

ISSUED BY THE
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Karl Bittman (Sydney) : TWELVE YEARS IN AUSTRALIA

The mood of the new arrivals a dozen years ago was a mixture of relief and expectation, of gratitude and claim to better living, of deliverance and remonstrance.

Having secured an abode close to the heart of the throbbing metropolis, we ventured out into the unknown. Some found jobs, some lost them, yet slowly but surely they integrated themselves into the economy. Needless to say, the people of long experience, with business acumen, skill and a good deal of enterprise soon strode out on their own. In ramshackle old city buildings, newcomers proceeded to start some sort of manufacturing and had the satisfaction to be declared a factory by the Department of Labour and Industry. This urge to create things, to forge unwieldy materials into sellable items, took hold of the mentality of the refugees. To make things, to show the country their worth, to prove that they had something to contribute, seemed like a redemption to the accusations levelled against them in their old land by a pernicious propaganda.

European doctors of long standing found themselves suddenly in a position of quacks. They were held to be unfit to judge the local species of bacterias, viruses and rheumatic ailments and asked to sit again at the University for a period up to five years. For dentists, the drill was similar, they had to learn the extraction of teeth all over again, and especially learn the technique of pulling them all out at one sitting.

But hardest hit were the lawyers. Firstly they found that their hard won title of Dr. had no meaning here and nobody addressed them this way. It was only among their fellow sufferers that they regained this distinction. There were very few who took the law into their own hands, as it were, and entered firms like Peabody, Peabody and Peabody, as an articulated clerk at £2 a week or something of the sort. Most of the legal men had to change to other callings and some have not looked back since.

At that time, undoubtedly the reception from the bulk of the Australian population was friendly. However, the barrier of language soon intervened, and the enthusiasm of listening to wrong English and bad accents soon waned. Especially the phrase "in Vienna you know—or in Berlin we do . . ." became obnoxious. But although the general popularity gave way to a more sober assessment after the party was over, on the whole people were friendly and helped the newcomers in more than one way.

The tremendous demands of war led to

the expansion of industries large and small and many were absorbed willy-nilly in the task of turning out the goods. Following our recognition as friendly aliens and the possibility to become naturalised, the mood of the new citizens somewhat changed. They felt more secure now. It was then that the terrible carnage in the concentration camps became known. This led to an upsurge of Jewish feelings and people redoubled their efforts for the Zionist cause. At the same time, many were inwardly grateful to Australia for having escaped this most terrible of ends and this added to the general feeling of being glad to be here.

Our position to-day appears to be pretty good in many ways. We have nearly full rights as citizens, we do not encounter an undue amount of hostility, we are largely accepted, and generally speaking, we prosper. It is because the economic situation continues to be favourable that our position is what it is. Because there are such tremendous opportunities, people find satisfaction in going after them. There is not the frustration of lack of opportunity which in the old countries fomented discontent and made us an easy prey for Jewbaiting. There is not that cut-throat competition in all fields of human endeavours that leaves many stranded along the rough road of life and makes them look for the cause in the wrong direction. There is not that abject poverty that is a breeding ground for radicalism of every sort. There is a gentler spirit abroad.

If I say the new citizens have taken to the Australian way of life, I do not mean that they have been totally absorbed by all its features. In fact, I believe the prevalent attitude is one of synthesis and I think many have taken the best of two worlds to fashion their lives. They admirably manage to combine the taste of the old world with the facilities of the new. They try to emulate their neighbours in their manners, but still like to excel them in their appetite for the finer things of life. They like to follow the sports, play golf, ride horses and all the rest of it, but will not stop there, but preserve their predilection for music.

In fact, it is a joke of history, that a catastrophe such as has befallen our people, should lead to a fuller life for the survivors. They have been able, through this fate, to learn more about the world, to take in the best of two experiences and to appreciate many things, which might have been closed to them in the narrow outlook of their native European country.

(From "The New Citizen," Sydney).

KING GUSTAV V

JEWISH victims of Nazi persecution have special reason to keep this great Monarch's memory alive. During the war, his Kingdom gave refuge to Jews from Norway and Denmark. Later on, Jewish survivors of the German concentration camps found asylum in Sweden. The successful efforts to save Jews in Hungary, carried out by Raoul Wallenberg, were also sponsored by King Gustav. A great humanitarian, he was a great friend of the Jews.

LOYALTY

IT was hardly to be expected that Professor Pontecorvo's foreign origin would be completely ignored in public discussions about his disappearance. On the other hand, it must be stated that, on the whole, the Press did not unduly exploit this aspect of his case. It would indeed be illogical to assume that a man's birthplace has any bearing upon his political creed. Certainly one of the naturalised scientists has expressed the feelings of all of us when, according to the "Sunday Express" of October 29, he said: "I feel no more bound to re-prove my loyalty because of the Fuchs case and the Pontecorvo case, than British-born scientists did after the Nun May case." Two of the atomic scientists, our fellow-refugees Prof. R. Peierls and Dr. F. E. Simon, have received the C.B.E., an honour rarely bestowed on foreign-born persons.

In a leader of the "Evening Standard" and in a broadcast discussion "Any Questions," a tightening of the security measures in the case of the naturalised scientists was advocated. At the same time the "Evening Standard" stressed that this country's noble tradition as a sanctuary for persecutees should remain unchanged, and speakers in "Any Questions" recalled the indispensable services of refugee scientists and their proved loyalty to their country of adoption.

URGENT CALL FROM ISRAEL

THE AJR has received the following message from a close friend, who is now on a visit in Israel: "I saw some of the camps for the new immigrants. People are living in tents, and now, as the cold season is starting, there is a desperate need for blankets and garments, especially children's underwear. Please appeal without delay to AJR members for their immediate help. Every day counts."

We strongly endorse this urgent request and ask our friends to send blankets, children's underwear and other garments to the AJR Relief Department, 33 Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6. (Tel.: MAIda Vale 7997).

DUTY TOWARDS POSTERITY

IT is not without reason that the Simchat Torah Celebration of the AJR Leeds Group is described in this number in greater detail than other functions of this kind. One of the speakers at the function pointed to a very important issue, when he called it one of the duties of the AJR to prevent a distortion of the history of Central European Jewry. It should be a matter not only of self-defence, but also of self-respect for us to become aware of our great responsibility towards posterity, and it is gratifying that our friend put his finger on this crucial point. A deeper investigation of the part played by German and Austrian Jews in Jewish history may at the same time enliven AJR activities in various parts of the country.

Due to the Printers' Dispute, the production of this issue has been delayed. Readers are kindly requested to accept our apologies.—The Ed.

RESTITUTION NEWS

WEST BERLIN COMPENSATION LAW

A Compensation Law for Berlin, which will be only effective in Western Berlin, has been unanimously adopted by the "Stadtverordneten-Versammlung" and "Magistrat." It provides for indemnification for loss of life, health, liberty, loss of and damage to property, payment of special levies and taxes (e.g. "Judenvermoögensabgabe" and "Reichsfluchtsteuer"); the law also deals with pensions of dismissed officials and with claims of members of the liberal professions. Furthermore it stipulates that payment of social and private insurance and war service annuities have to be taken up again. The claims may also be submitted by emigrants provided that they had their last German residence in Berlin before January 1, 1947.

The claims have to be submitted within one year. The law will, however, only come into force if the Allied High Commissioners do not veto it within three weeks.

