the enrolled Deed.

Costs involved are not negligible. They consist of Inland Revenue stamp, Court fees, advertising costs and charges of solicitor, whose services are in most cases indispensable.

By a printing error, last month's review of the "Manual of German Law" referred to a *German* introduction of the book; it should read *General* introduction.

## Werner Rosenstock: THE OLDEST JEWISH PERIODICAL

In 1941, the *Jewish Chronicle* celebrated its hundredth birthday. Now, delayed by war and post-war difficulties, the publishers present a fine book, which reviews the history of the Centenarian ("The Jewish Chronicle, 1841-1941," 15s.). Periodicals seldom excel in longevity, and Jewish periodicals, exposed to the ups and downs of the Community which they are to serve, are even more often bound to suffer an early death. To have survived the vicissitudes of a whole century is therefore no mean achievement for the "Organ of British Jewry."

The history of the *Jewish Chronicle* reflects, at the same time, the history of the Anglo-Jewish Community. During the first period, questions of civic emancipation stood in the foreground. There were also vigorous internal discussions, arising from the establishment of the Reform Synagogue. The "Wissenschaft des Judentums" was at its peak, and Germany was a cultural centre of Jewish thinking. It is therefore no coincidence that many contributions then published in the *Jewish Chronicle* were English translations of articles from Ludwig Philippson's "Allgemeine Zeitung des Judentums" and from other German Jewish sources.

The comparatively carefree attitude in which British Jews could indulge, came to an end when

### LETTER FROM ISRAEL

Tel Aviv, June, 1950

One Israel citizen in three thinks Government employees are doing their job well, one is sure they do it badly, while the third has no definite attitude, having had no contact with the Government machine. Such are the findings of a poll carried out among 2,369 citizens by the Public Opinion Institute between November, 1949, and January, 1950.

Immigrants have more complaints against Government employees than have old-timers. Political affiliation has also much bearing in the case, and opposition followers are more likely to criticize Government employees than adherents of Coalition parties.

The post office is the most liked Government department, according to the poll, as 64 per cent definitely said they liked the way postal officials handle the public, while 35 per cent are critical of the treatment, and 1 per cent did not answer. Other activities of the Ministry of Communications have the approval of 57 per cent, and the officials of the Ministry of Supply and Rationing managed to alienate only 43 per cent of the public, while 52 per cent said they were good.

The Ministry of Finance has less than 50 per cent admirers, while the Ministry of Defence officials, particularly those of the Rehabilitation Department, are not liked by 62 per cent of the public. The Ministry of the Interior, particularly the Registration Department, are definitely looked down upon by 50 per cent of the public, and only 26 per cent find the officials fitted for their task. Twenty-four per cent did not answer.

Only 8 per cent of the population has to deal often with Government offices and 23 per cent has occasional contact with the Government, while 65 per cent has little or no contact.

Immigrants from Germany, Austria and the Yemen are most critical of the Government officials, while the least opposition is recorded from immigrants from Poland. Most appreciation comes from other employees, while members of kibbutzim are the most critical element of the public. People who have been less than three years in the country are the least content.

Dr. Hermann Maas, a German Pastor of Heidelberg, who displayed considerable courage under the Nazis by assisting Jews, recently arrived for a visit in Israel. Dr. Maas had been in a concentration camp and was sentenced to death by the Nazis. He was saved by the Allied Armies two days before his execution was due. The Israel Authorities have received many letters in which citizens of the country pointed out that they would feel honoured to be allowed to extend hospitality to the Pastor.

the first reports on the pogroms in Russia were published in 1881. From then onwards, it became one of the outstanding features of the *Jewish Chronicle* to take up the cause of Jews who were persecuted abroad. In order to inform the Jewish and non-Jewish public about the terrible happenings in Eastern Europe, for some time a special supplement, "In Darkest Russia," was issued. In those days, the chronicler very aptly says, two courses were open to the Anglo-Jewish Community: "One was to consider its own interest exclusively and, while lavishing charitable attention on the unhappy fugitives, to see that as few as possible of them remained in the country. The other was, to accept openly and steadfastly—come what might—the full responsibility of the traditional brotherhood of Israel. . . . The one was a path of caution, and the other that of self-respect, and it is to the credit of Anglo-Jewry, that without counting the cost, it unhesitatingly adopted the latter."