Further developments will be published in the next issue of "AJR Information," and readers are requested to refrain from inquiries until then.

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

As already mentioned in the September issue of "AJR Information," withdrawals for the travelling and living expenses of the owner of a blocked account in Germany and of the accompanying members of his family (including servants) during visits to Germany may be made subject to a limit of 75 D.M. per day per person with a maximum of 200 D.M. a day per family.

If the relatives are travelling on their own and not in the company of the owner of the account, they are not any longer entitled to withdraw from his account.

Furthermore, companies residing outside Germany are entitled to withdraw from their German accounts travel and maintenance expenses of their employees on visits to Germany. The limit is 75 D.M. per day per head and 20,000 D.M. altogether per year.

AUSTRIAN AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN

As mentioned in the October issue of "AJR Information," an amendment of the Austrian Restitution Law had been under consideration, by which the proceeds of heirless Jewish property should be used to "compensate" the holders of Nazi-confiscated property. It is now understood that this amendment has been withdrawn.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR "SOLD" JEWELS

As already mentioned in the previous issue of "AJR Information," the United States Court of Restitution Appeal in Nuremberg decided that a Jewess, who was forced by Nazi legislation to sell her valuables to the municipal pawnshop, had to be reimbursed for her property.

The opinion of the Court, it is now learned, was delivered by Chief Justice Clark; the President, Justice Cohn, and the third judge, Mr. Flanagan, concurred only in the result. Mr. Flanagan was of the opinion that his conclusion might have been different had the value of the claimant's property been fixed at an amount in excess of RM. 150. In that case, the Pawn Office would have been required by a Nazi regulation, issued on March 21, 1939, to transmit the property to the Reich, and unless the Pawn Office was guilty of some tortious acts, the city might well be relieved of liability.

ADDRESS OF URO

The address of the headquarters of United Restitution Office (URO), whose work was described in the front page article of last month's issue of "AJR Information," is identical with that of the AJR: 8 Fairfax Mansions, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. Telephone (Enquiries only from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 to 6 p.m.): Maida Vale 9096.

TRANSFER IN HARDSHIP CASES

In a letter to the United Restitution Office, the Foreign Office pointed out that as a matter of principle restitution claimants cannot be granted an advantage over other cases of holders of D.M. However, the High Commission in Germany has now relaxed the complete ban on remittance of capital and income from capital to the extent that the German Exchange Control Authority is authorized to permit maintenance allowances in hardship cases.

INDEMNIFICATION OFFICE IN U.S. ZONE

The United Restitution Office, which maintains offices in Western Germany and Western Berlin to deal with restitution (Rueckerstattung) claims, has now also been authorized to establish offices for indemnification (Schadensersatz) claims in the U.S. Zone. A central office in Munich and a branch office in Frankfurt have been opened to represent claims arising from indemnification laws in the Laender Bavaria, Hesse, Baden-Wuerttemberg and Bremen. As readers of "AJR Information" will have seen, such claims had to be lodged by June 30, 1950, and to be substantiated by September 30, 1950.

Claimants for indemnification in the U.S. Zone who for financial reasons are unable to retain their own lawyer and who wish to be represented in Germany by the newly established indemnification offices of Uro, should contact the United Restitution Office, 8 Fairfax Mansions, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3.

INVESTMENTS IN WESTERN BERLIN

The "Verordnungsblatt von Gross-Berlin" of September 13, 1950, publishes regulations about foreign investments in Western Berlin. *Inter alia*, special licences may be obtained for the purchase of certain kinds of bonds, for the granting of loans to German residents, and for the sale of real estates or non-monetary movable property against payment in D.M.

A very limited number of copies of the regulations is at the disposal of URO Headquarters (6d. and stamped envelope to be enclosed). *The regulations do not provide for any kind of transfer.*

BOARD OF REVIEW, BERLIN

The Restitution Law for the three Western Sectors of Berlin provides for the establishment of one or several Boards of Review as Supreme Courts in restitution matters. By order of August 22 a Board of Review has now been set up for the British Sector of Berlin.

GERMAN JEWS AND HEIRLESS PROPERTY

The "Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany," the central representation of German Jewish organisations all over the world, recently held an Executive Meeting in London under the chairmanship of its President Dr. Leo Baeck. The Executive, at which the AJR is represented, is alarmed at the plight of an increasing number of elderly Jews from Germany, who are not any longer able to live by their own work. To relieve the position, Old Age Homes are urgently needed. The Executive also feels that constructive work, such as the establishment of loan banks, would greatly facilitate the resettlement of German Jews, who had left their country without any means. There are, furthermore, great obligations in the field of cultural activities. The achievements of German Jewish history have to be kept on record before it is too late, and institutes working towards this aim have to be supported.

The funds which are necessary to carry out these and other urgent plans cannot be raised amongst the Jews from Germany alone. Sums, which have already been collected for the establishment of Old Age Homes, proved insufficient to cover the substantial current expenses involved in such enterprises.

On the other hand, heirless and unclaimed former assets of German Jews are now, in accordance with the restitution laws, collected by the Restitution

INTERNATIONAL TRUST CORPORATION

To aid in the utilisation of Jewish restitution and indemnification funds a Limited Company, to be known as the International Trust Corporation, has been established in Hamburg. The Corporation has been formed through the interest and efforts of the Jewish Agency and the Joint, which have recognised the special need for a reliable institution which can assist restitution beneficiaries.

It will be the special task of the Corporation to submit suitable proposals to the relative Allied and German authorities. The Corporation will operate in the three Western Zones of Germany and in the Western Sectors of Berlin.

NEW GENERAL LICENCES

New general licences for transactions in Germany by non-residents have been issued recently. They refer to the sale of bonds (Wertpapiere) against payment of D.M. (Nr. 44/50), and the transcription of D.M. accounts and bonds from one German Bank Institute to another one inside Germany (Nr. 45/50).

COMPENSATION IN FRENCH ZONE

The forms for the registration of compensation claims (Entschadigungsansprueche) in the French Zone of Germany (not including French Sector of Berlin) have to be asked for at the following offices: *Rheinland-Pfalz*: local Regierungsbezirkamt fuer Wiedergutmachung und kontrollierte Vermoegen; *Baden*: Dienststelle fuer Vermoegenkontrolle und Wiedergutmachung beim oertlichen Finanzamt; *Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern*: Dienststelle fuer Vermoegenkontrolle und Wiedergutmachung beim oertlichen Arbeitsamt.

The time limits are as follows: *Rheinland-Pfalz*: May 30, 1951; *Baden*: May 31, 1951; *Wuerttemberg-Hohenzollern*: May 27, 1951.

SCRUTINY OF ALIENS

In Parliament, Mr. Proctor asked the Home Secretary whether he is aware that many aliens, particularly from Eastern Europe, who came to the United Kingdom during the war years and subsequently, arrived in parties and were not interviewed individually by immigration officers at the port of arrival; and what steps he is taking in the interests of security to review the position.

Mr. Ede: For security purposes, arrangements are being made to obtain at a personal interview by immigration officers further information about the aliens who, for the most part, came to this country during and since the war in large groups and were not given a personal examination at the ports of landing. The collection of this information will take some time and each individual concerned will receive a notice telling him where the interview will take place.

Successor Organisations, whose work is sponsored by the great Jewish Relief Organisations. The Council takes the view that the emigrated German Jews are entitled to an adequate share in these assets.