### Champion for Perse utes

Whilst there was thus complete unanimity in the question of the pogrom victims, there were different opinions on other problems of Jewish politics. In 1895 Theodor Herzl paid a visit to England: he was greatly disappointed because Asher Myers, then editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*, did not show much sympathy with his ideas. Nevertheless Myers agreed to publish an article by Herzl, which appeared as a supplement to the issue of January 17th, 1896, under the title, "A Solution of the Jewish Question." This was practically the first publication of "Der Judenstaat," whose original German version appeared in Germany four weeks later. The same unbiased attitude in questions of Zionism found its expression on a later occasion, though, at that time, in a different setting. When in 1917 the Balfour Declaration was issued, the *Jewish Chronicle* was under the editorship of the staunch Zionist Leopold Greenberg. A number of prominent Jews were opposed to the ideas underlying the Balfour Declaration, but were, in view of the war restrictions, not able to launch a periodical of their own. Leopold Greenberg gave them hospitality and opened in his paper an anti-Zionist column under the title "Leaves from a Jewish notebook." The author, who remained anonymous, was Laurie Magnus.

When the Nazis came to power and a part of the general English press was still inclined to take a complacent attitude, the *Jewish Chronicle* week after week recorded "fresh chapters in the history of Jewish Martyrdom." It is an honour for the editors that the circulation of the paper in Germany was forbidden by the Nazis as early as November, 1933.

From the very outset of this Jewish weekly, Jews from the Continent played a leading part in its management. The founder, Isaac Vallentine, though born in Belgium, was of German-Jewish ancestry, and his father, Nathan Isaac Vallentine, a reader at the Hambro Synagogue in London, was known as Nathan Breslau. The man, however, without whose labours the development of the *Jewish Chronicle* is unthinkable, was a Jew from Bohemia, Abraham Benisch. He was the editor and proprietor from 1855 to 1869 and from 1875 until he died in 1878. He had come to this country in 1841 on behalf of a pre-Zionist Students' organisation in Vienna in order to interest British Jews in the resettlement of Jews in Palestine. As in those days Jewish scholars were rare in England, he settled down here for good. In the view of the chronicler, Benisch's style was "verbose and his outlooks somewhat continental," but "he had an admirable mastery of the English language."

Benisch's predecessor, Marcus Heymann Bresslau, who was editor from 1849 to 1855, came from Hamburg and Leopold Kessler, owner from 1907 until 1944, was born in Tarnowitz (Upper Silesia).

### NEO-NAZISM IN AUSTRIA

According to the "Neue Front," the Salzburg organ of the Federation of Independents, a certain Dr. Slavik is trying to reunite former Nazis in a new Leader Corps.

In Lower Austria, a certain Josef Kubitzka is appealing for a National Democratic League, whose newspaper bears the significant name "Oesterreichischer Beobachter" ("Austrian Observer").

## Old Acquaintances

Charell's "Firework": Germany's greatest showman whose name was for years connected with Berlin's "Grosses Schauspielhaus" returned to Munich to give his latest discovery a try-out. Eric Charell who gave us in the old days the immortal "Weisses Roessl" produced "Firework" with music by the gifted Swiss composer Paul Burkhardt. Producers from London, Paris, and Broadway were there to attend the First Night. It was an excellent idea to bring an "Operetta without Singers," thus making us understand the clever lyrics which Robert Gilbert, Jean Gilbert's son, wrote for the beautiful show. "Firework" tells the story of a bourgeois birthday celebration disturbed by a lost brother, a circus director. In the second act, Charell puts a whole circus performance as background on the stage, and Gustav Knuth, a young Hans Albers with a sense of humour, is the man who stands in the middle of the happenings. The producer hasn't lost his touch for colour; it was like drinking champagne, and not a minute too long. In Rita Wottawa Charell discovered a new Massary; but why should I make your mouth water—you will see "Firework" soon wherever you are.