The Council gratefully remembers that the sponsoring organisations most generously spent large sums to save German Jews when the Nazis were in power. It therefore recognises that a certain part of the restituted assets should now be used to relieve the present burden of these sponsoring organisations in Israel and other parts of the world. At the same time, the Council hopes, however, that a substantial portion of these assets, which were once built up by German Jewry, will be put at the disposal of the Council.

The Council, in co-operation with its member organisations all over the world, will use these proceeds to meet the urgent needs of Jews from Germany.

The Council also dealt at its Executive Meeting with questions of individual restitution. Realising that the object of the restitution laws will only have been achieved if claimants can benefit from the restituted assets in their present countries of residence, the Council will impress on the Allied and German authorities the urgency of a satisfactory solution of the transfer problem.

Norman Bentwich: LORD SAMUEL AND GERMAN JEWRY

On November 6 Lord Samuel will be 80 years old. I am asked to write a few reminiscences of his activities on behalf of German Jewry in the years of trial before and during the World War. It was at the end of 1935 that the enactment of the Nuremberg Laws made it clear, beyond any illusion, that the Nazis were determined not only to drive Jews out of public life but to make them pariahs. And a larger Jewish effort was initiated to organize the emigration of German Jews and the training of the young generation for a new life. The big philanthropic bodies, The Central British Fund (as it is now) in England, The American Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish Colonization Organization were to unite in a systematic effort and to collaborate with the German Jewish body, the Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland. Sir Herbert Samuel—as he was then—was invited to be the President of a Council for German Jewry which was to direct the whole effort. It was felt by Jewish leaders everywhere that his great reputation, his parliamentary gifts and his conciliatory personality marked him as the one person who would command the confidence and the respect of all the communities.

His career in the House of Commons had just ended; it was to be two years before he was made a Peer and entered the other House of Parliament. With his unflinching sense of duty to a cause of humanity which he could help, he accepted the invitation; and went immediately, early in 1936, to America with Sir Simon Marks and Lord Bearsted to confer with Felix Warburg and other leaders of American Jewry. The broad lines of action were decided on, and an appeal for what then seemed a very large fund was launched in England, America

LEOPOLD SCHWARZSCHILD

At the age of 58, Leopold Schwarzschild, the former editor of the "Tagebuch" and the "Magazin der Wirtschaft," Berlin, has died in Italy. He was a brilliant journalist, whose analyses of economic and political matters proved to be well founded and far sighted.

When, long before the landslide of the September elections of 1930, where the Nazis gained 107 seats in the Reichstag, the Central-Verein warned the leading Berlin Press not to underrate the effect of National Socialist propaganda, Schwarzschild was the only journalist who heeded these warnings; in his "Tagebuch" he published three articles about the dangers threatening from the Nazi movement.

He took the view that the Weimar Republic failed to appeal to the German middle class, especially to the German youth. Their longing for idealistic visions was not satisfied by the democratic parties and, misguided, they accepted the idea of the "Dritte Reich" as a fulfilment of their yearning for a political philosophy.

In 1933 the "Tagebuch" was one of the first non-Communist weeklies to be suppressed by the Nazis. Its editor continued his fight against National Socialism from Amsterdam and Paris, where he published "Das Neue Tagebuch" up to 1940. Week by week he warned the world of the war for which the Nazi regime was preparing. His book "The End of Illusions" clearly and convincingly expounded his thesis that National Socialism meant war.

His last book "The Red Prussian," a biography of Karl Marx, was severely criticised. Schwarzschild died a disappointed man.

and the Continent. He threw himself wholeheartedly into both aspects of the action. He headed the appeal in England and went to the Continent to speak to the Jewish Communities; and he worked out with his colleagues the programme for relief, emigration and training. In the first place he agreed to hold office for three months only; he retained it actually for three full years, till the spring of 1939, and those were the decisive years of rescue. During that time he presided with unflinching courtesy over many meetings and conferences of the Council, and moreover he was accessible to many delegations that came from the Continent and from America. And to him, more than to any other person, is due the almost unparalleled unity of the Jewish world in tackling the vast problem of constructive relief and settlement. He upheld the place of Palestine as the principal country of refuge, recognising its power to transform the young immigrants. His intimate relations with the British Authorities, both in England and in Palestine, enabled the Council to secure the help of the Governments.

In November 1938, when a new turn of the screw followed the pogroms against the Jews throughout Germany, he took on a fresh responsibility and gave a fresh lead. One of the subsidiary agencies of the work for the refugees, Jewish and Christian, was a children's inter-aid committee which had brought over a few hundred boys and girls. Lord Samuel was moved by my wife to expand this small activity into a large popular movement for rescuing quickly thousands of Jewish and "non-Aryan" children from Germany and Austria. Again his authority with the Government, his warm humanity, and his administrative ability brought about remarkable results. Between December 1938 and the outbreak of the World War in September 1939, 10,000 children were brought to England by the Government. They had been placed in homes, schools and institutions in all parts of the United Kingdom, and large funds had been raised to provide for their maintenance and education till they were able to support themselves. A certain slowness of the Council for German Jewry to respond to his new initiative decided him to give up the chairmanship, and make way for Lord Reading. And after a few months he gave up also the chairmanship of the action for the children. But the essential momentum had been given, and the structure was able to stand the strain and shocks of the War. His activity for the refugees changed its character. During the War, it was in Parliament and in the Councils of the Nation that he could play his part.

In a life crowded with constructive activity and the service of humanity as well as with literary and philosophical work, his direction of the effort which rescued a large part of the Jewish population in Germany and Austria and gave it opportunity for fresh life, is a precious achievement.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Outlook Unsettled

An unusually sombre picture of Anglo-Jewry was drawn by the President of the Board of Deputies. Though the threat from outside had passed—Mosley's Fascists, he said, were dwindling and their meetings ineffective—our cultural and educational position, Dr. Cohen thought, was deplorable in the extreme. There were not sufficient teachers, ministers and rabbis, and it was a most heart-breaking task to get Jewish parents to realise their responsibility. To-day the vitality of Anglo-Jewry was drawn mainly from the first or second generation of the Eastern immigrants. But now immigration had stopped, and we simply could not afford to lose any more of our people through drifting, assimilation or baptism. Unhappily, Dr. Cohen declared, the wastage was going on, even at an alarming rate, and unless it was checked, the outlook was very gloomy indeed.

On the conditions in the once famous Jewish quarter of the East End, a poignant remark was made by the new Chairman of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education, Mr. Alfred Woolf. There were many Jews down there, he said, but very little Judaism: "As a centre of Jewish life, Jewish practice and Jewish observance, the East End no longer exists."

The Jewish Chronicle, in the best British tradition, first suggested something like a Select Committee to investigate the position, but then had doubts because after all, it thought, the root of the evil was an undue (and apparently inscrutable) "self-depreciation" among British Jews.

Share in Israel

Do they really feel that, as British Jews, they do not matter and that there is nothing better to do than to liquidate at least their part in the Golah? The recent "Chevel Simon Marks" project, providing, at a cost of £300,000, for 5,000 acres of land to be acquired and developed in the Jerusalem corridor, is a signal token of the Anglo-Jewish share in Israel. Mr. Isaac Wolfson, one of the wealthiest promoters of the JNF, was right in saying, at the launching ceremony, that the Marks family had been an essential part of Zionist history ever since they and the Sieffs in 1913 came under the influence of Dr. Weizmann. (Incidentally, on the same occasion, Sir Simon confessed that Marks was not his real name but that he hated to divulge it—which now remains the same tantalising secret as the identity of the legendary Spencer).

But the Chief Rabbi warned British Jews not to be content with "the reflected glory of the few." It was a matter of shame, he said, that the number of direct contributors to the Joint Palestine Appeal in this country was not more than 20,000.

It would be interesting to know what exactly people generally do give money for. The Jewish Orphanage at West Norwood seems to be deservedly favoured. During 1949 it received, from the several Orphan Aid Societies, the record sum of £25,000. They are at present looking after some 180 children. Other institutions continue to ail from chronic deficits. The Jewish Blind Society with which over 500 necessitous people are registered, requires £35,000 this year. The Home of Jewish Incurables, with 112 inmates, has now a deficit of £2,424 and expects one of £6,000 next year. The London Board of Jewish Religious Education has a bank overdraft of £2,000.

Success in Sports

A more gratifying feature is the notable success scored by British Jews in the Third Maccabiah at Tel Aviv. They won 17 gold and 6 silver medals, and altogether, with 328 points, came second, after Israel (609½ points) and—a highly unexpected result—before South Africa (248) and U.S.A. (230). The special Israeli postage stamp commemorating the Maccabiah was designed by a London Jewish artist, Mr. Abram Games.

A number of Jewish artists—architects and designers—are also assisting in the preparations for the Festival of Britain. Among them are Mr. J. Godfrey-Gilbert, Mr. Leonard Manasseh, a Sefardi from Singapore, and two refugees from Germany, Messrs. H. A. Rothols and Manfred Reis. But a name which made front-page news, was that member of our ruling class who was fined £2 because he worked faster than his Union would permit. The name, Jack Cohen, by trade a milkman.

Lutz Weltmann: RILKE AND THE BIBLE

Rainer Maria Rilke would have been 75 years old on December 4.

Rilke often deals with biblical themes in his poetry. "Adam" and "Eve" are two sonnets inspired by medieval statues and conceived to match as in the portals of a cathedral. His favourite biblical subjects are Saul and David: David sings before Saul, Saul amongst the Prophets, Samuel's Apparition, Lament for Jonathan and Absalom's Rebellion.

In his "Esther," King Ahasverus takes the place of God. Esther, walking up to him, visualises in her mind's eye Him whom we approach in the hour of death. Two of his poems are devoted to the prophets Elija and Jeremiah, and his prophetic experience is expressed in two other poems, "Call," and "The Prophet." Rilke, who once confessed that his writings always followed the dictation of an inner voice (and he lived up to this statement), was perhaps the last modern poet for whom the words prophet and poet were interchangeable.

We must not make too much of Arthur Eloesser's casual remark that Rilke's mother was of Jewish origin, for when I asked Eloesser about this point he could no longer remember the origin of the tradition; besides Rilke did not love his mother very much, although he owes her his artistic talent. But a certain Jewish outlook in his biblical poetry is conspicuous.

Rilke was a native of Prague. This town, where Slavonic, German and Jewish culture had been blended in a unique way, is the background of one of Rilke's earliest poems. He pays tribute to Rabbi Löw (the creator of the Golem). Many children die in the ghetto. The congregation asks the Rabbi for help. He sends his assistant to the cemetery at midnight to snatch the shroud from the ghost of a child. The spirit of the deceased follows him to the Rabbi's house and tells him: "Two among our congregation have committed adultery. These are the names. The cause for our ordeal is to be found among ourselves." The Rabbi chastises the guilty and no more children pass away for a long time.

It is not by chance that Rilke saw in Werfel, who was also born in Prague, his heir and successor. Their two great minds met. Werfel had often been

tempted to embrace the Christian faith, whereas Rilke confessed in his later years that he was moving further and further away from Christianity.

This development commenced during his stay in Russia where he travelled with his motherly friend, Lou Andreas Salome, and was introduced to Tolstoy by the Jewish painter Pasternak. Jesus was for Rilke a hero and a saint, or more exactly, a hero of saintliness. Yet he sees in Jesus an element of danger too,—danger for the pure belief in God. For many a nun Jesus was, in Rilke's words, the most gentle lover she could dream of, and many a young person in his search for God might be satisfied with Jesus.

Rilke's God has no name, or rather he has so many names that his name does not matter: "I was Song, and God, the Rhyme still sounds in my ear" ("Book of Hours"). Or again: "Why shall we look for other names, it is always Orpheus when there is song in us" ("Sonnets to Orpheus"). Earlier he said of Buddha: "Thy shell is the infinite, thou art the centre of all centres, the core of all cores." And in his last word about religion, his "Duino Elegies," there appears an angel whom we must imagine like the angels of Islam. Rilke's Pantheon is really a temple of everything divine, but the God of the Bible is supreme. "God is above Life and Death," he wrote to Lou Andreas Salome.

No research about the poet can be complete without his letters, of which the Insel Verlag (Wiesbaden) has just published again a fine selection. Many of these letters tell us about personal encounters with Jewish persons or impressions he had of their work, and some letters are directly addressed to them. Among his correspondents and the Jewish elite he admired were Buber, Mombert, Hofmannsthal, Stefan Zweig, Freud, Gundolf and others. He copied some of Werfel's poems for his friends, and he knew Beer-Hofmann's "Lullaby for Miriam" by heart. In Sweden he had often been invited to recite this poem.

We should flatter ourselves if we did not mention that Rilke, whilst admiring the qualities of Jews, was also aware of their foibles. He was the first to envisage some dangers which Werfel was to face in

his development. But his attitude towards Judaism was unswerving, and can perhaps be summed up best in his letter to the poetess Ilse Weiss-Blumenthal (1922):—

"You, as a Jewess, with so much divine experience, with such ancient awe of God in your blood, should not have to worry about problems of belief in God. . . . Do not forget yours is one of the greatest Gods in the universe, yours through inheritance, and not, as the God of the Christians, by conversion; yours is a God to whom you belong as a daughter of your people, because He has made and formed you in your forefathers. . . . I have the greatest faith in persons who came to God not through belief, but through their people. . . . And everybody living however near to the periphery of this circle belongs to its mighty centre, even if he turned his face to it only once, perhaps in the hour of his death."

"CHALLENGING YEARS"

This autobiography of Stephen Wise (G. P. Putman & Sons, New York) is a great book of a great Jewish leader and a great humanist.

Wise was a prominent fighter for the rights of humanity and made no distinction between the oppressed, whether Jews, negroes, or underpaid workers. He fought against public corruption with much success. Through these activities he became prominent in the whole U.S.A. and had influence with both Presidents Roosevelt, Wilson and Taft. In many cases he used this influence for helping his fellow-Jews.

From its inception, Stephen Wise became not only a supporter but an active leader of the Zionist movement. He describes how the first Zionist Congress was planned at Munich, but as the German "Protest Rabbis" were against it, the Executive decided to meet at Basle. He remarks bitterly that Munich could not become the town of a Zionist Congress, but could some decades later be the "Hauptstadt der Bewegung" by whose followers over six million Jews were killed.

He fought with all his power against the evil of Nazism. After the boycott in Germany on the 1st April, 1933, he immediately started propaganda for an anti-boycott against the German people. He points out that a Jewish weekly in Hamburg denounced him for having acted against the Jewish cause. German Jewry, he declares, did not defend itself against anti-Semitism. This is hardly a fair statement of the facts. The national, and many provincial leaders of the Jewish organisations, were gallant fighters in the struggle for Jewry and did their best to combat the Nazis. But how could one expect more success from them than from the big political parties?