Meetings in Munich:—"Do you like to return to London?" Alfred Polgar asked me on the last day in Munich when we had lunch together in the office of Hans Habe (who edits "Muenchner Illustrierte Zeitung"). I said "Yes," and added "Life is so unnatural in Germany. I never lose the feeling of a nightmare. Sometimes I think everything will be not true any more the next morning. . . ." Polgar replied: ". . . and I wish it wouldn't be. . ." He has his headquarters in Zurich, and is travelling around to get impressions for his wonderful "Feuilletons." Munich is certainly the most international city in Europe nowadays. Here I met Walter Reisch, author of "Unfinished Symphony" and "Maskerade," from Hollywood; Arnold Pressburger, the producer of many good pictures, and Eric Godal, the wonderful cartoonist from New York who used to work in Berlin once. Guenther Stapenhorst of Zurich was just preparing his new Erich Kaestner picture "Das doppelte Lottchen," and Hans Rameau, who scripted "Mazurka," now writes the new Jenny Jugo picture. Andre Mattoni from Rome, Peter Lorre from Hollywood, and a lot of familiar faces from all over the world meet here, not to speak of the "permanent": Egon Jameson who is again Germany's best reporter, working for U.S. sponsored "Neue Zeitung" edited by Hans Wallenberg; G. F. Salmony who helps to make the newsreels; E. G. Tchow who is dubbing pictures for the Americans, and many more.

Neumann does it again:—G. Neumann who scripted "Berliner Ballade" which you probably saw in London's "Rialto," showed me his new picture "Herrliche Zeiten." Hundreds of camera men worked on it without knowing it; it is a cross-section of the first half of this century taken from old newsreels, and cleverly cut by young Erik Ode. It is not only a reminder to the Germans of the faults of the past: it is a terrible comedy of all our mistakes. "Stars" are, among others, Kaiser Wilhelm, Count Zeppelin, Caruso, Hindenburg, Stinnes, and some shots refer to the inflation, and all the little things we have already forgotten. "Kennen Sie den?" is a song in the picture, and you see all our film stars when they were still in their youth. "Herrliche Zeiten" is not only an entertaining film, but a course in history.

Home News:—Marcella Salzer played Schnitzler, Dorothy Parker, and "Sorry wrong number" in London's little "Watergate" with success.—Wanda Rotha went with the "Old Vic" company to Switzerland and Elsinore to play the "Queen" in "Hamlet."—Martin Miller will go to the States to play in "Daphne Laureola" on Broadway in autumn.—Mischa Spolianski writing the music for Marcel Hellman's musical "Happy go lovely" with David Niven and Ceasar Romero.—Sport journalist Willy Meisl went to South America by plane to report about some important football matches.—Frederic Valk played "The Bells" at the "Bedford."—Eric Gottgetreu who works for Associated Press in Israel, on a visit in England.—Robert Stolz left London after preparing the autumn production of his new operetta "Spring in the Prater" at "Stolls".

P.E.M.

## FROM MY DIARY

The visit of the Hebrew Theatre, OHEL, to the London West End was an event much looked forward to. It was hoped that a two weeks' season of plays by one of the leading Israel stage groups would help to arouse the interest of the general public in the young theatrical ventures of Tel Aviv. When I went to the Scala Theatre to see Sammy Gronemann's witty biblical comedy, "King Solomon and the Cobbler," the hall was only half full and I knew almost all of the people present. It was like a meeting of the Zionist Federation and I would not have been surprised if someone would have got up and made an appeal for the J.P.A. As far as one could guess from these first performances, the non-Jewish public was absent and even the Jewish audiences were confined to the never disappointing old-timers.