Soon after the Nazis came to power Stephen Wise went to the countries bordering on Germany to see the refugees and to organise assistance for them. He writes that there was a possibility in 1943 of redeeming 10,000 Jews by bringing them from Poland to Hungary. The Nazis demanded dollars for this transaction. President Roosevelt agreed to spend a big sum and so did the U.S. Secretaries of State and of the Treasury. Wise accuses the U.S. bureaucracy of having failed to execute the order of the President and his advisers. Officials delayed the bill for five months, by which time the Nazis were no longer willing to hand over the Jews.

KURT SABATZKY

LOTTE PRITZEL EXHIBITION

An Exhibition of the work of Lotte Pritzel is on show at 92 George Street, W.1, being part of the private collection of the Interior Decorator Ernest P. Friedmann. The "Figurines Fantastiques," made in wax, and clothed in veiling, silver and gold, display in their slender shape a wide range of emotion, embracing subjects from the "Tragic Muse" to the "Pierrot." In an age of pure and abstract form, Lotte Pritzel's visions create an almost uncanny synthesis of realism and stylization. It was not surprising that so sensitive an artist was frowned upon by the Nazis, not only on account of her half-Jewish origin. It seems strange that, when looking at these figures, another artist's name came to my mind, a woman poet Else Lasker-Schueler, whose exquisite and delicate verse is steeped in the Hebrew tradition. Although different in intention and subject, some of the charm expressed in Lotte Pritzel's work seems to emanate from the same ancient sources, revealing not so much joy and levity, but introspection and genuine emotion.

DR. HELEN ROSENAU

LAW and LIFE

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

THE LEGAL AID ACT

"British Justice is open to everybody—so is the Ritz Hotel." This bitter joke will soon become meaningless and forgotten. The Legal Aid Act opens the way to justice for everybody.

What kind of procedure can be taken under the Act? All kinds of High Court or Court of Appeal Procedure with the exception of Suits for Defamation or Breach of Promise and certain other rarely enforced proceedings. County Court actions cannot yet be brought under the Legal Aid Act, except when a case is remitted from the High Court, and Criminal Procedure is not enclosed in Legal Aid.

Who is entitled to Legal Aid? Every person with a "disposable income" up to £420 per annum. Disposable income means gross income less income tax, rent, contribution for dependants. A disposable income of £420 per annum may be held equal to a gross income of £750 per annum.

The "disposable capital" must not be greater than £75 after deduction of allowance for furniture, tools of trade, mortgage interests and allowance for dependants.

People with disposable income of less than £156 per annum get legal aid free without any contributory payment. Applicants with disposable income of between £156 and £420 per annum have to contribute to the costs of their litigation up to half the difference between the disposable income and £156 per annum, but of course, not with a higher sum than the taxed costs of the litigation.

How is the application for Legal Aid made? Application forms to one of the 112 local Legal Aid Committees have to be filled in, stating name

and address of the applicant, trade or occupation, name of the person against whom the proceedings are to be taken, nature of the proceedings, short outline of the facts, list of documents and witnesses in support of the case, income and means of the applicant.

The Local Committee then decides whether the case has any merits and if so, grants the aid certificate after having consulted the National Assistance Board. If the Local Committee refuses legal aid, the applicant has the right of appeal to the Area Committee.

How do the proceedings start? The applicant has a right of choosing his own solicitor from a list of solicitors who are members of the Legal Aid Panel. The applicant can also choose his barrister on the same principle, but will usually be advised by his solicitor as to the consultation of a barrister. Only in divorce cases in which the applicant's contribution to the cost does not exceed £10 the choice of solicitor is not free but the proceedings will be carried through by the Divorce Department of the Law Society. After a solicitor has been chosen, the proceedings are carried through in the same way as if a solicitor was consulted before the Legal Aid Act.

If the applicant should not succeed in his litigation, the judge may award costs against him. In such case the Court will decide what will be a reasonable sum of costs for him to pay in view of the circumstances of the case, the means of the parties and their conduct in the dispute. The assisted person's dwelling house, household furniture and tools will be generally protected from execution.

J. Jacobson :

OFFICERS IN MY CONSULTING ROOM

Once upon a time there lived a Jew in the old city of Constance. His name was Eberlein. One day he left the ghetto, embraced the Christian faith and became a forefather of a distinguished family of patricians in Basle. From this family descended in turn one of the ancestors of the famous Count Zeppelin. This fact, although widely known, never affected the position which the Count and his family enjoyed in Germany.

In the 17th century a Jew of Frankfort-on-the-Main was converted to Christianity. His son became a parson. During the Hitler era one of the leading German monthlies of genealogy published an article about the numerous descendants of this parson Lichtenstein, in which the author deplored the "infection" ("Verseuchung") spread by this Jewish blood to so many otherwise respectable German families. I remember how I resented the author's obvious contempt for the Jews at the time. This more-than-100 per cent attitude outstripped even the official "Race Arithmetic."

This race arithmetic held no unpleasant surprises for Jews or half-Jews who knew what to expect, excepting perhaps in cases of adoption or illegitimate birth. For the so-called "Mischlinge 2-Grades" (Quarter-Jews), however, the situation was often

LETTER FROM ISRAEL

Jerusalem, October.

Guests from Britain : The glamour and clamour of the "Maccabiah" hardly reached the secluded calmness of Jerusalem. A few games were "diverted" to the capital, though not the central functions, and only here and there a group of participants in their smart and colourful uniforms reminded the Jerusalemites of the great international sports competition. By the way, whether the visitors wore the Swedish or a South American badge—one heard them invariably talking in German.

More in "Jerusalem style" was a reception for Mrs. Lorna Wingate and Mrs. Fergusson, under the auspices of Youth Aliyah. This was a truly "British" affair, with a Scotch accent, for the occasion of the arrival of the guests was the laying of the foundation stone of a children's home in the name of Orde Wingate, the funds of £50,000 having been collected by the Youth Aliyah Committee in Britain.

At the Jerusalem reception, Mrs. Wingate revealed for the first time that in 1948, she volunteered for the Israel defence army but was "rejected." It was then that she "resigned" herself to the idea of becoming Chairman of Youth Aliyah in Britain. "When things are difficult," she said, "one goes to Glasgow, for all the stories about the Scotch are untrue—like those about the Jews."

What Price Freedom? : An exhibition arranged by the Government at Jerusalem's art house, reveals for the first time the exacting price which the city had to pay in lives and goods for her freedom. It includes 1,796 civilian and military war dead and 487 seriously wounded. War damages amount to over £12,500,000. Only a thirtieth of the town area was lost, but this thirtieth contains the Old City and Mount Scopus with the University and Hadassah.

On the credit side is Jerusalem's development during the past two years. The population, 94,000 under the Mandate and 72,000 during the siege, has now topped the 120,000 mark.

The Voice Behind the Curtain : Three years ago, meeting him would have created a sensation in London. Once, he had given an interview to a reporter, in a house to which the journalist was driven blind-folded, and a voice spoke to him from behind a curtain. Yesterday, I happened to sit opposite that voice behind the curtain. Menahem Beigin, too, had tea at the Eden Hotel.

I saw him for the first time; he looked like a little Jewish schoolmaster from Poland and did not cease twitching his moustache. I tried in vain to discover in his face that power and energy which no doubt was needed to lead the underground movement of Irgun Zvai Leumi. I think that Beigin would have never attained that magic and mystical attraction for the Youth, had he, at that time, freely shown his face.

HERBERT FREEDEN

different. And the further one went back, the more probable was the incidence of surprise and disappointment.

How did those react who were suddenly confronted with facts they had not known before or had anxiously hidden so far? How did they behave when the tragedy of our time approached them too? In very different ways as one can easily imagine. Let us illustrate this by a few typical examples of a particular group.

It was in the summer of 1933 when a gentleman came to see me. He had tried to satisfy the requirements of the "Ariernachweis" but in the end found himself up against a brick wall. The Church registers could not help; perhaps the Jewish registers could do it? Indeed, I had to tell him that he was a descendant of Daniel Itzig, banker and entrepreneur of the Frederician epoch, and leader of the Prussian Jews. This, of course, was a painful disclosure for someone who—as he told me—was a former midshipman of the Imperial Navy, had joined the Kapp Putsch, had been a zealous anti-semitic agitator and who was shortly to be commissioned as officer in the Police Force. He accepted what I revealed to him rather calmly. Whether in spite of Daniel Itzig he attained his goal I do not know.

The "Erbhof"-law had been proclaimed. Only those who could prove that none of their ancestors since 1800 had been Jews were entitled to leave their estates to their heirs. At that time an elderly gentleman, ex-officer and a member of one of the oldest families of the Brandenburg nobility, came to see me. He too had to be told that just about the time in question one of his great-grandmothers was born of Jewish parents. He took the news well, and then spontaneously, with an unexpected vigour and enthusiasm, there spluttered out of the depth of his heart words of appreciation and admiration for this Jewish great-grandmother. Wisdom, kindness and humanity, he assured me, were the inheritance she had left to her children and grandchildren as an inexhaustible blessing. This outweighed all the sorrows and bitterness which she had brought him and his descendants now.

Futile Fairy-Tales

I had to think of this gentleman when some time later a lady of the same class of society appeared in my office. Her husband was one of the richest landowners of his province. His family rather cunningly had managed to spread a smoke screen of fictions about their origin to the effect that the truth about their doubtlessly Jewish descent had nearly been forgotten. Property and the son's career were seriously endangered, should it be impossible to disprove that one of the landowner's ancestors was a Jewess by birth. The husband of this ancestor was a nobleman whose "Aryan" origin was beyond doubt. His fortune had grown immensely by the dowry his wife had brought with her, wealth which generations of Jewish bankers and businessmen had accumulated. According to a Jewish family register this wealthy lady was the great-great-granddaughter of Veitel Heine Ephraim, the famous "mint-Jew" of Frederick the Great. But was the great-grandson of Veitel Heine Ephraim really and truly her father? Or was the family tradition right in whispering of the romance of the Jewish banker's wife and the fascinating officer of the Prussian Guards? The lady tried hard to make me believe her story. It was not an easy task to remain unmoved by the obstinacy of this mother who struggled for the future of her children. At last, however, I nearly lost my temper and could not help calling to her mind the thousands and thousands who silently suffered injustice and humiliation without recalling expedient fairy-tales.

There was a sensation in the office when one day—the war against Russia was already in full swing—a captain in full uniform appeared in the building of the Berlin Jewish Community to make inquiries in the Jewish Archives. He too was equipped with a fairy-tale, this time leading to Russia. It was rather shrewd, this report of documents deposited in Russian archives and therefore unfortunately inaccessible at the moment. For a considerable period this story had proved to be

Old Acquaintances

Top of the Bill :—Don't miss the picture "Sunset Boulevard" if it comes your way; I don't want to prophesy but it could be the film of the year. After all, the man who wrote and directed it, has already one "Oscar" (for "Lost Weekend") to his credit. I still remember the day I first met Billy Wilder (born Samuel W. of Cracow) in Berlin. He had come from Vienna, but couldn't make enough money as a journalist. Consequently, Billy became a gigolo in the "Eden Hotel," where he got to know Klabund while dancing with his wife, beautiful actress Carola Neher. The sick poet induced the young man to write his memoirs as a gigolo; the "B.Z." published his articles, and he became well known over night. Wilder wrote his first film script for 70 Mark, and it became a success—the picture was "Menschen am Sonntag," and Robert Siodmak, now also a Hollywood director, produced it. Both landed with "Ufa," until Hitler finished their careers. Billy went to Paris and, later on, to Hollywood, where the late Ernst Lubitsch gave him his first chance. Together with Charles Brackett he scripted several successful pictures, viz., "Ninotchka," until he changed into a writer-director with "The Major and the Minor."

"Ambassador" :—He came from Frankfurt in the late twenties, started as a journalist with the "Berliner Tageblatt," and is now sitting in his own office at Park Lane. His name is H. P. Juda, and his career is so conspicuous that it is worth while to put it on record. Juda came to this country comparatively early. He became the London Correspondent of "International Textiles," a trade periodical published in Holland. During the war, Juda had the idea to start a publication of his own. To-day, "Ambassador"—this is the name of his Monthly—is Britain's real ambassador all over the world, important for export of all sorts of textiles. In this country, very few people outside the trade know Juda's publication. It was his idea to dress the members of the Sadler's Wells Ballet for their American tour in order to publicize British fashion.

Obituary :—Dr. Hermann Sinsheimer died in London, 64 years old. He was the editor of "Simplizissimus" in its best days, and, later on, joined the "Berliner Tageblatt." In England, he published a Shylock biography with Gollancz. Shortly before his death, he had just returned from his first visit to Germany after the war.

News from Everywhere :—Continental composers are much in demand nowadays in London. Allan Gray scored "Woman of No Name," Mischa Spolianski "Happy Go Lovely" and Michael Wilding's new picture, and Hans May "Tales of Five Cities."—Fritz Kortner, who is still successfully acting "Death of a Salesman" in Berlin, prepares his own adaptation of "Don Carlos."—Curt Bois, who returned from the States to Berlin's Russian-controlled "Deutsches Theater," will play Gogol's "Revisor."

PEM.

useful. Finally, however, a new commanding officer had been puzzled by the strikingly "non-Aryan" appearance of the captain and had insisted on documentary proofs. He had even ordered the captain to testify that his family name was never given to any Jewish family. The captain in question was an officer in the first World War and had come from the U.S.A. to serve in Hitler's army. . . . He was promoted and had been decorated for bravery, but now nobody and nothing could help him. He had to leave the army. If I remember rightly, he was lucky enough not to suffer any other punishment. Later on, quite accidentally, I found a tombstone in the Jewish cemetery of Berlin-Weissensee, the inscription on which once and for all burst the bubble of the Russian fairy-tale.

He was not the only one who came to us to raise his voice against the severity and folly of the era or to lament about the inhumanity of laws he did not understand. I remember clearly enough an engine driver who for 30 years had been working on express trains, but who was now degraded to driving sooty shunting engines. Why? It had been found that his natural father had been a prominent Jewish industrialist. "Can you understand that?" he asked time and again. "Has this suddenly made me a less capable engine-driver?" I could not but tell him that I did not understand it either.