Of course, the barriers of language might have held back many who otherwise would have liked to see an Israel theatre group, but this fear was not justified as the action of each scene was explained in English over a loud-speaker before the curtain rose. *The Times* said that "the absence of intelligible words seems to magnify the effect on the eye, and the mere sound of resonant voices using an unfamiliar rhythm and a whole range of exotic intonations is as pleasant as it is curious. . . . Beyond the outline extend all sorts of additional effects, some obscure, some brilliant, but all emphatically different from those in the theatre of everyday. . . . All is solemn and majestic and plain."

\*

Mr. S. B. Sassoon, the Chairman of the Babylon Immigrant Society in Israel, who has come to London on behalf of the Joint Palestine Appeal, pleaded the other day before the Presidium of the Zionist General Council that the Iraqi immigrants should be given the status of war sufferers. He said that they were casualties of the establishment of the State and were entitled to compensation for their war losses.

Mr. Sassoon, born in Baghdad, speaks English fluently as he was educated at Oxford and was called to the English Bar in 1929. He estimates the possessions of the 30,000 Jewish families in Iraq at over £150,000,000. For the Jewish community in Iraq is not only the oldest in the world—2,600 years old—but also one of the richest. There is a danger that this fortune may be dissipated. The immigrants are, of course, not permitted to take their property with them. Some have simply left it behind and others have liquidated it at ridiculously low terms.

Mr. Sassoon thinks that the rehabilitation of these people without capital will be difficult because of their social structure. The majority are shopkeepers, small tradesmen, merchants and white-collar workers. But there are also 1,000 professional men among them, including doctors, lawyers and engineers.

\*

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Of all the facts in life which are the object of wit and irony in Israel, the "zena" system, meaning austerity, is the most popular target. Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of Supply and Rationing, has of course to bear the brunt of this jocularly. There are innumerable stories about him.

One of the most blatant is that of a woman who was queuing in front of a grocery store for hours and suddenly called out "I'm going to shoot Dov Joseph." Off she went, but ten minutes later she returned and took her place in the queue again, silently.

"What's the matter," she was asked. "Did you shoot him?" "No," she replied, "The queue there was even longer."

Then there is the tale of a mysterious phone call received in Dov Joseph's office. A voice requested to speak to the Minister. Joseph picked up the receiver.

"I just wanted to tell you, sir," said a faint voice, "that I am perfectly satisfied with present food restrictions. In fact, rationing doesn't affect me at all."

"Would you mind speaking a little louder," suggested the Minister. "I can't hear a word you're saying."

"I'm sorry I can't speak any louder," said the voice. "You see, I'm a goldfish!"

\*

Speaking of humour, Manfred George, Editor of the "Aufbau," who had recently visited Israel, emphasises how the commensal of Hebrew by the children stands so often in contrast to that of their parents and other elders.

Dr. George tells the story of a little boy and girl who talk about marriage. The boy says that he knows exactly what it is all about. First one goes to a rabbi, then there is a feast, and in the evening one retires to a room. "And then?", urges the girl.

"Then," the boy replies, "one locks the door and one starts talking in German."

Dr. George published his impressions on Israel in a little booklet "Miracle of Israel" (Aufbau-Verlag, New York), which gives a vivid and personal account of life and problems in the young state.

Another book dealing with Israel was published by Dr. Hardi Swarsensky in Buenos Aires, "Eroberung Durch Aufbau," which tells the important part which the Keren Kayemeth has played in the upbuilding of Israel and its land.

NARRATOR

## PERSONALIA

**Kammergerichtsrat i.R. Leo Wolff** will be 80 years old on July 29. He was the President of the Union of Prussian Jewish Communities and, for more than a decade, served on the Board of the Berlin Jewish Community, at times as its Chairman. He was the Acting Chairman on the fateful April 1, 1933, and did the best possible under the circumstances to alleviate the blows falling on German Jewry. As a man of upright character and un-

flinching honesty, he gave dignity to the offices entrusted upon him. He completes his 80th year in full strength of body and spirit. All those who have the privilege of knowing him from his Jewish activities wish him many years of health and happiness.