FROM MY DIARY

"Can you tell me, where to get off for the Jewish Cemetery?" I asked the conductress of the tram, which brought me from Alexanderplatz through the Neue Koenigstrasse and the—fairly undamaged—Greifswalderstrasse to Weissensee. "I don't know, I am afraid," she replied. And how could she know? Those Berlin Jews who died during her term of office have not even graves. But still, I found my way to the Iron Gate and stood again opposite the "Old Hall" which looks unchanged. I went over to the "Row of Honour" on the right-hand side, where the tombstones recall all the well-known names, whose bearers had given eternal glory to German Jewry. The honour of a last resting place in this row has meanwhile been bestowed also upon Jews who died after the war. There are new graves, that of the Chazan Leo Gollanin-Goldberg and his wife, who survived the war in Berlin, and of the art historian Lothar Brieger, a returnee from Shanghai. I walked on, past the pompous "Aschrott Mausoleum" and arrived at the "New Hall," which is almost completely bombed.

The cemetery is again as peaceful and dignified as it was before the war, and, due to the labour of the Berlin Jewish Community, very well looked after. There is only one difference: you do not meet a single person when wandering around.

What struck me most were the tombstones whose inscriptions were unfinished. Half of the space had been left blank for the husband or wife until his or her turn would have come. Now we know that this space will remain blank for ever.

"The Jewish child suffered more and to a greater extent than anyone else in history," said Mrs. Eliahu Elath, wife of the Israeli Ambassador to Great Britain, at the annual meeting inaugurating this year's Jewish Child's Day Campaign, launched under the auspices of the Central British Fund and Youth Aliyah.

Dr. Israel Feldman, who opened the meeting, pointed out that, in the past years, the response to the Jewish Child's Day had been amazingly encouraging and that he hoped for an even greater result this year. He specially appealed for the co-operation of the ladies' groups, religious classes and clubs. Mrs. Israel Brodie also spoke.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 15th of the month.

Death

Dr. Arthur Goldmann, of 38 Antrim Mansions, N.W.3, formerly well known physician in Leipzig, suddenly passed away at the age of 77, deeply mourned by his wife Alice, née Mendershausen, his son, daughter and grandchildren.

CLASSIFIED Employment

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (annually licensed by the L.C.C.) has on its register men and women (skilled and unskilled), also homeworkers of any kind, sitters-in. Report vacancies esp. for book- and storekeepers. Tel. MAI 4449.

SHORTHAND TYPIST reqd. perfect English and German shorthand, 5 days week, state age, experience, salary. Box 940.

BOOKKEEPER, thoroughly experienced, P.A.Y.E., Correspondence, seeks position, part time, or evenings. Box 943.

EXPERIENCED book-keeper with good knowledge of German required by Travel organisation. Box 945.

WANTED.—Young assistant for library, knowledge German, typing. Box 944.

SEMI-BLIND LADY has capacity for machine knitting of men's socks at reasonable prices. Reply to Mrs. Schlesinger, Morris Feinmann House, 7 Amherst Road, Manchester 14.

SHORTHAND TYPIST: English, German, part-time or homework wanted. Handwritten offers. Box 947.

MAINTENANCE OF GRAVES IN BERLIN

According to a communication received from the Berlin Jewish Community the annual fees for the care of single graves are 20 D.M., of double graves 35 D.M. The charges for permanent care of single graves are 656 D.M., of double graves 1115 D.M. There are special charges for "Erbbegebnisse."

Inquiries about particulars and further facilities should be directed to the Juedische Gemeinde zu Berlin, Finanzabteilung, Berlin, N.65, Iranische Str. 2, where photos of graves (three copies) for 15 D.M. may also be ordered.

Owners of blocked accounts in Germany may use up to 300 D.M. per year for the maintenance of graves of near relatives.

HISTORY OF THE REIMANN-SCHULE

The founder and former Director of the Reimann-Schule (Berlin), Mr. Albert Reimann, recently finished his autobiography, which, at the same time, gives a most interesting and comprehensive survey of the pioneer work carried out by this unique institute. In the course of 35 years, about 25,000 students now living in 42 different countries obtained their knowledge, skill and experience at the Reimann-Schule.

In order to make the report as complete as possible, Mr. Reimann, who now lives in London, would be grateful for any particulars about achievements of his former pupils, quite a few of whom have acquired a high reputation in the world of art. It would also be a great help towards the publication of the manuscript, if those who are interested in obtaining a copy of the book after publication would write to Mr. Reimann now. His address is: 11 Hillcrest Avenue, London, N.W.11.

Whenever I had to prepare a function with Dela Lipinskaya, also met her husband, Boris Newolin, who, at the same time, was her teacher and mentor. Now we learn with deepest regret that he passed away recently. He had started his career as an author and producer in Russia and made the Russian public acquainted with August Strindberg, Franz Wedekind and other Western playwrights. Afterwards, in Germany and Austria, he introduced and developed the specific genre of Russian cabarettism; the achievements of the "Blaue Vogel" or "Masken" are unthinkable without his labours. The innumerable admirers of Madame Lipinskaya's art will feel a deep sympathy with her for the sad loss she has suffered.

NARRATOR

Letters to the Editor

REVIVAL OF THE A.J.G.V.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Capell has rightly drawn a line between K.C. and K.I.V. on one side and A.J.G.V. on the other. The former were standing for certain ideals, following a policy, they were movements. The A.J.G.V. was a local association which did not steer any course, "middle-course" or otherwise. It aimed at "neutrality." The members were Jewish students of all shades who aimed at deepening their Jewish knowledge.

There the matter can be left and just as Mr. Capell feels no need for defending the K.I.V. and unionism, so I have no intention of arguing with Mr. Weltmann the case of the K.C., which is hardly correctly described as "complete assimilation."

Yours faithfully,

283 Watford Way,
Hendon, N.W.4.

Herman L. Berlak.

THE JEWS OF DENMARK

Dear Sir,

Mr. A. J. Fischer's interesting survey "The Jews of Denmark," can hardly be called complete if one of the most outstanding German refugees living in Denmark has been omitted. He is Kurt Harald Isenstein the sculptor and art teacher who, born in Berlin, settled in Denmark when Hitler came to power. K. H. Isenstein is one of the most talented and best-known sculptors of our time. He created the bust of Professor Einstein which the great sage himself has called "the best ever made of me," and which a Committee of Danish scientists headed by Nobel Prize winner Professor Niels Bohr purchased and presented to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Isenstein also created a memorial to Jewish victims of Nazi atrocities at Oslo, where it stands outside the Jewish cemetery, and a monument in gratitude to the Swedish people who gave shelter to Jewish refugees, erected in Sweden. His famous portrait busts include one of Lord Hinchinbrooke. Surely, an artist with such a fine record should top any list of "Immigrants from Germany."

Yours truly,

7 Stanley Crescent,
London, W.11.

Otto Zarek.

RESIDENT POST near Glasgow offered to semi-retired doctor, single, male or female. Write Box 933.

Accommodation

ACCOMMODATION of any kind wanted. AJR Social Service Dept.

URGENTLY WANTED by professional couple and son of 15, flat or 2-3 rooms unfurnished or partly furnished. Box 929.

FURNISHED ROOM Golders Green available for lady who would prepare one hot meal daily for gentleman against reduction of rent. Box 941.

BED-SITT. ROOM, w. h. & c., use of kitch. in orthodox lady's mod. flat to homely person doing part-time or home-work (not machine) in return to light household duties in the morning. Box 942.

Miscellaneous

ALTERATIONS, Remodels. Dress-maker, Mrs. Cohn, 158 Adelaide Road. PRI 7428.

OPPORTUNITY OFFERED to private investor. Additional capital desired for extension of established business. Excellent prospects. Write Box 938.

PAINTING by Liebermann or other German Jewish master wanted. Box 946.

WANTED opening active partnership by experienced business man disposing small capital. Provisions preferred. Write Box 939.

FOR SALE Company Registration general trade, alternatively open to admit someone with ideas. Write Box 937.

WANTED person experience upholstery business to take a share in a company to make loose covers. Write Box 936.

REMODELLING HATS inexpensive and smart. Write 17 Maresfield Gardens, N.W.3.

GOOD-CLASS DRESSMAKING and alterations at mod. charges. E. Glicksman, COL 4690.

FOR SALE: Trunks, suit cases, easy chair, wardrobe. WIL 0584.

FOR SALE hanging wardrobe trunk 43 ins. wide, very good condition, £15. 12 Wykeham Rd., N.W.4.

FURNITURE: A smaller table for an unemployed commercial artist, who wants to start work at home, and one medium-sized table are wanted by the AJR Social Services Department (Phone MAI 4449).

MISSING PERSONS Enquiries from AJR

Fuchs, Hans, son of Dr. Arnold Fuchs, Breslau, last address: 5 Canfield Gardens, N.W.6, for H. Salomon, Munich.

Stamm, Henrietta, née Wagner, born 29.12.10 in Berlin, for son Balduz Stamm, Muelheim.

Stop Press from Israel . . .

We Urgently need for the Camp Inmates

BLANKETS AND CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR

Gifts should be sent immediately to the

AJR Relief Department, 33 Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6.
(Tel. Maida Vale 7997).

AJR AT WORK

OUR GALLUP POLL

The diligence with which "AJR Information" is read is mirrored in the great number of replies to the questionnaire sent out to AJR members on the occasion of the High Festivals.

Space does not permit to report on all the submitted proposals, but every suggestion has been carefully noted. Many readers expressed their satisfaction with "AJR Information," stressing that they were looking forward to each new issue. Some would like to have "AJR Information" transformed into a weekly or fortnightly. Whilst, for financial reasons, this, unfortunately, is not practicable, an increase of the monthly edition from 8 to 12 or 16 pages would not be beyond reach if more members and friends would make use of the advertising facilities, by which part of the expenditure has to be covered. By doing so they would also act in their own interest, because the response to announcements in this widely circulated paper is always a very great one. If more space became available, it would also be possible to print more features in larger types.

Judging from the replies, it seems that articles and news about Jews, especially German Jews, in foreign countries are favourite features. Some readers wish to obtain more information on restitution matters. Though all the complicated legal questions involved cannot always be dealt with in detail, and though, for the ordinary claimant, much depends on the merits of his particular case, it goes without saying that "AJR Information" considers it a special duty to report on this vital subject.

The proportion of those, who like "Old Acquaintances" best, is rather high, and some appreciations of the "Diary" column indicate that quite a few readers prefer short light notices to long essays. Different opinions were brought forward about the choice of subjects to be dealt with in articles. Some advocate themes of Jewish History and Religion, but others say that "AJR Information" should concentrate on those questions about which information cannot easily be found in other publications. Two practical suggestions will be put into effect as soon as circumstances permit: a Short Story Competition and a compilation of memoirs and reminiscences of Jews from Germany. Details will be announced later.

"AJR Information" has to serve those who read it. The variety of tastes and interests makes it impossible to please everybody with everything. The knowledge, however, that there is an echo to what is written in these columns will be a constant encouragement and admonition when carrying out the editorial work.

W. R.

AJR LEEDS GROUP

A Simchath Torah Celebration was held by the Leeds Group on October 7, 1950.

Dr. F. Glaser, in a forceful and most inspiring address, dealt with the aspects of this Jewish Festival, the spiritual significance of which has been deepened through the renaissance of the Jewish State.

Dr. L. Ross paid tribute to the late Field-Marshal Smuts. He also referred to the sad loss suffered by the AJR through the death of Mr. Koenig of the Manchester Group. He then made it a special point to deal with the continuance of the most fruitful work of the Association in such essential tasks as e.g. Restitution, Employment Agency, contact with Governmental Departments, contact and collaboration with Jewish Organizations overseas and on the Continent.

He went on saying that he thought to express not merely his personal regret but also the deep concern of most Jews from Central and Western Europe at the fact that President Weizmann's autobiography "Trial and Error" should have contained certain remarks about an indifferent or even negative attitude of the Western Jewry towards the Zionist cause in earlier decades—allegations which ought to be refuted as entirely unfounded and contrary to established facts. While a certain part of the Western Jewry may have been inclined to "assimilation," the great majority took a very active part in the Jewish renaissance. To transmit the true facts to posterity ought to be among the tasks of an organization like the AJR, whose membership is made up by Jewish people from Central and Western Europe.

Mrs. Hyams, who has returned from an extensive visit to Israel, vividly reported about the country's present conditions, its undaunted courage and its steadfast hopes.

Musical recitals were given by Mrs. Schiff and Miss D. Murrows.

GIFT PARCELS

According to the British *Export* Regulations about food gift parcels, the parcels (weight limit 22 lbs.) must contain not more than 1 lb. of coffee, 2 lbs. of sugar and 2 lbs. of tea.

There are, however, *Import* Regulations of the Israeli and German Authorities, which restrict the weight limit for tea in the case of Israel to 1 lb. and in the case of Germany to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

For gift parcels to Israel containing other commodities than food, the restricted weight of $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. has been lifted. It is therefore now permitted to send any kind of gift parcels to Israel up to 22 lbs. Food and other articles may be sent in the same parcel.

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

We still have on our records a great number of unemployed, such as bookkeepers, shorthand-typists, daily cooks and counterhands, companions, children's nurses, sitters-in, and many elderly people for light work (full- and part-time, in- and outdoors).

Hardship Cases

Disabled man of 58 (heart troubles) wants light packing job, no standing.

Exp. bookkeeper wants part-time or home work. Exp. comm. artist, lady, spec. flower designs and painting, wants congenial work.

Disabled lady wants customers for manicure. Elderly man, good in dom. duties, would care for sick gentleman, daily or hours.

Paralysed lady, Engl., German and French shorthand typ. wants to work at home. Gladstone Park District.

Elderly widow would like to do mending and alterations.

AJR TRAINING CLASS

In order to help unemployed members and friends of the AJR who, for lack of experience, face difficulties in finding jobs, an evening class (once a week) for English office routine will start early December in the premises of the AJR. Interested readers should contact the AJR Employment Agency.

CHANUKAH PLAY WANTED

A Jewish community in Western Germany is looking for the text of a Chanukah play. Any readers who have suitable manuscripts or who could give advice where to obtain them should contact the AJR immediately.

OBITUARY

Dr. Hermann Gessner (formerly Nuremberg) died in Blackburn recently at the age of 75 years. He held many offices with the Jewish Community Nuremberg, was past President of the Maimonides Lodge and well known for his lectures on historical, philosophical and musical subjects. His widow, Mrs. Selma Gessner, a former Matron of the Jewish Old Age Home, Nuremberg, lives at 73 Higher Croft Road, Lower Darwen, Lancs.

"THE HYPHEN"

Sunday, November 26, 7.30 p.m. at "The Dorice," 169a Finchley Road, N.W.3. Dr. Max Freyhan: "Humanismus im heutigen England."

All further details and particulars of other functions to be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Ilse Leven, 78 Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6.

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