The latest "Birthday Honours" List includes **Dr. Ludwig Guttman** (formerly Breslau), on whom the honour of the O.B.E. has been conferred. Dr. Guttman has rendered outstanding services as the neurological surgeon-in-charge of the Special Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville. He discovered a special paralysis treatment, which enabled many wounded soldiers to return to normal life.

Dr. Guttman has always taken an active interest in Jewish affairs. The AJR, whose member he has been for many years, wishes to convey to him its sincerest congratulations.

**Dr. Walter Breslauer, LL.B.**, will celebrate his 60th birthday on July 3. He was the Director of the Jewish Community, Berlin, and has been one of the founders and first Executive members of the AJR. Many achievements of the AJR are due to his initiative and to his loyal and untiring co-operation.

As a Board member of the AJR, as a member of the Co-ordinating Committee of URO, and as a regular contributor to "AJR Information" he keeps permanent contacts with the day-by-day work at Fairfax Mansions. His friends here and abroad wish him many happy returns of the day.

**Rabbi Dr. Caesar Seligmann** (formerly Frankfurt a.M.) died in London in his 90th year. He was one of the outstanding Jewish religious leaders in Germany and well known as a scholar and eloquent preacher. He wrote a "History of the Jewish Reform Movement" and edited the widely used "Einheits-Gebetbuch." In this country, he took a most active part in the work of the Society for Jewish Study.

At a Memorial Service at the West London Synagogue addresses were delivered by Rabbi Dr. L. Baeck, Rabbi H. F. Reinhart, Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger and Mr. Heinrich Stern.

**Dr. Leon Schalit** died in London at the age of 66. He translated John Galsworthy's novels and plays into German and was also a writer in his own right. Before he emigrated he was the Hon. Secretary of the Austrian PEN Club. In this country, he gave many lectures, especially in Refugee Clubs, until he was compelled by ill-health to live in retirement. The AJR, in whose endeavours he took an active interest, will always gratefully remember the great knowledge and charm of this modest and learned man.

**Dr. Julius Guttman**, Professor of Jewish Philosophy at the Hebrew University, died in Jerusalem at the age of 70. Dr. Guttman, who was born in Hildesheim, Germany, became a lecturer in Breslau in 1910, and in 1919 was appointed lecturer at the Academy for the Science of Judaism and Director of the Research Institute in Berlin. He had published a number of studies on religious philosophy of Kant, Spinoza and Yehuda Halevy.

YOUNG MAN, orthodox, wants short-hand-typing job. Knowledge of French. Box 894.

WOMAN HAIRDRESSER, 20 years' experience, wants suitable situation. Box 895.

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT, efficient worker, seeks congenial work. Box 896.

HALF-JEWISH GIRL IN GERMANY would like to take job as domestic help in this country. Please write to Miss Helga Stern, Platzhofstr. 12, W.-Elberfeld.

LADY, 35, speaking several languages, with knowledge of hotel business, driving licence, is looking for a post as receptionist in hotel or with doctor or as housekeeper. Box 900.

GERMAN LAWYER, fully qualified and experienced, for temporary legal work in Germany sought. Box 889.

### Accommodation

ACCOMMODATION of any kind wanted. AJR Social Service Dept.

HOMELY ATMOSPHERE required by aged lady in comfortable Continental house with full board in North-West London. Box 891.

### Miscellaneous

CORSETRY. Made to measure, repairs. Herta Herlitz, 264 West End Lane, N.W.6. HAMpstead 5757.

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MARRIAGE PARTNER. Gentleman 32, excell. appear., Brit., Germ. orig., desires to meet ref. educ. attract. lady up to 38. Prefers own home, indep. means. Repl. treated strictly confid. Box 893.

### MISSING PERSONS

#### Inquiries from AJR

Ambrunn, Hartl and Leonhard (or Bernhard), formerly Aschaffenburg.

Meyer, Dr. Julius (Chemist), formerly Mayer-Friedenau, Taunusstr. corner Stubenrauchstr.

Guggenheim, Wilhelm and wife, née Abeles, formerly Hamburg, Rotenbaumchausee 128.

Carp, Mr. M., from Berlin.

Gollup, Mrs. Stehfi, from Berlin.

Biermann, Mrs. Jettie, formerly 23 Oxford St., W.1.

Lamm, Mrs. Hilda, formerly 1 Kingscroft Road, N.W.7.

Levy, Hildegard, born June 5, 1899, in Berlin, last Berlin address Friedbergstr. 11.

### Inquiry from HIAS

1 Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, W.1

Meyer, Alice, born 1926 in Vienna, daughter of Julius and Ethel, née Mandler, chemistry student, last known address: 93 Lodge Avenue, Dagenham, Essex, sought by aunt, Ida Rezac of New York.

## FROM THE JEWS IN GERMANY

Berlin. The result of the election to the "Repraesentantenversammlung" of the Community is as follows: Liberal Jewish List: 1,885 (12 seats); National Jewish List: 1,416 (9 seats); Group for Reconstruction: 401 (2 seats); Independent Liberal List: 541 (3 seats). Altogether 4,275 members of the Community went to the polls.

Rabbi Steven S. Schwarzschild returned to U.S.A. after having served for 1½ years as a Rabbi in Berlin. He will be succeeded by Rabbi Nathan Lewinsohn, a graduate of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, who had lived in Berlin before he emigrated.

Mrs. L. Schwarzschild and Mr. Solomons terminated their activities as members of the Jewish Relief Unit, Berlin.

Karl Kutschera, the owner of "Café Wien" and "Zigeunerkerler," died in Berlin at the age of 75. After his return from Theresienstadt in 1945, he again took charge of his establishments. He was Hon. Chairman of the Berlin Union of Caterers.

Mainz. The Jewish Cemetery has been restored at the expense of the Municipal Authorities. Of the 3,500 Jews who lived in Mainz before 1933, only 16 are still there. Altogether the community has now 53 members.

Karlsruhe. The Municipal Children's Hospital was re-named "Franz Lust Kinderklinik," to honour the memory of its founder, the well-known Jewish Doctor, Professor Lust, who committed suicide after his release from the Dachau Concentration Camp in 1938.

Darmstadt. The Synagogue of the Jewish Community Centre was consecrated in the presence of Government and Church representatives.

## TRIAL

The author, Dr. Erwin Guido Kolbenheyer was classified as "Minor Guilty" (Minderbelasteter). He has to pay a fine of 1000 DM. In 1948, Kolbenheyer had been classified as "Activist" and sentenced to 180 days' labour. The Court, by which he was re-tried, took the view that poets and philosophers had to be judged under special aspects. Kolbenheyer had joined the Nazi Party in 1940.

## AJR London

Thursday, July 27, 7.45 p.m., 1 Broadhurst Gardens, N.W.3. DR. BRUNO WEIL: "Nord-und Sued-amerika und seine Einwanderung seit 1933" (see special announcement).

## J. A. C.

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Norman Bentwich:

I UNDERSTAND  
THE RISKS

The Story of the Refugees who fought in the British Forces. (Reviewed on front page of this issue).

Copies at the reduced price of 6/6 incl. postage (official price 10/6) obtainable from AJR Headquarters, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3.

## A.J.R. ANNOUNCEMENTS

## AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY REPORTS

We want to thank all employers who informed us of vacancies. Through their help, we were able to place more people in June than in the previous months.

**Men.**—We still have on our lists clerks, stock-and storekeepers, packers, book-keepers and elderly men, who want to do unskilled work in their homes.

**Women.**—We have on our lists typists, translators, machinists, finishers, cooks, companions, sitters-in and outdoor workers, who want part- or full-time work.

## Special Cases

Electrician, who fractured his leg and ankle by an industrial accident and was 14 months in plaster, is looking for home work, manual or typing. Own typewriter.

Man of 38, family father, strong and healthy, wants job as storekeeper (leather goods or shoes preferred) or despatch-clerk, salesman. Some knowledge of book-keeping.

Former book-keeper wants part-time book-keeping work, or home work. (Experience in hair curlers.)

Very reliable man, 49, wants work as assistant to stamp dealer. Experienced.

## LEGAL ADVICE HOURS

In view of the varying attendance of the Legal Advice Hours (held on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon for persons with limited means), it has been arranged that in future Advisers only will be present, if it is certain that their services, which they render in an honorary capacity, will be required. Inquirers who wish to obtain Legal Advice should therefore notify the AJR during the preceding week, not later than Friday noon. The AJR Legal Advice Hours only deal with general legal questions. Inquirers in matters of restitution and compensation should contact the United Restitution Office, also at 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 (Maida Vale 9096).

## "THE HYPHEN"

Sunday, July 16, 7.30 p.m., at 33 Seymour Place, W.1. Dr. Wilhelm Unger: "Astrology."

For particulars of rambles and other Hyphen functions, apply with s.a.e. to Miss Ilse Leven, 78 Compayne Gardens, N.W.6.

## Letter to the Editor

## A Jewish Gestapo Spy

Sir,

I am surprised to read the article "A Jewish Gestapo Spy" in your May 1950 issue—without even editorial comment.

Mr. Waldman knew that this Herr Beneber had it in his power to send thousands (possibly) of innocent Jews to be tortured and/or killed. It appears he did try to warn individuals against this man; but, knowing what he did, the steps Mr. Waldman took appear to have been quite inadequate. To take effective action needed courage; but courage was called for. Had others of the Jewish Community in Switzerland known the facts, this despicable person could have been rendered harmless.

To boast of his acquaintance with Beneber is bad taste (if not worse); it cannot conceal lack of courage. It seems that the least Mr. Waldman can now do is to say nothing more on the subject.

Yours, etc., B. Bendin.

144 Cholmley Gardens, N.W.6.

The writer overlooks that the Jews in Germany were hostages in the hands of the Gestapo; every act of violence against a Gestapo official abroad would, as in the cases of Gustloff and Von Rath, have led to "Strafaktionen."—THE ED.

"WORLD BROTHERHOOD" AGAINST  
HATRED

At the initiative of the National Conference of Christians and Jews a new organisation to be known as the "World Brotherhood" was established in Paris. The Conference was attended by over 150 leaders of religious, cultural and economic life. Speakers included Dr. Jaime Torres-Bodet, Secretary-General of UNESCO, Mr. Paul Reynaud, M. Paul Henri Spaak and a number of important European and American industrialists.

Amongst speakers from Germany were Dr. Alfred Mayer, a Jewish lawyer of Wiesbaden, and Dr. Ferdinand Friedensburg, Deputy Mayor of Berlin.

Dr. Mayer pointed out that anti-Semitism was not dead in Germany; Dr. Friedensburg said that important work could be done through indirect action, such as elimination of antisemitic passages from films, broadcasts and the press. The President of the West German Republic, Dr. Heuss, recalled in his message the disastrous consequences of racial hatred and pledged his Government to stamp out anti-Semitism.



**THE TIMES**  
DAY FEBRUARY

The British Treasury has raised to a maximum of £2,250,000 the amount which charitable societies may remit in the current year to Israel under quota arrangements. Transfers last year were restricted to a total of £1,500,000.

The British Treasury has given the opportunity to increase by almost 50 per cent. the amount which the J.P.A. may remit to Israel.

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